



Grosse Pointe Board of Education
Regular Meeting - January 7, 2025
MINUTES
Brownell Middle School
260 Chalfonte, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236

Meeting Minutes

Encl: 5.1.

1. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/ROLL CALL

President Cotton called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm

Board members present: Trustees: Cotton, Jeup, Worden, St. John, Klepp, Hull, Derringer

Absent: None

Late Arrival: None

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by all in attendance.

Also Present: Superintendent Dr. Andrea Tuttle, Dr. Roy Bishop, Dr. Chris Stanley, Moussa Hamka

2. ADMINISTRATION OF OATH OF OFFICE OF NEWLY ELECTED TRUSTEES

Judge Charles Berschback administered the Oath of Office to newly elected Trustees, Colleen Worden, Clint Derringer, Tim Klepp and Laura Hull. This was followed by a 10 minute reception.

3. APPROVAL OF THE BOARD AGENDA FOR JANUARY 7, 2025

Trustee St. John presented multiple amendments to the agenda.

It was Moved by: Trustee St. John

Supported by: Trustee Worden

THAT the Board approve the amended Agenda for January 7, 2025, as presented.

Ayes: Trustees: Cotton, St. John, Worden, Klepp, Hull, Derringer

Nays: Trustee Jeup

Motion carried 6-1 vote

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ACTION ITEMS FOR JANUARY 7, 2025

Wendy Soubel, GPF, discussed the past 2 years of BOE meetings.

Tom Caulfield, GPP, discussed the proposed BOE meeting dates.

Kevin Nugent, GPF, talked about moving forward to address the needs of this district.

Terry Collins, GPP, discussed what has taken place with the board in the past several years.

Lisa Papas, GP, talked about her thoughts on the election of board officers.

6. AGENDA ACTION ITEMS FOR JANUARY 7, 2025

Board Bylaw 1.31 indicates that the Board shall annually elect Board officers at its organizational meeting. Dr. Tuttle gave an explanation of the process of the Election of Officers. Trustee Worden and Trustee St. John requested that the same nomination and election process be followed as in the past.

It was Moved by: Trustee Worden **Supported by:** Trustee St. John

THAT the Board follow the past procedures for the Board election.

Ayes: Trustees: Cotton, St. John, Worden, Klepp, Hull, Derringer

Nays: Trustee Jeup

Motion carried 6-1 vote

6.1. Election of Officers

6.1.1. Election of Officer - Board President

It was Moved by: Trustee St. John **Supported by:** Trustee Klepp

THAT the Board approve Trustee Worden as Board President for 2025

ROLL CALL:	Trustee Hull	Yes
	Trustee Klepp	Yes
	Trustee Jeup	No
	Trustee Cotton	No
	Trustee Derringer	Yes
	Trustee St. John	Yes
	Trustee Worden	Yes

Motion carried 5-2 vote.

6.1.2. Election of Officer - Vice President

It was Moved by: Trustee Worden **Supported by:** Trustee Derringer

THAT the Board approve Trustee Hull as Vice-President of the Board of Education for 2025.

ROLL CALL:	Trustee Hull	Yes
	Trustee Klepp	Yes
	Trustee Jeup	Yes
	Trustee Cotton	Yes

Trustee Derringer	Yes
Trustee St. John	Yes
Trustee Worden	Yes

Motion carried 7-0 vote.

6.1.3. Election of Officer - Treasurer of the Board of Education

It was Moved by: Trustee Derringer **Supported by:** Trustee St. John

THAT the Board approve Trustee Klepp as Treasurer of the Board of Education for 2025.

ROLL CALL:	Trustee Derringer:	Yes
	Trustee St. John:	Yes
	Trustee Worden:	Yes
	Trustee Hull:	Yes
	Trustee Klepp:	Yes
	Trustee Jeup:	Yes
	Trustee Cotton:	Yes

Motion carried 7-0 vote.

6.1.4. Election of Officer - Secretary

It was Moved by: Trustee Worden **Supported by:** Trustee Klepp

THAT the Board approve Trustee St. John as Secretary of the Board of Education for 2025.

