

Minutes of Regular Meeting

February 19, 2018

The Board of Education Midland Public Schools

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Midland Public Schools was held Monday, February 19, 2018, beginning at 7:00 PM in the Midland Public Schools Administration Center, 600 E. Carpenter Street, Midland, Michigan.

1. CALL TO ORDER: ROLL CALL

Board Members Present: President Singer, Vice President Brandstadt, Member Baker, Member Blasy, Member Fredell, Secretary McFarland

Board Member Absent: Treasurer Frazee

Central Staff Present: Superintendent Sharrow; Associate Superintendents Cooper, Brutyn, Greif
36 audience members were present for this meeting.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

Brandstadt/McFarland moved for approval of the consent agenda.

2. 1. Approval of the Meeting Minutes from the January 15, 2018 Organizational and Regular Meetings.
2. 2. The following persons were recommended for employment for the 2017-18 school year:
 - <> Annalisa Christensen, .5 Literacy Specialist
 - <> Erin Pung, .7 Family Intervention Specialist
2. 3. The following staff members announced their resignation as of these dates:
 - <> Barbara Auclair (Stoecker), Paraprofessional, Central Park, February 1, 2018
 - <> Michael Cantrell, Teacher, Central Park Elementary, January 11, 2018
 - <> Karen Mohr, Paraprofessional, Science Center, January 26, 2018
 - <> Nicole Palacios, Benefits Administrative Assistant, March 2, 2018
 - <> Kailyn Sandow, Temp. Title 1 Teacher, Central Park, January 17, 2018
2. 4. A letter was submitted from the Board's auditors, Yeo & Yeo, P.C., outlining the firm's plans and procedures for auditing the district's books for the 2017-18 school year. Based on the preliminary figures from Yeo & Yeo, the estimated fee will be \$29,000 including one major program as part of the single audit. This year's audit also requires the implementation of GASB 75, which will be an additional \$3,500. This additional fee is similar to the fee charged in 2014-15 when GASB 68 was implemented. The total fees for last year's audit were \$28,000 with no additional GASB work required. Yeo & Yeo has been the Board's auditors since 1972-73.
2. 5. Approval of the payment of the school system's bills for the month of December 2017, as listed in the check registers prepared by Ms. Holderby, in the total amount of \$7,720,074 was recommended. The distribution of obligations by fund was included in the documentation.
2. 6. Approval was requested to authorize the following legal payments:
 - <> Thrun Law Firm, PC, \$856.24, January 25, 2018, Professional Legal Fees
 - <> Lusk Albertson, \$122.50, February 6, 2018, Professional Legal FeesMotion carried unanimously.

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

3. 1. Mr. Sharrow recognized the February Shining Star employees. These staff members were recognized for doing an outstanding job and going above and beyond to make MPS a better place for students.
 - <> Mrs. Pamela Andrews, 3rd Grade Teacher, Siebert Elementary School
 - <> Mr. Sean Brown, Enviro-Clean, Chestnut Hill Elementary

