

**PROCEEDINGS
OF
THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
OF THE
GRAND RAPIDS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN**

OFFICIAL

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING
BOARD CHAMBERS/1331 FRANKLIN, SE**

MONDAY, MARCH 20, 2017

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Dr. Baker.

Present: Flores, Grant, Lewis, Matias, Schottke, Slade, and Dr. Baker – 7.

Absent: Ross, President Falb – 2.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

President Falb asked if there were any corrections or additions to the agenda. There being none, the agenda is approved as written.

Motion by Ms. Slade, supported by Dr. Flores, Baker, that the agenda be approved as written.

Carried: Yeas: Flores, Grant, Lewis, Matias, Schottke, Slade, and Dr. Baker – 7.

Nays: 0.

CELEBRATIONS

Secondary Schools International Women's Day Essay Contest

Mr. John Helmholdt, executive director of communications and external affairs was joined by Ms. Kenyatta Hill, principal of Grand Rapids University Preparatory Academy to introduce the 2017 first prize recipient of the Secondary Schools International Women's Day essay contest, "A Special Woman Who Influenced Me." Berani Martinez a junior at the school received this recognition at a ceremony that took place at a city commission meeting on March 7, 2017. Ms. Ruth Anne Lomas, the originator of this essay contest was also present and provided an overview of the criteria of the essay contest. She thanked Superintendent Neal and her staff for their encouragement, efforts, and support. Berani read from her winning essay dedicated to her mother, Ms. Carmen Maldonado.

MASA School Nurse of the Year

Ms. Stephanie Painter, director of school health programs introduced Ms. Rachel VandenBrink, RN MSN who was named the recipient of the Michigan Association of School Nurses as the State School Nurse of the Year. Ms. VandenBrink was nominated by Superintendent Neal and the nursing leadership team. Ms. Painter shared Ms. VandenBrink's many achievements and leadership in her capacity as the coordinator of the district's nurses. She was also joined by Ms. Kimberly Baron who presented Ms. VandenBrink a plaque on behalf of the nursing team.

REPORT OF THE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE BOARD

Gabrielle Clarke shared that juniors are preparing for the SAT.

PUBLIC COMMENT- BOARD AGENDA ITEMS

None.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Ms. Jen Schottke presented the following reports:

Family Literacy Celebration on March 21, 2017

The [Literacy Center of West Michigan](#) is hosting its first annual Family Literacy Celebration on Tuesday, March 21 from 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. at Grand Rapids Public Schools' Dickinson Elementary School located at 448 Dickinson Street SE in Grand Rapids.

As part of the Community Literacy Initiative at the Literacy Center of West Michigan, this event will support families from Dickinson and Brookside elementary by providing activities designed to promote literacy at home. Culturally relevant books matched to children's reading level will also be provided as well as door prizes and dinner. Presentations will be in English, Spanish, and Kinyarwanda. Families will also have the opportunity to connect with the following community partners: Grand Rapids Public Library, Schools of Hope, and Great Start Collaborative.

Board Committee Meeting Schedule Update

Academic Achievement Committee will be meeting on Tuesday, March 21, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. in the Board Chambers. There will also be a Public Hearing that Rev. Matias will talk to you about during his report. (Informational--the Academic Achievement Committee will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, March 21, 2017 at 10:00 am through 10:30 am in the Board Chambers-Auditorium. The Public Hearing will provide opportunity for Public Comment input on the proposed Health Education Advisory Committee Recommendations.)

Finance Committee will be meeting on Monday, March 27, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. in the Board Chambers.

Regular Board Meeting

The Board canceled our regular meeting that would have been scheduled for April 3, 2017 due to spring break week. The next meeting is an anticipated work session scheduled for April 10, 2017 at 4:30 p.m. in Room 101.

KIASB Dinner & Awards

The Kent Intermediate Association of School Boards and Michigan Association of School Boards Awards dinner will be held on Thursday, April 13, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. at the Kent Career Technical Center. Local board members will be recognized for their achievements. Additionally, legislators will be addressing the very active legislative front surrounding the K-12 School Aid budget as well as other school-related priorities.

COMMITTEE CHAIR UPDATE

Ad Hoc Policy Committee

Ms. Jen Schottke shared that the committee is continuing to review existing policies. Most of the policies haven't been reviewed since 2009. The purpose of the committee is to go through them to update language, ensure relevancy, and consolidate them where they can. The policies need to be as user friendly as possible for the Board, community, and staff. She thanked Ms. Sharron Pitts for her support in this process.

Academic Achievement Committee

Rev. John Matias shared that the committee meets on the third Tuesday of every month. He serves as the chair alongside Mr. Ross, Ms. Lewis, and Ms. Slade. He shared that the next meeting will include the M-STEP and SAT assessments looking at scores and what they mean and parent engagement that is taking place in the district. There will be a Public Hearing on the proposed Health Education Advisory Committee Recommendations.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Ms. Carolyn Evans, assistant superintendent of curriculum and instruction was seated on behalf of Superintendent Neal for this meeting.

