BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES – November 12, 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, November 12, 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,
Associate Superintendent Cline,
Assistant Superintendent Verlinde,
Associate Superintendent Ellison

Visitors present: 14 staff, citizens and guests

2. CONSENT AGENDA

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

2.1 Approval of the Regular Meeting minutes of Monday, October 22, 2012.

2.2 The following staff members have announced their resignations effective as of the dates indicated:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Effective Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Terry Frost</td>
<td>Paraprofessional, Northeast Middle School</td>
<td>November 9, 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michelle Stolsmark</td>
<td>Paraprofessional, Eastlawn Elementary</td>
<td>November 8, 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vicki Winton</td>
<td>Paraprofessional, Plymouth Elementary</td>
<td>November 9, 2012</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2.3 MidAmerica, our third party administrator for the district 403(b) plan, has provided a resolution that enables us to comply with various laws including the Heroes Earnings Assistance and Relief Tax Act of 2008 (HEART Act) and suspension of 2009 required minimum distributions as set forth in the Worker, Retiree, and Employer Recovery Act of 2008 (WRERA). This is a compliance amendment and it will have no effect on the operation of the plan. Administration recommended approval of the amendment.

2.4 At its August 28, 2000 meeting, the Board approved a switch to ConnectCare medical and prescription benefits effective November 1, 2000. The switch moved the district from an
indemnity (monthly premium) plan to self-insurance, whereby Midland Public Schools provides all funds for payment of claims.

To protect itself against catastrophic claims on both a specific (individual) and aggregate basis, the district purchases stop loss insurance. As of October 31, 2012, stop-loss payments since 2000 total $1,739,006.74.

Bids for the 2012-13 insurance year were solicited by the J. P. Farley Company, the district’s third party administrator. Our current carrier, Everest Reinsurance Company, a company with an A.M. Best A+ rating, was the sole bidder. The following table shows the 2011-12 rates and the proposed rates for 2012-13.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Insurance Type</th>
<th>Current Contract</th>
<th>Proposed Contract</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Specific Insurance</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single Coverage (N = 69)</td>
<td>$10.69</td>
<td>$13.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(per employee/month)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Coverage (N = 493)</td>
<td>$27.21</td>
<td>$31.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(per employee/month)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Aggregate Insurance</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(125% of estimated claims)</td>
<td>$3.29</td>
<td>$3.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(per employee/month)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Specific Deductible</strong></td>
<td>$250,000.00</td>
<td>$250,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Corridor</strong></td>
<td>$50,000.00</td>
<td>$50,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Estimated Costs</strong></td>
<td>$197,671.20</td>
<td>$219,102.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(for 12 month period)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Accordingly, administration recommended the purchase of medical stop loss insurance from the Everest Reinsurance Company, for the twelve-month period beginning November 1, 2012.

2.5 The following textbooks were presented for the 28-day period of examination on October 8.

This book will be used for Sales Management A in grades 9-12:
Title: Who Moved My Cheese?
Authors: Johnson & Blanchard
Publisher: Penguin Putnam
Copyright: 2002

This book will be used for Merchandising Operations A in grades 9-12:
Title: Start Something That Matters
Authors: Mycoskie & Blake
Publisher: Spiegel & Grau
Copyright: 2011

This book will be used for Marketing A in grades 9-12:
Title: Rich Dad, Poor Dad
Authors: Kiyosaki & Lechter
Publisher: Warner Books
Copyright: 2000
This book will be used for Marketing A in grades 9-12:
Title: Getting from College to Career
Authors: Pollak & Lindsey
Publisher: Harper Collins
Copyright: 2007

Administration recommended approval of these books. These purchases are contingent on the available funding as approved in the 2012-13 budget.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FIRM</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>AMOUNT</th>
<th>PURPOSE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thrun Law Firm, P.C.</td>
<td>10/25/2012</td>
<td>$1,950.50</td>
<td>Professional services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>AMOUNT DUE</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$1,950.50</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Motion carried unanimously.

3. **REQUESTS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD**

3.1 Becki Hoon (4500 Washington) and Michelle Smith (304 Broadhead) addressed the Board with regard to their children attending the Great Lakes Bay Early College program and District policy regarding participation in high school graduation ceremony.

4. **CURRICULUM and INSTRUCTION**

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

For Information:

PRESENTATIONS TO THE BOARD

For Information:

4.1 Mr. Verlinde presented the Northeast and Jefferson Middle Schools Limited Resident Schools of Choice Application Window.

