



Grosse Pointe Board of Education
Regular Meeting - January 21, 2025
MINUTES
Brownell Middle School
260 Chalfonte, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236

Meeting Minutes (Amended)

Encl: 5.8.

1. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/ROLL CALL

President Worden called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

Board members present: Trustees: Worden, Cotton, St. John, Klepp, Hull, Derringer

Absent: None

Late Arrival: Trustee Jeup

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by all in attendance.

Also Present: Superintendent Dr. Andrea Tuttle, Dr. Roy Bishop, Dr. Chris Stanley, Moussa Hamka

2. APPROVAL OF THE MEETING AGENDA FOR JANUARY 21, 2025

President Worden motioned to remove Item 5.8. GAAA#1, and add it to an upcoming agenda. She also motioned to adopt a consent agenda for Items 5.1., 5.2., 5.3. and 5.7. into a consent agenda, and change Item 9.2. Budget Parameters as a first read for the February 10, 2025 meeting.

It was Moved by: Trustee St. John **Supported by:** Trustee Hull

THAT the Board approve the amended Agenda for January 7, 2025, as presented.

Ayes: Trustees: Worden, St. John, Cotton, Klepp, Hull, Derringer

Nays: None

Motion carried 6-0 vote

3. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - STUDENTS AND SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS A.

Barnes Presentation–Mrs. Lisa Dougherty

Lisa Dougherty, Monica Brumbaugh, and Kristen Braceful gave a detailed presentation for the Early On program.

B. Coach Gary Bennett–700th win

Dr. Tuttle presented Gary Bennett with a Certificate of Recognition for his 700th win. Coach Bennett gave a small speech afterward.

C. Attorney Kevin Sutton Update on Report

President Worden-spoke with Mr. Sutton who would be available at another meeting in the future.

D. Board Budget Training

Dr. Tuttle talked about the importance of scheduling board training on school finance.

E. Bond—Ms Kari Blanchett, PFM

Dr. Tuttle gave a presentation on the Bond along with Kari Blanchett, PFM, Tom Colis, Miller Canfield, Paul Theriault and Gary Kent, Plante Moran. This was followed up with questions from multiple board members.

F. Update on Curriculum/Operating Positions

Dr. Tuttle gave an update on these positions.

G. Preschool and Kindergarten Marketing

Dr. Tuttle discussed our marketing efforts for preschool and kindergarten.

She also spoke about MLK day and how Dr. Bishop spoke at the West Bloomfield Schools 31st United highlighting Dr. King. She also talked about the South Interim Assistant Principal, Katie Parent and upcoming interviews.

H. Field Trip for German Students (9.3.)

Chris Stanley introduced Rebecca Petrilli who gave a detailed overview of the field trip to Germany that she is requesting approval by the board.

Trustee Jeup arrived late to the meeting and asked to revisit the Superintendent's Report and began to discuss the Kevin Sutton Report.

President Worden stopped Trustee Jeup and called for a Point of Order, stating she may not discuss the contents of the report.

Trustee Cotton appealed that ruling with Support from Trustee Jeup.

MOTION TO ALLOW TRUSTEE JEUP TO TALK ABOUT THE THINGS THAT WOULD WAIVE PRIVILEGE.

Ayes: Trustees: Jeup and Cotton

Nayes: Trustees: Worden, St. John, Klepp, Hull, Derringer

Motion failed 5 - 2 vote

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ACTION ITEMS FOR JANUARY 21, 2025

Peter Moe, student, asked the board to vote yes on the LOA

Joe Muzingo, GPC, discussed the possibility of closing schools

Julie Moe, GPW, talked about passing the LOA

Matt Kahl, GPP, talked about Trombly reopening

Michelle Hodges, Mayor GPP, talked about reopening Trombly

5.A. CONSENT AGENDA ACTION ITEMS FOR JANUARY 21, 2025

It was Moved by: Trustee St. John **Supported by:** Trustee Klepp

THAT the Board approve the Consent Agenda Action Items:

5.1. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes for January 7, 2025

5.2. Approval of HR Report for January 21, 2025

5.3. Approval of Special Meeting Minutes for December 26, 2024

5.7. Approval of Closed Session Meeting Minutes for January 15, 2024

5.11. Approval of Reinstatement Committee's Recommendation, as presented.

Ayes: Trustees: Cotton, Jeup, St. John, Worden, Klepp, Hull, Derringer

Nays: None

Motion carried 7-0 vote

5.4. APPROVAL OF CLOSED SESSION MINUTES FOR JANUARY 15, 2025

Trustee St. John found a correction that needs to be made on the minutes.

It was Moved by: Trustee St. John **Supported by:** Trustee Hull

THAT the Board approve the amended Closed Session Minutes for January 15, 2025, as presented

Ayes: Trustees: Worden, St. John, Cotton, Jeup, Klepp, Hull, Derringer

Nays: None

Motion carried 7-0 vote

5.5. APPROVAL OF GPEA UPDATE - LOA

Board members asked several questions and made comments.

Trustee Derringer recused himself from this vote due to a conflict of interest.

