



Grosse Pointe Board of Education
Minutes of Regular Meeting October 11, 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 Richardson called the meeting to order at 8:03 p.m.

The pledge of allegiance was led by Trustee Broderick.

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

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

II. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Klein introduced Ms. Angie Tedesco, art teacher from Defer, as well as Mr. Ron Wardie, Defer Principal, and asked them to help in the presentation of art chosen for the school district calendar for 2004-2005. Ms. Tedesco explained the abstract work on the calendar, and how the artist, Courtney McDonald, Defer student, arrived at her picture. Ms. Tedesco also explained that the computers are tools in the art room, and that she teachers encourage students to use their hand, heart and mind to create pieces of art in her classroom. Courtney McDonald then spoke about her artwork and how she came up with the idea.

Dr. Klein explained that the Public Act 25 requires an annual report on student achievement, attendance, graduation rates, parent participation data, accreditation, curriculum, and district and site school improvement efforts. Our district's 2003-2004 MEAP score results are also listed on the PA 25 report. Copies of the annual report are available from the Department of Curriculum, Instruction, Evaluation and Technology and are posted on the district website.

III. Public Comments on Non-Action Items

Julie Nurse, 1545 Brys, Grosse Pointe Woods, spoke on the teacher contract.

Tim VanEckoute, 24 Village Lane, Grosse Pointe, spoke on the teacher contract.

Margaret McCulloch, 20401 Lochmoor, Harper Woods, spoke on the teacher contract.

Jessica Greer, 988 Hollywood, Grosse Pointe Woods, spoke on the teacher contract.

IV. Public Comments on Consent Agenda Action Items

No one came forward to comment.

V. Public Comments on Regular Agenda Action Items

No one came forward to comment.

VI. Consent Agenda Action Item

A. Human Resources Report

Dr. Klein highlighted the appointments of four instructional staff and one classroom assistant, as well as one resignation.

B. Business Items: Accounts Payable

The business items were presented for Board approval.

C. Approval of Conference and Regular Meeting Minutes of September 7 and 13, 2004, Closed Session Minutes of September 7, 2004 and work Session Minutes of September 13, 2004

Conference and regular minutes of September 7 and 13, 2004, Closed Session minutes of September 7, 2004, and Work Session minutes of September 13, 2004 were presented for approval.

D. Approval of G.A.A.A. #1

The Board was asked to approve the General Appropriations Act Amendment #1 which included the restoration of State Aid monies of \$640,000 and a local tax levy adjustment of \$140,000 which was due to the increase in taxable value on homes and businesses.

E. Approval of Resolution Calling for a Public Hearing on the Regular Election

Due to changes in the state election law the Board must hold the regular election for Board of Education members in a month other than June. The

Board must hold a public hearing on the election calendar, and must therefore adopt a Resolution Calling for a Public Hearing on the Regular Election. The Board was asked to approve this resolution.

F. Bids

1. Tractor

The Board was asked to accept the low bid of \$50,249 for the purchase of a JCB Model 212SL Utility Loader Tractor from AIS Construction Equipment Corporation.

2. Uninterrupted Power Supply

The Board was asked to contract with Future Fence Company and Michigan Fence Company for fencing replacement as needed through September 15, 2007.

G. Approval of Field Trips

1. Trip to Music In The Parks Festival, Toronto, Canada

The Board was asked to approve the waiver of the “Study Warning” on student foreign travel for the Parcels Middle School field trip to Toronto, Ontario on May 14 and 15, 2005.

2. Trip to Ska-No-Koh, Melbourne, Canada

The Board was asked to approve the waiver of the “Study Warning” on student foreign travel for the Mason Elementary School field trip to Melbourne, Ontario, Canada on December 7, 2004.

It was Moved by: Trustee Dindoffer

Supported by: Trustee Broderick

THAT the Board approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

VII. Regular Agenda Action Items

A. Approval of Reinstatement Decision for a North High School Student

The Board received a petition for reinstatement of a North High School student. The appointed Reinstatement Panel met on September 23, 2004, and after careful review, decided not to reinstate the student. The Board was asked to approve the Reinstatement Panel’s decision not to reinstate a North High

School student in the school system based on information they received.

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

THAT the Board approve the decision to deny reinstatement for a North High School student.

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

Nays: None **Motion carried.**

B. Bids

1. North Drive Repaving

This repaving project is for the replacement of the west access road at North High School. The project provides for removal and replacement of asphalt on the existing west access road on the parking lot side of the football field at North, currently in very bad condition. The project will be funded from the Sinking Fund only. The cost of the project is \$55,936. The Board was asked to award the contract for the road replacement project at North High School to R & B Paving, Inc. for \$51,326.