Challenge Scholars Marketing Campaign

Ms. Diana Sieger, President and Ms. Chris Kutzli, program director and Challenge Scholars co-director from the Grand Rapids Community Foundation joined Mr. Helmholdt to announce the kick off and marketing efforts taking place around this program. There is going to be an Induction Ceremony for Challenge Scholars on April 27, 2017. Ms. Sieger recognized Ms. Kutzli for her leadership concerning the Challenge Scholars and is directing those efforts through the foundation. Ms. Sieger also shared her appreciation to Superintendent Neal, cabinet staff, and the principals for their leadership serving the Challenge Scholars schools.

Ms. Sieger provided that three years ago the program began and now many of these students are in the ninth grade at Union High School. The scholarship is now available as of May 2016 for an additional scholarship opportunity available to all ninth graders enrolled at Union High School. Three years ago GRCF was in campaign mode fundraising for the Challenge Scholars. They were able to raise \$33 million to provide scholarships and the initiatives to create the conditions for students to take advantage of this opportunity. There were challenges then but are now facing new challenges to public education.

The first cohort of Challenge Scholars will graduate in 2020. She is looking forward to getting the first generation of low income students through high school, graduating and into college or career training. She looks forward to all 92 enrolled Challenge Scholars being accepted to a two-year or four-year program of their choosing maximizing the benefit of the scholarship. Only about half of the original cohort has the required 95 percent attendance and 2.0 grade point average required at this time. She encouraged the district to provide its support to ensure that all students reach this goal and making this a priority.

She highlighted the following successes and celebrations:

- ◆ 569 students enrolled as Challenge Scholars in four cohorts representing grades six through nine
- ◆ \$33.6 million was raised from the community and through partnerships with higher education to support the program
- ◆ 3 schools with full time college and career coordinators to create a college going culture on the Westside
- ◆ Community and faith-based organizations came together to support students, schools, and families through the Westside Collaborative
- ◆ Chronic absenteeism is down 6 percent at Union High School this year
- ◆ A total of \$2.4 million was awarded to the GRPS in support of improving academic outcomes and creating a college going culture
- ◆ GRCF looks forward to inducting 196 sixth graders at its Induction Ceremony on April 27, 2017 at Union High School, invitations will be sent to board members and cabinet

Ms. Sieger thanked Board members for their support.

State of the Schools

Mr. Helmholdt announced that Superintendent Neal will be presenting the annual “State of the Schools” on May 4, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. at GRPS University. She will outline the district’s success story as well as layout her vision and plans for the future of the district.

Michigan Women’s Foundation “Lights, Courage, Action!” Empowerment Forum

Mr. Helmholdt provided that the 2017 Michigan Women’s Foundation’s, “Lights, Courage, Action” Empowerment Forum is taking place on April 18, 2017 at Calvin College. Female high school students from the Kent Intermediate School Districts have been invited to participate through their schools. This year’s guest speakers include Veronika Scott, founder of The Empowerment Plan and Pashon Murray, founder of Detroit Dirt.

Strong Schools, Strong Communities Ballot Initiative

Mr. Helmholdt shared that all 20 school boards in the Kent Intermediate School District support the ballot proposal for a .9 enhancement millage taking place on May 2, 2017. If the initiative passes, it would generate \$211 in revenue per pupil and would be used in the classroom. It was noted that the federal budget is expecting dramatic cuts so this funding would be crucial to district budgets. If it passes it would create a local, stable, and reliable source of revenue. It is intended to maintain existing programs and invest where districts need it the most.

Mr. Helmholdt provided that Superintendent Neal would prioritize the funding for third grade reading, eighth grade math, and college career readiness. These are three core goals around academic learning. This would generate \$3.5 million for GRPS. This week the informational campaign was launched. The District is allowed to share information about the proposal and communication has begun to be shared with staff and parents. “Yes for Kids” is supporting efforts that are not within the scope that districts have regarding the campaign.

ACTION ITEMS

Grand Rapids Board Position on A-F Grading System

Mr. Helmholdt shared that the Michigan Department of Education is in the process of providing an implementation plan for the ESSA Act. Included in that is an accountability system. The draft implantation plan included advocacy for an A-F grading system. The State Board of Education and State Superintendent has expressed that they are against this grading system. This position provides the GRPS Board with a supportive stance against the A-F grading system. The legislature is also discussing the School Reform Office and what is known as Section 1280c of the law that creates the accountability system for the schools. He and Ron Gorman PhD, assistant superintendent of pk-12 testified in Lansing on the use of MAP data as opposed to M-Step data for determining accountability.



