



**Grosse Pointe Board of Education
Minutes of the VIRTUAL Regular Session of
January 11, 2021**

Enclosure: V. A.

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

President Weertz called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Board members present: Trustees: Brumbaugh, Herd, Ismail, Lee, Papas, Weertz and Worden

Absent: None

Late Arrival: None

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by all in attendance.

Also Present: Superintendent Gary Niehaus and Deputy Superintendent Dr. M. Jon Dean and Amanda Matheson

II. APPROVAL OF THE BOARD REGULAR AGENDA FOR JANUARY 11, 2021

Moved by: Trustee Lee

Supported by: Trustee Herd

Trustee Ismail asked to add an update on COVID 19, return to school and a line item for Board Members to share their intentions for Officers on the Board at future meetings.

THAT the Board approve the Regular Agenda for January 11, 2021 as presented.

Ayes: Trustees: Brumbaugh, Herd, Ismail, Lee, Papas, Weertz and Worden

Nays: none

Absent: none

Motion carried 7 - 0 vote.

President Weertz mentioned a beloved member of the Community, George McMullen, who passed away recently. He was popular in the community and deeply involved.

III. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. Administration of Oath of Office of Newly Elected Trustees

Dr. Niehaus administered the Oath of Office to newly elected Trustees, David Brumbaugh, Joseph Herd, Ahmed Ismail, Lisa Papas and Colleen Worden.

President Weertz asked Dr. Dean to update the Board on the return of 7th and 8th graders to school today. The students returned in a Hybrid plan. Julie Lawrence, Sara Dirkse, Dan Hartley and Bryan Aue noted that students had a great first day back. Grades Y5-6 and Special Education started back on January 4, 2021 in the hybrid plan and that has been going well.

B. GPPSS Summer 2021 Programming Update

Dr. Dean updated the Board of plans for Summer Learning. We will continue to offer Camp O'Fun/Preschool, Camp Invention, High School Credit Recovery (via SCS Schools), ESY and Various Music/Performing Arts opportunities that will continue to be offered during the Summer, 2021.

Superintendent Niehaus' statement, Never in my lifetime would I have ever believed that an insurrection by American citizens in our Nation's capital would ever be possible. I am angry, I am unsettled, I am embarrassed, I am disappointed and I wonder. Our GPPSS teachers, staff and administration did an excellent job of dealing with the unexpected days. The divisiveness is coming from every level...local, state, national and world. The attack on our democracy is unprecedented from citizens inside our country and opens up my insecurities. The same happened in Lansing, the Michigan capital. It is wrong on so many levels. I must keep the faith and hope that we can find a "new normal" that is inclusive, civil and has justice for all. It would be my hope that our new Board of Education would lead with civility towards one another and create justice for all in the Grosse Pointe Public School System. Our faculty, staff and students deserve nothing less than our best effort to make civility a priority. Kindness and empathy do matters. I look forward to working with you to make this happen.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT ON REGULAR AGENDA ACTION ITEMS FOR JANUARY 11, 2021

Terence Collins, 1222 Harvard Rd, GPP asked the Board to make a good decision in regards to elected officers this evening.

V. AGENDA ACTION ITEMS FOR JANUARY 11, 2021

A. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of December 14, 2020 and Special Meeting Minutes of December 21, 2020.

It was moved by: Trustee Lee

Supported by: Trustee Herd

THAT the Board approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of December 14, 2020 and Special Meeting of December 21, 2020 as presented.

Ayes: Trustees Brumbaugh, Herd, Ismail, Lee, Papas, Weertz and Worden

Nays: none

Absent: none

Motion Carried 7 - 0 vote.

B. Organizational Items

1. Election of Officers

Board Bylaw 0152 indicates that the Board shall annually elect Board officers at its organizational meeting.

President Weertz motioned Trustee Herd for President with a **second from Trustee Lee**.

Trustee Papas motioned Trustee Ismail for President. President Weertz noted that Trustee Papas' notion will move forward if the first motion does not pass.

THAT the Board approve Trustee Herd as Board President for 2021.

