

Minutes of Regular Meeting

August 17, 2015

The Board of Education Midland Public Schools

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Midland Public Schools was held Monday, August 17, 2015, beginning at 7:00 PM in the Midland Public Schools Administration Center, 600 E. Carpenter Street, Midland, Michigan.

1. **Board Members Present:** Vice President Brandstadt, Treasurer Singer, Secretary Baker, Member Frazee, Member Gorton

Board Member Absent: President Wasserman, Member McFarland

Central Staff Present: Superintendent Sharrow, Associate Superintendent Cooper, Associate Superintendent Brutyn

6 audience members were present for this meeting.

2. **CONSENT AGENDA**

Singer/Gorton moved for approval of consent agenda items.

2. 1. Approval of the Meeting Minutes from the July 20, 2015 Regular Meeting.
2. 2. The following persons were recommended for employment for the 2015-16 school year:
 - ◊ Erica Lanphier, 1.0 Kindergarten Teacher, Woodcrest Elementary
 - ◊ Megan Oswalt, 1.0 Elementary Teacher, MPS Art Department
2. 3. The following staff members announced their resignation effective as of the dates indicated:
 - ◊ Teri Chia, Paraprofessional, Eastlawn Elementary, July 23, 2015
 - ◊ Jackie Bruessow, Paraprofessional, Carpenter Street, July 13, 2015
 - ◊ Kimberly Clarke, Office Professional, H. H. Dow High, August 1, 2015
 - ◊ Christopher Stevens, Grounds Department, August 15, 2015
 - ◊ Crystal Bennett, Resource Room Teacher, Siebert Elementary, June 11, 2015
2. 4. Administration recommended the renewal of the Adult Ed Cooperative Agreement between Bullock Creek School District, Coleman Community Schools, Meridian Public Schools and Midland Public Schools for the 2015-16 school year.
2. 5. Board approval was sought for Midland High School to purchase a new portable stage. Administration sought approval to purchase the new stage (which includes backdrop frame and curtains) from StageRight Company in Clare, Michigan, for the amount of \$10,702.54. This was not the lowest bid received; however, the vendor is local and the bid includes the frame and curtains, unlike the other bids received. This purchase will not be taken from the general fund; the funds will be provided from the MHS All in Club and the Master Chemic Club.

2. 6. Administration sought approval to deliver a purchase order to Duncan Video of Sterling Heights, MI for \$7,228.79 as part of the infrastructure updates in the Technology Bond. The pricing is for one (1) Tightrope Media Systems CableCast server. The CableCast server handles all of the automated switching for the television station and the old server is no longer supported. The pricing provided was the result of a formal bid and follows Board purchasing policy.
2. 7. Bids were accepted and a tabulation provided for the replacement of the MPS warehouse roof. The administration recommended issuing a purchase order to the low bidder, Brandle Roofing and Sheet Metal of Midland, Michigan, in the amount of \$6,845. This project will be paid for with sinking funds.
2. 8. Approval of the payment of school system's bills for the month of June 2015, as listed in the check registers prepared by Ms. Laux, in the total amount of \$10,137,357 was recommended. The distribution of obligations by fund, was included in the documentation.
2. 9. Approval was requested to authorize payment for the following invoices:
 - ◇ Thrun, \$592.00, July 30, 2015, Professional Legal FeesMotion carried unanimously.

3. REQUESTS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD:

◇ Ms. Colleen Bauder addressed the board with regard to having the Midland Public Schools' high school graduation ceremonies at different times.

4. FINANCE, FACILITIES AND OPERATIONS

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

4. 1. Finance, Facilities and Operations (FFO) Study Committee Minutes from August 10, 2015 were read aloud by Ms. Singer, Chair

Members Present: P. Singer (chair), A. Brandstadt, L. Baker, M. Sharrow, R. Cooper, B. Brutyn; Guests Present: Daryl Dombrow-Barton Malow, Dale Jerome-French Associates

June Financials: The June financial reports were reviewed. The Bond Fund Executive Report that has been added to the monthly financials was explained and discussed.

