

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MINUTES – March 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, March 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 McFarland,  
  Member Gorton,  
  Member VanderKelen

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

Visitors present: 24 staff, citizens and guests

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**

McFarland/Gorton moved that the following Consent Agenda items be approved.

2.1 Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes of Monday, February 25, 2013, and Special Meeting Minutes of Tuesday, March 5, 2013.

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

<u>Name</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Brian Frankovich	Assistant Principal, Central Middle School	June 30, 2013

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

FIRM	DATE	AMOUNT	PURPOSE
Thrun Law Firm P.C.	02/28/2013	\$540.50	Professional Fees
<b>AMOUNT DUE</b>		<b>\$540.50</b>	

Motion carried unanimously.

3. **REQUESTS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD**

3.1 Mr. Steve Flaminio addressed the Board regarding the March 22, 2013 Booster Bash at 6:30 at Dow Diamond.

4. **BOARD OF EDUCATION MATTERS**

PRESENTATIONS TO THE BOARD

**For Information**

4.1 Northeast Teachers, Ms. Kim Sheldrake-Formsma and Ms. Sarah Valley, and a number of the Northeast Middle School Viking Leadership students provided highlights of their February 14-18, 2013, trip to Washington D.C.

**For Action**

Kaminski/Brandstadt moved that the following item be approved.

4.2 Administration recommended the following repair using remaining sinking funds. Plymouth Elementary has an existing roof system that totals 49,908 square feet (sf). The oldest portion (5,000 sf) is a section in poor condition that is leaking and needs to be replaced. This area of roof was last replaced in 1993. It is a ballasted E.P.D.M. system that was scheduled to be replaced in 2012 with Sinking Fund dollars, but the project was cancelled. When originally bid in the spring of 2012 the cost was \$21,973. Administration sought approval to re-bid this as a summer 2013 Sinking Fund project. This roof replacement was previously approved by the board on October 10, 2011.

The remaining roof area, a totally adhered E.P.D.M. system installed in 1998, totals 44,908 sf; other than some normal maintenance items it is in good condition and not recommended for replacement at this time. The total cost to replace a roof system on an elementary school building such as Plymouth would be approximately \$349,000 (\$7.00 sf).

Motion carried unanimously.

5. **CURRICULUM and INSTRUCTION**

**Study Committee Chair** – Ms. Baker  
**Staff Resource Person** – Dr. Ellison

**For Information:**

5.1 The District Staff/Curriculum Development Committee recommended 16 proposals, listed alphabetically below, for consideration. All proposals were reviewed and prioritized by the Committee. Following the 28-day period of public input, they will be recommended for approval on April 15, 2013. Approval of these projects will set the focus for staff and curriculum development for the school year 2013-14. If approved, these proposals will be implemented based on the available funding as approved in the 2013-14 budget.

AP Calculus AB	\$ 4,293
AP Chemistry Alignment	2,390

Automotive Technology 1 & 2	5,996
Building Technology Instructional Leaders (BTILs)	33,770
Common Core State Standards	27,685
Differentiated Instruction	10,912
Digital Multimedia & Information Resource Design	2,749
Grade Level and Progress Monitoring Meetings	10,268
High School NETS Phase II	7,499
ICT Release Bank	2,464
Leadership Team Meetings	3,950
MS Tech Ed – World of Tech & Computer Design	4,913
Next Generation Science Standards	11,335
Primary Years Program	20,315
Project Based Learning	30,250
Student Leadership – RSVP	12,306
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$191,095</b>

5.2 The following textbooks were presented for the 28-day period of examination. These books are available for review at the office of Curriculum and Instruction.

These books will be used for Student Leadership in grades 9-12:

Title: *Character Development & Leadership, Lead Curriculum with Character Movie Set*  
 Author: Joseph M. Hoedel, Ph.D.  
 Publisher: Character Development Group, Inc.  
 Copyright: 2005

Title: *Building Everyday Leadership in All Teens, Curriculum Guide for Teachers and Youthworkers*  
 Author: Mariam G. MacGregor, M.S.  
 Publisher: Free Spirit Publishing  
 Copyright: 2006

6. **FINANCE**

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

**For Information:**

6.1 The “Finance, Facilities and Operations (FFO) Study Committee Report” was read aloud by Mrs. Brandstadt. The meeting was held on March 5, 2013. Members present were: A. Brandstadt (chair), G. Wasserman, J. Kaminski, C. Ellinger, G. Verlinde, L. Cline, C. Laux. Others in attendance: Mike Bitar, Dennis McComb from Cenergistic.