It was Moved by: Trustee St. John **Supported by:** Trustee Jeup **THAT the Board approve the GPEA Update - LOA, as presented.**

Ayes: Trustees: Cotton, Jeup, St. John, Worden, Klepp, Hull

Nays: None

Motion carried 6-0 vote

5.6. APPROVAL OF THE INTERIM CFO CONTRACT

Board members asked several questions.

It was Moved by: Trustee St. John **Supported by:** Trustee Klepp **THAT the Board approve the Interim CFO Contract, as presented.**

Ayes: Trustees: Worden, St. John, Cotton, Jeup, Klepp, Hull, Derringer

Nays: None

Motion carried 7-0 vote

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5.9. APPROVAL FOR SUPERINTENDENT TO CONTINUE TO PURSUE BOND PROPOSAL

Several comments were made by multiple board members.

It was Moved by: Trustee Worden **Supported by:** Trustee St. John

THAT the Board approve for Superintendent to Continue to Pursue Bond Proposal, as presented

Ayes: Trustees: Worden, St. John, Cotton, Jeup, Klepp, Hull, Derringer

Nays: None

Motion carried 7-0 vote

5.10. APPROVAL TO VACATE RESOLUTION FOR INDEPENDENT BOARD COUNSEL

Multiple comments and questions were made by several board members.

It was Moved by: Trustee St. John **Supported by:** Trustee Worden

THAT the Board approve to Vacate Resolution for Independent Board Counsel, as presented

Ayes: Trustees: Worden, St. John, Cotton, Jeup, Klepp, Hull, Derringer

Nays: None

Motion carried 7-0 vote

6. DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Dr. Roy Bishop discussed Special Education in the district. Lillie Loder gave a Special Education Update. This was followed by several comments from board members.

7. ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Dr. Chris Stanley provided a brief update as to where we are on the Trombly Survey. This was followed by questions and comments from multiple board members.

It was Moved by: Trustee Derringer **Supported by:** Trustee Jeup

THAT the Board approve to expand the age on the survey from 0-9, as presented

Ayes: Trustees: Worden, St. John, Cotton, Jeup, Klepp, Hull, Derringer

Nays: Trustees: None

Motion carried 7-0 vote

8. ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Moussa Hamka talked about timing and seasonality of hires.

9. AGENDA ACTION ITEMS FOR FEBRUARY 10, 2025

9.1. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes for January 21, 2025

9.2. Budget Parameters

9.3. Approval of Out-of-Country Field Trip-Rebecca Petrilli

10. BOARD REQUESTS / NEW BUSINESS

Trustee Klepp requested that Special Ed become a monthly update. He also requested to form an ad hoc Committee regarding transportation and Trombly. Trustee Jeup asked that she be considered for that committee.

President Worden talked about the new members of the standing committees.

Trustee Cotton requested that the board have legal counsel advise on the report. President Worden stated that Kevin Sutton will attend a Closed Session as soon as he is available.

11. FUTURE MEETINGS

11.1. BOE Regular Meeting, Monday, February 10, 2025, 7:00 pm, Brownell MPR

11.2. BOE Regular Meeting, Tuesday, February 24, 2025, 7:00 pm, Brownell MPR

12. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-ACTION ITEMS

Tom Caufield, GPP, talked about the Trombly survey.

Lisa Papas, GP, discussed thoughts from the last board meeting.

Terry Collins, GPP, talked about past comments by board members and the public and the budget.

Kevin Nugent, GPF, discussed Sp Ed and several awards for students and teachers.

13. BOARD MEMBER / SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Trustee Jeup apologized for the change of the meeting dates conflicting with the city meetings. She closed with thanking the PFAE for the scholarships.

Trustee Klepp congratulated Ms. Parent. He talked about the bond and school closings.

Trustee Hull discussed the safety of our students and the future of Trombly. She mentioned that her decisions are based on data-driven input.

Trustee Cotton talked about the closing of schools, the Sinking Fund and the bond. He mentioned his concern regarding the law firm and the vote from 5 trustees to restrain comments of one trustee. He also discussed the use of Kevin Sutton and the report.

Trustee Derringer clarified that the concerns regarding the closing of buildings are legitimate and that we need to find ways to utilize our district assets properly. He talked about how we need both buildings and people and that they are tied together with our budget. We need to allocate our resources and hold ourselves accountable. He congratulated Dr. Bishop and talked about the Communities United in Diversity group.

Trustee St. John thanked the tech crew for their work tonight and the livestream. She talked about how she could not see closing buildings as something she would support and that she would like funds to go towards learning and our students. She closed with discussing the EPLC and other committees.

Dr. Bishop mentioned that we have multiple positions open.

Trustee Worden talked about how important our teachers are and thanked Dr. Bishop for his leadership and the discussion she had with both Dr. Tuttle and Dr. Bishop regarding our Special Education students and the LOA. She thanked Dr. Tuttle for the excellent presentation on the bond.

14. ADJOURNMENT

President Worden adjourned the meeting at 10:50 pm.

Valarie St. John, Secretary