Grand Rapids Board of Education’s Position on the A – F Grading System

The Grand Rapids Board of Education opposes an A-F grading system for school accountability. The measurements and weight given to the measurements in an A-F grading system is arbitrary, punitive, inequitable, and inherently stacked against schools with high need, high poverty students. A-F grading system can assign poor grades to schools where significant learning and academic growth is being accomplished and where parents are pleased with the school.

Motion by Ms. Lewis, supported by Ms. Grant, to accept the Position of Opposing the A-F Grading System.

Carried: Yeas: Flores, Grant, Lewis, Matias, Schottke, Slade, and Dr. Baker – 7.

Nays: 0.

Grand Rapids Board Position on Budget Proposal for U.S. Department of Education

Mr. Helmholdt shared that the position for the GRPS Board to come out against the President's blueprint with substantial cuts to the Department of Education would be detrimental for the district and would destabilize public education. The board will be able to lobby with its representatives in Congress and the U.S. Senate. The passage would also have a negative effect on the Transformation Plan. It also defunds Title II, professional development and eliminates after school programming. The data is clear that students attending LOOP are more successful in school.

A board member asked if there is a backup plan if these cuts come to fruition. Mr. Helmholdt shared that the district is planning for the worst and lobbying for the best. This will be brought back to the board as more information is known. Superintendent Neal has begun the discussion with her cabinet level staff.



Grand Rapids Board of Education's Position on the Proposed Budget for the U.S. Department of Education

The Grand Rapids Board of Education opposes President Trump's proposed budget for the U.S. Department of Education. The proposed cuts would have a devastating impact on students, teachers, schools, and our community as a whole by eliminating federal funding for after school programs and professional development of teachers. GRPS currently receives more than \$2 million in Title II funding for professional development and nearly \$4 million for after school programming.

Motion by Ms. Lewis, supported by Ms. Grant, to accept the Position of Opposing the Proposed Budget Proposal for U.S. Department of Education.

Carried: Yeas: Flores, Grant, Lewis, Matias, Schottke, Slade, and Dr. Baker – 7.

Nays: 0.

Board Bylaw #1900 Contracts and Board Member Disclosure, Acceptance of First Reading

Ms. Schottke shared that Bylaw #1900 Contracts and Board Member Disclosure outlines the procedure for a board member if they have a financial interest in a contract with the district. There are three financial prongs of a financial contract that must be considered. If the contract is less than \$250 the board member will need to sign an affidavit that will need to go in the board minutes. If there is a direct financial contract between \$250 –\$5,000 then that must be disclosed to the Board President or in a public meeting. There is 7 days in between that disclosure and the time that the board would vote on that contract. If a board member has an interest in a contract that is greater than \$5,000 it must be disclosed at a board meeting and may not be voted on until the following board meeting or 7 days after that disclosure. The Board must approve the contract by two thirds majority vote at the \$250 or over mark.

Ms. Sharron Pitts, assistant superintendent of human resources and general counsel shared that this policy was last developed in 2009. In 2013, the legislature requires changes to that statute that included family members as provided in the policy as well as the two third of the board vote requirement. The district defined the household member piece. Dr. Baker noted that for this Board, a two thirds vote would require six votes.

Motion by Ms. Slade, supported by Dr. Flores, to approve Board Bylaw #1900 Contracts and Board Member Disclosure, Acceptance of First Reading.

Carried: Yeas: Flores, Grant, Lewis, Matias, Schottke, Slade, and Dr. Baker – 7.

Nays: 0.

Section 1000: Board Bylaws

1900 Contracts and Board Member Disclosure Information

The Board shall not approve a contract in which a Board member, the family member of a Board member (Family Member), or a member of the Board member's household (Household Member) is a party or has a financial interest unless the following disclosure, voting, and recording requirements are met:

Definitions:

1. Family Member: Family Member means a person's spouse or spouse's sibling or child; a person's sibling or sibling's spouse or child; a person's child or child's spouse; a person's parent or parent's spouse, and includes these relationships created by adoption or marriage.
2. Household Member: Household Member means anyone living in the Board member's household at the time the contract will be voted on by the Board.
3. Financial Interest: Financial interest means any contract or financial transaction with the District in which any of the following apply:

- a. The Board member, Family Member, or Household Member is a direct party to the contract or financial transaction, or
- b. The contract or financial transaction is with any firm, partnership or other unincorporated association, in which the Board member, Family Member, or Household Member, is a partner, member, or employee, or
- c. The contract or financial transaction is with a professional limited liability company organized pursuant to the Michigan Limited Liability Company Act, if the Board member, Family Member, or Household Member, is a member (not merely an employee) of the company, or
- d. The contract or financial transaction is with any corporation in which the Board member, Family Member, or Household Member is a stockholder owning more than 1% of the total stock outstanding in any class if the stock is not listed on a stock exchange, or owns stock that has a present market value in excess of \$25,000.00 if the stock is listed on a stock exchange, or
- e. The contract or financial transaction is with a corporation in which the Board Member, Family Member, or Household Member is a director, officer, or employee; or
- f. The contract or financial transaction is with a corporation in which a trust, if the board member, Family Member or Household Member, is a beneficiary, owns more than 1% of total stock outstanding in any class if the stock is not listed on a stock exchange, or owns stock with a present market value in excess of \$25,000 if the stock is listed on a stock exchange.
- g. Any trust of which the Board member, Family Member or Household Member is a beneficiary or trustee.

