Minutes of Regular Meeting
December 8, 2014
The Board of Education Midland Public Schools

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Midland Public Schools was held Monday, December 8, 2014, beginning at 7:00 PM in the Midland Public Schools Administration Center, 600 E. Carpenter Street, Midland, Michigan. In accordance with the requirements of the Revised School Code, MCL 380.1 et. Seq. effective July 1, 1996, and the policies established by the Midland Public Schools’ Board of Education.

1. CALL TO ORDER OF THIS REGULAR MEETING: ROLL CALL
   
   Board Members Present: President Wasserman, Secretary Gorton, Treasurer Kaminski, Member Baker, Member Singer
   
   Board Member Absent: Vice President Brandstadt, Member McFarland
   
   Central Staff Present: Superintendent Sharrow, Assistant Superintendent Verlinde, Associate Superintendent Cooper, Associate Superintendent Brutyn

   58 audience members were present for this meeting.

2. CONSENT AGENDA
   
   Kaminski/Singer moved for approval of consent agenda items.

   2. 1. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes from November 10 and Special Meeting Minutes from November 24 and December 2, 2014.

   2. 2. The following person was recommended for employment for the 2014-15 school year effective as of the date indicated:
      <> Francisca Barros Himmer, Title 1 Family Intervention Specialist (.5), Carpenter Street School, September 24, 2014

   2. 3. The following staff members announced their resignation effective as of the dates indicated:
      <> Amanda Ballantyne, Paraprofessional, Juvenile Care Center, December 5, 2014
      <> Dan Benkert, Paraprofessional, Midland High School, November 17, 2014
      <> William Robertson, Paraprofessional, Eastlawn Elementary, December 1, 2014
      <> Jillian Spreeman, Paraprofessional, Eastlawn Elementary, November 26, 2014

   2. 4. 2014-2015 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 2014-2015 school year by the Midland Public Schools’ Board of Education. Ms. Lynn Baker is the Board’s liaison to this committee. Scott Cochran and Gerald Ferguson will serve as co-chairs of this committee.
      (Asterisks indicate members who have served on the board in previous years.)

      Parents:
      
      Gerald Ferguson*, also Clergy Representative from Trinity Lutheran
Church:
Michelle Monticello*, M.D., also Health Professional
Amy Jaster*
Health Professionals:
Craig Sonke*, M.D.
Clergy:
Wally Mayton*, Memorial Presbyterian Church
Educators:
Scott Cochran*, MPS
Students:
Jack Yarosh, H. H. Dow High School
Morgan Zoeller, H. H. Dow High School
Maggi Dahl, Midland High School
Adam Talbott, Midland High School

2.5. Approval of the payment of school system's bills for the month of October 2014, as listed in the check register prepared by Ms. Laux, in the total amount of $8,203,863 was recommended. The distribution of obligations, by fund, was included in the documentation.

2.6. Legal Invoice for Payment
Approval was requested to authorize payment for the following invoice for professional legal fees:
<> Thrun, $240, November 26, 2014
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. Principal Steve Poole introduced Jefferson Middle School student musicians who performed musical selections (2 choir members, 1 clarinet and 1 viola). These talented student musicians auditioned for and were selected to perform at the opening events for the Michigan Music Conference in January 2015.

4.2. Principal Jeff Jaster, Northeast Middle School Art Teachers Nathan Adolphson and Kelli Waun, and several art students spoke about bronze casting and how art students are using technology and new 3D printers in the content area. They spoke about the process and showed examples of their impressive work.

4.3. Mr. Sharrow recognized the two 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.
<> Crystal Bennett, Siebert Elementary School, Special Education Teacher
<> Mary Marshall, Jefferson Middle School, Lead Administrative Assistant
5. BOARD OF EDUCATION MATTERS--PRESENTATIONS TO THE BOARD FOR ACTION

Kaminski/Singer moved for approval of the following item:

5.1. At the October 28, 2013 regular meeting, board members approved the entire NEOLLA Board Policy Manual recognizing that updates and revisions would be required going forward. Administration sought board approval for updates to the following policies: 7540.02, 7540.03, 7540.04. Motion carried unanimously.

