

# Minutes of Regular Meeting

## December 14, 2015

### The Board of Education Midland Public Schools

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A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Midland Public Schools was held Monday, December 14, 2015, beginning at 7:00 PM in the Midland Public Schools Administration Center, 600 E. Carpenter Street, Midland, Michigan.

1. **Board Members Present:** President Wasserman, Vice President Brandstadt, Secretary Baker, Treasurer Singer, Member Frazee, Member Gorton

**Board Member Absent:** Member McFarland

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

27 audience members were present for this meeting.

#### 2. CONSENT AGENDA

Brandstadt/Frazee moved for approval of consent agenda items

2. 1. Approval of the Meeting Minutes from the November 16, 2015 Regular Meeting.
2. 2. The following staff members announced their resignation effective as of these dates:
  - ◇ Jennifer Lyon, Kindergarten Teacher, Plymouth Elementary, December 22, 2015
  - ◇ Angela Stellmacher, Paraprofessional, Plymouth Elementary, November 30, 2015
2. 3. The following person was recommended for employment for the 2015-16 school year:
  - ◇ Candice M. Paiva, 1.0 Middle School Art Teacher, effective December 14, 2015
2. 4. At the October 19, 2015 Board of Education meeting, Administration requested approval by the Board to issue a purchase order to the low bidder, Allied Inc. of Ann Arbor for \$21,333.34. Administration later learned that the amount quoted, even though the quote said it included labor, did not, in fact, include labor. As such, administration requested Board approval to issue a PO to the next low bidder, American Hoist Air and Lube Equipment, Inc. of Kentwood, Michigan, for \$24,346. A bid tab was provided.
2. 5. The following people have been appointed to the Advisory Board on Instruction in Sex Education and Birth Control for the 2015-2016 school year by the Midland Public Schools' Board of Education. (Asterisks indicate members who have served on the board in previous years.)
  - ◇ Ms. Lynn Baker is the Board's liaison to this committee.
  - ◇ Scott Cochran and Gerald Ferguson will serve as co-chairs of this committee.
  - ◇ Parents: Gerald Ferguson\*, also Clergy Representative from Trinity Lutheran Church; Michelle Monticello\*, M.D., also Health Professional; Amy Jaster\*.
  - ◇ Health Professional: Craig Sonke\*, M.D.
  - ◇ Clergy: Wally Mayton\*, Memorial Presbyterian Church.
  - ◇ Educator: Scott Cochran\*, MPS, also parent.
  - ◇ Students: Jack Yarosh\*, H. H. Dow High School; Tiffany Williams, H. H. Dow High School; Melissa Henning, Midland High School; Emily Kreuzsch, Midland High School.
2. 6. Legal Invoice for Payment
  - Approval was requested to authorize the following legal payments:
    - ◇ Dearborn Public Schools, Equity for Excellence Fees, December 7, 2015, \$2,704.28.
    - ◇ Poznak Dyer Kanar Garchow PLC, professional legal fees, November 30, 2015, \$145.00.
  - Motion carried unanimously.

### 3. BOARD OF EDUCATION MATTERS--PRESENTATIONS TO THE BOARD FOR INFORMATION

3. 1. Principal Tracy Renfro; Teachers Margaret Doan and Amanda VanHoeey shared information about their trip to Washington DC on November 10, 2015, when they accepted the National Blue Ribbon award on behalf of Chestnut Hill Elementary School.
3. 2. 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.
  - ◁ Mark Naffie, Grade 5 Teacher at Plymouth Elementary School
  - ◁ Jo Majeske, Manager of Benefits at the Administration Center

### 4. BOARD OF EDUCATION MATTERS--PRESENTATIONS TO THE BOARD FOR ACTION

4. 1. Singer/Gorton moved for approval of the following item.

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 board for all their hard work to make good things happen for students at Midland Public Schools.

Motion carried unanimously.

5. **REQUESTS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD:** No hearings were requested.

### 6. CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND ASSESSMENT

Study Committee Chair: Lynn 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 23, 2015 at the Administration Center. Those present: Lynn Baker (chair), Pamela Singer, Mike Sharrow, Brian Brutyn; Guests: Scott Cochran and Penny Miller-Nelson

#### **Major Change Proposals:**

*Four Major Change Proposals were presented to the committee by Penny Miller-Nelson and Scott Cochran.*

- *Survey of Biology: The proposal removes the 'Survey' title from the .2 Survey of Biology course.*
- *Survey of Physics: The proposal eliminates the .2 Survey of Physics course. .2 Physics will remain as a course offering.*
- *French I & German I: The proposal creates the addition of a .3 option to French 1 and German 1. Currently these courses are only designated as .2. Students, in consultation with their teachers, counselors, and parents, would choose whether they want to take French 1 or German 1 as a .2 course or as a .3 course. This proposal does not add an additional course; .2 and .3 would be taught in the same class.*
- *Math Lab 8: The proposal formalizes a course titled Math Lab 8. This course (currently running as a pilot) is taken in addition to the student's regular math class. Math Lab 8 provides additional support to student experiencing difficulties with math concepts and skills. It may be taken one or two semesters. Students will be placed in the course based on teacher recommendation and assessment scores. The course design follows the model for Math Lab 6 & 7.*

