

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MINUTES – February 11, 2013**

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, February 11, 2013, beginning at 7:00 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 Wasserman,  
  Vice President Baker,  
  Secretary Kaminski,  
  Treasurer Brandstadt,  
  Member Gorton,  
  Member VanderKelen

Board members absent:           Member McFarland

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

Visitors present: 3 staff, citizens and guests

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**

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

2.1 Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes of Monday, January 28, 2013.

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

<u>Name</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Kristie Jackson	Paraprofessional, Northeast Middle School	February 11, 2013

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

FIRM	DATE	AMOUNT	PURPOSE
Thrun Law Firm P.C.	01/31/2013	\$2,115.00	Professional Fees
<b>AMOUNT DUE</b>		<b>\$2,115.00</b>	

Motion carried unanimously.

3. **REQUESTS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD**

3.1 No hearings were requested.

4. **BOARD OF EDUCATION MATTERS**

PRESENTATIONS TO THE BOARD

**For Information**

4.1 Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Gary Verlinde, Director of Technology, Mr. Blake Sobol and Coordinator of Instructional Media and Technology, Mr. Chris Sabourin presented information about the proposed \$20.8 million Technology Bond.

Superintendent of Schools, Carl Ellinger, presented information about the proposed 2 mill 10-year sinking fund. If approved at a special Board of Education meeting on February 20, both of these items would go before Midland voters on a May 7, 2013, ballot.

**For Approval**

Brandstadt/Gorton moved for the adoption of the Best Practices Incentive Resolution.

4.2 Section 22f of the State School Aid Act provides \$52 per pupil one-time grants to districts that satisfy at least 7 of 8 best practices criteria not later than June 1, 2013. Approval of this resolution is required to qualify for the grant. Revenue was included in the original 2012-13 budget in anticipation of qualifying for this incentive.

*WHEREAS, Section 22f of the State School Aid Act provides \$52 per pupil one-time grants to districts that satisfy at least 7 of 8 best practices criteria not later than June 1, 2013 [MCL 388.1622f].*

*WHEREAS, the board of education of Midland Public Schools desires to receive the \$52 per pupil incentive payment.*

*WHEREAS, the Midland Public Schools has satisfied at least 7 of 8 best practices criteria.*

*WHEREAS, eligibility for the incentive payment is contingent upon adopting a resolution that states the district has complied with the following 7 of 8 best practice criteria.*

*Now, therefore, be it resolved as follows:*

1. *The board of education of Midland Public Schools certifies that the district has complied with the following requirements:*

➤ *The district is the designated policy holder for medical benefit plan(s) pursuant to Section 22f(1)(a).*

➤ *The district has obtained a competitive bid on non-instructional services pursuant to Section 22f(1)(b).*

- *Food service*
- *Custodial services*

- *The district accepts applications for enrollment by non-resident applicants under Section 105 or 105c (MCL 388.1705) pursuant to Section 22f(1)(c).*
  - *The district submits to the Michigan Department of Education a plan that shows progress toward developing the technology infrastructure necessary for the implementation of pupil academic growth assessments by 2014-2015.*
  - *The district supports opportunities for pupils to receive postsecondary credit while attending secondary school pursuant to Section 22f(1)(e).*
  - *The district offers online instructional programs or blended learning opportunities to all eligible pupils pursuant to Section 22f(1)(f).*
  - *The district provides a link on the district's home page to the url for the MiSchoolData Portal which will contain the required dashboard indicators pursuant to Section 22f(1)(g). If certain data elements for our district are unavailable from State data collections, we agree to provide those data in the form and manner determined by MDE.*
2. *The board of education of Midland Public Schools authorizes and directs its secretary to file this resolution with the State Aid and School Finance Office of the Michigan Department of Education.*
3. *All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this resolution are hereby rescinded.*

*Resolved this 11<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2013.*

*Roll Call Vote: Passed:     X     Failed:*

*/s/ Gerald Wasserman  
Gerald Wasserman, Board President*

*/s/ John Kaminski  
John Kaminski, Board Secretary*

*Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote (6-0).*

Brandstadt/Baker moved that the following Mid-Year Budget Adjustment be approved at the recommendation of Mr. Ellinger.

- 4.3 Ms. Cline presented several necessary adjustments to the 2012-13 budget. She explained that the 2012-13 budget was developed in June 2012 (the previous school year). Subsequently, enrollment and student needs changed and state revenue changed. The revenue increased by \$1,319,243 and expenses decreased by \$529,439. As revenue (General Fund Revenue \$76,969,732) and expenses (General Fund expenditures currently stand at \$82,170,465) are imbalanced, \$5,200,733 could be needed from the Fund Balance. Normal budget variance is likely to reduce this shortfall by \$2.3 million, which will leave us with \$10.9 million or 13.3% of our annual operating expenditures in our fund balance. Ms. Cline also discussed preliminary 2013-14 budget forecasts. The 2012-13 final budget revision will be presented to the Board on June 24; an audit of the final figures will take place in July after the close of the fiscal year.

Motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote (6-0).

5. **FINANCE**

**Study Committee Chair** – Ms. Brandstadt  
**Staff Resource Person** – Ms. Cline

**For Information:**

- 5.1 The “Finance, Facilities and Operations (FFO) Study Committee Report” was read aloud by Mrs. Brandstadt. The meeting was held on February 5, 2013. Members present were Members Present: A. Brandstadt (chair), G. Wasserman, J. Kaminski, C. Ellinger, G. Verlinde, L. Cline, C. Laux

*Mrs. Laux reviewed the December financial reports. The January reports will be presented for approval at the February 25 Board of Education meeting.*

*The committee discussed a February 11 agenda resolution certifying that Midland Public Schools has met the requirements necessary to qualify for an incentive payment of \$52 per pupil. This payment is in recognition of meeting “best practices” as defined in the State School Aid Act of 2012. Revenue was included in the original 2012-13 budget in anticipation of qualifying for this incentive.*

*Mrs. Cline summarized the results from the requests for proposals for audit services. Administration will wait until a decision has been made about holding a bond and/or sinking fund election before bringing a recommendation to the Board.*

*Mr. Ellinger led the committee in a review of prior sinking fund ballot language and current options regarding millage rates, amounts, and duration. After discussing potential capital needs, the consensus was that there is a need to continue levying 2 mills for another 10 years. The item will be included for Board discussion at the February 11 meeting.*

*Mrs. Cline presented a draft of the mid-year budget adjustment that will be included on the February 11 Board of Education agenda. It includes a preliminary estimate of the 2013-14 budget. This estimate will be updated prior to the meeting on Monday to reflect the proposals included in the Governor’s February 7 budget address.*

*The committee began an examination of the process for determining allocation of instructional staff and the effects on class size. Options for lowering the average will be developed for the 2013-14 budget workshop in April. Once data has been finalized for the current school year, it will be available for Board of Education review.*

*The next meeting will be held at 4 p.m. on Monday, March 4. Representatives from Cenergistic (formerly Energy Education) have been invited to present on their proposal to reduce energy costs by reducing usage across the district.*

- 5.2 The following gifts, which total \$13,123.13, have been received and processed:

	Donor	Purpose	Amount
1	Eastlawn Elementary Student Supplemental Education Endowment Fund at Midland Area Community Foundation (MACF)	Math professional development presenter fees for Eastlawn Elementary staff	\$ 400.00
2	H. H. Dow High School Athletic Booster Club	Show pom pons	\$ 662.60
3	Eastlawn Elementary Student Supplemental Education Endowment Fund at MACF	Classroom Jeopardy game	\$ 500.00
4	Midland County Violence Prevention Partnership Project	Week of non-violence activities a number of MPS schools	\$ 1,813.92

5	Siebert School PTO	Kindergarten books	\$ 975.61
6	Woodcrest Elementary PTO	Teacher wish list items	\$ 2,053.00
7	Midland Area Community Foundation (Peter J. Kendall Donor-advised Endowment Fund)	Dow High Update scholarship assistance for trip to New York as they receive Columbia Scholarship Press Assoc. Crown Award	\$ 718.00
8	Midland Rotary Club	Eastlawn parent gathering room projector, document camera & supplies	\$ 1,750.00
9	Dow High Music Parents	Accompanist fees	\$ 1,500.00
10	Dow High Music Parents	Music program supplies, repairs, music, equipment	\$ 1,750.00
11	Dow High Music Parents	Transportation fees for jazz band events	\$ 1,000.00

The following donation of items has occurred.

	Donor	Gift donated
(1)	J. R. Heineman & Sons	Red Oak Wood (ten 1 x 8's & ten 1 x 6's) for MHS Woodshop Club

Appropriate thanks to the donors was recommended.

**6. HUMAN RESOURCES**

**Study Committee Chair – Ms. Baker**  
**Staff Resource Person – Mr. Verlinde**

**For Information:**

6.1 The following staff members announced their retirement effective as of the date indicated:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Ms. Paula Arthur	Paraprofessional, Midland High	June 12, 2013
Ms. Ravon Boyle	Office Professional, Midland High	June 28, 2013
Ms. Elizabeth Friedhoff	Teacher, Plymouth Elementary	June 13, 2013
Ms. Judy Miller	Paraprofessional, Siebert Elementary	June 12, 2013

Mr. Ellinger read aloud his letter of retirement effective July 1, 2013. His retirement will be formally announced at the February 25, 2013, Board of Education meeting. Board members expressed their thanks, kind thoughts and best wishes to Mr. Ellinger for his dedicated service to the Midland Public Schools' students, families and community.