*Mrs. Cline reviewed energy use and cost across the district and described how capital improvements, equipment maintenance, and changing purchasing strategies have reduced both usage and cost over time. Representatives from Cenergistic (formerly Energy Education) then presented their proposal to further reduce energy usage by focusing on behaviors across the district. They will be invited to present to the entire board which will then be asked to approve entering into a four-year contract with Cenergistic.*

*Mrs. Laux reviewed the January financial reports. Due to meeting earlier in the month, the February reports were not available.*

*Following the Board's action to place sinking fund and bond questions on the May 7 ballot, Mrs. Cline contacted all five of the audit firms that responded to our request for proposal. They have been asked to provide an estimate of the additional audit costs related to both ballot issues by March 18. A decision regarding choice of auditor will be made after that time. It was also noted that if the district chose to pursue either a Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting or a Meritorious Budget Award from the Association of School Business Officials we would want to make our auditor aware of our decision. Since the purpose of the Meritorious Budget Award is to recognize school systems demonstrating excellence in their annual budget presentations, involvement of the auditor would be minimal. However, a Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting would require preparation of a Comprehensive Annual Financial Report in addition to the regular audit and would increase audit costs for the district. The consensus of the group was that with years of unqualified audit opinions, it is difficult to justify spending additional time and expense pursuing either award.*

*Mrs. Cline alerted the Board that due to section 205 of the 2010 Child Nutrition Reauthorization Act: Equity in School Lunch Pricing an increase in lunch prices for 2013-14 is likely; the required amount of the increase is not yet known. The last increase (10¢) was approved on May 23, 2011.*

*Mr. Ellinger reported that the March 11 agenda will include a request to use the sinking fund to replace a portion of the roof at Plymouth Elementary. This had been a scheduled 2012 sinking fund project for 2012 but was cancelled when projects were limited to retain funds for future emergencies. Continued leaks and further deterioration make this roof replacement a high priority.*

*Mr. Verlinde indicated that as part of the iPad initiative, the technology department plans to test the use of Apple TV in a classroom and at the Administration Center in an area used frequently for professional development. TV is a bit of a misnomer, since the device is actually a digital media receiver that can work with a variety of televisions and projectors. Testing in classroom and professional development environments will help the technology department assess whether and how to use Apple TV on a district-wide scale.*

*Mr. Verlinde described a manager classification and compensation study that HR is undertaking. Working with Hiring Solutions LLC, they will ensure that position descriptions are up-to-date and that the point system and compensation levels are accurate and reflect today's compensation environment. The system we are using was last evaluated years ago before many of today's positions were in existence. The project is scheduled for completion prior to adoption of salary levels for 2013-14.*

*The committee continued the discussion of class size. Administration reviewed the contractual limits and actions taken to address class sizes that exceed those limits. Additional compensation or assignment of paraprofessional assistance is required by contract. When practical to do so, additional staff is assigned before the start of the school year. Assigning staff after school has started is rarely used because of the disruption it causes for students and their families. There are numerous policy changes that the Board could consider that would affect class size, but many would be unpopular because of their effect on limiting choice for*

students. The group will explore whether there are creative, low-cost solutions to outlier class sizes at its next meeting.

The next meeting will be held at 4 p.m. on Tuesday, April 9.

6.2 The following gift was received and processed:

	Donor	Purpose	Amount
1	Woodcrest Elementary Administrative Account	Art Supplies at Woodcrest Elementary	\$ 2,374.00

Appropriate thanks to the donor was recommended.

**For Action:**

McFarland/Brandstadt moved that the following item be approved.

6.3 Cenergistic (formerly Energy Education) presented a proposal to Midland Public Schools to further energy usage by implementing an energy conservation program across the district. They will provide extensive resources, education and onsite training, action planning and other conservation-related services, while the District works cooperatively to implement Cenergistic’s energy savings program. The monthly fee for this will be \$16,170 for 48 consecutive months. The District is required to hire or contract with an energy specialist at an estimated total compensation not to exceed \$70,000. The contract requires Cenergistic to reimburse the District the difference if total savings fail to cover the full cost of the program, making it budget neutral. This service has a projected potential of net district savings amounting to \$4.2 million over a ten-year period of time. Prior to making this recommendation the Board’s Finance, Facilities & Operations Study Committee has vetted both the company’s references and its program for reassurance of this recommendation. Administration recommended approval of the resolution authorizing the Superintendent to enter into a contract with Cenergistic.

*Midland Public Schools, Midland County, Michigan (the "District")*

*A regular meeting of the board of education (the "Board") of the District was held at the Midland Public Schools Administration Center on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2013 at 7:00 o'clock p.m.*

*The meeting was called to order by Gerald Wasserman, President.*

*PRESENT:                   Members:                   Wasserman, Baker, Kaminski, Brandstadt,  
Gorton, McFarland, VanderKelen*

*ABSENT:                   Members:                   None*

***Resolution Regarding Proposed Agreement Between  
Midland Public Schools and Cenergistic, Inc.***

*The following preamble and resolution were offered by McFarland and supported by Brandstadt.*

***WHEREAS***, the administration of Midland Public Schools with the assistance of legal counsel has negotiated terms for a contractual agreement between the District and Cenergistic, Inc. ("Cenergistic"); and

*WHEREAS, the District desires to enter into the Energy Savings Contract, attached hereto as Exhibit A, with Cenergistic for the purpose of reducing energy consumption and utility expenses.*

***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:***

1. *The Board of Education determines that it is in the best interests of the District to enter into the attached Energy Savings Contract.*
2. *The Board of Education authorizes and directs the Superintendent, Carl R. Ellinger, to execute the Agreement in substantially the form attached hereto as **Exhibit A** and to make any revisions to the Agreements not inconsistent with this resolution.*
3. *All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this resolution are hereby rescinded.*