Disclosure Requirements

- 1 A Board member shall promptly disclose any financial interest in the contract or financial transaction to the Board of Education, which disclosure shall be a matter of record in its official proceedings. This disclosure shall be made in the following ways:
 - a. If the contract or financial transaction is for emergency repairs or services, the Board member must promptly disclose any financial interest in the contract or financial transaction by filing a sworn affidavit with the Secretary of the Board. The disclosure shall be made a matter of record in the Board's official meeting minutes as outlined in c. below.
 - b. If the Board member, Family Member, or Household Member will directly benefit from a contract or financial transaction in an amount less than \$250.00 and less than 5% of the public cost of the contract or financial transaction, the Board member must disclose the financial interest in the contract or financial transaction by filing a sworn affidavit with the Secretary of the Board. The disclosure shall be made a matter of record in the Board's official meeting minutes as outlined in c. below.
 - c. If the Board member, Family Member, or Household Member will benefit by \$250.00 or more, or 5% or more of the public cost of the contract or financial transaction the financial interest must be disclosed in one of two ways:
 - i. By notifying, in writing, the President of the Board of the financial interest at least seven (7) calendar days before the meeting at which a decision

regarding the contract will be made. If the President of the Board is the individual with the conflict of interest, disclosure must be made to the Secretary of the Board. The disclosure shall be made public in the same manner as in public meeting notice, or

- ii. By disclosing the financial interest in the contract or financial transaction at a Board meeting. Under this option, the Board may not vote on the relevant contract or financial transaction until a subsequent Board meeting convened not sooner than seven (7) calendar days after the meeting at which the disclosure was made.
- d. If the Board member, Family Member, or Household Member's financial interest in the contract or financial transaction exceeds \$5,000.00, the Board member must disclose the financial interest in the contract or financial transaction at a Board meeting, and the Board may not vote on the contract or financial transaction until a subsequent Board meeting convened not sooner than seven (7) calendar days after the meeting at which the disclosure was made.

Amendments or re-negotiations of a contract or financial transaction or additional payments under a contract or financial transaction, which were not authorized by the contract or financial transaction at the time initially approved or awarded are also subject to the disclosure and recording requirements of this policy.

- 2. The Board of Education must disclose the following summary information in its official minutes:
 - a. The name of each party involved in the contract or financial transaction,
 - b. The terms of the contract or financial transaction, including duration, financial consideration between parties, facilities or services of the school District included in the contract, and the nature and degree of assignment of employee of the District for fulfillment of the contract, and
 - c. The nature of the financial interest.
- 3. Voting Requirements
The contract or financial transaction must be approved by a vote of not less than 2/3rds of the full membership of the Board in open session without the vote of the Board member making the disclosure. However, that if
2/3rds of a majority of the members of the Board are required to abstain from voting based on this policy, then for purposes of that contract or financial transaction, the Board members who are not required to abstain constitute a quorum of the board and are eligible to vote. This does not apply where the contract or financial transaction is between the District and a trust in which the Board member is a beneficiary or a trustee. In that case, a 2/3 vote of the full Board is required.
- 4. This policy shall not apply to:
 - a. Contracts between the school District and another public entity,
 - b. Contracts awarded to the lowest qualified bidder, other than a Board member (or an entity in which a Board member has a financial interest as defined in this policy), upon receipt of sealed bids pursuant to a published notice provided such

notice does not bar, except as authorized by law, any qualified person, firm, corporation or trust from bidding.

- c. Contracts for public utility services where the rates are regulated by the state or federal government.

Refer also to Board Policy 3610-*Purchasing Goods and Services*.

Approved: June 29, 2009

Revised:

LEGAL REF: MCL 15.321, *et seq* and MCL 380.1203

Policy #3610 Purchasing Goods and Services, Acceptance of First Reading

Ms. Pitts shared that Policy #3610 Purchasing Goods and Services is being updated to resolve a conflict. The District's would not purchase goods or materials directly from a GRPS employee to prevent an unfair advantage. The District is not precluded from purchasing items from family members or household members. The District can purchase goods and services from a board member as long as the District complies with Bylaw #1900. There is an exception to this as it pertains to services of a GRPS employee as long as it is less than \$500. An example would be hiring a staff member as a DJ for a school dance. This would have to be approved by the Superintendent or her designee. The rules are also being updated to include the process for staff to follow in regards to signing authority.