Bond Update: Mr. Cooper shared the details of the purchase of a CableCast server used by the television station. The current server has reached the end of its life and is no longer supported by the manufacturer. Daryl Dombrow from Barton Malow reviewed the middle school boiler projects and their progress to date. Both boilers should be operational by the middle of September. Dale Jerome from French Associates reviewed the Central STEM Elementary School project. He discussed the schematic design sessions meetings held earlier that day with the various stakeholders of the new elementary. He also reviewed the current schematic design and next steps in the process. Mr. Brutyn updated and shared a highlights version of the district-wide STEM strategic plan and new STEM elementary school presentation that has been used in presentations with possible community financial supporters and the Midland Chamber of Commerce business/education forum.

4. 2. Singer/Fraze moved for approval of the following gift totaling \$13,900.
◇ \$13,900 for Plymouth Elementary classroom supplies, field trips, magazines, etc. from Plymouth PTO.
Motion carried unanimously.

5. HUMAN RESOURCES

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

5. 1. For Information: The Board and staff extended their deepest sympathy to the family of Mr. Ed Strom, who passed away on July 25. Mr. Strom taught social studies at both H. H. Dow High and Midland High during his 34 year career with Midland Public Schools. Mr. Strom had been the Social Studies Department Head at H. H. Dow High when he retired in 2004.
5. 2. Gorton/Baker moved to approve the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint Ms. Mary Laures as the Director of Special Services effective August 17, 2015.
Motion carried unanimously.

6. CORRESPONDENCE TO AND FROM THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

6. 1. For Information: Letters from the Board of Education or the school system to:
Mr. Kevin Hoerauf
Midland Area Community Foundation
H. H. Dow High School Athletic Booster Club
Ms. Collette Bouwhuis
Ms. Amie Munger
Ms. Jackie Strecker
Ms. Linda Spears
Mr. Jim Fulkerson
Ms. Cyndi Bixler

7. 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:

- ◇ September 21, 2015
◇ October 19, 2015
◇ November 16, 2015
◇ December 14, 2015

Tentative Meetings for January-June 2016 (Action will take place on these meeting dates at the January 18 Organizational Meeting)

- ◇ January 18, 2016 (Organizational meeting)
◇ February 15, 2016
◇ March 21, 2016
◇ April 18, 2016 (Budget Workshop)
◇ May 16, 2016
◇ June 13, 2016
◇ June 27, 2016

8. 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.

8. 1. Board Members expressed their ...

- appreciation for the *Our Schools* newsletter that came out Sunday, August 16 in the *Midland Daily News*. This is a great way to find out what is going on in our schools.
- welcome to our new Special Services Director, Mary Laures, and our two new teachers announced at tonight's meeting. We look forward to working with you.
- thanks to Plymouth PTO for your very generous gift presented this evening.
- excitement for the work being done with the new boilers at the middle schools as well as the removal of the modular classrooms through the bond projects. We know this is just the beginning, and we will all need patience as we work through the process in the coming years.
- excitement for the STEM visit by some of our administrators to see what is being done in other STEM schools. Thank you to Dow Chemical for helping to fund these visits.
- anticipation for the new school year to begin on September 8. We hope for a safe beginning to the new school year. It is exciting to see that fall sports are beginning.

8. 2. Announcements from Superintendent Sharrow

- In 2012 the Midland Department of Education labeled several MPS schools as Focus Schools because of the achievement gap. This week MDE notified MPS that our schools will be released because the academic achievement gap has closed and student achievement among the bottom 30% of students has improved.
- We are happy to report that we have reached a tentative agreement with our maintenance/grounds employee group—MCESPA.
- A team of MPS employees along with representatives from French & Associates and Barton Malow will be visiting Booker T. Washington STEM Academy in Champaign, Illinois in late September that was designed from the ground up as a STEM elementary. We are hoping to partner with three area universities regarding STEM education at MPS. Thank you to The Dow Chemical Company for their monetary support to make this site visit possible.
- Last week our administrative staff had a very busy week of training. They were trained on the new teacher evaluation instrument and software program—5D+. Many administrators also took part in a training called "Courageous Principals: From Insight to Action" brought to our area by Deloitte, Dow Chemical and SVSU.
- Chestnut Hill is very close to receiving their Blue Ribbon status. We are hoping to hear this fall.