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

THAT the Board award the contract for the road replacement project at North High School to R & B Paving, Inc. for \$51,326.

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

Nays: None **Motion carried.**

2. District-Wide Facilities – Ceilings

The district accepted bids for ceilings projects which will be done on an as-needed basis over the next three years in order to satisfy the requirement of the Sinking Fund that bids be over the limit of \$17,932. The ceiling work will be primarily for acoustical ceiling and light replacement. By going for a multi-year bid, the school system is able to save money on advertising and preparation of bid documents. The Board was asked to contract with William E. Harnish Acoustical, Inc. and Ren Cen Interiors for ceiling replacement as needed through September 15, 2007.

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

THAT the Board award the contract to William E. Harnish Acoustical, Inc. and Ren Cen Interiors for ceiling replacement as needed through September 15, 2007.

Ayes: Trustees Brennan, Broderick, Dindoffer and Richardson

Nays: Trustees Ismail, Kennedy and Vreede

Motion carried.

3. District-Wide Facilities – Fencing

The fencing projects were also bid as an as-needed project over the next three years. The work will be primarily chain-link and ornamental fencing and gate replacement. The Board was asked to contract with Future Fence Company and Michigan Fence Company for fencing replacement as needed through September 15, 2007.

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

THAT the Board award the contract with Future Fence Company and Michigan Fence Company for fencing replacement as needed through September 15, 2007.

Ayes: Trustees Brennan, Broderick, Dindoffer and Richardson

Nays: Trustees Ismail, Kennedy and Vreede

Motion carried.

VIII. Items for Information and Discussion

A. Improvements to District Website

Grace Smith, Academic Technology Specialist, presented a PowerPoint highlighting renovations to the district website. She walked Board Members and the audience through different websites for students, teachers and parents. Dr. Klein explained that much of the important district information is now available on the website for parents and the community to review.

B. Summer Programs Update

Dr. Klein began the report by noting that construction and learning overlapped as the many summer learning programs got underway.

Mr. Lee Warras, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment and Technology gave an update stating that programs were held at Ferry, Maire and Poupard Elementaries, Pierce Middle School, and North and South High Schools.

The high school athletic directors, Chris Clark and Matt Outlaw, sponsored a number of new **sports clinics** for students in grades 3-12 in June. Clinics included football, baseball, basketball, softball, volleyball, swimming, gymnastics, wrestling, track, cross country, soccer and cheerleading. The total enrollment for sports programs exceeded 500 students.

Camp Invention was another program for students in grades 2-5 that provided exciting and innovative activities emphasizing the integration of science and the arts, discovery and invention. Grosse Pointe sponsored this activity led by Karen Sullivan, a teacher at Ferry and the district's science curriculum specialist. Ferry Elementary School housed 85 elementary students in a one-week adventure at Camp Invention.

The **Summer Enrichment Program** for students with special needs was held at Maire Elementary and Pierce Middle School. Each week these students took field trips to various locations. Secondary special needs students had an opportunity to work at Arts and Scraps Warehouse as part of their summer program. Community Education provided a lifeguard for the program giving students an opportunity to swim each week also. Betty Lou Rowe, the Summer Enrichment Coordinator, oversaw all of the programs for these students: Extended Day School Year; SCAMP; Independent Skills; and Fun Friday.

The traditional **Summer School Program** was under the direction of Ranae Beyerlein, South High School science teacher. This year's summer program saw a significant modification of the high school schedule and course offerings and implementation of a satellite elementary school program. Over 750 students participated in this year's Summer Program. The 3rd grade students in the district were again offered skills improvement classes at no charge. A satellite facility at Poupard accommodated the needs of elementary students at the north end, where some classes were offered. Art classes were also offered at North High School as well as Computer Graphics, a new course. The remaining offerings were housed at Pierce Middle School.

All summer school fees were increased to defray increased teacher compensation expenses.

Another new opportunity for students was the chance for students to achieve credit by enrolling for on-line courses. Seven students enrolled in the Michigan Virtual High School courses on-line.

C. Building and Site and Bond Project Update

Mr. Broderick said that the Project Committee which met earlier in the day discussed the bids for projects on the agenda for tonight's meeting in depth.

Mr. Broderick said that the committee, which meets the second Monday of the month, consists of Jeff Broderick (chair), Ahmed Ismail, Lisa Vreede, Suzanne Klein and Chris Fenton. Along with discussing the projects brought to the Board for information, projects on the consent agenda were discussed. The committee also reviewed projects in anticipation of them being brought before the board for action. Although projects are reviewed in terms of their action and design, they also want to review projects on a different timeline in advance of their placement on the agenda for a vote. A change in when the committee meets will allow more time for questions and concerns from the board to the administration. Other topics discussed were the upcoming projects already out for bid, project tracking, a review of the project financial summary, and the middle school science labs.

