



BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting - April 17, 2023 ~ 5:30 pm

Unapproved Minutes

I. Call to Order & Roll Call. President Yvette Babin-Ringsmuth called the meeting to order at 5:33 pm. The meeting was held in Spruce Hall with a remote option via Zoom.

i. Board Members Present: Yvette Babin-Ringsmuth, Meagan Batdorff, Tara Ward, Marguerite Cotto, Marco Cabrera, Ward Kuhn

ii. Board Members absent: Kurt Sanford

iii. Administrators Present: Superintendent Robert Walker, Recording Secretary Emily Feaster

II. Changes or Additions to the Agenda

a. Motion to approve agenda as presented

Motion: Kuhn

Motion support: Cabrera

Motion passed: 6-0

III. Approval of Previous BOE Meeting Minutes

a. Approval for Regular March 20, 2023 board minutes as written:

Motion: Ward

Support: Cotto

Motion passed: 6-0

b. Approval for Special April 4, 2023 board minutes as written:

Motion: Ward

Support: Cabrera

Motion passed: 6-0

IV. Public Comment - None

V. Recognitions - None

VI. Board Correspondence - None

VII. Presentations- None

VIII. Reports

a. Superintendent's Report – Walker reported that both schools are doing tours as enrollment continues. Schramm and Walker will be meeting with Partner Solutions to work on the transition between HR companies. Open positions at the high school are posted publicly and/ or internally. Summer program registration is going well with close to 60 sign ups. *Active* is also being used for the 8th grade field trip. High school expansion grant plan has been included in the report. Walsh

met with NMC to discuss security doors as well as the addition of new signs. The high school is also working on future EMC programs as well as increasing spanish requirements for next year. Robotics is currently on their way to the World's Competition. Walker expressed the need to make this sustainable going forward due to the cost associated with Robotics. At the middle school level, student-led conferences went well and quarter 4 projects have been kicked off. Maple Windows are scheduled to arrive May 14. Walker explained that we are waiting for permits to be pulled to replace the fire panel in maple. Maple plumbing has been scoped and all pipes are solid. Two plumbing companies have come out and there is no cause for the plumbing issues that can be found. Special toilet paper has been purchased to try to help prevent issues going forward as well as eliminating the use of paper towels.

- b. President's Report - Babin-Ringsmuth submitted a report to the board folder. The board retreat went well and discussed organizational structure, NMC feedback loop, as well as fundraising and marketing. Babin-Ringsmuth met with staff at both schools to see what values were important in a Superintendent and Head of School. Babin-Ringsmuth reflected on the Superintendent hiring process and discussed a better process moving forward as well as stressed the importance of staff's voice in the process. The Greenspire Charitable Foundation donated \$3,000 towards the Robotics team's trip. We are still in need of one more board member to move into Ward's position.
- c. Treasurer's Report - Batdorff reported the current balance and explained NMC's lease. Walker will be working on the budget for next year. Batdorff also discussed the financial implications of maintaining two campuses.
 - i. CSP Grant - Batdorff reported that Torre Boone has put together a plan for ordering to finish out Implementation II. There is a very short time period to spend Implementation III.
- d. Authorizer's Report - GVSU's representative, Matt Missias, discussed Teacher Appreciation week during May 8-12 and National Charters Week. The Board Reception will be held on May 8 in Grand Rapids. GVSU has partnered with the National Constitution Scholars and is encouraging any high school teachers that are interested to reach out. Babin-Ringsmuth will be joining the President's retreat. Missias discussed bills currently being discussed in the Senate. Missias also congratulated the Robotics team on making it to Worlds.
 - i. January 10th Letter Response- Missias confirmed the submission of the letter.
- e. Faculty Summary - Emily Feaster stated the middle school staff submitted a written report to the board located in the board packet and thanked Yvette for all of her work with getting the staff's input on the hiring process.

IX. Consent Agenda

- a. Committee Reports

- i. Facilities & Finance
- ii. School Expansion
- iii. Personnel
- iv. Curriculum/School Improvement Team
- v. Student Support Council
 - Approval of consent agendas of those provided
 - Motion: Cotto
 - Support: Kuhn
 - Passed: 6-0

X. Discussion Items

A. High School Rabbit Pet Proposal- Walker explained the proposal and the need for students to sign waivers. Cotto, Kuhn and Batdorff discussed concerns and questions with the proposal. More information is needed from the high school before moving forward with this proposal.

B. 2023-2024 Budget Discussion- Batdorff discussed the budget and positions for next year. Mike, Emily, Erica, Meagan and Robert will meet to create the budget for the 2023-2024 school year.

C. Creation of Board Committee- Fundraising and Marketing Committee- Cabrera discussed the idea of the committee to help fund things such as funding Robotics, Tech, etc under the charitable foundation. Walker and Missias discussed that combining it with the Charitable Foundation will not work. Babin-Ringsmuth discussed the need to relook at how the Charitable Foundation is organized. Cabrera and Walker will meet to discuss next steps.

D. High School Graduation/ Pathways Update- Walker discussed the information in the board packet.

XI. Action Items

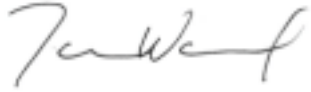
- A. NMC Lease- High School Expansion
 - Motion to approve NMC Lease- High School Expansion: Kuhn
 - Support: Cabrera
 - Motion passed: 6-0
- B. Superintendent Offer Letter/ Agreement
 - Motion to approve Superintendent Offer Letter/ Agreement: Kuhn
 - Support: Cotto
 - Motion Passed: 6-0

XII. Public Comment- None

XIII. Adjournment at 7:35 pm

- Motion to adjourn: Ward
- Support: Batdorff
- Motion passed: 6-0

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tara Ward". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Tara" and last name "Ward" clearly distinguishable.

Tara Ward, School Board Secretary

The next meeting is scheduled for May 17, 5:30pm in Spruce Hall