

BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES – January 23, 2012

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Midland Public Schools, Midland, Michigan, was held at the Midland Public Schools Administration Center, 600 E. Carpenter Street, Midland, Michigan, on Monday, January 23, 2012, beginning at 7 p.m. in accordance with the requirements of the Revised School Code, MCL 380.1 et.seq. effective July 1, 1996, and the policies established in How Midland Schools Work.

1. CALL TO ORDER: ROLL CALL

Board members present: President Mault,
 Vice President Wasserman,
 Secretary Baker,
 Treasurer Ohle,
 Member Brandstadt,
 Member Gorton,
 Member Kaminski

Central staff present: Superintendent Ellinger
 Assistant Superintendent Verlinde
 Associate Superintendent Cline
 Associate Superintendent Ellison

Visitors present: 21 staff, citizens and guests

2. CONSENT AGENDA

Ohle/Kaminski moved that the following Consent Agenda items be approved.

2.1 Approval of the Organizational/Regular Meeting minutes of Monday, January 9, 2012.

2.2 The following staff member has announced her resignation effective as of the date indicated:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Andrea Secrease	Paraprofessional, Eastlawn Elementary	January 26, 2012

2.3 Approval of the payment of the school system's bills for the month of November 2011, as listed in the check register prepared by Ms. Laux, in the total amount of \$6,698,713 was recommended. The distribution of obligations, by fund, is as follows:

2.3.a.	Through 11/15/2011	Through 11/30/2011	Totals
General Fund / Athletics	\$ 929,252	\$ 912,165	\$ 1,841,417
Capital Projects	-	-	-
Sinking Fund	48,781	246,366	295,147



Middle School Science Lab Renovation	-	-	-
Technology Grant	2,436	-	2,436
School Services:			
School Stores	4,418	15,988	20,406
Kindergarten Complement	5,567	5,070	10,637
Food Service	1,514	221,061	222,575
Student Activities	1,643	49,342	50,985
Sub-totals	993,611	1,449,992	2,443,603
Federal Withholding			397,974
State Withholding/Sales Tax			130,904
Social Security/Medicare			485,754
Payroll Transfers			187,784
ACH Transfers			2,258,903
Connectcare Transfers			433,363
Consumers payments paid electronically			117,313
PESG payroll (contracted substitutes)			55,710
Purchase Card Transactions			187,405
Total November Distributions			<u>\$6,698,713</u>

Submitted herewith are the following financial reports:

- 2.3.b Investment Report for November 2011 prepared by Ms. Laux.
- 2.3.c Listing of Purchase Orders exceeding three thousand dollars (\$3,000) or more for the months of November prepared by Ms. Laux.
- 2.3.d Listing of Purchase Card transactions exceeding three thousand (\$3,000) or more for the months of November prepared by Ms. Laux.

2.4. Approval of the payment of the school system's bills for the month of December 2011, as listed in the check register prepared by Ms. Laux, in the total amount of \$8,658,391 was recommended. The distribution of obligations, by fund, is as follows:

2.4.a.		Through	Through	
		<u>12/15/2011</u>	<u>12/31/2011</u>	<u>Totals</u>
General Fund / Athletics	\$	821,637	\$ 2,144,855	\$ 2,966,492
Capital Projects		-	-	-
Sinking Fund		11,545	165,267	176,812
Middle School Science Lab Renovation		-	-	-
Technology Grant		5,014	2,251	7,265
School Services:				
School Stores		2,851	9,809	12,660
Kindergarten Complement		4,970	11,616	16,586
Food Service		1,207	197,017	198,224
Student Activities		1,767	93,172	94,939
Sub-totals		848,991	2,623,987	3,472,978
Federal Withholding				414,361
State Withholding/Sales Tax				133,551
Social Security/Medicare				492,515
Payroll Transfers				270,141
ACH Transfers				3,424,755
Connectcare Transfers				170,318

Consumers payments paid electronically	115,304
PESG payroll (contracted substitutes)	72,016
Purchase Card Transactions	<u>92,452</u>
Total December Distributions	<u>\$8,658,391</u>

Submitted herewith are the following financial reports:

- 2.4.b Investment Report for December 2011 prepared by Ms. Laux.
- 2.4.c Listing of Purchase Orders exceeding three thousand dollars (\$3,000) or more for the month of December prepared by Ms. Laux.
- 2.4.d Listing of Purchase Card transactions exceeding three thousand (\$3,000) or more for the month of December prepared by Ms. Laux.