*These four Major Change Proposals are being presented at the December 14<sup>th</sup> Board of Education meeting for the 28-day examination period.*

#### **M-STEP Results:**

*Brian presented results of the 2015 M-STEP. Building proficiency levels and achievement gaps were discussed. At this time, only state level comparisons are available. As was expected, overall proficiency levels dropped in comparison to the MEAP and MME due to the increased rigor of the assessment. The data revealed that the historical trend of significantly outpacing state averages by 10 – 25% (app.) across grade and content levels continued.*

6. 2. The Major Change Proposals were presented for consideration. The cost of each proposal includes all anticipated expenses 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. Four proposals were submitted. Board action is anticipated at the January Board meeting. If these proposals are accepted, the changes will be incorporated into the student enrollment procedures for the 2016-17 school year. The implementation of these changes will be dependent upon the budget.

◇ Math Lab 8 – Addition. The proposal formalizes a course titled Math Lab 8. This course (currently running as a pilot) is taken in addition to the student’s regular math class. Math Lab 8 provides additional support to students experiencing difficulties with math concepts and skills. It may be taken one or two semesters. Students will be placed in the course based on teacher recommendation and assessment scores. The course design follows the model for Math Lab 6 & 7. \$6,500.

◇ Survey of Biology – Name Change. The proposal removes the ‘Survey’ title from the .2 Survey of Biology course.

◇ Survey of Physics – Deletion. The proposal eliminates the .2 Survey of Physics course. .2 Physics will remain as a course offering.

◇ French 1 / German 1 – Alteration. The proposal creates the addition of a .3 option to French 1 and German 1. Currently these courses are only designated as .2. Students, in consultation with their teachers, counselors, and parents, would choose whether they want to take French 1 or German 1 as a .2 course or as a .3 course. This proposal does not add an additional course; .2 and .3 would be taught in the same class. \$6,301.

## 7. FINANCE, FACILITIES AND OPERATIONS

Study Committee Chair: Pam Singer; Staff Resource Person: Mr. Cooper

7. 1. For Information: Gifts totaling \$26,747.67

◇ \$ 3,900.00 for hockey jerseys by H. H. Dow High Athletic Booster Club

◇ \$ 1,189.04 for art supplies from Siebert Elementary administrative account

◇ \$ 500.00 for Midland High welding competition entry fees from the Laura Ludington Hollenbeck Foundation

◇ \$ 2,745.00 for the Community School Model at Eastlawn and Carpenter from Contemporary Review Club

◇ \$ 3,000.00 for Midland High Programming Club competition fees from Nickless Family Charitable Foundation

From Midland Area Community Foundation

◇ \$ 120.63 for Eastlawn Non-violence Week activities

◇ \$ 1,000.00 for Midland High wrestling program

◇ \$ 500.00 for Midland High food/nutrition class

◇ \$ 1,000.00 for Midland High girls track and field team

From Midland High School Athletic Booster Club

◇ \$ 2,000.00 for ice time for hockey program

◇ \$ 3,000.00 for athletic trainer supplies

◇ \$ 1,569.85 for pompon uniforms

◇ \$ 1,430.15 for cheer uniforms

◇ \$ 4,000.00 for the basketball program

From Jefferson Parent Advisory Committee

◇ \$ 750.00 for athletic expenses

◇ \$ 43.00 for a set of books

7. 2. Singer/Brandstadt moved for approval of the following gifts:

For Action: Gifts totaling \$15,697.18

◇ \$ 6,697.18 for tournament entry fees for fall programs from MHS Athletic Booster Club

◇ \$ 9,000.00 for band buses for football playoff games from DHS Music Booster Club

Motion carried unanimously.

7. 3. For Information: The following donation of items occurred:  
These donations have been made to the MPS Music Program:
- ◇ 1/4 size Etude Suzuki violin from Ms. Kathy Peretz
  - ◇ 1/2 size Stradivarius copy violin from Ms. Kathy Peretz
  - ◇ Two CB Kaman beginner bells kits from Linda Hohner-Foster
- These tools have been donated to the MPS Building Trades Program by the Great Lakes Safety Training Center:
- ◇ Table saw, six hand drills, a 20-foot ladder, other tools

## 8. HUMAN RESOURCES

Study Committee Chair: Scott McFarland; Staff Resource Person: Mr. Sharrow

8. 1. The Board and staff extend their deepest sympathy to the family of:
- ◇ Ms. Marceline Ordiway who passed away on November 13, 2015. Ms. Ordiway was a paraprofessional at Eastlawn, Parkdale and State Street for 25 years, retiring in 1995.
8. 2. These staff members announced their retirement as of the dates indicated:
- ◇ Gayla Inosencio, Carpenter Street School 5th grade teacher, June 17, 2016
  - ◇ Ines Jones, Eastlawn Elementary Building Manager, April 2, 2016