Administration will be opening an early window for Fall 2013 Limited Resident Schools of Choice for Jefferson Middle School and Northeast Middle School only. This will allow the district to firm up numbers for next year at Jefferson and Northeast in light of the closing of Central Middle School. With the resulting enrollment numbers, the district will be able to further plan for staffing and room utilization.

Only current fifth, sixth, and seventh grade students who do not wish to follow the path of the current Midland High School and Dow High School geographic boundaries will need to submit an application, no later than December 21, 2012. Also, students currently attending Jefferson and Northeast, under approved Schools of Choice placement or fifth graders who have elected an elementary school in the Northeast or Jefferson path do not need to apply. Applications may be submitted starting December 1.
The buildings available for Schools of Choice students and the number of spaces in each building will be determined by the Midland Public Schools District. If applicants exceed spaces available, a lottery will be held as specified by state law. All applicants will be notified by U.S. mail of their enrollment status no later than January 31, 2013.

4.2 Mr. Ellinger presented NEOLA Policy 0150 (Organization) for discussion and review. In light of Legislation moving regular public school elections to November of even years, it is necessary for the Board to revise its policies related to “Board Organization” and election of officers. Therefore, administration will recommend adoption of NEOLA Policy - 0150 on November 26, 2012 in order to be in legal compliance and the associated timelines for preparing for the annual January Organizational Meeting.

**Recommended For Action:**

Wasserman/Ohle moved that the following item be approved.

4.3 The Michigan Court of Appeals on October 21, 1985 issued a major decision interpreting the 1982 summer tax collection statute. In its ruling upholding the constitutionality of the law, the Appellate Court stated that, despite prior practices, school districts must adopt an annual resolution for summer tax collection. An ongoing request is not sufficient. The Court of Appeals held that an annual formal action by the Board is required prior to January 1 of each year for which the Board intends to collect taxes in the summer.

The Midland Public Schools collects summer taxes only on property in the City of Midland. All school taxes in the townships are levied in December.

The resolution to collect summer taxes on property in the City of Midland was included in the Agenda. A copy of the resolution will be provided to the city.

Ms. Lynn Baker read aloud the Summer Tax Resolution prior to the Board of Education voting.

*WHEREAS*, Act 333, Public Acts of Michigan, 1982, provides that a school district may determine by resolution to impose a summer property tax levy, of one-half or all its annual school property taxes, including debt service; and

*WHEREAS*, this Board of Education adopted such a resolution on November 24, 1986, providing for a summer property tax levy of one-half of school property taxes, including debt service, upon property located within the City of Midland, and providing for such levy in 1987 and continuing from year to year thereafter; and

*WHEREAS*, for each year such resolution applies, the school district must request, before January 1, that the City of Midland agree to collect the summer tax levy in the following year of either the total or one-half of school property taxes, including debt service, on property within the City of Midland; and

*WHEREAS*, said Act 333 provides for certain procedural steps to be taken by this Board of Education in connection with imposition of a summer property tax levy and also provides for the manner in which such summer property tax levy shall be collected.
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. This Board of Education, pursuant to 1982 P.A. 333, hereby imposes a summer property tax levy of one-half of school property taxes, including debt service, upon property located within the school district, within the City of Midland, for the year 2013 and continuing from year to year as authorized by statute.

2. The Secretary of this Board of Education is authorized and directed to forward a copy of this resolution to the governing body of the City of Midland, together with this Board of Education’s request that they agree to collect the summer tax levy for the ensuing year in the amount as specified in this resolution. A copy of this resolution and the request to collect the summer tax levy shall be sent so that they are received by the City of Midland before January 1, 2013.

Ayes:  Baker, Brandstadt, Gorton, Kaminski, Mault, Ohle, Wasserman

Nays:  n/a

Resolution declared adopted.

Dated:  11/12/2012  /s/ Lynn Baker

Lynn Baker, Secretary

Ohle/Wasserman moved that the following item be approved.

4.4 Administration recommended approval of an exception to the 90-mile rule that is outlined for student trips in How Midland Schools Work. The Northeast Viking Leadership Council sought to arrange a trip for 40 to 50 Council members to travel to Washington D.C. February 14 through February 18. With an in-service day and a vacation day in the calendar at that time, students will not miss any instruction. All costs will be paid from the Leadership Council’s club budget. Northeast would be contracting with WorldStrides: Discover Now programs.

Motion carried unanimously.

Kaminski/Wasserman moved that the following item be approved.

