1. **CALL TO ORDER: ROLL CALL**

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

Board members absent: Member McFarland

Central staff present: Superintendent Sharrow, 
Assistant Superintendent Verlinde, 
Associate Superintendent Cline, 
Associate Superintendent Cooper

Visitors present: 39 staff, citizens and guests

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

2. **CONSENT AGENDA**

2.1 Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes from November 25, 2013 and Special Meeting Minutes from December 4 and 5, 2013.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Effective Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kathy Henderson</td>
<td>Paraprofessional, Transportation</td>
<td>December 6, 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rebecca Poindexter</td>
<td>Paraprofessional, Siebert Elementary</td>
<td>November 15, 2013</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

<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>11/27/13</td>
<td>376.00</td>
<td>Professional Fees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Currie Kendall PLC</td>
<td>11/25/13</td>
<td>152.25</td>
<td>Professional Fees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>AMOUNT DUE</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$ 528.25</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Motion carried unanimously.
3. **REQUESTS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD**

3.1 Ms. Nicki Smith, Executive Director of the Safe & Sound Child Protection and Advocacy Center, thanked the International Baccalaureate Art students for their donation of original art pieces for the recent Art and Advocacy Auction Event. $5,000 was raised during the event to assist with Safe & Sound’s mission of the prevention of child abuse and neglect. Ms. Smith formally thanked the students for their artwork, their time and their support.

4. **BOARD OF EDUCATION MATTERS**

**PRESENTATIONS TO THE BOARD**

**For Information:**

4.1 Mr. Sharrow recognized four December Shining Star employees. These staff members were recognized for doing an outstanding job and going “above and beyond” to make Midland Public Schools a better place for students.

- Ms. Verita Hayes-Cloyd, Special Education Teacher, H. H. Dow High School
- Mr. Jeff Hayes, Central Auditorium Manager
- Ms. Rita Klumpp, Administrative Assistant, Administration Center
- Ms. Cathy Yanacek, Science Resources Center Manager

Congratulations to these very deserving MPS staff members.

4.2 Mr. Jeff Pennex, Woodcrest Principal; Ms. Alyssse Bauer, Ms. Marty Legge, Mr. Mark Rajewski, Ms. Lynn Tolfa, Woodcrest Kindergarten Teachers; presented apps, information and wonderful examples of students utilizing and experiencing one-to-one technology through iPads in Kindergarten classrooms at Woodcrest Elementary School.

4.3 Mr. Scott Cochran, Curriculum Specialist; Mr. Mark Francisco, Mr. Curt Gledhill, Ms. Carol Lewin, Midland High and Dow High art teachers; and International Baccalaureate art students presented information, processes and very impressive examples of artwork completed this year in the International Baccalaureate Art Diploma Programme.

Mr. Scott Cochran, Curriculum Specialist presented information regarding the Elementary Social Studies program and how it relates to the Common Core State Standards.

5. **CURRICULUM and INSTRUCTION**

**Study Committee Chair – Ms. Baker**

**Staff Resource Person – Mr. Cooper**

**For Information:**

5.1 The “Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment (CIA) Study Committee Report” was read aloud by Mrs. Lynn Baker (chair). The meeting was held on November 25, 2013, at Midland High School. Members present were L. Baker (chair), R. Cooper, Y. Gorton, M. Sharrow and G. Verlinde. Others in attendance: Janet Greif, Jeff Lauer, Penny Miller-Nelson, Christie Gayheart, Melissa Toner and four students.
Project-Based Learning: Jeff Lauer and Penny Miller-Nelson gave a brief presentation on Project-Based Learning (PBL). Thirty-seven teachers were involved in PBL training this summer. Melissa Toner, MHS psychology teacher, was part of this training and has been able to use her project with her class already this year. Ms. Toner and four of her students described the project and its various steps, what the experience was like, and gave feedback on what they learned along with the pros and cons of this particular project. While this type of learning experience was relatively new to all involved, everyone considered it to be very successful in helping students learn and retain the psychology concepts and use 21st century learning skills. Christie Gayheart, K-12 Science Teacher Leader, followed with a discussion of her experience with PBL and a business partnership model. Christie, along with a second MPS teacher, worked with Mid-Michigan Health in developing a PBL activity from the health care field that tied in directly to the science curriculum. Project-Based learning and business/community partnerships are natural extensions of each other.

