



**Grosse Pointe Board of Education**  
**Minutes of the**  
**GROSSE POINTE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**September 12, 2023**

**Enclosure: 5.1.**

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

President Ismail called the meeting to order at 8:00 pm

**Board members present:** Trustees: St. John, Jeup, Worden, Cotton, Brumbaugh, Papas and Ismail

**Absent:** None

**Late Arrival:** None

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by all in attendance.

**Also Present:** Interim Superintendent Chris Fenton and Deputy Superintendent Dr. Roy Bishop, Jr.

**2. APPROVAL OF THE BOARD AGENDA FOR SEPTEMBER 12, 2023 - 8:01 pm**

**It was moved by President Ismail to move Agenda Action Item 5.7 before Item 5.1.**

**It was moved by:** Trustee Brumbaugh

**Supported by:** Trustee Worden

**THAT the Board approve the Revised Agenda for September 12, 2023 as presented.**

**Ayes:** Trustees: St. John, Jeup, Worden, Cotton, Brumbaugh, Papas and Ismail

**Nays:** None

**Motion carried 7 - 0 vote**

**3. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - 8:02 pm**

Interim Superintendent Fenton gave an overview of the first week of school, how nice the schools looked and how pleased he was to be here.

Deputy Superintendent Bishop spoke about how happy he was with the start of the school year and welcomed everyone back.

**4. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ACTION ITEMS FOR SEPTEMBER 12, 2023- 8:06 pm**

Terrence Collins, GPP, talked about Item 5.5. and his concerns with this resolution.

Joshua Neds-Fox, GPF, discussed Item 5.5. and his support for this resolution.

Wendy Soubel, GPF, talked about the retirement of Dr. Dean and discussed multiple points about the district's teachers.

Steve Warnick, GPP, thanked the Central Admin team along with Chris Fenton for stepping in and Item 5.5. regarding the transparency of the separate legal counsel.

Jack S., Student, discussed the loss of multiple administrators and Trustee Brumbaugh.

**5. AGENDA ACTION ITEMS FOR SEPTEMBER 12, 2023 - 8:19 pm**

**5.7. Approval of Superintendent Search Firm Recommendation**

Trustee Cotton discussed the meetings that took place to find the correct firm.

Trustee Papas talked about the process that was followed to locate the Superintendent Search firm.

Trustee Worden discussed the interviews of the 4 firms and how MASB was the chosen firm.

Trustee St. John asked to possibly table this motion and dedicate the search to internal candidates.

Trustee Brumbaugh brought up the importance of utilizing a search firm for this process.

**It was Moved by:** Trustee Cotton

**Supported by:** Trustee Papas

**THAT the Board approve MASB as the selected Search Firm as presented.**

**Ayes:** Trustees: St. John, Jeup, Worden, Cotton, Brumbaugh, Papas and Ismail

**Nays:** None

**Motion carried 7-0 vote**

**5.2. Approval of Revised Closed Session Meeting Minutes of August 7, 2023**

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

**Supported by:** Trustee Jeup

**THAT the Board approve the Revised Closed Session Meeting Minutes of August 7, 2023 as presented.**

**Ayes:** Trustees: St. John, Jeup, Worden, Cotton, Brumbaugh, Papas and Ismail

**Nays:** None

**Motion carried 7-0 vote**

**5.3. Approval of Special Session Meeting Minutes of August 23, 2023**

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

**Supported by:** Trustee Jeup

**THAT the Board approve the Special Session Meeting Minutes of August 23, 2023 as presented.**

**Ayes:** Trustees: St. John, Jeup, Worden, Cotton, Brumbaugh, Papas and Ismail

**Nays:** None

**Motion carried 7-0 vote**

**5.4. Approval of Special Session Meeting Minutes of August 29, 2023**

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

**Supported by:** Trustee Jeup

**THAT the Board approve the Special Session Meeting Minutes of August 29, 2023 as presented.**

**Ayes:** Trustees: St. John, Jeup, Worden, Cotton, Brumbaugh, Papas and Ismail

**Nays:** None

**Motion carried 7-0 vote**

**5.1. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of August 22, 2023**

**It was Moved by:** Trustee Jeup

**Supported by:** Trustee St. John

**THAT the Board approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of August 22, 2023 as presented.**

**Ayes:** Trustees: St. John, Jeup, Worden, Cotton, Brumbaugh, Papas and Ismail

**Nays:** None

**Motion carried 7-0 vote**

**5.6. Approval of Special Session Meeting Minutes of September 5, 2023**

**It was Moved by:** Trustee Jeup

**Supported by:** Trustee Cotton

**THAT the Board approve the Special Session Meeting Minutes of September 5, 2023 as presented.**

**Ayes:** Trustees: St. John, Jeup, Worden, Cotton, Brumbaugh, Papas and Ismail

**Nays:** None

**Motion carried 7-0 vote**

## 5.5. Approval of the Resolution to Amend Independent Legal Counsel

This resolution was discussed in detail by Trustees Worden and St. John. Trustee Cotton gave his thoughts on the resolution and suggested that this resolution be revised. This was followed up with comments from other board members.