D. Budget Committee Update

The Budget Review Committee consists of Lisa Vreede (chair), Jeff Broderick, Joan Dindoffer, Suzanne Klein and Chris Fenton. Mrs. Vreede reported that the district has a well established budget process. The committee is working towards enhancing the budget process by increasing proactiveness and the planning horizon, hopefully to a multi-year cycle.

Mrs. Vreede explained that during the 2004-2005 budget process an advisory group consisting of parents, staff, students and the community was formed and encouraged to participate in the process. The group provided feedback on various budget alternatives.

With the start of a new budget process and timeline for the 2005-2006 budget cycle, the committee is developing new tools to help communicate multi-year budget plans and scenarios based on a changing set of assumptions.

Mrs. Vreede explained that the budget process will again include a budget advisory with the first meeting targeted for the November/December timeline. She encouraged participation from all areas and levels.

Mrs. Vreede also noted that input from the Board, administration, budget advisory committee, strategic planning committee, district initiatives and other forums will be important avenues of input to guide funding decisions.

E. Revenue Enhancement Committee Update

Revenue Enhancement Committee members are: Lisa Vreede (chair),

Joan Dindoffer, Angela Kennedy, Chris Fenton and Suzanne Klein. Mrs. Vreede noted that the last meeting on October 7, 2004 included an update on fund raising efforts. She said that building groups, PTO's and Boosters, are realizing that whatever fundraising they have done to date will need to be increased for the future in order to protect district programs.

Mrs. Vreede said that the committee has agreed upon a strategy to move forward with a district level, coordinated revenue enhancement effort, complimenting existing fundraising efforts taking place at buildings and within booster groups.

Discussion also included the possibility of approaching community, alumni and/or business contacts that could be tapped for potential involvement.

A timeline for the next steps will be developed at the next committee meeting. Coordinated lobbyist efforts to affect school funding will also be discussed.

F. Monteith Elevator

This project provides additional classroom space and an ADA compliant elevator, an improved entrance, and renovation to the first and second floor restrooms. The estimated funding for this project is \$840,546. The funds will be taken in part from the Bond Issue, the Sinking Fund, and the Durant Fund.

Additional operating costs for this project will amount to approximately \$4,000 per year from the General Fund Support Services utilities budget.

Mr. Fenton felt that this project needed additional discussion and henceforth, has been placed on this week's agenda for information and discussion. It will be brought before the Board for a vote at next month's meeting.

G. Parcels Multi-Purpose Room

The scope of this project includes a multi-purpose room, field restrooms, interior restrooms, and a new hallway and entrance. This project eliminates the need for a separate, stand alone restroom for the field and renovation of the gym to remove the wall. The amount of \$1,498,750 is needed to complete this project which will be funded out of the Bond Issue and the Sinking Fund. Additional operating costs for this addition will amount to approximately \$16,000 per year.

Mr. Fenton has asked the Board to place this item on this week's information and discussion allowing more time for discussion with the Project Review Committee and the parents and staff at Parcels.

IX. Future Meetings

A Conference Meeting of the Board will be held on Monday, November 1, 2004, and a Regular Meeting of the Board will be held on November 8, 2004, both at 8:00 p.m. in the Wicking Library of Grosse Pointe South High School.

X. Other Comments from Board Members and Superintendent

Trustee Brennan had no comment.

Trustee Ismail noted that the Fall Follies would take place on October 28 and 29, 2004 for those interested in attending. He also mentioned that he attended an Interact meeting at South High School. He was excited about the community service that the students were doing, including the 23 students who were working with SOC seniors to get their homes ready for winter.

Trustee Dindoffer offered Happy Birthday greetings to Tom Berschback.

Trustee Broderick commented on the elementary offerings on the district website. He also noted the element of 'Applause' on the website that honors students for achievements in academic, sports and fine arts events. Mr. Broderick also acknowledged the Board's dedication and involvement in everything that is going on throughout the district.

Trustee Kennedy had no comment.

Trustee Vreede had no comment.

President Richardson thanked the Michigan High School Athletic Association for their review of the athletic programs at Grosse Pointe South. She congratulated the South staff in advance for their award for having an exemplary athletic program. She also congratulated Mr. Tim Bearden (who began work on this award), Mr. Al Diver (Principal) and Mr. Matt Outlaw (Athletic Director) worked hard to achieve this honor.

Ms. Richardson also reminded the community to watch South's homecoming parade this Friday.

XI. Adjournment

There being no further business, President Richardson adjourned the meeting at 11:30 p.m.

Board Secretary