Sex Education Report (Bi-Annual): Jeff Lauer, Career Development and Physical Education/Health Administrator, presented the Midland Public Schools’ Sex Education Bi-Annual Report. Public Act 165 of 2004 requires a report be given every two years to the Board of Education regarding the attainment of program goals and objectives in the area of sex education. Our goal is to educate and impact student behavior regarding sexual activity, pregnancy, and the transmission of sexually transmitted diseases. As our measures of success, we aim for 100% of students to pass Topics for Teens and Health Wellness classes with a grade of C or better and we aim to reduce the numbers of teenage pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases in Midland County. (The latter data is only available as a county.) Mr. Lauer, reported that the number of students earning a C or better had reached 100% in the last 2 years and that the county-wide numbers on teenage pregnancies and STD’s has fluctuated, but are generally in the same range.

Focus Schools – Quarterly Update: The State of Michigan requires any school designated as a Focus School to provide a quarterly report to the Board of Education regarding their progress on the Focus School requirements and closing the achievement gap. Janet Greif, principal of Midland High School, presented her school’s quarterly report. Ms. Greif reported on the Superintendent’s Dropout Challenge, Midland High’s Teaching and Learning Priorities to address the achievement gap, improvement activities during this quarter, and progress in reducing the achievement gap. Midland High’s full quarterly report, along with those from H.H. Dow High School, Carpenter Street School, and Northeast Middle School will be in Superintendent Sharrow’s Friday letter to Board Members.

For Action:

Baker/Brandstadt moved that the following item be approved.

5.2 The Major Change Proposals were presented for consideration on November 11. The cost of each proposal includes all anticipated expense such as curriculum development, staff development, and staff or student materials. Expenses for the total implementation are described in the Major Change Proposal which is available in the office of the associate superintendent or from the proposer. Three proposals were submitted. If these proposals are accepted, the changes will be incorporated into the student enrollment procedures for the 2014-15 school year. Upon approval, the implementation of these changes will be dependent upon the budget.
## Board of Education MINUTES <> December 9, 2013

### Motion carried unanimously.

### 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 Ms. Angela Brandstadt (chair). The meeting was held on December 3, 2013. Members present were: A. Brandstadt (chair), L Baker (for G. Wasserman), J. Kaminski, M. Sharrow, G. Verlinde, L. Cline, C. Laux.

Others in Attendance 4:00 – 5:15: M. Moeggenberg, Manager of Buildings (until 5:15); Tim Chisolm, Dow High School Building Manager; Pam Kastl, Dow High School Principal; 5:15 – 6:00: Rob Rouse, Midland High School Athletic Boosters; Rich Juday and Carol Cushman, Dow High School Athletic Boosters; Eric Albright, Midland High School Athletic Director

In preparation for long-term planning the group began the meeting with an in-depth tour of one of our newest buildings, Dow High School. As the building approaches the half century mark there are outdated facilities and systems that make the building costly to operate and provide less-than-optimal instructional opportunities. There is a need to bring the entire mechanical system, art rooms, the Little Theater, and science labs up to 21st century standards. Approximately $8 million in repairs and improvements were identified for the building earlier this year in preparation for the sinking fund elections.

Following the tour, representatives of the high school athletic booster clubs described their plan to create a joint project fund at the Midland Area Community Foundation that can be used for improvements to the high school athletic facilities. Highlights are as follows: The Midland Public Schools “SPIFFY” (Sports Improvement Facility Fund for Youth) would be started with a contribution of $2,500 from each Booster Club. They would then promote the fundraising efforts at sporting events and tournaments and actively seek donations and grants. The first projects to...
be funded would be concessions, restrooms, storage, and a baseball press box and field work at Dow High School, a baseball press box and seating and a softball press box at Midland High School, and swimming platforms and blocks to be used by both schools. This first phase of projects was identified as having the greatest potential for not only addressing immediate athletic needs but also for making the facilities attractive to outside groups whose rental fees would help offset the costs of maintenance.

Mrs. Cline gave a brief update on fall 2013 enrollment. For the first time in many years, the actual enrollment fell well below all projections, including the lowest estimated created by Stanfred Consultants. Fall enrollment dropped by 301 full-time equivalents; this is 133 more than was budgeted. An examination of entry and withdrawal patterns between the February and October count days indicates nothing out of the norm.

6.2 The following gifts, which total $5,820, have been received and processed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Donor</th>
<th>Building</th>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 United Church of Christ</td>
<td>H. H. Dow High</td>
<td>Extra-Curricular Club</td>
<td>$840</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 P.T.O.</td>
<td>Siebert Elementary</td>
<td>Art</td>
<td>$280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 H. H. Dow High School Athletic Booster Club</td>
<td>H. H. Dow High</td>
<td>Athletics</td>
<td>$2,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Anonymous</td>
<td>District</td>
<td>IB-Primary Years Programme</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For Action:

Singer/Brandstadt moved that the following item be approved.