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

9. 1. For Information: Letter from the Board of Education to:
- ◇ Ludington Family Foundation
  - ◇ Woodcrest Elementary School Administrative Account
  - ◇ Noon Exchange Club
  - ◇ Midland Kiwanis Foundation
  - ◇ Siebert PTO
  - ◇ American Chemical Society
  - ◇ H. H. Dow High School Athletic Booster Club
  - ◇ American Chemical Society--Midland Chapter
  - ◇ H. H. Dow High School Music Boosters
  - ◇ Midland Area Community Foundation
9. 2. For Information: Letter to the Board of Education from:
- ◇ FOIA request from Johnson Controls, Inc. requesting information pertaining to HVAC Temperature Controls bids as part of the bond proposal for facility renewal and renovation.

## 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:

Tentative Meetings for January-June 2016 (*Dates for Action at Org. Meeting*)

- ◇ January 18, 2016 (Organizational and Regular Meeting)
- ◇ February 22, 2016
- ◇ March 21, 2016
- ◇ April 18, 2016 (Budget Workshop)
- ◇ May 16, 2016
- ◇ June 13, 2016
- ◇ June 27, 2016

## 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 Superintendent Sharrow for all he has done in his three years with Midland Public Schools.
- excitement that the M-STEP data embargo will be lifted on Thursday and student achievement will be disclosed after that date.
- appreciation for the students who came to tonight's Board meeting.
- congratulations to Mark Naffie and Jo Majeske, our December Shining Stars. Thank you for all you do for MPS students and staff.
- appreciation for all of the gifts presented at tonight's Board meeting that total approximately \$45,000. We have such a generous community.
- thanks to Tracy, Margaret and Amanda for their presentation this evening about their trip to Washington DC when they accepted the National Blue Ribbon Award on behalf of Chestnut Hill. Thank you for your dedication to your profession, students and MPS. Twenty percent of MPS schools have now been named Blue Ribbon Schools.
- support for administration's communication with Dow Chemical executives regarding the recent news about the Dow Chemical, Dow Corning and DuPont mergers and what the merger may mean for MPS and the Midland community. We are confident that the future of our district and city will be bright given the wonderful history of these great corporate partners.
- admiration for the students and staffs in our buildings for all they are doing to help others—collections and donations of food and personal care items and Toys for Tots, just to name a few.
- enthusiasm for the concerts going on at this time of year to get us in the holiday spirit.
- wishes for a wonderful Christmas season for Midland Public Schools' students, staff and families.

11. 2. Mr. Wasserman thanked the board members for submitting their thoughts about the Slate of Board of Education Officers for 2016.

11. 3. Announcements from Superintendent Sharrow

- As we all know, Dow Chemical announced last week their plans regarding a merger with Dow Corning and DuPont. Nancy Lamb from Dow Chemical has done a great job keeping us informed about the mergers. Jerry and I will attend a Dow Chemical meeting tomorrow. I anticipate these mergers will create an even stronger company going forward and Midland will continue to play a significant role in its future.
- I recently attended a meeting called Equity in Excellence which is an organization of 28 school districts who received 20J funding prior to its elimination by former Governor Granholm. This group is working with a lobbyist to try to re-access the funds that have been redirected for the past few years.
- Governor Snyder will lay the groundwork for the 2016-17 budget during his State of the State address in February. The School Aid budget committees are planning to meet after the first of the year. It is vital our voices are heard to prevent the 10X formula that has been used in the last two budgets. We are hoping that a 2X formula would be used versus the 10X formula in recent years.
- It is vital that all schools with at-risk children receive 31A funding. Currently MPS isn't allowed access to these funds even though our at-risk population is, in some cases, higher than many of the districts who have access to the funds.
- We are concerned that upcoming legislative action regarding Detroit Public Schools' budget deficit could negatively impact educational funding for the other school children in the State of Michigan for many years to come.
- We received a draft purchase agreement from Dr. Pretty on the HH Dow High property that Northwood University would like to purchase. I will present this agreement at our January

FFO meeting for consideration and potentially full Board approval at our January Board of Education meeting.

- At a future Board of Education meeting we will recognize Chestnut Hill and key staff members for earning the Energy Star rating from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). We expect that many of our buildings will receive this recognition over the next few years as our bond work proceeds.
- Project Lead the Way (PTL) will be 40-50% of our science curriculum for our STEM initiative. We are currently looking at the training for our staff.
- If you recall, last month we had our site visit from the Office of Civil Rights on the audit of our CTE programs. As I communicated at that time, we had three relatively small findings, which was very good as the traditional audit has 12-15 findings. We are required to submit a Board of Education approved corrective action plan. We will have it completed and ready for Board approval at the January Board of Education meeting.

## 12. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

President: \_\_\_\_\_ Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_  
Gerald Wasserman Lynn Baker

Approved by the Board of Education on:

\_\_\_\_\_  
C. Young 18-January-2016