3. 2. Mrs. Kimberli McMahan, Foreign Language Teacher and Adams Culture Club Director, and Mrs. Karen Staley, Jefferson Math and Reading Teacher and Culture Club Director, presented information about The Nepal Project, a Global Partnership in Education. Adams and Central Park Elementary Schools and Jefferson Middle School took on this international project to raise money to rebuild a K-8 school in Wana, Nepal that was in very bad disrepair after a 2015 earthquake. The three MPS schools set a goal to raise \$5,000 to help rebuild Saraswati School in Wana, Nepal, but instead raised over \$14,000. In addition, several H. H. Dow High students, spoke about their IB Creativity Activity Service (CAS) projects and the roles they played in the Nepal Project. Mrs. Staley and Mrs. McMahan traveled to Wana, Nepal in January to attend the opening and dedication ceremony of the new Saraswati School.
3. 3. Mr. Sharrow introduced Mr. Daryl Dombrow from Barton Malow Company, the project management firm hired to oversee MPS bond construction projects. Mr. Dombrow presented a bond update to the Board of Education members and audience. Mr. Dombrow spoke about the projects that have been completed; the Siebert and Chestnut Hill renovations that are just beginning; what's been spent using Series 1 funds; additional projects that were funded from project savings; what's next using Series 2 and 3 funds (Adams Elementary renovations and additions beginning spring 2019, stadium renovations, middle and high school renovations, technology, bus purchases) and more.
3. 4. Two Student Expulsions and One Student Reinstatement
 3. 4. 1. McFarland/Fredell moved for approval of the Student A Expulsion. A Board sub-committee of three Board of Education members, Superintendent Sharrow, Associate Superintendent Greif, the school administrator and the parent met on January 26 at 1:00 pm in regard to Student A, who was recommended for expulsion for the remainder of the 2017-18 school year. It was the committee's recommendation that Student A serve the expulsion. The student does have the opportunity to attend the PASS Program at The Community Center and can access curriculum on-line through the PATHS Program. Student A can apply for reinstatement over the summer for the start of the 2018-19 school year. A roll call vote was taken with 6 ayes (Singer, Brandstadt, Baker, Blasy, Fredell, McFarland) and 0 nays
 3. 4. 2. Fredell/Brandstadt moved for approval of the Student B Expulsion. At 1:25 pm on January 26, a Board sub-committee of three Board of Education members, Superintendent Sharrow, Associate Superintendent Greif, the school administrator and the parent met in regard to Student B, who was also being recommended for expulsion for the remainder of the 2017-18 school year. It was the committee's recommendation that Student B serve the suspension. The student does have the opportunity to attend the PASS Program at the Community Center and can access curriculum on-line through the PATHS Program. Student B can apply for reinstatement over the summer for the start of the 2018-19 school year. A roll call vote was taken with 6 ayes (Singer, Brandstadt, Baker, Blasy, Fredell, McFarland) and 0 nays
 3. 4. 3. McFarland/Baker moved for approval of the Student C Reinstatement. At 1:45 on January 26, three Board members, Superintendent Sharrow, Associate Superintendent Greif, as well as a teacher, school administrator and parent (which is required by law) met in regard to Student C, who applied for reinstatement to Midland Public Schools. In addition, Student C, parents, counselor and case worker also attended the meeting. It is the recommendation of the Board sub-committee for Student C to be reinstated. A roll call vote was taken with 6 ayes (Singer, Brandstadt, Baker, Blasy, Fredell, McFarland) and 0 nays
3. 5. Brandstadt/McFarland moved for approval of a new transformer for H. H. Dow High School. After experiencing major electrical problems at H. H. Dow High School this past August, it was determined that a new transformer needed to be purchased and installed. This work is scheduled for July 2018 and requires lead time to have the transformer built. Administration recommended the purchase and installation of a transformer at H. H. Dow High School to the

low bidder, County Line Power Inc. of Hope, Michigan, for a total price of \$88,825. There were six companies that took part in this bidding process, with a range of \$88,825 to \$125,915, with the next lowest bidder of \$108,900. Motion carried unanimously.

3. 6. Brandstadt/Baker moved for approval of the Roofing Project at Siebert and Chestnut Hill Elementary Schools. Work is being done on sections of the roofs at both Siebert and Chestnut Hill as part of bond work at those buildings beginning later this year. Two contractors were awarded a portion of bond bid package 17-102 and have been fully vetted through the post bid interview process. Brandle Roofing was awarded the new additions at Siebert and Chestnut Hill and Streng Construction was awarded the Woodcrest addition.

In addition, alternates on sections of roofs not part of the original bond application, were requested for the dome at Chestnut Hill and the quad and existing multi-purpose room at Siebert Elementary at that time. The district is using sinking funds to do these alternates. The use of sinking funds does not include the prevailing wage requirement. The Administration recommended awarding to the low bidder, Streng Construction of Chesaning, Michigan, for the total amount of \$127,200. Motion carried unanimously.

4. **REQUESTS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD:**

No hearings were requested.

5. **CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND ASSESSMENT**

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

5. 1. Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment (CIA) Study Committee Minutes from January 16, 2018 were read aloud by Ms. Fredell, Chair

Members present: Mary Fredell (chair), Brad Blasy, Mike Sharrow, and Brian Brutyn;

Guests Present: Lou Ann Bensinger, Scott Cochran, Shannon Pnacek, Kim Welter

3rd Grade Reading Initiative and Literacy Intervention Specialists: Lou Ann Bensinger reviewed the process and resulting MPS plan to address the requirements of the 3rd grade reading law implemented by the State of Michigan in 2016. The comprehensive plan includes defined literacy assessments for all students, core reading instructional expectations for staff, and a prescriptive plan of action for students identified as needing supports. Additional supports for buildings and students are being provided by Literacy Intervention Specialists. The Literacy Specialists shared with the committee their daily routines, examples of supports provided, and feedback from parents.