ROLL CALL:	Trustee Derringer:	Yes
	Trustee St. John:	Yes
	Trustee Hull:	Yes
	Trustee Klepp:	Yes
	Trustee Jeup:	Yes
	Trustee Cotton:	No
	Trustee Worden:	Yes

Motion carried 6-1 vote.

5. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - STUDENTS AND SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

Dr. Tuttle explained that an HR report was requested at the last minute, so it was not on the agenda. She passed out the HR report to all board members. This was followed by multiple questions and comments from board members.

Dr. Tuttle discussed the Responsibilities of a CFO and the challenge the district faced with the resignation of CFO Pavlik. She then introduced Mrs. Shelbi Frayer who will serve as the interim CFO. She continued with a detailed presentation on the GAAA#1. This was followed by multiple questions and comments from board members.

6.2. DECLARATION OF BOARD MEMBER COMPENSATION

Per Board Bylaw 1.17, Board members individually declare their preference for distribution of their compensation by one of four options: A) Receive his/her per meeting compensation for the current year; B) Refuse compensation for the current year; C) Request that in lieu of his/her compensation for the current school year a like amount be directed to a program of the Grosse Pointe Public School System or a District related school organization; or D) Request that the compensation be directed on his/her behalf to the Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education.

Trustee Hull: donate to the band program at Pierce

Trustee Klepp: donate to Parcels PTO

Trustee Jeup: Receive her compensation for the current year

Trustee Cotton: forego compensation

Trustee Worden: donate to Parcels PTO

Trustee St. John: donate to fund Closed Captioning capabilities of the BOE meetings

Trustee Derringer: donate to the GPFPE

6.3. APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING MINUTES FOR DECEMBER 9, 2024

It was Moved by: Trustee St. John

Supported by: Trustee Hull

THAT the Board approve the Regular Meeting Minutes for December 9, 2024, as presented.

Ayes: Trustees: Cotton, Jeup, St. John, Worden, Klepp, Hull, Derringer

Nays: None

Motion carried 7-0 vote

6.4. APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION OF CONTINUANCE OF FUNDS AND DESIGNATION OF SIGNATORIES ON ACCOUNTS

It was Moved by: Trustee St. John

Supported by: Trustee Derringer

THAT the Board approve the Resolution of Continuance of Funds and Designation of Signatories on Accounts, as presented.

Ayes: Trustees: Cotton, Jeup, St. John, Worden, Klepp, Hull, Derringer

Nays: None

Motion carried 7-0 vote

6.5. APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE TO MAISL JOINT RISK MANAGEMENT TRUST

Dr. Tuttle asked for approval for Ben Matteson to serve until a CFO is appointed.

It was Moved by: Trustee St. John

Supported by: Trustee Jeup

THAT the Board approve the Appointment of Representative to MAISL Joint Risk Management Trust, as presented.

Ayes: Trustees: Cotton, Jeup, St. John, Worden, Klepp, Hull, Derringer

Nays: None

Motion carried 7-0 vote

6.6. APPROVAL OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING CALENDAR FOR 2025

There was a discussion of the alternative calendars that were presented, with the possibility of a policy revision to change when dates are voted on in the future.

It was Moved by: Trustee Worden

Supported by: Trustee St. John

THAT the Board approve the amended Regular Board Meeting Calendar for 2025, as presented.

ROLL CALL:	Trustee Derringer:	Yes
	Trustee St. John:	Yes
	Trustee Hull:	Yes
	Trustee Klepp:	Yes
	Trustee Jeup:	No
	Trustee Cotton:	No
	Trustee Worden:	Yes

Motion carried 5-2 vote.

6.7. APPROVAL OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Trustee St. John made a motion to establish 3 Standing Committees: Facilities, Policy and FOIA Appeal Committee and for the board president to appoint board members to these committees.

It was Moved by: Trustee St. John

Supported by: Trustee Hull

THAT the Board approve the establishment of standing committees, as presented.

ROLL CALL:	Trustee Derringer:	Yes
	Trustee St. John:	Yes
	Trustee Hull:	Yes
	Trustee Klepp:	Yes
	Trustee Jeup:	No
	Trustee Cotton:	Yes
	Trustee Worden:	Yes

Motion carried 6-1 vote.