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

**Supported by:** Trustee Brumbaugh

**THAT the Board table the Resolution to Amend Independent Legal Counsel as presented.**

<b>Roll Call:</b>	<b>Trustee St. John:</b>	<b>Yes</b>
	<b>Trustee Worden:</b>	<b>Yes</b>
	<b>Trustee Jeup:</b>	<b>Yes</b>
	<b>Trustee Cotton:</b>	<b>Yes</b>
	<b>Trustee Ismail:</b>	<b>No</b>
	<b>Trustee Brumbaugh</b>	<b>Yes</b>
	<b>Trustee Papas</b>	<b>Yes</b>

**Motion passed 6-1 vote**

## 6. AGENDA ACTION ITEMS FOR SEPTEMBER 26, 2023 - 9:04 pm

- 6.1. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of September 12, 2023
- 6.2. Approval of Election Representative
- 6.3. Approval of FOIA Coordinator
- 6.4. Approval of Designated Asbestos Coordinator
- 6.5. Approval of the Naming for the Grosse Pointe North Library

President Ismail gave a brief background of how this came about and expounded on the accolades of Dr. Suzanne Klein and why she should receive this honor of the Grosse Pointe North Library being named after her. This was followed by multiple comments from other board members.

## 7. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION - 9:09 pm

### 7.1. Board Requests

Trustee Cotton talked about the tour of the multiple buildings in this district and the fact that many of the buildings are not air conditioned. He expressed that this needs to be looked at by the Finance and Facilities Committee to study this issue.

Trustee Jeup discussed some of the difficult registration issues that the district is going through.

Trustee St. John brought up that we need to name a Homeless Liaison Coordinator.

Deputy Superintendent Bishop talked about the search for a new Homeless Liaison Coordinator and discussed the efforts of our Residency and Enrollment Department.

#### **8. FUTURE MEETINGS 9:18 pm**

- 8.1.** BOE Regular Meeting, Tuesday, September 26, 2023, 6:30 pm, Brownell MPR
- 8.2.** BOE Policy-Contracts Meeting, Tuesday, October 3, 2023, 5 pm, Barnes PLS
- 8.3.** BOE Finance & Facilities Meeting, Tuesday, October 3, 2023, 6:30 pm, Barnes PLS
- 8.4.** BOE Curriculum Meeting, Wednesday, October 4, 2023, 5:00 pm, Barnes PLS
- 8.5.** BOE Community Engagement Meeting, Wednesday, October 4, 2023, 6:30 pm Barnes PLS
- 8.6.** BOE Regular Meeting, Tuesday, October 10, 2023, 6:30 pm, Brownell MPR

#### **9. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-ACTION ITEMS - 9:19 pm**

Kelly Seagram,GPW, thanked President Ismail for his prompt response to her email regarding the board member replacement process and thanked Trustee Brumbaugh for his service. She also discussed the need for transparency with the Superintendent search.

#### **10. OTHER COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS AND SUPERINTENDENT - 9:21 pm**

**Trustee St. John** discussed Brumbaugh leaving and how happy her child's first day of 6th grade was. She closed with commending all of our building administrators and staff for helping all of the kids feel this excited..

**Trustee Worden** thanked Mr. Fenton for taking on this role. She also talked about Dr. Delgado and the wonderful job that she and all of her staff are doing these first 2 weeks. She talked about the Back to School nights and thanked the City of Harper Woods for rezoning the Poupard property. She concluded with talking about Trustee Brumbaugh's leaving.

**Trustee Jeup** gave a warm welcome to Mr. Fenton for coming on board and talked about how he will have the boards full support. She concluded with talking about all of the exciting events the district has going this year.

**Trustee Cotton** thanked Mr. Fenton for stepping in and thanked Dr. Bishop for organizing the tours of all the schools.

**Deputy Superintendent Bishop** thanked the community for their patience with the administration as they are working with less people. He also thanked GP Memorial Church and GP Rotary for the supplies they gave to many of our students. He concluded with thanking the community and our students and staff.

**Trustee Brumbaugh** talked about how much he and his family will miss this community and extended his gratitude to Mr. Fenton for coming on board. He also thanked the leadership team for all that they do. He concluded with some advice to everyone and encouraged them to assume positive intent and communicate more than they think they should; put feelings and egos aside and hope for great work in the next year.

**Trustee Papas** welcomed Mr. Fenton for stepping in to guide us through these next few months. She also thanked Dr. Bishop for navigating the waters with all of the change that has occurred. She gave a big welcome to all of the students and staff who are back in the buildings and talked about how excited the first day of school always is. She welcomed the new choir directors at North and South. She concluded with talking about how everyone needs to work collaboratively and respectfully with each other.

**Mr. Fenton** discussed how privileged he feels to have been appointed the Interim Superintendent. He gave an overview of his background with the district. He thanked all of the staff and community members who have reached out to him. He concluded with discussing the challenge ahead to find the next superintendent and reiterated how our top priority is education.

**President Ismail** thanked Chris Fenton for his words of wisdom and his passion for this whole community.

## 11. ADJOURNMENT

President Ismail adjourned the meeting at 9:37 pm.

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Ginny Jeup, Secretary