ROLL CALL:

Trustee Lee	Y
Trustee Worden	Y
Trustee Ismail	Y
Trustee Papas	Y
Trustee Herd	Y
Trustee Brumbaugh	Y
Trustee Weertz	Y

Motion Carried 7 - 0 vote.

It was Moved by: Trustee Worden

Supported by: Trustee Lee

THAT Trustee Weertz be nominated as Vice-President of the Board of Education.

ROLL CALL:

Trustee Papas	Y
Trustee Ismail	Y
Trustee Brumbaugh	Y
Trustee Lee	Y
Trustee Herd	Y
Trustee Weertz	Y
Trustee Worden	Y

Motion Carried 7 - 0 vote.

THAT Trustee Lee be nominated as Secretary of the Board of Education.

It was Moved by: Trustee Weertz

Supported by: Trustee Worden

ROLL CALL:

Trustee Papas	Y
Trustee Ismail	Y
Trustee Brumbaugh	Y
Trustee Lee	Y
Trustee Herd	Y
Trustee Weertz	Y
Trustee Worden	Y

Motion Carried 7 - 0 vote.

THAT Trustee Worden be nominated as Treasurer of the Board of Education.

It was Moved by: Trustee Lee

Supported by: Trustee Weertz

ROLL CALL:

Trustee Papas	Y
Trustee Ismail	Y
Trustee Brumbaugh	Y
Trustee Lee	Y

Trustee Herd	Y
Trustee Weertz	Y
Trustee Worden	Y

Dr. Niehaus noted to President Herd that a Finance Committee has typically been the Board President, Treasurer, Deputy Superintendent of Education Services and Deputy Superintendent of Business Affairs.

Motion Carried 7 - 0 vote.

2. Declaration of Board Member Compensation

Per Board Bylaw 0144.1, Board members individually declare their preference for distribution of their compensation by one of four options: A) Receive his/her per meeting compensation for the current year; B) Refuse compensation for the current year; C) Request that in lieu of his/her compensation for the current school year a like amount be directed to a program of the Grosse Pointe Public School System or a District related school organization; or D) Request that the compensation be directed on his/her behalf to the Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education.

Trustee Brumbaugh: Donate to Early Education Program

Trustee Herd: receive compensation

Trustee Ismail: give back to the GPPSS to compensate for his requests

Trustee Lee: give back to the GPPSS

Trustee Papas: donate equally to the GP North and GP South Choirs

Trustee Weertz: donate to the Mason PTO

Trustee Worden: donate to the Parcels PTO

THAT the Board approve the Board Member Compensation as presented.

Ayes: Trustees Brumbaugh, Herd, Ismail, Lee, Papas, Weertz and Worden

Nays: none

Absent: none

Motion Carried 7 - 0 vote.

C. Approval of Regular Board Meeting Calendar for 2020

It was moved by: Trustee Lee

Supported by: Trustee Brumbaugh

Trustee Brumbaugh asked the Board to consider moving the meetings to Tuesday night or possibly another evening and to revisit the discussion in June, 2021.

THAT the Board approve the Regular Board Meeting Calendar for 2021 as presented.

ROLL CALL:	Trustee Papas	Y
	Trustee Ismail	Y
	Trustee Brumbaugh	Y
	Trustee Lee	Y
	Trustee Herd	Y
	Trustee Weertz	Y
	Trustee Worden	Y

Motion Carried 7 - 0 vote.

D. Approval of Resolution of Continuance of Funds and Designation of Signatories on Accounts

It was moved by: Trustee Lee

Supported by: Trustee Ismail

Deputy Superintendent Matheson explained the Resolution of Funds and Accounts that need to be established and/or continued for the calendar year 2021.

THAT the Board approve the Resolution of Continuance of Funds and Designation of Signatories on Accounts as presented.

ROLL CALL:	Trustee Papas	Y
	Trustee Ismail	Y
	Trustee Brumbaugh	Y
	Trustee Lee	Y
	Trustee Herd	Y
	Trustee Weertz	Y
	Trustee Worden	Y

Motion Carried 7 - 0 vote.

VI. AGENDA ACTION ITEMS FOR JANUARY 25, 2021

A. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of January 11, 2021 and Special Meeting of January 20, 2021

B. Approval of Human Resources Report for January 25, 2021

VII. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

A. Health Care Report

Dr. Dean presented the Health Care Report for the District. This month was higher than anticipated.