6.8 Monthly Financial Benchmark Report

At Dr. Tuttle's request, Trustee St. John made a motion to suspend the rules and add Agenda Item 11.1 Monthly Financial Benchmark Report.

It was Moved by: Trustee St. John

Supported by: Trustee Worden

THAT the Board approve to add the Monthly Benchmark Report back onto the agenda, as presented.

Ayes: Trustees: Cotton, Jeup, St. John, Worden, Klepp, Hull, Derringer

Nays: None

Motion carried 7-0 vote

Brenda Walsh gave a detailed explanation of the report. This was followed by questions and comments from multiple board members.

7. DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Dr. Roy Bishop discussed LOA's pertaining to Act 18, that are being negotiated with the teachers and paraprofessionals right now. He also talked about MLK day and how we should think about what we can do to be better humans. He closed with talking about the student we lost from Parcels and Community Engagement.

8. ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Dr. Chris Stanley provided a brief update as to where we are on the Trombly Survey. This was followed by questions and comments from multiple board members.

9. ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Moussa Hamka discussed the interview process for administrators, what has historically been done, and how we will move forward to find a good candidate.

10. AGENDA ACTION ITEMS FOR JANUARY 21, 2024

- 10.1.** Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes for January 7, 2025
- 10.2.** Approval of Paving Contract
- 10.3.** Special Education Updates

Trustee Derringer stated that he would need to recuse himself from this discussion

- 10.4.** Vacate Resolution for Independent Board Counsel

12. BOARD REQUESTS / NEW BUSINESS

Trustee St. John requested a Closed Session with Kevin Sutton prior to the next BOE Meeting on January 21, 2025.

Trustee Derringer requested that Mr. Hamka provide his thoughts on timing and posting with regard to new hires.

13. FUTURE MEETINGS

- 13.1.** BOE Regular Meeting, Tuesday, January 21, 2025, 7:00 pm, Brownell MPR

14. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-ACTION ITEMS

Renee Jakobowski, GPP, talked about Trombly and the process to move forward with this.
Rob Lewiz, Harper Woods, discussed his concerns with bus safety.
Richard Schroeder, GPP, talked about a previous comment and his support to open Trombly.
Julie Moe, GPW, discussed her concerns with the Special Education program.
Phillip Moe, GPW, discussed his concerns with the Special Education program.
Tom Caulfield, GPP, talked about Trombly and the importance of opening it again.

15. BOARD MEMBER / SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Trustee Cotton discussed that he hopes that all Trustees read Robert's Rules of Orders and follow our bylaws of Policies and Procedures. He also talked about the changes to the BOE calendar and how he also hopes that this board reconsiders the Community Engagement Committee.

Trustee Jeup talked about how she hopes we find common ground and brought up our walkable schools and how this is what makes our district unique.

Trustee Klepp spoke about how he looks forward to working with all of the board members and the administration team as we go forward.

Trustee Hull thanked everyone for the vote of confidence and how she is ready to learn and continue to be a voice for our students, teachers and staff.

Dr. Stanley said that he is looking forward to working together with everyone throughout the year.

Moussa Hamka talked about how these meetings can be difficult, but he wants to remind everyone of how amazing our teachers and students are and how this sometimes gets lost in these meetings.

Trustee Derringer thanked everyone for the election and explained that there are many stakeholders supporting kids to become the greatest that they can be. We may not always be in agreement but we are working for the same thing. He reiterated that budget decisions are priority decisions. He closed with his commitment to listen more than he talks and make sure that the ratio stays on the listening side.

Trustee St. John talked about the upcoming MLK day and welcomed all of the new board members.

Trustee Worden spoke about how she is honored to start this new chapter. She talked about her love for this district and how amazing our teachers and families are. Her goal in leading this board is to always put our kids first, and her leadership will take this into account. She expounded on how she is committed to transparency, following the Open Meetings Act and working with our Administration.

16. ADJOURNMENT

President Worden adjourned the meeting at 9:54 pm.

Valarie St. John, Secretary