2.5 Approval was requested for a wireless network survey to be performed by Netch, of Novi, MI, for \$21,800. This is an important first step toward meeting the goal of full wireless network coverage across the District. Completion of this survey will provide a detailed list of recommended equipment for robust wireless capacity in all MPS schools. This is a planned expenditure from the 2011-2012 budget.

2.6 Approval was requested to authorize payment for the following legal bills:

FIRM	DATE	AMOUNT	PURPOSE
Currie Kendall PLC	1/11/2012	\$334.96	Professional Services
AMOUNT DUE		\$334.96	

Motion passed unanimously.

3. REQUESTS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

3.1 Ms. Lynda Conrad, 319 Walter Court, addressed the Board of Education with regard to the closing of Central Middle School.

Mr. Scott Jaster, 1072 East Chippewa River Road Drive, addressed the Board of Education with regard to the closing of Central Middle School.

4. BOARD OF EDUCATION MATTERS

PRESENTATIONS TO THE BOARD

For Information:

4.1 Mr. Ellinger thanked the members of the Board of Education for their dedication and commitment to the staff, students and families of Midland Public Schools; he personally presented each Board member with a certificate and small gift.

4.2 Superintendent's Report from Mr. Ellinger

- The 21st Century Learning Panel Discussion was a very successful and important event for our District and community. One Hundred Forty-Seven (147) parents and community members joined us for this wonderful evening filled with rich dialogue and communication. Thank you to all of our panel participants: Joe Asiala, CEO, MITech+ and President, MidMichigan Innovation Center; Jeanne Murabito, Executive Director for Student Affairs, College of Engineering, University of Michigan; Greg Rogers, President, MidMichigan Medical Center Midland; Rich Wells, Vice President and Site Director Michigan Operations, Dow Chemical Corporation; Kim Houston-Philpot, [Moderator] Global Community Relations Director and President, Dow Corning Foundation, Dow Corning. A special thank you to Dr. Ellison for her insights and comments as a panelist representing Midland Public Schools and to the entire Curriculum Division for their hard work and dedication to this project. Thank you to Mr. Jeff Lauer in particular for the hard work he put into the preparation for the evening.
- Today was a professional development day for our schools. Mr. Ellinger joined a number of schools' morning in-service meetings and was very impressed by the content of the meetings as well as the interaction by staff members.

Recommended For Action:

- 4.3 On December 12, 2011, Superintendent, Mr. Ellinger, presented the Board of Education with the final District Property Management Plan Recommendation. The plan came to the full Board at the recommendation of the Finance, Facilities & Operations Study Committee of the Board. The plan was presented for action by the Board of Education, again, at the suggestion of the FFO Study Committee and as publically mentioned at the December 12, 2011, and January 9, 2012 Board of Education meetings. Mr. Ellinger presented scenarios for closing Central as a middle school in the Fall of 2012 and the Fall of 2013.

Board members discussed all of the scenarios with dialogue that included the cost of each scenario, schools of choice, busing, school boundaries, after school programs, Central students having equitable educational opportunities for the 2012-13 school year as well as a smooth transition as they move to Jefferson and Northeast.

Wasserman/Ohle moved to approve the following elements regarding the District Property Management Plan, which included enrollment projections through the 2019-20 school year.

- Continue to operate the current seven Grade K-5 elementary buildings (Adams, Carpenter, Chestnut Hill, Eastlawn, Plymouth, Siebert, Woodcrest) for the foreseeable future.
- Cease to use Central as a middle school beginning with the Fall of 2013.
- Operate two middle schools as Grade 6-8 schools (Jefferson, Northeast) from the Fall of 2013 for the foreseeable future.
- Continue to operate two high schools (H. H. Dow, Midland) for the foreseeable future.

Motion passed unanimously.

Ohle/Kaminski moved for the adoption of a formal Service Consolidation Plan.

