

**Board of Education
Minutes - August 11, 2014**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Midland Public Schools, Midland, Michigan was held at the Midland Public Schools' Administration Center, 600 East Carpenter, Midland, Michigan, on Monday, August 11, 2014, beginning at 7:00 PM 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.

1.0 CALL TO ORDER: ROLL CALL

Board Members Present:

Vice President Brandstadt,
Secretary Gorton,
Treasurer Kaminski,
Member Baker,
Member McFarland,
Member Singer

Board Member Present by Conference Call:

President Wasserman

Central Staff Present:

Mr. Sharrow, Superintendent
Mr. Verlinde, Assistant Superintendent
Mr. Cooper, Associate Superintendent: Finance/Facilities/Operations
Mr. Brutyn, Associate Superintendent: Curriculum/Instruction/Assessment

Visitors present: 4 staff, citizens and guests

2.0 CONSENT AGENDA

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

2.1 Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes from July 14, 2014 meeting

2.2 Resignations

The following staff members announced their resignation effective as of these dates:

- <> Alysse Bauer, Teacher, July 14, 2014
- <> Steven Miller, Paraprofessional, July 17, 2014
- <> Ricky A. Rappuhn, Grounds, June 13, 2014
- <> Michelle Serritos, Paraprofessional, July 21, 2014
- <> Steven M. Tacey, Computer Tech Manager, July 24, 2014

2.3 The following person was recommended for employment for the 2014-15 school year

<>Jennifer Mae Kowalski, 1.0 Speech and Language Pathologist, Special Services

2.4 Textbook for approval

The following book was presented for the 28-day period of examination on June 9.

Course: Life Management 7

Book Title: Preparing for Life and Career (textbook and workbook)

Authors: Liddle and Gentzler; Publisher: Goodheart Wilcox;

Copyright: 2013

Administration recommended approval of this book. As approved, this purchase is contingent on the available funding as approved in the 2014-15 budget.

2.5 Netgear Storage Equipment for Disaster Recovery

Administration sought approval to deliver a purchase order to Trivalent of Grandville, Michigan, for \$13,997 as part of the Disaster Recovery Plan for the district. The pricing was for one Netgear ReadyDATA 5200 Chassis with a Netgear Ready DATA EDA4000 Direct Access Storage Array, 13 600GB hard drives for the array and two 1 TB SATA hard drives as spares. This will be complemented with drives that were purchased last fiscal year to allow us to have replicated storage for mission critical systems at our Disaster Recovery location. This will also finalize the migration from the EMC Celerra Storage Area Network that is due to be replaced. Trivalent was the lowest of two bids, while two additional vendors neglected to respond. Please see the associated bid tab. This expenditure is included in the regular budgeting process for 2014-15 and will be paid for out of general funds.

2.6 Legal Invoices for Payment

Approval was requested to authorize payment for these invoices for professional legal fees

Thrun Law Firm P.C., \$1,047, July 23, 2014

2.7 Approval of June 2014 Financials

Approval of the payment of the school system's bills for the month of June 2014, as listed in the check register prepared by Ms. Laux, in the total amount of \$9,338,025 was recommended. The distribution of obligations, by fund, was included in the documentation.

Motion carried unanimously.

3. REQUESTS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

No hearings were requested.

4. BOARD OF EDUCATION MATTERS--PRESENTATIONS TO THE BOARD FOR INFORMATION

4.1 Presentation of Facilities Study

Representatives from French Associates, Inc. (architectural firm) and Barton

Malow Company (project management firm) presented their findings and

recommendations from the comprehensive facilities study recently completed

on behalf of Midland Public Schools. Mr. Sharrow announced that this information will be shared with three focus groups of community leaders, parents and staff members over the next two weeks. The feedback from these three focus groups will be shared with the Finance, Facilities and Operations Board Study Committee. The FFO committee will develop a proposal to bring to the entire Board of Education on September 8. The approved proposal will be submitted to our citizens in an upcoming election.

Mr. Wasserman ended his phone connection at this point in the meeting.

5. BOARD OF EDUCATION MATTERS--PRESENTATIONS TO THE BOARD FOR ACTION

5. 1. Singer/Board moved for approval of the Operating Millage renewal Resolution and Proposal. The Midland Public Schools' operating millage renewal proposal of 18 mills for ten years exempting principal resident and other property exempted by law and 5.6523 mills for ten years on all principal residence and other property otherwise exempted by law. The approved ballot language will appear before voters at the election to be held November 4, 2014. The full text of the ballot proposal may be obtained at the Midland Public Schools' administrative offices.

Motion carried unanimously.