Bi-Annual Sex Ed. Report: Scott Cochran reviewed requirements surrounding sex education. The district sex education committee will be meeting this spring to reaffirm the districts chosen curricular pathway and to review the potential adoption of new materials. Mr. Cochran also presented the state-required bi-annual report to the committee. A copy of the report is attached to the minutes.

5. 2. 2017-18 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 2017-2018 school year by the Midland Public Schools' Board of Education. Mr. Patrick Frazee is the Board's liaison to this committee. Scott Cochran and Jeff Andridge will serve as co-chairs of this committee.

◇ Jeff Andridge, Co-Chair, clergy representative, Midland Evangelical Free Church

◇ Scott Cochran, Co-Chair, educator, parent

◇ Amy Jaster, health professional, parent

◇ Emily Downing, health teacher

◇ Marnie Williams, health teacher, parent

◇ Madison Greene, Midland High School student

◇ Brennan Doyle, H. H. Dow High School student

- <> Dr. Audrey Stryker, health professional
- <> Patrick Frazee, Board of Education member, parent

6. FINANCE, FACILITIES AND OPERATIONS

Study Committee Chair: Mr. Frazee; Staff Resource Person: Mr. Cooper

- 6.1. Finance, Facilities and Operations Study Committee Minutes from February 12, 2018 were read aloud by Mr. Frazee, Chair
Members present: L. Baker, P. Frazee (chair), P. Singer, M. Sharrow, R. Cooper
Guests Present: Daryl Dombrow-Barton Malow, Dale Jerome-French Associates
Bond Update: *Mr. Dombrow provided a Series 1 bond update. This update will be provided to the full board at the February Board of Education meeting. The committee was updated on the progress of the media centers at Plymouth and Woodcrest.*
Finance/Facilities/Operations: *Mr. Cooper and Mr. Sharrow reviewed and discussed the following items with the committee:*
 - <> *December financials.*
 - <> *Yeo & Yeo audit renewal (engagement letter).*
 - <> *Award of bid for the purchase and installation of the Dow High School transformer.*
 - <> *Award of roofing projects involving the dome at Chestnut Hill and the gym and quad at Siebert. These projects will be done using sinking funds.*
 - <> *Update on Carpenter St. Elementary School renovations (capital improvement funds).*
 - <> *Status of the district's handling of the 3% MPERS refund for employees who worked for the district between July 1, 2010 and September 3, 2012.*
- 6.2. For Information: Gifts totaling \$6,186.36
 - <> \$ 500.00 Support for presentation by local chemist as well as supplies at Midland High by anonymous donor
 - <> \$ 1,000.00 Safe Driving Week Campaign at Dow High by Governor's Highway Safety Association Ford Grant
 - <> \$ 300.00 Resources for Cultural Representation East Asian Literature at Dow High from Indiana University
 - <> 500.00 Jefferson 7th & 8th Grade Field Trip for Spanish students to go to Detroit Institute of Art from Michigan Youth Arts
 - <> 700.00 Midland High field trip for English students to go to Detroit Institute of Art from Target Field Trips Scholarship America
 - <> \$ 500.00 for Woodcrest classroom chairs from multiple donors
From H. H. Dow High All Sports Boosters
 - <> \$ 1,705.98 for weight room equipment
 - <> \$ 150.00 for student leadership summit
 - <> \$ 150.00 for volleyball coach conference
 - <> \$ 291.50 for athletic banner
From Jefferson Parent Advisory Committee
 - <> \$ 117.65 for fire blanket
 - <> \$ 271.23 for metal etching supplies
 - 6.3. Brandstadt/Fredell moved for approval of gift totaling \$5,000.00
 - <> \$ 5,000.00 support for the Midland High science club from an anonymous donor
Motion carried unanimously.

7. HUMAN RESOURCES

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

- 7.1. Human Resources Study Committee Minutes from February 1, 2018 were read aloud by Mr. McFarland, Chair
Members present: Scott McFarland (chair), Patrick Frazee (sub for A. Brandstadt), Mary Fredell, Michael Sharrow, Cynthia Marchese; Member Absent: Angela Brandstadt

Grievances: Ms. Marchese updated the committee on the status of the MCESPA grievance.
Legal Update: Ms. Marchese informed the committee of a legal suit against the district.
Negotiations: The district began negotiations with the Midland Federation of Paraprofessionals. The district and the MFP will meet again on February 7, 2018.
Substitute Teacher Contractor: Ms. Marchese informed the committee of the change in the substitute teacher contracted service company effective February 5, 2018. Our district and participating Midland county districts moved from PESG to EDUStaff.
Early Childhood Staffing: Mr. Sharrow gave the committee an update on staffing of the early childhood programs at Carpenter Street School for the 2018-2019 school year.