**7. CORRESPONDENCE TO AND FROM THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**For Information:**

- 7.1 Letters from the Board of Education or the school system to:
- Eastlawn Elementary PTO
  - Target Field Trips
  - Psi Iota Xi Sorority
  - Dr. and Mrs. Richard Dolinski
  - Mr. and Mrs. Philip Baker
  - Mr. and Mrs. Kurt Brandstadt

Dr. and Mrs. John Kaminski  
Mr. Jim Nigro, McKay Press

- 7.2 FOIA letter to the Board of Education or the school system from Mackinac Center for Public Policy, Midland, Michigan, regarding collective bargaining agreements.

## 8. SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES

### For Information:

The following is a listing of scheduled meetings or activities of the Board of Education for 2013:

February 20, 2013	<b>5:30 p.m.</b>	Special Meeting of the Board of Education
February 25, 2013	7 p.m.	Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
March 11, 2013	7 p.m.	Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
March 25, 2013	7 p.m.	Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
April 15, 2013	7 p.m.	Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
April 29, 2013	<b>3 p.m.</b>	Budget Workshop of the Board of Education
May 13, 2013	7 p.m.	Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
May 28, 2013 (Tuesday)	7 p.m.	Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
June 10, 2013	7 p.m.	Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
June 24, 2013	7 p.m.	Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
July 15, 2013	<b>4 p.m.</b>	Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
August 12, 2013	7 p.m.	Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
August 26, 2013	7 p.m.	Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
September 9, 2013	7 p.m.	Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
September 23, 2013	7 p.m.	Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
October 14, 2013	7 p.m.	Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
October 28, 2013	7 p.m.	Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
November 11, 2013	7 p.m.	Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
November 25, 2013	7 p.m.	Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
December 9, 2013	7 p.m.	Regular Meeting of the Board of Education

## 9. 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.

### 9.1 Hearing from Board Members:

After each board member and Mr. Ellinger were given a copy of *Exam Schools* by Ms. VanderKelen, Board members expressed their ...

- thanks and congratulations to everyone who supported and participated in this year's music fruit sale.
- excitement about the prospect of a new sinking fund and a technology bond should they be placed on a May 7 ballot. If the Midland community voters pass these two initiatives, the funds would make a huge difference for the students, programs and future of Midland Public Schools. We truly appreciate the support and trust we have received from the

Midland Community through the years and look forward to continuing to be good stewards of the funds entrusted to us for the education of MPS students.

- appreciation to Mrs. Cline and her team for all of their work with the mid-year budget adjustment and for the clear, concise way Mrs. Cline communicates the budget information.
- thanks to Mr. Verlinde, Mr. Sobol and Mr. Sabourin for this evening’s technology bond presentation. It is exciting to see the strides MPS has made in technology as we work hard to prepare our students for the world in which they will live and work.
- excitement for all of the Non-Violence Week events taking place this week in our schools. Thank you to everyone for their efforts and participation with this important initiative.
- gratitude to Mr. Ellinger for all of his hard work and dedication to Midland Public Schools. His support, communication and encouragement were especially appreciated during Board members’ first year of service.
- appreciation to all of our gift donors for this evening’s gifts. Thank you also to our hard-working employee groups, parents and community who assist us as we continue to seek ways to spend less within our budgetary constraints.
- anticipation for the presentations by the four superintendent search firms during the February 25 regular Board meeting informing the Board about their superintendent search procedures.
- eagerness for this year’s Booster Bash on Friday, March 22, and the hope for another successful event.

9.2 Announcements from Superintendent Ellinger

- Mr. Ellinger read a State of Michigan Proclamation from Governor Rick Snyder declaring February 10-16, 2013 as Principal’s Week. Mr. Ellinger will deliver a copy of the Proclamation and a signed Certificate of Appreciation to each MPS Principal.
- Midland Public Schools’ week of non-violence begins today. The goal of this week is for students to understand the damage that can be done by bullying and bullying behavior. Most of the activities are designed to take a pledge to make a stand against bullying. Events/activities are being planned for every Midland Public Schools’ building.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

President: \_\_\_\_\_  
Gerald Wasserman

Vice President: \_\_\_\_\_  
Lynn Baker

Approved by the Board on:

\_\_\_\_\_  
C. Young      25-February-2013