Minutes of Regular Meeting  
January 19, 2015  
The Board of Education Midland Public Schools

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Midland Public Schools was held Monday, January 19, 2015, beginning at 7:30 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: ROLL CALL  
   Board Members Present: President Wasserman, Vice President Brandstadt, Secretary Baker, Treasurer Singer, Member Frazee, Member McFarland

   Board Member Absent: Member Gorton

   Central Staff: Superintendent Sharrow, Associate Superintendent Cooper, Associate Superintendent Brutyn

   Central Staff Absent: Assistant Superintendent Verlinde

   23 audience members were present for this meeting.

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

   2. 1. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes from December 8, 2014.

   2. 2. The following staff member announced her resignation effective as of the date indicated:
      <> Charlene Bartholomew, Paraprofessional, Plymouth Elem., January 8, 2015

   2. 3. Approval of the payment of school system's bills for the months of November and December 2014, as listed in the check registers prepared by Ms. Laux, in the total amount of $6,307,624 (November) and $6,724,122 (December) was recommended. The distribution of obligations, by fund, was included in the documentation.

   2. 4. Legal Invoice for Payment  
      Approval was requested to authorize payment for the following invoices:
      <> Secrest Wardle, $636.09, December 8, 2014, Professional Legal Fees
      <> Thrun, $600.00, December 17, 2014, Professional Legal Fees
      <> Thrun, $1,800.00, January 2, 2015, Annual Retainer Fee

      Motion carried unanimously.
3. REQUESTS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Mr. Sharrow explained the world language transition plan for German and French being proposed in the Major Change Proposal that will be voted on later this evening.

Three H. H. Dow High School students addressed the board with regard to their opposition of the major change proposal related to the MPS world language program.

Ms. Irmigard Redman, Midland, MI addressed the board with regard to her opposition of the changes proposed to the MPS world language program.

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

4.1. Mr. Sharrow recognized the two January 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.
<> Elizabeth DeWyse, Special Services, Occupational Therapist
<> Chuck Dobschensky, Northeast Middle School, Interim Building Manager

4.2. In honor of Board of Education Appreciation Month, Mr. Sharrow thanked the Board of Education members for their selfless service to the students, staff and community of Midland Public Schools. A beautiful hard cover copy of the book, *Little Humans*, by Brandon Stanton in honor of the Board Members’ service will be placed in each MPS elementary school media center for students to enjoy. In addition, Mr. Sharrow presented the Board Members with a Certificate of Appreciation, a stylus pen, as well as lovely thank you letters written for each Board member by members of Ms. Julie Hyatt’s 4th grade class at Carpenter Street School.

5. CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND ASSESSMENT

Study Committee Chair: Ms. Baker; Staff Resource Person: Mr. Brutyn

McFarland/Singer moved for approval of the following item:

5.1 Major Change Proposals were presented for consideration on December 8. The cost of each proposal included all anticipated expenses such as curriculum development, staff development and staff or student materials. Expenses for the total implementation were described in the Major Change Proposal and are available in the office of the associate superintendent or from the proposer. Three proposals were submitted. As accepted, the changes will be incorporated into the student enrollment procedures for the 2015-16 school year. The implementation of these changes will be dependent upon the budget.

The addition of IB Career Program (IBCP) for 11th & 12th grade. Includes the addition of a new class, *Approaches to Learning* at a cost of $30,225. These funds will be solicited from an outside source.
The alteration of Michigan Merit Curriculum Graduation Requirements:

**Math** - Maintain current MPS math requirements of 4 credits including: 1 credit of Algebra I, 1 credit of Geometry, 1 credit of Algebra II, 1 credit of district approved math/math related. Students must have math experience in final year of high school. Consideration will be given to Career & Technical Education (CTE) programs offered through Bay Arenac Career Center and the Midland CTE Consortium that provide evidence of Algebra II alignment and use of the collaborative teaching model/HQ teacher. Documentation will be reviewed and approved by the Coordinator of Secondary Instruction in consultation with the high school math teacher leaders or their designee.

**World Language** - Maintain two-year world language requirement and offer maximum flexibility with an option of a Visual Performing and Applied Art (VPAA) course or CTE program replacing the second year of WL.

**Science** - Maintain current MPS graduation requirements: 1 credit of biology, 1 credit of physics/chemistry content, 1 additional credit of science.

**Physical Education** - Maintain .5 PE requirement with an allowable exemption for a full year of marching band or high school sport participation.