4.5 In the fall of 2010, the Superintendent convened four committees of staff and community to identify funding sources outside of the General Fund for athletics, extracurricular activities, International Baccalaureate, and the co-curricular elements of the music program. One of the recommendations of the Music subcommittee was to plan a community-wide fundraiser similar to Tuning Up! to support uniform purchases at both high schools. This was seen as preferable to attempting to hold separate fundraisers at both high schools for the same purpose. Ms. Nancy Peeler from Midland High School and Mr. Dominic Zoeller from H. H. Dow High School presented the boosters’ plan for the fundraiser; each booster club has already committed $2,500 toward their fundraising goal of $250,000. Administration recommended that Mr. Ellinger be authorized to sign a fund agreement with Midland Area Community Foundation to establish an ongoing fund for this purpose. This initiative to provide uniforms/performance attire for band, orchestra and choral will be called “Looking Sharp.” Mr. Jim Hohmeyer has agreed to be the face of this exciting endeavor.

Motion carried unanimously.
5. **CURRICULUM and INSTRUCTION**

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

**For Information:**

5.1 Mr. Randy Schaedi, Coordinator of Science and recently named the District’s New Tech Program Lead, provided an overview of the New Tech Network, including critical components of the program and insights on how it will benefit Midland Public Schools’ students. Possible MPS implementation of the program is anticipated for September 2013 contingent on funding sources. The First year would include approximately one hundred 9th grade students with an ultimate enrollment of 400 students each year. Plans are in the works for a Community Forum on December 3 and a staff informational meeting on December 4. Mr. Paul Buck, New Tech’s Director of New School Development will join us for both meetings.

**For Action:**

Kaminski/Baker moved that the following item be approved.

5.2 2012-2013 Advisory Board on Instruction in Sex Education and Birth Control

The following people have been appointed to the Advisory Board on Instruction in Sex Education and Birth Control for the 2012-2013 school year by the Midland Public Schools Board of Education. Asterisks indicate members who have served on the board in previous years. Ms. Lynn Baker is the Board’s liaison to this committee. Jeff Lauer and Gerald Ferguson will serve as co-chairs of this committee.

Parents:
- **Gerald Ferguson***, also Clergy Representative from Trinity Lutheran Church
- **Sarah Kok**
- **Michelle Monticello**, M.D., also Health Professional
- **Amy Jaster**

Health Professionals:
- **Craig Sonke**, M.D.
- **Lydia Watson**, M.D.

Clergy:
- **Wally Mayton**, Memorial Presbyterian Church

Educators:
- **Jeff Lauer**, MPS

Students:
- **Gina Tolfa**, H. H. Dow High School
- **Pauline Flamion***, Midland High School
- **Nick Olen**, H. H. Dow High School
- **Quienten Greiner**, Midland High School

Motion carried unanimously.
6. **FINANCE**  

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

**For Information:**

6.1 Earlier this fall, Northeast and Northwest Little Leagues approached Midland Public Schools about upgrading the baseball field at Northeast Middle School to provide an appropriate area for 13-15 year old baseball players. The Little Leagues will provide all necessary funding for this project and will maintain and care for this field when completed. They have been willing to work with MPS to find a way to improve the field without compromising the needs of the school or our own athletic programs, and are able to provide some desired improvements at no cost to the District. We feel that their plan represents a real win for everyone involved and look forward to its commencement before winter.

6.2 The following gifts, which total $4,548.85, have been received and processed:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Donor</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1) H. H. Dow High School Athletic Booster Club</td>
<td>Camcorders and Cases for Coaches</td>
<td>$862.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2) Midland High School Class of 1952</td>
<td>Support for Midland High School's Music and Athletic Departments</td>
<td>$735.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3) Mr. &amp; Mrs. James Pollack</td>
<td>District Activity Fee Scholarship</td>
<td>$300.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(5) Eastlawn Student Council</td>
<td>Eagle Mascot Costume and LED Sign for Lobby</td>
<td>$600.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(6) Eastlawn Elementary Student Supplemental Education Endowment Fund</td>
<td>Conference Registrations, Substitute Teacher Costs and Gravity Cruiser Science Kit</td>
<td>$1,050.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(8) Central Middle School PTC</td>
<td>Intramural Chaperones at Central Middle School</td>
<td>$1,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Acceptance of the following gift totaling $12,730.35 was recommended:

Wasserman/Baker moved that the following item be approved.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Donor</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(4) Woodcrest Elementary PTO</td>
<td>Woodcrest Teacher Wish List Items, Classroom Magazines, and Accelerated Reader On-line Program and Books</td>
<td>$5,211.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(7) Midland High School Athletic Booster Club</td>
<td>Varsity Football Uniforms</td>
<td>$7,518.85</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Motion carried unanimously.

Appropriate thanks to the donors was recommended.