6. FINANCE

Study Committee Chair: Dr. Kaminski; Staff Resource Person: Mr. Cooper

6. 1. The "Finance, Facilities and Operations (FFO) Study Committee Report" was read aloud by John Kaminski (chair). Members present for the August 6, 2014, meeting were J. Kaminski (chair), A. Brandstadt, G. Wasserman, M. Sharrow, B. Cooper. Also in attendance were representatives from Barton Malow and French Associates.

The FFO committee met with representatives from Barton Malow Company and French Associates to preview their findings. Barton Malow Company and French Associates have been reviewing MPS buildings in order to put some estimated costs to the needs of our facilities. A full report will be presented to the Board of Education at the August 11 Board meeting.

6. 2. For Information--Gifts totaling \$8,935
 - <>\$2,475 to Midland High by Midland County Youth Action Council at the Midland Area Community Foundation for their kick off transition program
 - <>\$1,960 to Eastlawn Elementary by the Midland Kiwanis Foundation for camp fees for Eastlawn students to attend summer SMEK camp
 - <>\$4,500 to Chestnut Hill by the Chestnut Hill PTO for classroom magazines and library books

6. 3. Baker/Kaminski moved for approval of the following item:
For Action--Gift totaling \$8,721
<>\$8,721 to Woodcrest Elementary from the Woodcrest PTO for laptop computers.
Motion carried unanimously.

An appropriate thanks to the donors is recommended.

7. CORRESPONDENCE TO AND FROM THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

7. 1. For Information--Letters from the Board of Education or the school system to
Midland Area Community Foundation
Jefferson Parent Advisory Committee
The Dow Chemical Company Foundation
Plymouth Elementary School PTO

8. SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES--FOR INFORMATION

The following is a listing of scheduled meetings or activities of the Board of Education for 2014. All meetings are Regular Meetings of the Board and begin at 7:00 p.m. at the MPS Administration Center (600 East Carpenter, Midland).

September 8, 2014

October 13, 2014

November 10, 2014

December 8, 2014

Tentative Meetings for January-June 2015

(Action will take place on these meeting dates at the January 12 Organizational Meeting)

January 12 (Organizational Meeting)

February 9

March 9

March 23

April 13

April 27 (Budget Workshop)

May 11

June 8

June 22

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.

Occasionally closed sessions are scheduled to discuss confidential personnel, negotiations or property matters.

9.1 Board members expressed their ...

- sincere thanks to our very generous gift donors this evening for their support.

- thoughts about the board of education seats that will appear before voters at the upcoming November election. Three four-year seats and one two-year Board of Education seat will be on the November 4 ballot. Mrs. Baker, Mrs. Singer, Mrs. Brandstadt have all agreed to again run for the Board of Education seats. Dr. Kaminski announced that he will not re-run for his seat on the board. He spoke about his commitment to the State Board of Optometry on which he also serves.
- support and hope that our community will express their thoughts by utilizing the *Talk to me* button on the MPS website.
- welcome to the new staff members who are joining the MPS staff this year.
- anticipation for the beginning of the new school year. This week officially begins fall sports practices and activities. We look forward to football season, marching bands, cheer and all of the excitement of fall activities.
- appreciation for the *Our Schools* newsletter that appeared in the August 10 *Midland Daily News* and as a link on the MPS website that included much new school year information from all of our schools. Thank you to everyone who contributes to this publication that includes a wealth of information that goes on in our schools.
- interest in today's Superintendent Communique about STEM. Board members encouraged parents to take a moment to take the survey to tell the region what they feel the STEM needs are for their child(ren).
- thanks to tonight's representatives from French Associates and Barton Malow for their very eye opening and informative presentation. We appreciate the facts and findings of our facilities to give us the information we need to make the needed recommendations to give our community the specifics needed to make an informed decision at the polls. Thank you Superintendent Sharrow for leading this initiative.
- anticipation for the feedback we will receive at the upcoming focus groups regarding the facility study and the future of MPS facilities.
- hope that students and families enjoy the remainder of their summer and get off to a great start in the new school year.

9.2 Announcements from Superintendent Sharrow

- Our new *Talk to me* button gets an average of two to three questions a night, which are responded to in a timely manner. We hope our community's use of the *Talk to me* button continues to grow.
- We are looking forward to the upcoming facilities study focus groups with our community leaders, parents, staff and retired board and staff members.
- This summer's food service program at the Midland Curling Center and Carpenter Street School went well. As with any new program, we will continue to get the word out so the program can grow in the future.
- As you may have read, Michigan Tech recently received a \$5 million grant from the Herbert H. & Grace A. Dow Foundation. We are excited to report that MPS is a partner in this initiative as one of the pilot districts of middle school science and STEM.