- 4.4 Section 22(f) of the 2011-12 State School Aid Act established one-time incentive grants of \$100 per pupil (\$820,000). To be eligible to receive the 22f funds a district is required to provide evidence that it met four of the five best financial practice requirements listed in 2011 PA 62. Each district wishing to apply for funds under this section must submit to the Michigan Department of Education a copy of the board resolution detailing the district's compliance with the required best financial practices. One of the best practices is a formal Service Consolidation Plan that reduces school operating costs by considering the consolidation of services. In determining eligibility for incentive payments, the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) will recognize service consolidation and cooperation and cost reductions already in effect as well as continued progress. Although Midland Public Schools is involved in numerous cost-saving collaborative efforts, we do not have a formal plan on file with MDE. The Service Consolidation Plan Resolution will signify our intent to do so and will be an important second step in qualifying for the incentive payment. Mrs. Cline presented the Service Consolidation Plan for approval.

WHEREAS, MCL 388.1622f states: *From the appropriation in Section 11, there is allocated for 2011-12 only an amount not to exceed \$154,000,000 to provide incentive payments to districts that meet financial best practices under this section. The money allocated in this section represents a portion of the year-end state school aid fund balance for 2010-11. The amount of the incentive payment is an amount equal to \$100.00 per pupil. A district shall receive an incentive payment under this section if the district satisfies at least 4 of the following requirements not later than June 1, 2012; and*

WHEREAS, *One of those requirements related to Service Consolidation plans is found in MCL 388.1622f(1)(c): If a district did not enter into an agreement with the department to develop a service consolidation plan to reduce school operating costs under former Section 11d as it was in effect for 2010-11, the district enters into an agreement with the department to develop a service consolidation plan that is in compliance with department guidelines described in subsection (2); and*

WHEREAS, *the Midland Public Schools has been involved with service consolidation plans in the past, sharing various services; and*

WHEREAS, *the district continues to pursue additional new opportunities for the consolidation of services; and*

WHEREAS, *the Midland Public Schools intends to qualify for the \$100 per pupil incentive funding for meeting financial best practices;*

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. *The Midland Public Schools intends to enter into an agreement with the Michigan Department of Education to develop a new Service Consolidation Plan.*
2. *All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this resolution are hereby rescinded.*

Ayes: Mault, Baker, Wasserman, Ohle, Brandstadt, Gorton, Kaminski
Nays: n/a

Resolution declared adopted.

/s/ Lynn Baker
Secretary, Board of Education

The undersigned, duly qualified and acting Secretary of the Board of Education of Midland Public Schools, hereby certifies that the foregoing constitutes a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Board at a Regular meeting held on January 23, 2012, the original of which resolution is a part of the board's minutes. The undersigned further certifies that notice of the meeting was given to the public pursuant to the provisions of the Open Meetings Act, 1976 PA 267, as amended.

/s/ Lynn Baker
Secretary, Board of Education

Motion passed unanimously.

5. **CURRICULUM and INSTRUCTION**

Study Committee Chair – Dr. Kaminski
Staff Resource Person – Dr. Ellison

For Information:

- 5.1 The “Curriculum and Special Services (CaSS) Study Committee Report” was read aloud by Dr. Kaminski. The meeting was held on Monday, January 16, 2012, 1:00 p.m. Members present were Dr. John Kaminski (chair), Mrs. Lynn Baker, Mrs. Yvonne Gorton, Mr. Carl Ellinger, Dr. Kathy Ellison and Mr. Gary Verlinde.

Post-Secondary Class / Program Visit - The Curriculum and Special Services Study Committee visited the Post-Secondary Program at the Midland Community Center. These special needs students, age 18 -26, shared their experiences at the various work sites in the communities and discussed their tasks and the skills required to successfully complete those tasks. Teacher Lori Hedrick explained the curriculum of the program and the diversity of students’ needs.

Educational Programming for Post-Secondary Students K-12 - After the classroom visit, Bob Paris, Curriculum Specialist for Special Services, and Carla Koch, Supervisor of the Post-Secondary Program, sketched out the purpose of the program and how it complements other Midland Public Schools and Midland County ESA programs. They also delineated all such low incidence special services programs K – 12.

Change 9-Week Grading Period - Gary Verlinde and Kathy Ellison then discussed the districts’ study of moving to a standard 9-week grading period at all grade levels. The standardization would be easier for parents to track and with the success of the web-based Home Access Center parents can already get a daily picture of their students’ academic progress. Administration is going to continue discussions with teachers in February.

Central Middle School - Superintendent Ellinger shared some information on ramifications of closing Central and the various ways of transitioning the students. He discussed schools of choice, districting, and staffing implications as well as master schedule considerations.

