



Grosse Pointe Board of Education
Minutes of the Regular Meeting, August 16, 2004
Wicking Library, Grosse Pointe South High School

ORDER OF BUSINESS: 8:00 P.M.

I. Call To Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Roll Call

President Dindoffer called the meeting to order at 8:15 p.m.

Present: Trustees Brennan, Broderick, Dindoffer, Ismail, Kennedy, Richardson and Vreede

Also Present: Superintendent Klein, Assistant Superintendents Allan and Fenton.

The pledge of allegiance was led by Trustee Kennedy.

II. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Klein said that as she visited different schools in the district she was surprised at the difference that a couple of weeks had made with the cleaning and construction projects. Floors were waxed, parking lots were finished, desks were back in classrooms and for the most part, things were back to normal and ready for students to enter. Some construction projects are continuing, but progress is being made daily. Dr. Klein said she is looking forward to students returning on August 31, 2004.

Dr. Klein also mentioned the death of an employee, James McQueen, from central office maintenance. She offered condolences to his family.

III. Public Comments on Non-Agenda Action Items

President Richardson requested, along with her opening criteria for public speakers, that the comments from the public be within the purview of the school board.

Kathleen Gallagher, 17540 Mack Ave., Grosse Pointe City, spoke about public library issues.

Ms. Richardson asked Mrs. Gallagher if her comments were within the purview of the school board. Mrs. Gallagher commented that they were. President Richardson reiterated that the Board is not in a place to handle

contractual issues between the public library and its employees.

Elizabeth Baergen, 1600 Ford Ct., Grosse Pointe Woods, spoke about the lack of a contract for the public library employees.

President Richardson noted that school board meetings were not the appropriate venue for the public to bring concerns about the public library issues as the school board has no jurisdiction over public library affairs.

With that said, Ms. Richardson called the next speaker, Lynne Severini, who signed up to speak, but did not come forward.

IV. Public Comments on Consent Agenda Action Items

No one came forward to speak

V. Public Comments on Regular Agenda Action Items

Allison Baker, 1148 Devonshire, Grosse Pointe Park, and Defer PTO President, shared her request that the Board approve the Defer PTO gift for air conditioning improvements on the second floor at Defer.

John Smith, 1068 Bedford, Grosse Pointe Park, and Defer PTO Vice-President also spoke about the Defer air conditioning.

VI. Public Comments on Regular Agenda Action Items

No one came forward to comment.

VII. Consent Agenda Action Items

A. Human Resources Report

Dr. Klein highlighted the appointments of nine instructional staff and one paraprofessional, three resignations and one leave of absence.

B. Business Items - Accounts Payable

The business items were presented for Board approval.

C. Approval of Minutes from July 12, 2004, Work Session Minutes of July 7, 2004, Executive Session Minutes of July 7 and 20, 2004, and Executive Session Minutes of April 7, 2004

The Board was asked to approve the minutes as presented.

D. Approval of Annual Meeting and Board Calendar for 2004-2005

The Board was asked to approve the resolution which supports the recommendation not to offer a breakfast program during the 2004-2005 school year.

E. Bids

1. Brownell Doors

The Board was asked, per Mr. Fenton's recommendation, to reject the bid for doors at Brownell. Door replacement in buildings is being covered on an as needed basis.

2. Monteith Drop-Off

Mr. Fenton asked that the Board reject the Monteith drop-off bid and revisit the project in the spring. This would allow for more information to be gathered and more time to receive resident input.

3. Truck Bids

The Board was asked to accept the low bid of \$39,986 from Jorgensen Ford for the purchase of two 2005 Ford F250 4x4 trucks with plows.

F. Textbook Approval

1. Italian IV Textbook, DA'Capo

The Board was asked to approve the adoption of the Italian IV textbook, DA'Capo.

G. Approval of Tuition Rates

The Board is asked to approve the 2004-2005 tuition rate of \$12.00 per day.

It was recommended by Trustee Dindoffer that the Minutes of the Organizational Meeting of July 12, 2004 be removed from the Consent Agenda because of a change in the text, and be placed on the Regular Agenda for a separate vote.

It was Moved by: Trustee Dindoffer **Supported by:** Trustee Brennan

Ayes: Trustees Brennan, Broderick, Dindoffer, Ismail, Kennedy, Richardson and Vreede

Nays: None **Motion carried.**

Trustee Brennan asked Mr. Fenton for clarification regarding the consent agenda vote in relation to the bids being presented. He wanted to be sure that it would be noted that the consent vote would reflect Mr. Fenton's recommendations to either reject or accept each bid as listed. Mr. Fenton concurred that this was accurate.

It was Moved by: Trustee Brennan **Supported by:** Trustee Broderick

THAT the Board approve the Consent Agenda as presented with the removal of the July 12, 2004 Minutes.

Ayes: Trustees Brennan, Broderick, Dindoffer, Ismail, Kennedy, Richardson and Vreede

Nays: None **Motion carried.**

VIII. Regular Agenda Action Item

A. Minutes of Organizational Meeting of July 12, 2004

The Minutes of the Organizational Meeting of July 12, 2004 were corrected to read, "...The committee members of Mr. Brennan, Ms. Richardson and *Mrs. Dindoffer* recommended that Ms. Richardson be nominated as President;...", and under Item D. Resolution of Compensation (Policy BBBE), "THAT the board foregoes its salary for the 2004-2005 school year and reserve the funds *for a purpose to be determined at a later date.*"

It was Moved by: Trustee Dindoffer **Supported by:** Trustee Brennan

THAT the Board approve the revised Organizational Meeting Minutes of July 12, 2004.