AYES: Members: Wasserman, Baker, Kaminski, Brandstadt, Gorton, McFarland, VanderKelen

NAYS: Members: n/a

MEMBERS ABSTAINING OR NOT PRESENT: n/a

**RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED**

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

*I hereby certify that the foregoing constitutes a true and complete copy of a resolution duly adopted by the Board of Education of Midland Public Schools, Midland County, Michigan, at a regular meeting held on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2013 and that said meeting was conducted and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meetings as Act, being Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, and that the minutes of said meeting were kept and will be or have been made available as required by said Act.*

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

**7. HUMAN RESOURCES**

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

**For Information:**

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

<u>Name</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Dr. Kathy Ellison	Associate Superintendent	June 30, 2013
Ms. Robin Hamann	Paraprofessional, Post-Secondary	June 12, 2013
Ms. Suzann E. Lombardo	Teacher, Midland High School	June 13, 2013
Ms. Leslie A. McCormick	Paraprofessional, Chestnut Hill	June 12, 2013
Ms. Renalee Pope	Paraprofessional, H. H. Dow High	June 12, 2013
Ms. Nancy Wolanin	Teacher, Chestnut Hill	June 13, 2013

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

**For Information:**

- 8.1 Letters from the Board of Education or the school system to:
- Woodcrest Elementary PTO
  - Ms. Kim Rice, Target Field Trips
  - Clorox Company Foundation
  - Midland Area Community Foundation
  - H. H. Dow High School Athletic Booster Club
  - Northeast Middle School Booster Club

**9. SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES**

**For Information:**

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

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

**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 Hearing from Board Members:

Board members expressed their ...

- excitement as they attended the recent Midland vs. Dow High Boys Basketball game. It was wonderful to see all of the students who attended and the marvelous school spirit.
- well-wishes to the Midland High boys' basketball team who are playing this evening.
- enthusiasm for the Dow High girls' basketball team for their remarkable undefeated season.

- delight for the incredible job MPS swimmers did at the recent State competition. Overall the Dow High team achieved an incredible 5<sup>th</sup> place at States and broke five school records. Congratulations to the remarkable Dow High swimmer who won two events.
- happiness for the students who participated in the recent Siebert Science Fair. It was fun to see the enthusiasm by our students for the science projects they created and displayed.
- congratulations for all who took part in this year's Battle of the Books this past weekend. Kudos to the champions from Chestnut Hill and the runners up from Woodcrest. This wonderful program couldn't be done without the dedication of the parents, teachers and marvelous commitment by the Grace A. Dow Library.
- thanks to Ms. Sheldrake-Formsma and Ms. Valley, the two Northeast teachers who brought the students this evening to inform us about their trip to Washington D.C. Board members were impressed with the dedication of these wonderful staff members and impressed that Northeast students are receiving the important message of "giving back" and getting involved in their community.
- congratulations to Dr. Ellison on her retirement; thank you for your many years of service to Midland Public Schools.
- thanks to all involved in the planning of this year's Booster Bash. We are looking forward to this wonderful event and appreciate the community support, in particular the support by our local businesses. Board members urged everyone to come out and enjoy and support this wonderful evening.
- encouragement to our community members for their participation in upcoming meetings as we seek input regarding the next Midland Public Schools' superintendent.

#### 10.2 Announcements from Superintendent Ellinger

- Mr. Ellinger reminded viewers that this meeting will resume broadcast once the closed session is adjourned. The superintendent search planning meeting conducted by Mr. David Peterson from School Exec Connect (SEC) will be televised; this meeting is the initiation of the superintendent search process.
- Linda Cline, President Wasserman and Mr. Ellinger attended a legislative forum hosted by the Midland County Educational Service Agency (MCESA). A healthy exchange took place by Senator Moolenaar, Representative Stamas and those local Board of Education members and staff in attendance. Mr. Ellinger expressed his thanks to both of these legislators for taking time to be at this meeting. They did indicate pending legislation regarding the Education Achievement Authority (EAA) was moving forward to address the lowest 5% of achieving schools in the State of Michigan. This could be good legislation but we need to have the public actively involved as the bill moves forward.

### 11. CLOSED SESSION

- 11.1 At 7:59 p.m. Kaminski/Brandstadt moved that the Board go into closed session for the purpose of discussing MCEA negotiations matters. Motion carried by those members present (7-0). Discussion relative to negotiations took place.

At 8:48 p.m. Kaminski/Brandstadt moved to end the Closed Session and reconvene the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education. Motion carried by those members present (7-0).



12. **BOARD OF EDUCATION MATTERS**

PRESENTATIONS TO THE BOARD

**For Information:**

12.1 Mr. David Peterson, School Exec Connect, conducted the Superintendent search planning meeting to outline the process and define board member responsibilities going forward. He discussed timelines, process, advertising, community engagement, the leadership profile, and much more with Board members. The MPS superintendent position will be posted beginning Wednesday, March 14.

13. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:52 p.m.

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

Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_  
John Kaminski

Approved by the Board on:

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