6.3 Acceptance of the following gift totaling $180,000 is recommended:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Donor</th>
<th>Building</th>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 Rollin M. Gerstacker Foundation</td>
<td>District</td>
<td>IB-Primary Years Programme</td>
<td>$180,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Motion carried unanimously.

An 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:
PEO Sisterhood Chapter CB
Siebert Elementary PTO
H. H. Dow High School Athletic Booster Club
Midland Area Community Foundation

7.2 Letters to the Board of Education or the school system from:

FOIA request from Ms. Connie Mohr, Girl Scout Council, requesting student directory information.
8. **SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES**

**For Information:**

8.1 The following is a tentative listing of meetings or activities of the Board of Education for January-June 2014. Action will take place on these meeting dates at the organizational meeting on January 13, 2014.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 13, 2014</td>
<td>4 p.m.</td>
<td>Organizational Mtg. of the Board of Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 27, 2014</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Regular Meeting of the Board of Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 10, 2014</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Regular Meeting of the Board of Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 24, 2014</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Regular Meeting of the Board of Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 10, 2014</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Regular Meeting of the Board of Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 24, 2014</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Regular Meeting of the Board of Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 14, 2014</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Regular Meeting of the Board of Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 28, 2014</td>
<td>3 p.m.</td>
<td>Budget Workshop of the Board of Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 12, 2014</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Regular Meeting of the Board of Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 27, 2014 (Tuesday)</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Regular Meeting of the Board of Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 9, 2014</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Regular Meeting of the Board of Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 23, 2014</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Regular Meeting of the Board of Education</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

Mr. Wasserman announced that the committee met to review the 2014 Slate of Board of Education Officers. The Slate will be announced and voted on at the January 13 Organizational Meeting.

10.1 Board Members expressed their …

- thanks to the parents and groups in our community who see a Midland Public Schools’ need and step up to fill that need. Great examples are “SPIFFY” in support of district sports and the “Looking Sharp” fund set up at the Midland Area Community Foundation in support of new MPS high school band uniforms.
- appreciation for the strategic planning meetings that were held last week. It was so beneficial to take a “big picture look” at the district and focus on the “next steps” and future District initiatives.
- appreciation to Mr. Pennex and the Woodcrest kindergarten teachers for presenting the iPad initiative information this evening.
- enthusiasm for the DHS and MHS IB students and teachers who shared their processes and artwork at this evening’s meeting. Board members wished the students well in all of their future endeavors.
- excitement for the six robotics teams who competed at the regional level in Freeland on Saturday. Four of the teams will go on to compete at the State level. The Northeast team took first place out of more than 30 teams. MPS students really stood out at this event.
• heartfelt appreciation for all of the great events and initiatives that have taken place at MPS in 2013 including welcoming Mr. Sharrow. It was a good year for Midland Public Schools.
• sincere thanks to President Wasserman for leading the Board of Education members through numerous challenges this year. Because of your excellent leadership MPS weathered the storms very well.
• congratulations to the December Shining Stars. Thank you for all you do each and every day for MPS students.
• appreciation for the Northeast students who wrote letters to a board member with ideas for improving our district. The Board members will respond to your letters very soon.
• enthusiasm for all of our food and gift donations being coordinated in our buildings, again displaying the generosity of our students, their families and our staff.
• interest in the impact on academic success we can have by looking at our academic calendar and other exciting opportunities to help our kids find success. We have great firsthand experience of how putting technology in the hands of kids can really impact their success and extend their learning while at home. We are always interested in looking at new opportunities to help our students find success.
• thank you to the MPS parents for their support of their children, our teachers and our schools.
• appreciation to all of this evening’s gift donors and especially to our area foundation partners for their amazing financial assistance for MPS programs like IB-PYP. We truly appreciate your support.
• best wishes for happy holidays and a wonderful vacation.

10.3 Announcements from Superintendent Sharrow
• Thank you to Ms. Tracy Renfro, Chestnut Hill Principal for coordinating the District Sharing Tree initiative. Thank you also to MPS building Sharing Tree coordinators: Wendy Cooper, Deanna Jewell, Kolleen Smith, Doug Bradford, Lynn Burns, Roxanne Weisend, Craig Hawkins, Sue Storey, Beth Chapman, Joanne Coates and Tammy Dobschensky. This year these dedicated volunteers disbursed more than 400 gifts that were given to MPS families through the United Way Sharing Tree Program.
• Last week we hosted a Community Leaders luncheon regarding the renewal of the County-wide Enhancement Millage that will be on the ballot on February 25, 2014. The community leaders who met with the MPS leadership team last week stressed the importance of our letting the public know that without the passage of the Enhancement Millage renewal, MPS will run out of funds in two years.

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

President: ___________________ Secretary: ___________________
Gerald Wasserman John Kaminski

Approved by the Board on:

C. Young 13-January-2013