- 7.2. The Board and Staff extended their deepest sympathy to these families:
 <> Mrs. Margaret Boyes, who passed away on January 19, 2018. Mrs. Boyes was an attendance secretary for H. H. Dow High School for ten years, retiring in 1981.
 <> Mrs. Kathron Guyott, who passed away on January 19, 2018. Ms. Guyott was an elementary and middle school teacher with Midland Public Schools for 24 years, retiring in 1988.
- 7.3. The following staff members announced their retirement effective as of these dates:
 <> Kari Buffa, Paraprofessional, Chestnut Hill Elementary, June 14, 2018
 <> Deborah Chernich, Teacher, Woodcrest Elementary, June 15, 2018
 <> Patsy Hickman, Paraprofessional, Midland High, June 14, 2018
 <> Becky Hoover, Paraprofessional, Siebert Elementary, June 14, 2018
 <> Amy Hutchinson, Assistant Principal, Midland High, June 30, 2018
 <> Mary Marshall, Administrative Assistant, Jefferson Middle, July 31, 2018
 <> Edward (Jason) Merry, Teacher, Woodcrest Elementary, June 15, 2018
 <> Tracy D. Merry, Teacher, Chestnut Hill Elementary, June 15, 2018
 <> Jorge L. Pena, Teacher, Northeast Middle, June 15, 2018
 <> Beth A. Quimby, Teacher, Chestnut Hill, June 15, 2018

8. CORRESPONDENCE TO AND FROM THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

- 8.1. For Information: Letter from the Board of Education to:
 <> FIRST-- Great Lakes Bay Region
 <> Kevin Burns Septic LLC
 <> Siebert Elementary PTO
 <> Chestnut Hill Elementary PTO
 <> The Charles J. Strosacker Foundation
 <> Rollin M. Gerstacker Foundation
- 8.2. For Information: Letters to the Board of Education from:
 <> FOIA Request from Progress Michigan for MPS communications with two MCESA employees.
 <> FOIA Request from Jacqueline Sessa for contract award information for Dow High wrestling mat

9. SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES--FOR INFORMATION

The following is a listing of scheduled meetings or activities of the Board of Education for 2018. 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:

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|--------------------|-----------------------|
| <> March 19, 2018 | <> July 16, 2018 |
| <> April 16, 2018* | <> August 20, 2018 |
| <> May 21, 2018 | <> September 17, 2018 |
| <> June 11, 2018 | <> October 15, 2018 |
| <> June 25, 2018 | <> November 19, 2018 |
| | <> December 17, 2018 |

<p><i>*Budget Workshop 6:30; with Regular Meeting immediately following Budget Workshop</i></p>

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 ...

- appreciation for the Nepal Project presentation this evening by Kim McMahan, Karen Staley and the H. H. Dow High students. The information they presented on the Nepal Project was extraordinary. It was wonderful to see the high school students who got involved as well. Great for our students to think globally.
- thanks to Daryl Dombrow and the Barton Malow team. Appreciation for everything we have been able to do with the bond funds. Lots done but lots to do yet in front of us. Will continue to do the best we can. Hopefully we will be able to pick up some of those things we haven't been able to get to yet and continue on with the savings and the interest.
- congratulations to our February Shining Stars, Pam Andrews and Sean Brown. Thank you for your hard work to make MPS a better place for students. One of the Board member's son was in the audience because he had Mrs. Andrew's last year and knew she was receiving a Shining Star this evening.
- sadness for the two student suspensions but happy we have some options for the students to hopefully get back on track.
- excited for the Booster Bash coming up on St. Patrick's Day. Encourage everyone to go and support the athletic programs at our two high schools.
- enthused about a college visit their family recently took with the tour being conducted by a Midland High graduate, a great role model and very enthusiastic about science.
- thanks to all of the gift donors and most especially for the \$5000 anonymous MHS science club donor.
- appreciation for both presentations demonstrating that when communities comes together great things can be achieved.
- Congratulations to H. H. Dow High for a wonderful performance at this year's Ren Fair. It was a great evening showcasing staff and student talent.
- excitement for the preschool offerings for 3 and 4 year olds for the 2018-19 school year. If you have a preschool child for 2018-19, check out these opportunities.
- congratulations to Midland High School for receiving the Educational Excellence Award for the Chemic Challenge program that helped get students fired up about math.
- reminder that the Gerstacker Award nomination window closes March 6 and the MACF scholarship window closes March 1.
- appreciation to the staff who have announced their retirement this evening for their service to the students, families and community of Midland Public Schools.
- concern for the Senate passage of Senate Bills 584-586 allowing concealed carry in schools and to ban local policies on firearms. Will be watching to see how it moves forward and how we can respond.