The alteration of the World Language sequence, grades 7-12, to offer German at DHS/JMS, and French at MHS/NMS. Survey of Spanish 1 offered for students in 8th grade and above.

Board members discussed our current foreign language course offerings, the proposed major change proposal model, on-line and blended learning foreign language opportunities as well as the change to the physical education change based on the Michigan Merit Curriculum Graduation Requirements and the MPS major change proposal yearly process.

Motion carried unanimously.

6. **FINANCE, FACILITIES AND OPERATIONS**
   Study Committee Chair: Ms. Singer; Staff Resource Person: Mr. Cooper

6. 1. The following donations of items have occurred:
   <> Tools for MHS FIRST Robotics team from Ace Hardware.
   <> 2005 Kohler and Campbell upright piano was donated to Midland High by Ms. Teresa Kent
   <> A Bundy Selver alto saxophone and Glaesel 16 inch viola was donated to the MPS music program by Mr. and Mrs. Larry Thiel
   <> A piano was donated to the music department by Ms. Gwyneth Satterlee
   <> A drum set was donated to the music department by Ms. Martha Frank
6. 2. For Information--Gifts totaling $19,001.74.
   <> $ 339.98 from the Jefferson Parent Advisory Committee (JPAC) for small appliances
   <> $ 500.00 from Woodcrest PTO for IB PYP support
   <> $ 500.00 from the Midland Kiwanis Foundation for Juvenile Care Center family holiday baskets
   <> $ 200.00 from the Laura Ludington Hollenbeck Foundation for Midland High Caring Closet supplies
   <> $ 400.00 from the Chestnut Hill PTO for art supplies
   <> $1,000.00 from the Dow Chemical communityGives Fund at the Midland Area Community Foundation for Dow High Cheerleading clinic support
   <> $1,000.00 from the Dow Chemical communityGives Fund at the Midland Area Community Foundation for Midland High Freshman baseball team supplies
   <> $1,000.00 from the Dow Chemical communityGives Fund at the Midland Area Community Foundation for Midland High Junior Varsity baseball team supplies
   <> $1,000.00 from the Dow Chemical communityGives Fund at the Midland Area Community Foundation for Midland High Varsity baseball team supplies
   <> $1,000.00 from the Dow Chemical communityGives Fund at the Midland Area Community Foundation for H. H. Dow High fall cheer support
   <> $ 530.00 from the AAUW Sharing Project for winter outwear in support of the Eastlawn Community School Model
   <> $ 350.00 from JPAC for Pathfinder Team resources
   <> $1,212.00 from the Kiwanis Club of Midland for an Eastlawn 3rd grade field trip support
   <> $ 118.00 from an anonymous donor for PYP materials for the Plymouth media center
   <> $ 1,000.00 from Mr. and Mrs. Michael Briggs in support of Eastlawn science and reading
   <> $ 2,650.00 from the MHS Athletic Booster Club for soccer benches
   <> $ 1,370.00 from the MHS Athletic Booster Club for girls' golf equipment
   <> $ 2,631.76 from the MHS Athletic Booster Club for training supplies
   <> $ 300.00 from Mr. and Mrs. Lowell Youngquist for athletic activity fee scholarships
   <> $ 900.00 from the Midland Area Community Foundation for athletic activity fee scholarships

6. 3. Brandstadt/Singer moved for approval of the following gifts totaling $16,453.00.
   <> $ 6,753.00 from the MHS Athletic Booster Club for fall tournament fees
   <> $ 9,700.00 from the MHS Athletic Booster Club for soccer shelters
   Motion carried unanimously.
6. 4. Baker/McFarland moved for approval of the following.
Thanks to the generosity of our community through the donations to the
Looking Sharp Fund, Midland High is in the process of ordering replacement
concert uniforms. They compared quotes from three vendors (Orefice Ltd.,
Cousin's Concert Attire, Southeastern Apparel) and chose Orefice Ltd. as their
vendor of choice based on quality, uniform price, ease of care and timely
delivery projections. Administration sought approval to issue a purchase order
to Orefice Ltd. of Walker, Michigan in the amount of $29,919.26.
Motion carried unanimously.

7. HUMAN RESOURCES
Study Committee Chair: Mr. McFarland; Staff Resource Person: Mr. Verlinde
7. 1. The “Human Resources Study Committee Report” were read aloud by Mr.
Scott McFarland. This meeting was held on December 11, 2014. Members
present were S. McFarland (chair), L. Baker, G. Wasserman, M. Sharrow,
G. Verlinde, C. Marchese. Member absent was Y. Gorton.