B. Board Requests

Vice President Weertz asked MASB about New Board Members 101 class. It is an excellent class for New Board members. MASB will come to the District for a class if there is enough interest from the new board members.

VIII. FUTURE MEETINGS

- A. Special Meeting of the Board, Wednesday, January 20, 2021, 7:00 pm, Virtual
- B. Regular Meeting of the Board, Monday, January 25, 2021, 7:00 pm, Virtual
- C. BOE Facilities Committee Meeting, Thursday, February 4, 2021, 9:00 am, Admin. Bldg.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-ACTION ITEMS

Mary Rouleau, 1419 Lakepointe, GPP spoke about teaching about Capitol Attack.

Jen Evans, 500 Barrington, GPP asked about Daily Health Screening for students and teachers.

Shannon Byrne, 63 Cloverly, GPF thanked the teachers of GPPSS.

Terence Collins, 1222 Harvard Rd, GPP expectations are high. New Year New Board

Linda Calisi, 1353 Bedford, GPP is in support of choreographer, Andy Haines

Jen Neumann, 271 LaSalle Place, shared her support for teacher and administration communicating the events of January 6th.

Tim Walsh, 24 McKinley Place, GPF spoke in support of GP South Choir personnel.

Andrew Frahm, 271 La Salle, GPF support for the dialogue by GPPSS teachers regarding January 6th.

Wendy Richards, 433 Lincoln, GP supports the teachers who addressed the tragic insurrection on January 6th.

Kathy Abke, Hawthorne, GPW thanked President Weertz for honoring George McMullen.

Christine Roncome, student, shared her concerns about ventilation in the classroom and covid.

Aaron Robinson, 107 Lewiston, supports the teachers as they responded to questions from our students regarding January 6th.

Judy Gafa, Beaufait, GPW thanked President Weertz for honoring George McMullen.

Valerie St. John, Defer Parent, Asked that teachers understand the perspective of both sides of the democracy facing our nation. She supports all factual information coming from teachers.

X. OTHER COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS AND SUPERINTENDENT

Trustee Brumbaugh mentioned that he is honored and humbled to serve this District. He completely agreed with some of the discussions this evening that we need to put our response to the crisis and challenges of

COVID front and center. He wished the parting board members well and looks forward to working with this new board of education.

Trustee Ismail echoed what the others have said and thanked the community for returning him to this Board. He is encouraged to work with the Administration and this new Board. Trustee Ismail also acknowledged George McMullen.

Trustee Lee is really excited about the Administration's plan to get us back into school full time and the summer program that is being put together is very promising.

Trustee Papas congratulated the new officers and board members. This has been a good start for the first meeting and she encourages peaceful discussions. She also noted some lively conversations she had with the late George McMullen.

Trustee Weertz is excited with this new Board and the promise of stability. She also wanted to honor our staff for getting the students back last week and looking forward to returning students to full-time learning.

Trustee Worden is very excited to be on the Board and serve this community. She echoed Trustee Papas that we are all here to serve this community with stability. She gave a big thank you to all of our Teachers and expressed her condolences for the family of George McMullen.

Superintendent Niehaus clarified a comment made during public comments about air purifiers for the District. An RFP has been established to determine the best that is out there, if it is affordable and if it will be worth our time and effort. This will be brought to the Board to be considered at a later date. He also noted that the District is looking at a saliva test. One other thing to mention is that a memorial service will be held on June 25, 2021 at St. Paul for George McMullen.

Deputy Superintendent Dean provided an update on the vaccination of district employees. There is a commitment by the Governor as a priority of school employees to receive the vaccination. Dr. Dean also noted that there are many different ways to interrupt COVID-19 numbers. We as a District have been exploring different data sets. It is the hope that a method will be presented at the next board meeting a dashboard rooted in science to help guide our data.

President Herd congratulated the board on a civil and effective meeting this evening. Happy to hear that the students are returning to school. He is looking forward to the search for a new Superintendent to continue the work that Dr. Niehaus has started.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

President Herd adjourned the meeting at 9:40 pm.

Dr. Christopher Lee, Secretary