

Minutes of The Greenspire School  
Board of Education - Regular Meeting  
December 21, 2015  
*Unapproved*

I. **Call to Order & Roll Call:** President Kurt Sanford called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. The meeting was held in the Math Commons area. Present: Kurt Sanford, Tara Ward, Gina Aranki, Raymond Minervini. Absent: Blythe Skarshaug. Skarshaug arrived at 5:40 p.m. Also present were Christine Guitar, TCAPS; Matthew Missias, board candidate; Emily Ferguson, Greenspire staff.

II. **Changes or Additions to Agenda:** None.

III. **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:** Motion by Aranki to approve the November 16th, 2015 minutes, seconded by Ward, voice vote; 4 ayes, 0 nays, motion carried.

IV. **Public Comment:** None.

V. **Recognitions:**

The Giving Season Committee: Kelly described The Giving Season project and the board recognized leadership students with certificates of appreciation.

VI. **Board Correspondence:** None.

VII. **Presentations:** None.

VIII. **Reports:**

a. Head of School and Superintendent's Report: Kelly reported that there will be two pro forma budgets created to assist the board in reaching a decision on future growth; one will budget the next three years without school expansion plans, the other with expansion. Kelly reported that the Gourdie-Frasier survey is nearing completion for the west boundary of the school property. There has also been a change in janitorial staffing

b. President's Report: Sanford thanked everyone for coming to the board retreat. He also thanked Kelly and the staff for their hard work. He also noted that the budget is on target for a surplus.

c. Treasurer's Report: Sanford reported that there will be a fund balance at the end of the school year above the 5% required by the state of Michigan.

d. Committee Reports

i. Finance: No report.

ii. Facilities: Sanford discussed that the survey on the property to the west of the school was almost complete. The possibility of a wetland designation remains in question. Ward questioned if the survey was completed already and it was clarified that it was still in the process of occurring. Also noted was the refrigerator repair. Sanford recommended that a drainage plan be developed for the courtyard in conjunction with any potential expansion.

iii. Grants: Aranki reported that she is looking at a Walmart grant and the Rotary Goodworks Grant for signage for the school.

iv. Advancement: No report.

v. Family Council: Ward recapped the meeting; logo wear sales went well, STEM Night volunteers are needed for January 14th, the “snack shack” food pantry for students in need is stocked, and Winter Fun Night will be February.

vi. Personnel: Skarshaug reported on the hiring of a new custodian, and discussed two board committee nominees.

vii. Curriculum: Ward reported that the committee recommended adoption of Project Lead the Way (Gateway); she reviewed the Greenspire Experience document for marketing purposes; the middle college concept was discussed, and she gave an update on collaboration with Theresa Dempsey and Andrea Burk.

viii. Board Nominations: None.

**IX. Discussion Items:**

a. Mid-year budget amendment: Kelly reviewed the amendment including \$10,000 change for Middlebury Language Program; \$11,200 for special education teacher increase to full-time employment; a \$2,000 increase in the equipment line item. Board motioned moving this to an action item. A motion by Skarshaug to adopt budget amendment, seconded by Aranki, 4 ayes, 0 nays; motion carried.

b. Professional development expenditures: Kelly reviewed upcoming professional development conferences for three staff members at a total cost of \$4,900.

**X. Action Items:**

a. Board nominations: A motion was made by Aranki to approve the nominations of Matt Missias and Meagan Batdorff; second by Ward; voice vote; 4 ayes, 0 nays, motion carried. Massias and Batdorff’s nominations will be forward to TCAPS for final approval.

b. The “All Standards” approach to the curriculum spiral: Motion made by Skarshaug to adopt a three year cycle of standards; seconded by Aranki; voice vote; 4 ayes, 0 nays; motion carried.

c. Fall 2015 Board Policy Updates: After discussion, the board decided to move approval to next month to allow for a more complete review of the recommendations.

d. Special Education Staffing Increase: motion made by Skarshaug to increase the special education teacher to full time; seconded by Ward; voice vote; 4 ayes, 0 nays; motion carried.

e. Non-Certified Compensation Increase; motion made by Ward to increase salaries of non-certified staff as recommended by the superintendent; seconded by Minervini, voice vote; 4 ayes, 0 nays; motion carried.

f. Project Lead the Way Adoption: motion made by Skarshaug to implement Project Lead the Way; seconded by Ward; voice vote; 4 ayes, 0 nays, motion carried.

XI. **Public Comment:** Mrs. Guitar noted that TCAPS board retreats are open to the public; Kelly noted that the Greenspire retreat was publically posted and open to the public.

XII. **Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

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Eric Breithaupt  
Recording Secretary