10. 2. Announcements from Superintendent Sharrow

- MPS has created an employee Wellness Program inside the school district with Mrs. Greif forming a Wellness Committee. We have partnered with the Greater Midland Community Center who was in our schools recently to do a health survey and to offer services to our employees at reduced costs. United Way has offered an Employee Assistance Program, which hasn't been well taken advantage of in the past but we are trying to encourage any employee who would benefit from this program to take

advantage of in the future. In addition, our MESSA health insurance provider provides numerous programs in which employees may not be aware. They also have been in our schools making presentations about their services to our employees. We are in the early stages of this program and look forward to its progress.

- I was recently invited by Attorney General Bill Schuette to attend Governor Snyder's State of the State Address. I thank Atty. General Schuette for the opportunity and for being such a gracious host. The address was very interesting as well as watching the audience reactions. I think the \$240/\$120 (2x formula we would get \$120 at best) could be somewhat in jeopardy in the sense that some want to tie funding to categoricals. Interestingly they have included CTE & GSRP, which would be good for our District. It will have a lot of maneuvering before it is done. We will be watching cautiously as next year's State budget moves forward.
- Early Childhood Education Center at Carpenter. One of our staff carpenters has been doing work on the early childhood side of the building, which led to having some asbestos abatement work done. Boilers will be installed from Parkdale, which you may have to take action on because of the size of the work and the cost that will be involved. The rest we are trying to do internally. Our goal is to have the building done in June or July so we can have licensing approved before school starts. We have been working on the playground. We saved Carpenter's lower elementary playground equipment, but some is still too large for that age student so there is still some work to do. Enrollment is ongoing. Some jobs have been posted. We will need a director and an office person. The director will see the early childhood staff we currently have and what will need to be added and posted for in the future.
- Recently learned that Central Park Elementary will be a centerpiece for the Midland Area Chamber of Commerce's Annual Business and Lifestyle Guide. Very exciting.
- Midland High recently received word they have been chosen for an Education Excellence Award by MASB sponsored by SET SEG Insurance. MHS will receive \$2500, a trophy and a road sign. They received this award for their outstanding Chemic Challenge summer math program. This is the fourth Educational Excellence Award MPS will receive in five years.
- Mr. Sharrow recently presented to the Midland Women's Study Club with an update on bond work as well as a general State of the District report.
- Construction progress update: media centers have now been turned over to us but we are awaiting some equipment. We are ahead of schedule on this piece. In addition, fences went up at Siebert and Chestnut Hill, also ahead of schedule.
- Mandarin Chinese foreign language pilot program coming in 2018-19 was approved by the Board requires us to hire a teacher. Those interviews are coming later this week and next week.
- Teacher recruitment season is coming. We are being proactive, aggressive and getting out there early to hire the best teachers possible.
- Enrollment has now been certified. Bob will have that information for you in April. We are about 50 students above where we budgeted. At the semester we are typically down about 50 students, this year we are looking like we may be down only about 20 students, a large part of that lower decrease is the PATHS program picking up some of those students. However, this may be reflected in our high school assessment results.
- We have been watching our attendance on a weekly basis this year especially because of this year's severe flu season. Our attendance numbers have not changed in any of our buildings.
- We send our thoughts and prayers to those affected by the recent school shooting in Florida. There is lots of work to do on school safety. We have spent millions in this country on safety initiatives and security equipment, which is not the answer to solving this. The issue is bigger than that as a nation. I have been working with some statewide

superintendents and organizations about some ongoing changes to practices. MPS has a big initiative on mental health and actions we are taking. We are in the early stages. There is still lots of work to do to ensure we are using our security measures correctly. If we can work civilly together we are better, can make progress and are stronger.

11. ADJOURNMENT

McFarland/Fredell moved to close the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

President: _____
Pam Singer

Secretary: _____
Scott McFarland

Approved by the Board of Education on:

C. Young March 19, 2018