Next CaSS meeting: February 27, 2012

6. **FINANCE**

Study Committee Chair – Mr. Ohle
Staff Resource Person – Ms. Cline

For Information:

6.1 The “Finance, Facilities and Operations (FFO) Study Committee Report” was read aloud by Mr. Ohle (chair). The meeting was held on Tuesday, January 17, 2011. Members present were Mr. Rick Ohle (chair), Mr. Jerry Wasserman, Mr. Carl Ellinger, Mr. Gary Verlinde.

Mr. Ellinger updated the FFO Committee on a recent interest in the Mills Elementary building and property. The committee also began discussing long-term plans for this particular site and feels that for now minimal heating and maintenance of the building is a worthy idea to protect the district’s interests.

Mr. Verlinde shared the details of a future district survey of needs for wireless technology. Such a survey will identify future equipment needed to implement this aspect of the district’s Technology Plan and all associated costs.

The committee also discussed the next Property Management Plan discussion planned for the Board of Education meeting on January 23, 2012. Specifically, the committee requested time for a review of options for addressing the potential closure of Central Middle School during each of the next two school years. Administration will provide a Power Point Presentation to assist the Board in framing this discussion on the 23rd.

Next Meeting: January 30, 2012 at 4:30 p.m.

6.2 The following gifts, which total \$12,656 have been received and processed:

	<u>Donor</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>
(1)	Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Trombka Mr. & Mrs. Rick Ohle Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Wasserman Mr. & Mrs. Edmund LaCross Mr. & Mrs. Philip Baker <i>(In honor of Ms. Rouse’s District service on the Board)</i>	Support for Midland High Cross Country	\$ 190.00
(2)	Dow High Music Parents	Musical Instruments & Supplies at Dow High	\$ 2,000.00
(3)	Eastlawn PTO	Books for Eastlawn Media Center	\$ 750.00
(4)	H. H. Dow High School Athletic Booster Club	Pool Touchpad at Dow High	\$ 625.00
(5)	Dow Chemical Foundation	Plymouth Recess Equipment	\$ 1,000.00
(6)	Mr. & Mrs. Paul White	Plymouth Recess Rainy Day Games	\$ 1,000.00
(7A)	Siebert School	Siebert School Anti-Bullying Program	\$ 3,370.00
(7B)	Midland Rotary Foundation	Siebert School Anti-Bullying Program	\$ 3,721.00

Appropriate thanks to the donors was recommended.

7. CORRESPONDENCE TO AND FROM THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

For Information:

- 7.1 Letters from the Board of Education or the school system to:
Midland Area Community Foundation
Eastlawn Elementary P.T.O.
The Dow Chemical Foundation
The Midland High School Class of 1961
Midland High School Athletic Booster Club
Mr. and Mrs. Kelly Buell
Northeast Middle School Booster Club
Michigan Chapter American Institute of Professional Geologists
The Mary C. Currie Foundation

8. SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES

For Information:

The following is a listing of scheduled meetings or activities of the Board of Education for 2012:

February 13, 2012	7 p.m.	Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
February 27, 2012	7 p.m.	Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
March 12, 2012	7 p.m.	Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
March 26, 2012	7 p.m.	Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
April 16, 2012	7 p.m.	Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
April 30, 2012	3 p.m.	Budget Workshop of the Board of Education
May 14, 2012	7 p.m.	Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
May 29, 2012 (Tuesday)	7 p.m.	Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
June 11, 2012	7 p.m.	Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
June 25, 2012	7 p.m.	Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
July 16, 2012	7 p.m.	Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
August 13, 2012	7 p.m.	Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
August 27, 2012	7 p.m.	Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
September 10, 2012	7 p.m.	Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
September 24, 2012	7 p.m.	Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
October 8, 2012	7 p.m.	Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
October 22, 2012	7 p.m.	Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
November 12, 2012	7 p.m.	Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
November 26, 2012	7 p.m.	Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
December 10, 2012	7 p.m.	Regular Meeting of the Board of Education

Wasserman/Kaminski moved to change the evening's agenda for the Study Discussion comments to be heard before the Closed Session begins.

Motion carried unanimously.

11. 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.