Workers Compensation Case:
Ms. Marchese informed the committee of a settled workers compensation case.

Grievances:
The committee heard a grievance filed by MCEA. Additionally, Ms. Marchese
informed the committee of a MCESPA grievance.

Negotiations:
The District met with the Midland City Education Association on 12/10/2014.

7. 2. The following staff members announced their retirement effective as of the
dates indicated:
<> Ms. Romona Reid Jones, Teacher, Northeast Middle School, April 1, 2015
<> Mr. Gary Verlinde, Assistant Superintendent, June 30, 2015

7. 3. The Board and staff extended their deepest sympathy to the families of:
<> Mr. Charles Brown who passed away on December 18, 2014. Mr. Brown
was a math teacher at Northeast Intermediate for 35 years, retiring in 1986.
<> Mr. Robert Christiansen who passed away on December 6, 2014.
Mr. Christiansen was an assistant principal and history teacher at Northeast
and Central for 37 years. Mr. Christiansen retired in 1994.
<> Mr. Newell Pennell who passed away on December 14, 2014. Mr. Pennell
worked for Midland Public Schools for 32 years as a Midland High Media
Technician/ Librarian and teacher at Northeast. Mr. Pennell retired in 1986.
<> Mr. Joseph Ponsal who passed away on January 1, 2015. Mr. Ponsal was
head custodian at the Administration Center and State Street building for 32
years, retiring in 1985.
<> Ms. Kathryn Zorn who passed away on December 19, 2014. Ms. Zorn was
a paraprofessional at Woodcrest Elementary for more than 35 years, retiring in
2006.
8. CORRESPONDENCE TO AND FROM THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

8. 1. For Information--Letters from the Board of Education or the school system to
   Mr. and Mrs. Larry Reeves
   Midland Rotary Foundation
   Midland Area Community Foundation
   Siebert Elementary PTO
   H. H. Dow High School Music Booster Club
   Ms. Teresa Kent

8. 2. For Information--Letters to the Board of Education from
   <> FOIA request from Christine Walz, Holland & Knight Law
   LLP, requesting all professional contracted cleaning proposals and contracts.

9. 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.
   <> January 19, 2015 (7:00 organizational meeting; 7:30 regular meeting)
   <> 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
   <> July 20, 2015
   <> August 17, 2015
   <> September 21, 2015
   <> October 19, 2015
   <> November 16, 2015
   <> December 14, 2015

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. Board Members expressed their …
    - anticipation for upcoming bond proposal meetings. We hope everyone has
      had a chance to hear a presentation by Mr. Sharrow and/or Mr.
      Wasserman. Please ask if you have questions about the bond proposal and
      then please go and vote on February 24. The orange squares make a
      statement if you are in our buildings. This proposal would mean lot of
      exciting things for our schools.
    - thanks to fellow board members. It is a pleasure to work with you.
• best wishes to all of the students who are taking final exams this week.
• appreciation for today’s Martin Luther King day and the students who addressed the board last year with regard to students having the day off.
• congratulations to Beth DeWyse and Chuck Dobschensky for being our Shining Stars for January.
• thanks to the Carpenter students in Ms. Hyatt’s class for writing the thank you cards we received tonight and for school board appreciation month.
• best wishes to the Dow High student who was injured recently on his way to school.
• appreciation for the extreme generosity of the donors of the gifts that were presented at tonight’s board meeting.
• thanks to the students and parent who addressed the board with regard to the world language. It is a comfort to know that no student in the current high school program will be affected. The change will only affect those who are entering the 7th grade foreign language program next year.
• Welcome Mr. Frazee to the Board. We are glad you have joined us and look forward to working with you.
• Patrick thanked those who voted for him. He looks forward to his service and working for the good of MPS students.

10. 2. Announcements from Superintendent Sharrow
• As you know, the IB PYP 4-year old preschool program is up and running in its first year of operation. We are now exploring the possibility of implementing a “Young 5’s” program. We have secured a classroom at Carpenter and are in the very early stages of development to see if we can make it an option for parents. This program would allow a student to do two years of kindergarten.
• We have now made more than 50 bond presentations to staff, parents and community groups. Thank you to the LWV & AAUW for hosting us today and to all of our community groups who have allowed us to present.
• Mr. Sharrow attended the Midwest Suburban Superintendent’s Conference last week with many informative, inspiring sessions as we anticipate the future of education.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 8:48 pm.

Vice President: ______________ Secretary: ______________
Angela Brandstadt Lynn Baker

Approved by the Board on:
C. Young 16-February 2015