5.2. The Board of Education annually evaluates the performance of the Superintendent of Schools. President Wasserman thanked the board members for their input and shared Board member feedback with Mr. Sharrow. President Wasserman read aloud a letter of evaluation on behalf of the Board. Board members expressed their thanks and appreciation to Mr. Sharrow. In response, Mr. Sharrow thanked the Board of Education for their evaluation and their positive working relationship. He also thanked the families, staff and the MPS administrative team for all their hard work to make good things happen for students at Midland Public Schools.

Baker/Singer moved for approval of the following item:

5.3. President Wasserman presented a Resolution to recognize and thank retiring Board Member John Kaminski.

WHEREAS: Dr. John Kaminski has served on the Midland Public Schools’ Board of Education from 2010 through 2014.

WHEREAS: During his tenure on the Midland Public Schools’ Board of Education, Dr. Kaminski served as Board Trustee, Treasurer and Secretary.

WHEREAS: Dr. Kaminski has served on numerous Boards and Committees during his term with the Midland Public Schools’ Board of Education adding significant views and insights as topics were discussed, recommendations were formulated and decisions were made.

WHEREAS: Throughout his years of service, Dr. Kaminski has made an invaluable contribution to education in Midland, Michigan, always focusing on the best interest of ALL students.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: The Midland Public Schools’ Board of Education formally recognizes Dr. John Kaminski for his four years of dedication to the children of Midland Public Schools through his avid, committed service on the Midland Public Schools’ Board of Education.

Dated This 8th Day of December 2014.

Motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Kaminski thanked the district for giving him the opportunity to serve.
6. CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND ASSESSMENT
Study Committee Chair: Mrs. Baker; Staff Resource Person: Mr. Brutyn

6.1 The “Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Study Committee Report” was read aloud by Mrs. Lynn Baker. The meeting was held on November 24, 2014 at the Administration Center. Those present: Lynn Baker (chair), Pamela Singer, Brian Brutyn, Mike Sharrow, Gary Verlinde, Penny Miller-Nelson (guest), Scott Cochran (guest)

Major Change Proposals (included Michigan Merit Curriculum Changes)
Three major change proposals were presented to the committee by Penny Miller-Nelson and Scott Cochran.

- Michigan Merit Curriculum
  - The proposal was preceded by an explanation of the recent legislative changes to previous Michigan Merit Curriculum requirements. The changes included are based on comprehensive committee work and include the following components:
    - Math: Maintain current MPS math requirements.
    - Future consideration will be reviewed on a case by case basis to a CTE program that provides evidence of Algebra II alignment to supplement the MPS Algebra II offering.
    - World Language: Maintain two year world language requirement and offer flexibility with an option of a Visual Performing and Applied Art (VPAA) course or CTE program replacing the second year of World Language.
    - Science: Maintain current MPS graduation requirements
    - Physical Education: Maintain the .5 credit PE requirement with an allowable exemption for a full year of marching band and/or MPS sport participation.

- World Language Revisions
  - The proposal is based on comprehensive committee work and will consolidate world language course offerings amongst MPS Secondary schools (Spanish offered at all buildings with a grade level change to the Survey of Spanish Course, German offered at Jefferson and H.H. Dow High only, French offered at Northeast and Midland High only) in an effort to streamline scheduling, staffing, and provide for a higher probability of course pathway sustainment.
    - The proposal calls to implement the change in phases over the course of the next several years to preserve pathways for students currently enrolled in a world language program

- International Baccalaureate Career Pathways
  - The proposal calls to offer the IBCP credential at both Midland High School and H.H. Dow High School. Requirements to earn the credential include taking two IB Courses, a world language experience, CTE program, and IBCP core components. A course titled ‘Approaches to Learning’ would be a .2 FTE addition at each school.
    - The implementation of this program will be contingent on securing funding from an outside source that is yet to be determined.

These three major change proposals are being presented at the December 8th Board of Education meeting for the 28-day examination period.