Ayes: Trustees Brennan, Broderick, Dindoffer, Ismail, Kennedy, Richardson and Vreede

Nays: None **Motion carried.**

B. Approval of Defer PTO Gift

The original gift from Defer was for \$80,000 to be donated by the Defer PTO over a two year period to pay for additional improvements for the air conditioning and ventilation on the second floor. As a condition of this gift, the school system administration would receive a letter of commitment or pledge for this gift.

Since the Defer PTO did not have at least half of the amount determined to meet the air conditioning improvements proposed, Mr. Fenton corrected the request to reflect the reduced amount of \$40,000 to be gifted instead of \$80,000. The improvements would be done in two phases with next spring being the final phase. This would allow the Defer PTO to furnish half of the money up front and fund-raise for the other half during the 2004-2005 school year.

It was Moved by: Trustee Brennan **Supported by:** Trustee Vreede

THAT the Board accept the gift of \$40,000 from the Defer PTO for the second floor air conditioning improvements.

Ayes: Trustees Broderick, Ismail and Vreede

Nays: Trustees Brennan, Dindoffer, Kennedy and Richardson

Motion did not carry.

It was Moved by: Trustee Vreede **Supported by:** Trustee Broderick

THAT the school district proceed with 25% of the Defer air conditioning project utilizing the \$20,000 of funds available from the Defer PTO.

The Defer PTO President, Allison Baker, would not commit to this new agreement without approval of the Defer PTO Board.

Mrs. Vreede withdrew her motion.

C. Approval of Legal Services – Appointment of General Counsel

Dr. Klein recommended tabling this item pending receipt of additional information.

It was Moved by: Trustee Brennan **Supported by:** Trustee Vreede

THAT the Board table the Approval of Legal Services – Appointment of General Counsel until more information is available.

Ayes: Trustees Brennan, Broderick, Dindoffer, Ismail, Kennedy Richardson and Vreede

Nays: None **Motion carried**

IX. Items for Information and Discussion

A. Enrollment Update

Mr. Fenton distributed the most recent numbers for student enrollment to the Board explaining that there has been an increase of 68 students above projections. This number, however, does not accurately reflect families that may have moved out over the summer. Mr. Fenton's office will continue to update the Board as enrollment changes and reports from the schools indicate students that have not returned.

B. Building and Site and Bond Project Update

Mr. Broderick shared some issues from the most recent Building and Site and Bond project meeting which included anticipated increases in operating costs and architect fees and how these fees are included on an ongoing basis. Although Mr. Broderick noted that incremental costs by project have been monitored all along, he added that they will be reported in a more user friendly format.

Mr. Fenton said that among projects almost finished are the air conditioning improvements at Parcels, Richard, Mason and Defer, and the floors at South. Some of the next projects up to bid are the multi-purpose room at Parcels and the piano replacements. He also mentioned that the South science project will begin in the spring of 2005.

X. Future Meetings

A Conference Meeting of the Board will be held on Tuesday, September 7, 2004, at 8:00 p.m. in the Wicking Library of South High School followed by a Regular Meeting on Monday, September 13, 2004.

XI. Other Comments from Board Members and Superintendent

Trustee Vreede commented that by the next time the Board meets, school will be in session.

Trustee Ismail thanked the parents and the PTO at Defer for their generous offer to expand the air conditioning improvements at Defer and said that he hopes to see them back again with another gift proposal.

Trustee Ismail also thanked Mr. Fenton for responses to his questions regarding procedural and structural issues.

Trustee Brennan had no comment.

Trustee Dindoffer also thanked the Defer community and the PTO for their generous offer and was confident that they would be able to raise the money to make the requested air conditioning improvements at Defer.

Trustee Dindoffer thanked the Bond Committee and Mr. Fenton for all of their hard work on the bond and sinking fund projects.

Trustee Kennedy said that she has a soon to be 7th grader and 2nd grader getting ready to start school in a couple of weeks. She thanked all school employees who work hard to make the schools such a pleasant place to learn and work in every day.

Trustee Broderick had no comment.

President Richardson noted that even with school not starting for another couple of weeks, approximately 500 of those students have been involved in some sort of sports program over the summer. She noted that another 100 or so students have been involved in select choir and will be performing on Friday at North for all to enjoy.

Dr. Klein added that there will be many opportunities for the community to enjoy the many talents of the students in the Grosse Pointe Schools over the next few months as school gets under way.

There being no further business, President Richardson adjourned the Regular Meeting of the Board at 9:34 p.m.

XII. Motion to Move into an Executive Session

It was Moved by: Trustee Brennan **Supported by:** Trustee Vreede

THAT the Board move into an Executive Session to Discuss Negotiations.

Ayes: Trustees Brennan, Broderick, Dindoffer, Ismail, Kennedy, Richardson and Vreede

Nays: None **Motion carried.**

XIV. The Board Returned From Closed Session at 12:02 a.m. on August 17, 2004.

XV. Adjournment

There being no further business, President Richardson adjourned the meeting at 12:05 a.m. on August 17, 2004.

Board Secretary