Motion by Ms. Grant, supported by Ms. Slade, to approve Policy #3610 Purchasing Goods and Services, Acceptance of First Reading

Carried: Yeas: Flores, Grant, Lewis, Matias, Schottke, Slade, and Dr. Baker – 7.

Nays: 0.

Section 3000: Fiscal Management
3610 Purchasing Goods and Services

The Board shall approve the purchase of goods and services, property leases, and inter-agency agreements when the initial order, contract, or agreement exceeds the base amount established annually by the Michigan Department of Education above which competitive bids must be obtained according to the Michigan School Code. The Superintendent or designee shall authorize the purchase, lease, or agreement that is equal to or less than the Michigan Department of Education's annually established base amount.

The Director of Purchasing shall be the sole purchasing agent for the District. All purchases shall comply with the Board's purchasing policies and the implementing administrative rules.

Purchasing From District Employees and Board Members Employees:

The District shall not purchase goods, materials, or directly from an employee or where an employee has an interest in any of the following:

- a. Any firm, partnership, or other unincorporated association, of which the employee is a partner, member, or employee.
- b. Any private corporation in which the employee is a stockholder owning more than 1% of the total outstanding stock of any class if the stock is not listed on a stock exchange, or stock with a present market value in excess of \$25,000 if the stock is listed on the stock exchange.
- c. Any corporation where the employee is a director, officer, or employee.
- d. Any trust of which the employee is a beneficiary or trustee

The District may purchase specialized services from employees in an amount less than \$500 upon approval of the Superintendent or designee.

Board Members:

The District shall not purchase goods, materials, supplies, or services from a member of the Board of Education, from a board member's family member, or from a member a board member's household, except as outlined in Board Policy 1900.

Purchases For Personal Use

Board members and employees shall not authorize or make any purchase through the District for personal use. The name of the District, school, or an employee's position, shall not be used to gain personal discounts or cost preferences. The District shall not purchase equipment or supplies for resale to employees.

Emergency Purchases

The requirements of this policy and Policy 3660, *Bids and Quotation Requirements*, may be suspended if an emergency is declared by the Superintendent or the Chief of Staff. Such emergencies may arise because of accident or other unforeseen occurrence that could affect the life, health, welfare or safety of the District's students or employees.

When the cost of the emergency purchase exceeds the base amount established annually by the Michigan Department of Education, above which bids are required, telephone or electronic communication with members of the Finance Committee of the Board shall be made as soon as possible after the emergency is declared, and written notice shall be given to the members of the Board of Education at the next scheduled Board meeting.

Refer also to Board Policy 1900 – *Contracts and Board Member Disclosure Information* and Board Policy 4005 – *Employee Conflict of Interest - Purchases*

Approved: June 29, 2009

Revised:

LEGAL REF: MCL 15.321-330; 380.1216; 380.1274

Policy #3660 Bids, Quotations, and Local Preference, Acceptance of First Reading

Ms. Schottke noted that Policy #3660 Bids, Quotations, and Local Preferences is a cleanup and consolidation of policies by including the Local Purchasing Preference and Cooperative Purchasing Policy into #3660. The rules were updated to include the bid protest procedures.

Motion by Dr. Flores, supported by Ms. Lewis, to approve Policy #3660 Bids, Quotations, and Local Preference, Acceptance of First Reading

Carried: Yeas: Flores, Grant, Lewis, Matias, Schottke, Slade, and Dr. Baker – 7.

Nays: 0.

Section 3000: Fiscal Management
3660 Bids, Quotations, and Local Preference

All purchases shall be in compliance with Board policies. Purchases requiring competitive bids shall be made in accordance with current statutes, the creation of bid specifications, and adherence to the District's bidding procedures.

The Director of Purchasing shall develop and maintain lists of potential bidders for various types of materials, equipment, and supplies. These bid lists shall be used for the distribution of specifications and invitations to bid.

Any supplier may be included in the list upon written request. The Director of Purchasing shall review all bid lists annually or as needed.

Written Quotations

The District shall not purchase supplies, materials, or equipment in a single transaction costing \$10,000 or more without obtaining written quotations from a minimum of three vendors.
Competitive Bids and Cooperative Purchases

The District shall not purchase supplies, materials, or equipment in a single transaction exceeding the amount published annually by the Michigan Department of Education unless competitive bids are obtained and approved by the Board.

The Director of Purchasing is authorized to consider, and recommend for Board approval, membership in cooperative purchasing organizations that would benefit the District.

Cooperative purchasing also pertains to what is commonly referred to as “third party bids.” Third party bidding shall constitute a competitive bid for purposes of this Policy.