Spring Assessments:
This agenda item was tabled until the February meeting due to time constraints.
6. 2. The Major Change Proposals were presented for consideration. 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 is available in the office of the associate superintendent or from the proposer. Three proposals were submitted—#1: International Baccalaureate; #2: World Language; #3: Michigan Merit Curriculum. Descriptions were included in the paperwork provided. Board action is anticipated January 19, 2015. If these proposals are accepted, the changes will be incorporated into the student enrollment procedures for the 2015-16 school year. Upon approval, the implementation of these changes will be dependent upon the budget.

7. FINANCE, FACILITIES AND OPERATIONS
Study Committee Chair: Dr. Kaminski; Staff Resource Person: Mr. Cooper

7. 1. The “Finance, Facilities and Operations (FFO) Study Committee Report” was read aloud by Dr. John Kaminski. This meeting was held on November 17, 2014. Members Present: J. Kaminski (chair), A. Brandstadt, P. Singer, M. Sharrow, R. Cooper, C. Laux

Mrs. Laux presented the October financial reports.
Mr. Cooper presented the renewal information for the district’s annual property and casualty insurance from our current insurance agent, leuter Insurance Group. The principal coverage areas and deductibles were shared. The total cost of the insurance is $262,400, a reduction of approximately $3,600 from last year’s cost.
Discussion was held regarding the debt bond proposal, upcoming final treasury approval, and actions that need to be taken at the special Board of Education meeting on November 24th.

7. 2. For Information--Gifts totaling $7,737.57.
<> $ 2,000.00 from H. H. Dow High Music Booster Club for Band Club
<> $ 1,204.57 from Siebert PTO for Battle of the Books materials, art supplies
<> $ 500.00 from the Elissa and Howard Ungerleider Family Donor-advised Fund at the Midland Area Community Foundation for Jefferson Middle School’s music program
<> $ 140.00 from the Midland Area Community Foundation for Eastlawn Elementary’s non-violence week supplies
<> $ 750.00 from the Midland Rotary Foundation for Juvenile Care Center family Thanksgiving dinner and baskets
<> $ 3,143.00 from the Midland County Youth Action Council at the Midland Area Community Foundation for teacher mini grants at Northeast, H. H. Dow High and Midland High

Kaminski/Singer moved for approval of the following gifts of $26,707.50.

7. 3. <> $ 8,000.00 from the Frank W. and Ethel Dunn O’Brien Memorial Endowment Fund at the Midland Area Community Foundation for a web-based measure of academic progress at Carpenter Street School.
<> $18,707.50 from the Midland Public Schools Sports Facility Improvement Fund for Youth (SPIFFY) at the Midland Area Community Foundation. These funds will purchase platforms, equipment, assembly and installation costs of starting platforms for the H. H. Dow High School swimming pool.
Motion carried unanimously.

8. **HUMAN RESOURCES**
   Study Committee Chair: Mr. McFarland; Staff Resource Person: Mr. Verlinde

   8. 1. The “Human Resources (HR) Study Committee Report” was read aloud by Mr. Scott McFarland. This meeting was held on December 2, 2014.
   Members Present: S. McFarland (chair), L. Baker, Y. Gorton, M. Sharrow, R. Cooper, C. Marchese

   *Committee heard a grievance filed by MCESPA.*

   8. 2. The Board and staff extended their deepest sympathy to the families of:
   <> Mrs. Virginia Braden who passed away on November 20, 2014. Mrs. Braden was a middle school English teacher. She taught for more than 30 years, 18 years with Midland Public Schools. Mrs. Braden retired in 1975.
   <> Mrs. Joyce Burton who passed away on November 10, 2014. Mrs. Burton was an art teacher and then an elementary 3rd & 4th grade teacher. She taught for more than 24 years retiring in 1989.
   <> Mr. Leslie Price who passed away on November 14, 2014. Les Price was a member of the custodial staff with Midland Public Schools for more than 37 years, retiring in 2003. After his retirement, Mr. Price continued to sub in the custodial department until 2009.