7. **HUMAN RESOURCES**  

**Study Committee Chair – Mr. Wasserman**  
**Staff Resource Person – Mr. Verlinde**

**For Information:**

7.1 The Board and staff extended their deepest sympathy to the family of Ms. Helen Merritt who passed away on October 25, 2012. Ms. Merritt worked at Woodcrest Elementary for 23 years as a Co-Op, Reading Aide, Title 1 Aid and Office Technical Professional. Ms. Merritt retired in 1994.
8. CORRESPONDENCE TO AND FROM THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

For Information:

8.1 Letters from the Board of Education or the school system to:
- The Laura Ludington Hollenbeck Foundation: Midland Shock
- Midland Area Community Foundation: Siebert Elementary P.T.O.
- H. H. Dow High School Athletic Booster Club: H. H. Dow High Music Parents
- Midland High School Athletic Booster Club

9. SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES

For Information:

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

- 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

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 appointed to the Officer Nominating Committee were: Mr. Mault, Mr. Ohle and Ms. Baker.

10.2 Hearing from Board Members: Thank you to all of our gift donors for their generous donations this evening. Jefferson’s Music & More (Jefferson Middle School music program’s fundraising event for the year) was a wonderful evening showcasing students’ talents. It was also wonderful to see two Dow High music students come back and emcee the event. Welcome to Ms. VanderKelen and Mr. McFarland who were elected to serve on this Board of Education. We look forward to getting to know you and working with you. Please don’t hesitate to contact any of us if we can be of help or if you have questions. We were impressed with some recent articles in the Midland Daily News; one was about Ms. Susan Shaffer, teacher at Siebert Elementary, who was awarded the prestigious Odyssey Award by the Michigan History Foundation; and the second announcement was about the final Central Middle School football game under the lights. The Midland Community Center has done a great job with the middle school sports program and especially for their work to get the word out about the CMS final football game. Mr. Schaedig did a great job with the New Tech presentation this evening. It will be exciting to see how this program develops for MPS in the coming years if it is affordable. The iPad parent information nights are scheduled in the very near future where parents will receive information and see how these technology tools will be used by students. Congratulations to the Midland High football team for their great season and for being ranked number one in the state. Congratulations to the MHS volleyball team who also had a great year. It was wonderful to hear the music parents’ presentation this evening and to see their wonderful
MPS has some exciting events this weekend: Friday is Midland High’s Rhapsody Rendezvous; Dow High’s drama department is performing *School House Rock*; the Santa Parade is Saturday morning. Administration is planning a half-day Board retreat for a Saturday morning in January. More information will follow.

10.3 Announcements from Superintendent Ellinger:
- Board members should give input regarding their preferences for board positions and/or committee assignments to nominating committee members.
- The final Central football game against Jefferson was a very special event. It was a true homecoming with many CMS alumni and some past coaches taking part.
- Kudos to the Carpenter Street School staff and especially to the Reading Promise Team for helping promote Carpenter’s Reading Promise! The team hosted an opening promise event on October 23, which brought in 194 students and family members.
- Congratulations to Ms. Kim McMahan, Adams Spanish Teacher, and Ms. Monique Scott, MHS Special Education Teacher, for being selected as part of the Rotary Group Study Exchange team visiting South Korea in April 2013.
- Congratulations to the Midland High student who qualified for the state cross country meet. He took 2nd place at this year’s regionals.
- As we look at our fall count day numbers, it appears our enrollment revenue will be only slightly under budget. Our 2012-13 budget reflected an FTE of 8,099; our total adjusted K-12 & special education FTE was 8,090.36 which is a difference of 8.64 FTE (approximately $63,000). Our fall 2012 non-resident schools of choice enrollment was up just over 64 FTE over fall of 2011. A very good sign!
- Saturday, November 3, the Jefferson Middle School Forensic team had their first ever appearance at a tournament, where they experienced tremendous success.
- Congratulations to the MHS student who took 1st place in the High School Women’s division and the MHS student who took 2nd place in High School Men’s division at the statewide singing competition in Grand Rapids sponsored by NATS (National Association of Teachers of Singing)
- Congratulations to the MHS Varsity Volleyball team for their 3rd year in a row of being the undefeated SVL champs!
- Congratulations to the Dow High Debate team that participated in the highly competitive national U of M debate tournament the first weekend in November. Congratulations to the student who placed 11th speaker overall and to the student who placed 2nd.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Ohle/Wasserman moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:48 p.m.

Motion carried unanimously.

Vice President: _________________________ Secretary: _________________________

Jerry Wasserman Lynn Baker

Approved by the Board on:

C. Young 26-November-2012