Bid Specifications

All bid specifications shall be clear and concise and shall include the following: required performance, surety, bid, statutory bond information, sworn statement of familial relationship, Iranian Business Relationship Affidavit, the debarment and suspension certification,

compliance with preferential bid laws,; financial statements, the District's right to reject any or all bids, compliance with all federal, state and local laws, ordinances and regulations, and the date, time, and place for the opening of bids.

The Board, upon recommendation of the Superintendent or designee, reserves the following rights:

- to accept or reject all bid proposals in whole or in part;
- to waive minor irregularities;
- to award a contract to other than the lowest bidder; and
- to award contracts to one or more vendors.

The Purchasing Office shall retain all bids and supporting documentation in accordance with State of Michigan guidelines for record retention.

Local Purchasing Preference

The District provides a 5% preference (bid discount) in the purchasing of school equipment and supplies from local vendors, providing the quality and service are commensurate with the bid requirements. Bids, or proposals when bids are not required, shall be accepted from non-local vendors in order to maintain a fair market price.

In determining the qualification for a Local Purchasing Preference for purposes of this policy, vendors must:

- a. Have obtained the Certification of a Michigan Based Business as determined by the Michigan Department of Technology, Management and Budget and have its primary business operations located within the municipal boundaries of the City of Grand Rapids, Michigan for at least the last six months, or
- b. Be certified by the City of Grand Rapids, as a Micro-Local Business Enterprise and have its primary business operations within the municipal boundaries of the City of Grand Rapids.

A successful recipient of a contract and/or purchase order which has received a Local Purchasing Preference may be required to present proof of its status as a Michigan Based Business and documentation of its location within the City of Grand Rapids at any time upon request from an authorized District official. Failure to provide the requested information or failure to maintain business operations with the City of Grand Rapids for the duration of the contract will make the contract voidable at the District's discretion, and will result in disqualification from future consideration of a Local Purchasing Preference for a period of two years unless excused by the Superintendent or Designee.

Local Construction Contracting Preference

The District provides a preference (bid discount) in construction contracts from local vendors, providing the quality and service are commensurate with the requirements set forth by the District as to satisfy the demands of the bid or proposal. Bids, or proposals when bids are not required, shall be accepted from non-local vendors in order to maintain a fair market price.

In determining the qualification for a Local Construction Contracting Preference for purposes of this policy, vendors must:

- a. Have obtained the Certification of a Michigan Based Business as determined by the Michigan Department of Technology, Management and Budget and have its primary business operations located within the municipal boundaries of the City of Grand Rapids, Michigan for at least the last six months, or
- b. Be certified by the City of Grand Rapids, as a Micro-Local Business Enterprise and have its primary business operations within the municipal boundaries of the City of Grand Rapids.

A successful recipient of a contract which has received a Local Construction Contracting Preference may be required to present proof of its status as a Michigan Based Business and documentation of its location within the City of Grand Rapids at any time upon request from an authorized District official. Failure to provide the requested information or failure to maintain business operations with the City of Grand Rapids for the duration of the contract will make the contract voidable at the District's discretion, and will result in disqualification from future consideration of a Local Construction Contracting Preference for a period of two years unless excused by the Superintendent or Designee. Preference will be provided on the following basis:

- a. Contractor Participation: Grand Rapids Public Schools will provide up to a 5% bid discount to prime contractors and/or construction managers who satisfy the criteria for consideration as a Local Vendor.
- b. Subcontractor Participation: Construction bids for non-local vendors may be discounted when a bidder on a Grand Rapids Public Schools' project voluntarily subcontracts with businesses meeting Local Vendor Criteria. Prime contractors and/or construction managers must submit affidavit(s) verifying Local Vendor subcontractor participation.

Prime contractors and/or construction managers must require Local Vendor certification documentation to be submitted by each subcontract bidder with their sealed bid. The District, at its discretion, may request additional documentation to verify the qualification of any Local Vendor subcontractor participating in a construction project.

- c. The following is a schedule of discounted percentages based upon Local Vendor subcontractor participation achieved by the prime contractor:

<u>LBE Subcontractor Participation</u>	<u>Discount Percentage</u>
i. <u>1.0% - 2.5%</u>	<u>1.0%</u>
ii. <u>2.51% - 5.0%</u>	<u>1.5%</u>
iii. <u>5.01% - 7.5%</u>	<u>2.0%</u>
iv. <u>7.51% - 10.0%</u>	<u>2.5%</u>
v. <u>10.01% - 15.0%</u>	<u>3.0%</u>
vi. <u>15.01% - 18.0%</u>	<u>4.0%</u>
vii. <u>18.01% +</u>	<u>5.0%</u>

- d. Prime contractors and/or construction managers may not terminate an approved Local Vendor subcontractor working on a Grand Rapids Public Schools construction project, and then perform the work on the terminated subcontract with its own forces

or those of another subcontractor, without prior written consent by the Grand Rapids Public Schools Executive Director of Facilities and Operations Management. If a Local Vendor subcontractor fails to complete its work on the contract for any reason, a prime contractor/construction manager must notify the Grand Rapids Public Schools Executive Director of Facilities and Operations Management and make good faith efforts to find another approved Local Vendor subcontractor to substitute for the original Local Vendor subcontractor. Utilizing good faith efforts, and to the extent reasonable, the prime contractor/construction manager shall substitute an approved Local Vendor subcontractor to perform the same amount of work under the contract as the Local Vendor subcontractor that was terminated.