11.1 Hearing from Board Members: It is always a very hard decision to close a building, and such was the case this evening as we made the decision to close Central as a middle school. Central has a rich legacy of outstanding students, parents, staff, leadership and programs. We are thankful to Mr. Poole and his dedicated staff for their understanding, hard work and investment of time not only as we worked through this process but also throughout the years as they educate and support Central Middle School students and families. Thank you to Mr. Ellinger and Administration for all of their work, discussion and clarification as we worked through the Property Management Plan process. It is amazing to think that we will have closed 35% of our buildings in three years. The elementary transitions went very well two years ago; we have every reason to believe that this will be the case for Central students as they transition into Jefferson and Northeast. Thank you to everyone who joined us for the Learning in the 21st Century event hosted by Midland Public Schools last week. It was a wonderful evening, rich in focus that looked at the changing face of education and the need for a global emphasis. We are very appreciative of the panelists and moderator as well as the business, community and other educational entities for their support of this important evening. We left the auditorium that evening very excited about the future of this District. Thank you to Carl for his kind words this evening, the nice letter to the editor in the *Midland Daily News* and to the Plymouth students for the cards we received this evening for Board of Education Appreciation Month. Our CaSS meeting last week was so enjoyable; meeting the students and staff at the Post Secondary Program was delightful. Thank you to our wonderful MPS teachers as they work to help students to be successful in so many different ways. Congratulations and best wishes to all of our students who went through a tough exam week last week and are beginning second semester this week.

11.2 Announcements from Superintendent Ellinger

- I have been so impressed with academic achievement of our Central students over the years. Our Central staff takes ownership and pride in the accomplishments in this very special school.
- The 2011 Adams Cards ‘R Us sale was a huge success! Students sold over 2400 cards to earn a total of \$618.50. The money raised was donated to area programs.
- Kudos to the Midland Chemics for sponsoring these programs this past holiday season:
 - Over \$2100 by the Student Council for the Adopt-A-Family program to purchase Christmas gifts for families.
 - Over 500 toys to the Salvation Army/U. S. Marine Corp for Toys for Tots.

- Used Sweaters to the Mr. Roger's Sweater Drive sponsored by WCMU.
- Used books in the Books for Boots Program benefiting the VA hospitals.
- Pennies for Turkeys – students engaged in friendly competition to raise over \$300 in coins to buy holiday meals for families.
- Key Club students rang the Salvation Army bells at area businesses and others baked cookies and delivered them to community senior housing facilities.
- The Welding class assembled 20 bikes donated to the Bikes for Tykes program.
- Midland High's marketing students collectively raised over \$1,100 for the American Cancer Society!
- Great Job Dow High for the tremendous support shown to the Make-A-Wish and Team Mary projects sponsored by Marketing and Advanced Marketing students. They presented checks in early January to Make-A-Wish for more than \$3,200 and Team Mary for more than \$1,600. Congratulations!
- Dow High's BPA Club had an exceptional performance at the 2012 Regional Leadership Conference on Saturday, January 7! Thirteen out of seventeen students qualified for the State Leadership Conference in Grand Rapids in March.
- The Dow High Symphonic Band students did an outstanding job at the Michigan Music Festival in Grand Rapids. It was an honor and privilege to see them perform at this prestigious event.

8. **CLOSED SESSION**

At 8:58 p.m. Wasserman/Ohle moved that the Board go into Closed Session to discuss the Midland Federation of Paraprofessionals negotiations. A roll call vote was taken to go into closed session by those members present (7-0).

At 9:20 p.m. Kaminski/Wasserman moved to end the Closed Session and reconvene the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education. Motion carried by those members present.

9. **RECOMMENDED FOR ACTION**

9.1 Mr. Verlinde brought the Midland Federation of Paraprofessionals contract to the Board of Education for approval; it has been ratified by the paraprofessional members of this group.

Ohle/Wasserman moved to approve the contract with the Midland Federation of Paraprofessionals. Motion carried unanimously (7-0).

Board members thanked Paula Young Anderson and Lorraine Hawkins and the rest of the negotiations committee for their cooperative and respectful work on this contract. They especially thanked the Midland Public Schools' paraprofessionals for all they do for MPS students and recognized they are vital



team partners in the success of MPS students. Board members also thanked our paraprofessionals for their patience and understanding in these difficult times.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:28 p.m.

President: _____ Secretary: _____
Kenneth D. Mault Lynn M. Baker

Approved by the Board on:

C. Young 13-Feb-2012