

Minutes of Regular Meeting

February 16, 2015

The Board of Education Midland Public Schools

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Midland Public Schools was held Monday, February 16, 2015, beginning at 7:00 PM in the Midland Public Schools Administration Center, 600 E. Carpenter Street, Midland, Michigan.

1. CALL TO ORDER: ROLL CALL

Board Members Present: Vice President Brandstadt, Secretary Baker, Treasurer Singer, Member Frazee, Member Gorton, Member McFarland

Board Member Absent: President Wasserman

Central Staff: Superintendent Sharrow, Assistant Superintendent Verlinde, Associate Superintendent Cooper, Associate Superintendent Brutyn

38 audience members were present for this meeting.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

Singer/Gorton moved for approval of consent agenda items.

2. 1. Approval of Organizational Meeting and Regular Meeting Minutes from January 19, 2015.
2. 2. The following staff members announced their resignation effective as of the dates indicated:
 - <> Randall W. Moore, Bus Driver, Transportation, January 26, 2015
 - <> Kevin Sprague, Teacher, Eastlawn Elementary, February 6, 2015
 - <> Aleta Stiner, School Psychologist, Special Services, February 12, 2015
2. 3. Approval of the payment of school system's bills for the month of January 2015, as listed in the check registers prepared by Ms. Laux, in the total amount of \$5,732,049 was recommended. The distribution of obligations, by fund, was included in the documentation.
2. 4. Legal Invoice for Payment
Approval was requested to authorize payment for the following invoice:
 - <> Thrun, \$336.00, January 29, 2015, Professional Legal FeesMotion carried unanimously.

3. REQUESTS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

No hearings were requested.

4. BOARD OF EDUCATION MATTERS--PRESENTATIONS TO THE BOARD FOR INFORMATION

4. 1. Mr. Sharrow recognized the two February Shining Star employees. These staff members were recognized for doing an outstanding job and going above and beyond to make Midland Public Schools a better place for students.
 - <> Buffy Hall, Elementary Art Teacher, Jefferson Swim Coach
 - <> Doug Mason, District Electrician, Maintenance Department

4. 2. Andrea Jozwiak, Midland High Business Teacher and Business Professionals of America (BPA) Advisor, introduced the BPA student presenters. Two MHS BPA student officers gave some background about the 2015 MHS group of 50 student participants, the state BPA organization, and the national conference. One of the students announced that he is running for a State BPA office. In addition the graphic design promotion and the small business management teams gave their 2015 regional conference presentations to the board and audience. Both of these impressive presentations placed first at regionals and are currently preparing for their upcoming district competition.

5. CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND ASSESSMENT

Study Committee Chair: Lynn Baker; Staff Resource Person: Mr. Brutyn

5. 1. The "Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment (CIA) Report" was read aloud by Ms. Lynn Baker. This meeting was held on January 26, 2015. Members present were L. Baker (Chair), P. Frazee, P. Singer, M. Sharrow, B. Brutyn, G. Verlinde. Others in attendance: L. Bensinger, R. Paris, C. Koch, A. Sabourin, J. Servoss, E. Flegenheimer-Riggle, R. Harshman-Rogers,

Post-Secondary Program:

Bob Paris and Carla Koch gave an overview of the Post-Secondary Program to the group. Staffing, curriculum, enrollment, county services, and program goals were discussed. The overview was followed up with a tour of the two classrooms. Students and staff were introduced to the committee. Students shared experiences, vocations, and opinions on the program with committee members.

PYP Programme Update:

Lou Ann Bensinger and the four MPS PYP Coordinators presented an update to the committee on PYP Licensure work. Ongoing professional development, consultant visits/feedback, curricular alignment, and timelines were shared. Further discussion on teacher perceptions and corresponding administrative actions occurred.

6. FINANCE, FACILITIES AND OPERATIONS

Study Committee Chair: Pam Singer; Staff Resource Person: Mr. Cooper

6. 1. The FFO Study Committee Report was read aloud by Ms. Pam Singer. This meeting was held on February 9, 2015. Members present were P. Singer (Chair), G. Wasserman, A. Brandstadt, M. Sharrow, R. Cooper, G. Verlinde, C. Laux

Mrs. Laux presented the December financial reports. No unusual items were noted. The financial reports will be included on the February 16th Board of Education agenda for approval.

Mrs. Laux and Mr. Cooper presented a four-part overview of MPS financials both current and future years. The four parts included the district's current fund balance, our planned approach to balancing our budget for 2015-16, an update on upcoming adjustments to the 2014-15 budget, and an overview of the financial picture for 2015-16 and beyond. These preliminary views will be adjusted in the upcoming months as more detailed information becomes available.