- e. Joint Venture Bidding: As an incentive to contractors engaging in activities that stimulate the growth and development of local, small emerging businesses as partners bidding as a joint venture, Grand Rapids Public Schools will apply up to a 5% bid discount for partnering with a qualified Local Vendor.
- f. The Bid Discounts outlined above may not exceed 5% or \$25,000 per bid, whichever is lower. Project bids from prime contractors and/or construction managers are considered a single bid for purposes of the Bid Discount consideration.

This policy shall not apply to the extent that it would conflict with any provision of Michigan or federal law, regulation or constitution. The local preference shall not be applied to purchases of goods and services made with federal funds.

Refer also to Board Policy 3610, *Purchasing Goods and Services*, Board Policy 1900, *Contracts and Board Member Disclosure Obligations* and Board Policy 4005, *Employee Conflict of Interest – Purchases*..

Approved: June 29, 2009

Revised:

LEGAL REF: MCL 380.1267; 380.1274

Policy #4005 Employee Conflict of Interest-Purchases, Acceptance of First Reading

Ms. Pitts noted that Policy #4005 Employee Conflict of Interest-Purchases cleans up the confusion about what can be purchased from a GRPS employee or not. This policy is in a different section of the policy manual and will align the language that the District cannot contract with a GRPS employee.

Motion by Ms. Grant, supported by Ms. Lewis, to approve Policy #4005 Employee Conflict of Interest-Purchases, Acceptance of First Reading

Carried: Yeas: Flores, Grant, Lewis, Matias, Schottke, Slade, and Dr. Baker – 7.

Nays: 0.

Policy 4000: Business Management
4005 Employee Conflict of Interest – Purchases

Employees shall not have a direct financial interest in District purchases, or benefit directly from any financial transaction with the District, except for specialized services in an amount less than \$500 upon approval of the Superintendent or designee.

Purchases of, or use of District property, materials, or personnel by employees shall be accomplished in accordance with good business practices, and within the framework of applicable laws, regulations, and Board policies.

The Superintendent and his/her cabinet and any other administrator deemed by the Superintendent to be in a position to influence the purchase of any goods or services, shall annually, or if changes occur, sign and file a conflict of interest disclosure document.

Refer also to Board Policy 3610 – *Purchasing Goods and Services*

Approved: June 29, 2009

Revised:

LEGAL REF: MCL 15.322-323

Policies “eliminated and incorporated into other policies”: Policy #3650 Cooperative Purchase, Policy #3670 Local Construction Contracting, and Policy #3690 Local Purchasing Preference

Ms. Schottke noted that this action item to eliminate Policy #3650 Cooperative Purchase, Policy #3670 Local Construction Contracting, and Policy #3960 Local Purchasing Preference would eliminate and align the current policies.

Motion by Ms. Slade, supported by Dr. Flores, to Eliminate Policy #3650 Cooperative Purchase, Policy #3670 Local Construction Contracting, and Policy #3690 Local Purchasing Preference from the policy manual

Carried: Yeas: Flores, Grant, Lewis, Matias, Schottke, Slade, and Dr. Baker – 7.

Nays: 0.

Ms. Schottke noted that Ms. Pitts has put references at the bottom of each policy that relates to another policy.

The following polices are stricken from the Grand Rapids Board’s policy manual:

Policy #3650 Cooperative Purchase is stricken from the policy manual.

Policy #3670 Local Construction Contracting

Policy #3690 Local Purchasing Preference

CONSENT AGENDA

The following items are being presented for the acceptance/approval of the Board:

1. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Board Meeting- March 6, 2017
2. Reports of Committees
 - a. Ad Hoc Policy Committee Meeting – February 13, 2017
3. Business Items (None)
4. Motions & Resolutions
 - a. National Student Leadership Week
 - b. Month of the Young Child

Motion by Ms. Grant, supported by Ms. Lewis, that the Consent Agenda items be accepted/ approved minus the Purchases.

Carried: Yeas: Flores, Grant, Lewis, Matias, Schottke, Slade, and Dr. Baker – 7.

Nays: 0.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

Ad Hoc Policy Committee Meeting

The February 13, 2017 Ad Hoc Policy Committee meeting minutes were approved under the Consent Agenda and have been posted to the District's website.