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

   9. 1. For Information--Letters from the Board of Education or the school system to
   Chestnut Hill Elementary Office Fund
   Woodcrest Elementary School PTO
   Ms. Sandra Buza
   H. H. Dow High School Music Booster Club
   Kiwassee Kiwanis Foundation
   Fabiano Foundation

   9. 2. For Information--Letters to the Board of Education from
   <> FOIA request from Renaye Baker, MEA, requesting documents related to an employee's termination.
   <> FOIA request from Renaye Baker, MEA, requesting FOIA/PERA information on the MCESPA current individual members. Information requested includes first and last name, personal mailing address, personal phone numbers, building assigned, work email and work voicemail.
   <> FOIA request from Renaye Baker, MEA, requesting FOIA/PERA information on the MCEA current individual members. Information requested includes first and last name, personal mailing address, personal phone numbers, building assigned, work email and work voicemail.
   <> FOIA request from National Vision Administrators, LLC requesting copies of the vision benefit proposals received in response to the vision RFP.

10. **SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES--FOR INFORMATION**
   The following is a listing of scheduled meetings or activities of the Board of Education. All meetings are Regular and Special Meetings of the Board of
Education and begin at 7:00 p.m. at the MPS Administration Center (600 East Carpenter, Midland) unless otherwise noted.

The following is a tentative listing of meetings or activities of the Board of Education for January-June 2015. Action will take place on these meeting dates at the organizational meeting on January 19, 2015.

<> January 19, 2015
<> February 16, 2015
<> March 16, 2015
<> April 20, 2015 (5:30 budget workshop; 7:00 regular meeting)
<> May 18, 2015
<> June 1, 2015
<> June 15, 2015

11. **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.

11. 1. Board Members expressed their …
   - gratitude to Mr. Sharrow for his dedication and hard work relative to the February bond proposal. Mr. Sharrow is doing an amazing job of getting the word out about this vital proposal through the many presentations he has made to a wide variety of community, parent and employee groups.
   - excitement for the robotics open house recently held.
   - thanks to our students and staff for their giving spirit as they give back to the community and their fellow students through events such as the food and personal care item in gatherings, Toys for Tots collections, Sharing Tree coordination and so much more.
   - appreciation for all of the gifts presented at tonight’s board meeting.
   - excitement for these recent MPS productions: Midland High’s *Rhapsody Rendezvous*, Dow High’s *Charlie and The Chocolate Factory*, and Northeast’s *School House Rock*. All were such a pleasure to attend.
   - kudos to Jefferson and Northeast students for their presentations this evening. It was exciting to see these amazing music and art opportunities available for our middle school students.
   - congratulations to Mary Marshall and Crystal Bennett for being our Shining Stars for December.
   - excitement for MPS teacher Beth Christensen’s recent presentations to our high schools regarding her experiences aboard the JOIDES Resolution at the IODP Expedition 352 in the Pacific Ocean this past summer.
   - thanks to Superintendent Sharrow for all his hard work and positive efforts over the past year.
   - best wishes for everyone to enjoy a wonderful, safe holiday season.
   - excitement that winter sports are under way.
• kudos to the Dow High science team last weekend for their success.
• Dr. Kaminski expressed his appreciation for his service on the board as well as his thoughts about Midland Public Schools’ future, challenges, February bond proposal, budget and more. He welcomed Mr. Patrick Frazee as he begins his service to the board in January. In addition, Dr. Kaminski spoke about the bright and motivated students involved in the recent 2014 regional Robotics tournament where three MPS teams qualified to go on to State competition.
• Board members expressed their thanks to Dr. Kaminski for his service during these past four years at such a critical time. They expressed their admiration to him for staying in public service through his work on the Michigan Board of Optometry and wished him all the best in his future endeavors.

11.2. Announcements from Superintendent Sharrow
• Mr. Sharrow has done approximately thirty presentations for MPS staff, parents and community groups relative to the February bond proposal. He encouraged everyone to keep checking the MPS website as information and updates continue to be posted. Mr. Sharrow reported that feedback has been good.
• Mr. Sharrow encouraged board members and the public to follow Michigan’s lame-duck proposals relative to road funding and its possible impact on school funding.
• Mr. Sharrow thanked Dr. Kaminski for his service and dedication to Midland Public Schools’ students, families, staff and community.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

President: ________________ Vice President: ________________
Gerald Wasserman Angela Brandstadt

Approved by the Board of Education on:

________ C. Young 19-January-2014