6. 2. For Information--Gifts totaling \$14,472.60.
◁ \$ 1,000.00 from the Robert & Barbara Stoppert Recognition Endowment Fund at the Midland Area Community Fund for Chestnut Hill IB PYP materials

- ◇ \$ 1,200.00 from Midland Rotary Foundation for Midland High Robotics Team expenses
- ◇ \$ 2,500.00 from H. H. Dow High School Athletic Booster Club for football equipment
- ◇ \$ 3,400.00 from H. H. Dow High School Athletic Booster Club for trophies and awards
- ◇ \$ 2,000.00 from Jefferson Music Parents Association for books and shelving
- ◇ \$ 372.60 for snow sculpture trophies from the Unrestricted Endowment Fund at the Midland Area Community Foundation

Community Gives Youth Service Program supported by the Dow Chemical Company Foundation and the Midland Area Community Foundation provided these gifts:

- ◇ \$ 1,000.00 for Dow High JV cheerleading supplies
- ◇ \$ 1,000.00 for Jefferson Middle School athletic equipment
- ◇ \$ 1,000.00 for Midland High varsity basketball equipment
- ◇ \$ 1,000.00 for Midland High girls soccer equipment

6. 3. Singer/McFarland moved for approval of the following gift totaling \$12,312.05

- ◇ \$12,312.05 from Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Riley for professional development for MPS high school teachers

Motion carried unanimously.

7. HUMAN RESOURCES

Study Committee Chair: Scott McFarland; Staff Resource Person: Mr. Verlinde

7. 1. The "Human Resources Study Committee Report" was read aloud by Mr. Scott McFarland. This meeting was held on February 12, 2015. Members present were S. McFarland (chair), G. Wasserman, P. Singer (for Ms. Baker), M. Sharrow, G. Verlinde, C. Marchese. Member absent: L. Baker

Finance Update: Mr. Cooper presented financials to the committee.

Grievances: Ms. Marchese updated the committee on a MCESPA grievance that was advanced to arbitration. Additionally, Ms. Marchese informed the committee of a second MCESPA grievance.

Negotiations: The District will be negotiating with the affiliated groups over the next several weeks. All of the contracts expire in 2015.

Legal Update: Mr. Verlinde updated the committee on a pending law suit.

7. 2. The following staff members announced their retirement effective as of the dates indicated:

- ◇ Susan A. Bakke, Teacher, Siebert Elementary, June 11, 2015
- ◇ Gwyn A. Bauschatz, Paraprofessional, Chestnut Hill, June 10, 2015
- ◇ Jeff Beckwith, Teacher at Jefferson Middle School, June 11, 2015
- ◇ Elizabeth I. DeWyse, Occupational Therapist, Special Services, June 11, 2015
- ◇ Arthur Halloran, Teacher, Jefferson Middle School, June 11, 2015
- ◇ Kathleen L. Holthof, Paraprofessional, Chestnut Hill Elementary, June 10, 2015
- ◇ Joyce Laplow, Paraprofessional, Chestnut Hill Elementary, June 10, 2015
- ◇ Cheryl Marks, Teacher, Siebert Elementary, June 11, 2015
- ◇ Pamela D. Ponte, Paraprofessional, Jefferson Middle School, June 10, 2015
- ◇ John S. Records, Bus Driver, Transportation, June 10, 2015

- ◇ Mary T. Smith, Teacher, Chestnut Hill, June 11, 2015
- ◇ Penny Smith, Administrative Assistant, Human Resources, September 1, 2015
- ◇ Nancy Sweeney, Paraprofessional, Northeast Middle School, April 1, 2015
- ◇ Janice Vauhkonen, Paraprofessional, Chestnut Hill, June 10, 2015

8. CORRESPONDENCE TO AND FROM THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

8. 1. For Information--Letters from the Board of Education or the school system to
 Woodcrest Elementary P.T.O.
 Chestnut Hill Elementary P.T.O.
 Midland Area Community Foundation
 Midland Kiwanis Foundation
 Kiwanis Club of Midland
 Midland High School Athletic Booster Club
 Jefferson Parent Advisory Committee
 Mr. and Mrs. Lowell Youngquist
 The Laura Ludington Hollenbeck Foundation
 AAUW Sharing Project
 Mr. and Mrs. Michael Briggs
 Mr. and Mrs. Larry Thiel
 Ms. Gwyneth Satterlee
 Ms. Martha Frank
 Ace Hardware & Sports
8. 2. For Information--Letters to the Board of Education from
 ◇ FOIA request from Renaye Baker, MEA, requesting payroll records for a former employee.
 ◇ FOIA request from Amy Richards, SmartProcure, Inc, requesting PO and vendor information

9. SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES--FOR INFORMATION

The following is a listing of scheduled meetings or activities of the Board of Education. All meetings are Regular and Special Meetings of the Board of Education and begin at 7:00 p.m. at the MPS Administration Center (600 East Carpenter, Midland) unless otherwise noted:

- ◇ March 16, 2015
- ◇ April 20, 2015 (5:30 budget workshop; 7:00 regular meeting)
- ◇ May 18, 2015
- ◇ June 1, 2015
- ◇ June 15, 2015
- ◇ July 20, 2015
- ◇ August 17, 2015
- ◇ September 21, 2015
- ◇ October 19, 2015
- ◇ November 16, 2015
- ◇ December 14, 2015

10. STUDY DISCUSSION SESSION

This portion of the agenda is utilized by the Board to introduce topics for future study, to discuss school district related matters, to complete professional association business and to

relate items of interest. No action is taken during this time. Occasionally closed sessions are scheduled to discuss confidential personnel, negotiations or property matters.

10. 1. Board Members expressed their ...

- thanks to the BPA students who came and spoke this evening. The students were very impressive. The presentation and public speaking skills they are gaining from their involvement in BPA are important life skills. We wish them the best of luck in their upcoming competitions.
- congratulations to Buffy Hall and Doug Mason, the February Shining Stars. Also, thank you to Mr. Sharrow bringing the Shining Star program to MPS. It is great to recognize our hardworking, dedicated MPS staff members.
- thank you to Mr. Sharrow for his hard work leading up to the February 24 election. We urge everyone to become informed and get out and vote on Tuesday. Information is readily available on the MPS website. Please submit your absentee ballot if you are not going to be in town on February 24.
- appreciation to all the retirees for their many years of service and their impact on the students over the years.
- gratitude for the very gracious gift donors whose gifts were received this evening. Midland Public Schools is very fortunate to be located in such a giving, generous community.
- appreciation for the *Our Schools* newsletter was in the *Midland Daily News* last week. Thank you to the school administrators for all of their input and great information that is included in this newsletter.
- excitement for the spirit weeks with the recent MHS vs. DHS games. The bands were playing and the stands were filled with respectful students, families and community members for these high energy, fun events.
- thanks to *Midland Daily News* for their great coverage, articles and Letters to the Editor throughout the election process.
- wonder at the talent of the MPS elementary jump rope teams. The talented, energetic students are fun to watch. The Woodcrest team who recently performed at a high school basketball game added much to the half-time festivities.
- tribute to Dick Blasy, Sr. who passed away recently. We truly appreciate Mr. Blasy's work as the hockey coach at H. H. Dow High for 26 years and softball coach for 12 years. We send our sincere condolences to his family at this very difficult time.
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10. 2. Announcements from Superintendent Sharrow

- Mr. Wasserman sent his best wishes for tonight's meeting. He couldn't be with us this evening because he is ill, but he wanted to encourage everyone to go to the polls on Tuesday.
- Chestnut Hill was nominated as a qualifier as National Blue Ribbon School. They are in the process of completing the paperwork required for submission to the U.S. Department of Education. They will await news about whether they receive the final Blue Ribbon award, but it is an honor to be nominated by the Michigan Department of Education.
- Eastlawn has been recognized by a Bridge magazine as an Academic State Champion School.
- We are in the budget and negotiations season. Work has begun on the 2015-16 budget as we look ahead to the April board budget workshop. The district may find it painful at time as we balance our budget in for the 2015-16 school year.

We are looking forward to moving through the negotiation process with our various groups professionally.

- Our Federal Programs: Title 1A, Title 1D, Title 2A will go through an audit process in March/April. Mr. Brutyn has volunteered for MPS to participate in these pilot program audits. Through our participation in this pilot program, they will help us fix anything found by the auditors.
- The Young 5's Kindergarten Program is in initial implementation for the 2015-16 school year at Carpenter Street School. There has been a lot of interest from our community. We will keep you informed as we move through the implementation process.
- The Bond Proposal goes before voters on February 24. We have tried our best to get the word out to our voters. Mr. Sharrow discussed the District's use of the sinking fund in years past as well as the closed buildings relative to our current and anticipated future enrollment. We hope everyone is informed and gets out and votes on Tuesday.

11. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:49 pm.

President: _____
Gerald Wasserman

Vice President: _____
Angela Brandstadt

Approved by the Board on:

C. Young 16-March 2015