BUSINESS ITEMS

None.

MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

National Student Leadership Week

RESOLUTION NATIONAL STUDENT LEADERSHIP WEEK April 16-22, 2017

WHEREAS, student councils allow students to practice core democratic values in their schools and in the community; and

WHEREAS, student councils allow students to actively take part in their school and make decisions regarding student activities; and

WHEREAS, student councils promote student involvement and help raise school spirit, hold sales/functions which benefit their schools, serve as the leadership of their schools, and embody the belief that children are our future; and

WHEREAS, student councils work diligently to improve the overall environment of their school buildings and show that ample leadership exists in the Grand Rapids Public Schools;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the week of April 16-22, 2017 be designated as Student Leadership Week in the Grand Rapids Public Schools.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution be placed on file with the official proceedings of the Board of Education.

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
OF THE GRAND RAPIDS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Grand Rapids, Michigan

March 20, 2017

Month of the Young Child

RESOLUTION
MONTH OF THE YOUNG CHILD
April 2017

WHEREAS, the future of our city, our state, and our country is dependent upon the way we educate and care for our children; and

WHEREAS, children are the seeds of tomorrow for they will become our future scientists, teachers, negotiators, peacemakers, workforce, taxpayers, and parents/families; and

WHEREAS, caring for the development, health, and comfort of young children is too important to ignore until they enter school; and

WHEREAS, adults who care about children are responsible for assisting young children by providing them with services which will help them reach their full potential; and

WHEREAS, Michigan is recognized historically for its emphasis on behalf of the young children through the Michigan Association for the Education of Young Children;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Grand Rapids Board of Education hereby declares the month of April 2017 as the MONTH OF THE YOUNG CHILD, and urges all citizens to join in celebrating our state's children and recognize our responsibility to guide them into a future of health, peace, education, and security.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be printed in the Proceedings of the Board and a copy be placed on file.

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
OF THE GRAND RAPIDS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Grand Rapids, Michigan

March 20, 2017

DISCUSSION ITEMS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT – AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

The following individuals addressed the Board:

- ◆ Ms. Emily Churchard concerning special education programming
- ◆ Ms. Amanda Rettig concerning special education programming
- ◆ Mr. Jason Schuller concerning special education programming
- ◆ Ms. Kristina Donaldson concerning special education programming
- ◆ Ms. Lily Schulting concerning special education programming

SUPERINTENDENT’S COMMENTS

None.

BOARD MEMBERS’ COMMENTS

Rev. Matias thanked parents for their comments and shared that there will be a lot of dialogue amongst them with their concerns. The district wants kids to be prepared and believes the district is uniquely prepared to impact this and in terms of public education will continue to fight for that.

Ms. Slade appreciated the comments as special education is very near and dear to her heart. She spent 33 years in it. They will be looking into their concerns.

Ms. Lewis shared that it has been her privilege to read at the schools and has more she will be doing this at. It was a wonderful opportunity to meet the principals, secretaries, and staff through this process.

Dr. Flores enjoyed listening to the essay and is excited about the accomplishments of the students that the district is actively educating. He is excited with the Challenge Scholars program and voiced concern regarding the numbers shared during the presentation. He would like 100 percent of the students to succeed. He believes administration is providing supports and encourages marshalling in resources to these students to support them in reaching their goals. He feels that a college education is the pathway to a more successful future. He also shared there may be issues in the community that need to be addressed that may need some attention. He is not opposed to a town meeting or an issues type forum. He feels it is their responsibility to listen to the community and somewhere down the line would like to entertain the discussion on the matter.

Ms. Schottke congratulated Berani Martinez on her essay and noted that her mother took great pride in her daughter during the celebration. She thanked Ms. Sieger and Ms. Kutzli for their work on the Challenge Scholars and GRPS students for their efforts. She agrees that college or a

trade school is a pathway to success. She has seen success through many different ways and agrees education is important. She shared a proud moment she had with her daughter who volunteered to help at her school's autism program. Her daughter felt good that she could help and is in school that provides all types of learning and that students get to interact together. Ms. Schottke is grateful that at GRPS all kids have opportunities to learn together.

Ms. Grant was thrilled to see Ms. Sieger and was fortunate to spend time with one of the cohort of students. It was great to hear about the breakdown of that. She is happy that the Board is taking positions such as the A-F grading and the proposed DOE budget. She wants to see stable communities around the schools. She thanked parents for speaking out on behalf of their students and as a mother she takes this to heart.

Dr. Baker shared that there won't be a regular board meeting on April 3, 2017. He anticipates the next meeting will be a work session on April 10, 2017. He shared that the Board has never taken a position during his term to date on a federal budget. He shared that it is getting harder to get our children to college and applauds people who do that work.

ADJOURNMENT

The Board adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Secretary

/ja