

**MT. PLEASANT PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Board of Education
Regular Board Meeting Minutes – May 3, 2021, at 6:30 p.m.**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was held on May 3, 2021, at 6:30 p.m., in the MPPS Performing Arts Center, 1155 S. Elizabeth Street, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Board Members Present:

Amy Bond, President; Tim Odykirk, Vice-President; Courtney Stegman, Secretary; Sheila Murphy, Treasurer; Dana Calkins, Trustee; Jessica Jernigan, Trustee; Wiline Pangle, Trustee

Board Members Absent:

None

Administration Present:

Panelists: Superintendent Jennifer Verleger, Asst. Superintendent Linda Boyd, Chief Financial Officer Ginger Faber

Guests:

Debra Ervin, Kevin Kolb, Bernita Bradley, Victoria Bradley, Hillary DiMaggio, Erica Patera, Amy Grandy, Angelina Maney, Marcy Stout, Rob Stout, Joshua Hicks, Carolyn Hancock, Alice Jo Ricketts, Rob Grandy, Laura Gourlay

CALL TO ORDER

President Amy Bond called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

INDIGENOUS LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

President Amy Bond read the Indigenous Land Acknowledgement Statement.

ROLL CALL

Courtney Stegman called the roll.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved by general consent.

REPORT(S)/UPDATES

Statement from the Board of Education

President Amy Bond read the following statement:

“As your Board of Education, we are committed to ensuring our schools are safe and welcoming for all our students.

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We understand many people in our community have questions and concerns about a recent incident involving students and staff at Ganiard Elementary. We would like to ensure our entire community that we are addressing this matter with the seriousness and care it deserves.

As you may know, district administration has already conducted a preliminary review of the incident, including conducting interviews, reviewing videotaped and photographic evidence, consistent with the laws and district policies and procedures. In addition, a third-party independent investigation has been initiated that includes reviewing the same video and photographic evidence and interviewing relevant district personnel as well as students and our families.

Transparency is important. So is getting all the facts. So we would like to ask our families and the larger community to please be patient while we await results of this external third-party investigation.

We greatly appreciate and truly understand your concern regarding this matter and look forward to providing you an update as soon as our investigation is complete. Our hope is to learn from this incident and make our district even stronger. Meanwhile, we will not be distracted from our mission to provide a world-class education to all MPPS students.”

Teacher Appreciation Week

Amy Bond shared the following words from a letter that will be shared with the MPPS teachers:

“We, the Board of Education, recognize that National Appreciation Week is May 3 – 7 this year. We would like to mark this occasion by acknowledging everything that the teachers of Mt. Pleasant Public Schools do for our students.

We recognize that teachers serve not only as educators, but also as counselors, nurturers, and friends to our children. You are the eyes that watch our children grow, the ears that hear their laughter and listen to their struggles, the steady hands that guide them through their most formative years, and the hearts that create a place where students can thrive. Your selfless giving plays a vital role in the success of our whole community.

In recognition of your dedication and hard work, the trustees of the Mt. Pleasant Public Schools’ Board of Education publicly extend our appreciation to you and thank you for all that you do.”

GI-RESD Budget Presentation

Kevin Kolb, GI-RESD Associate Superintendent of Finance, presented the 2021/2022 GI-RESD General Fund Proposed Budget and Resolution. If approved, the GI-RESD proposes to end the 2020/21 fiscal year with a \$2,741,776 fund balance. Questions and answers followed the presentation.

District Upcoming Events

Superintendent Jennifer Verleger shared dates and times of upcoming MPPS events.

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CORRESPONDENCE (Acknowledgement of various correspondence sent to the Board of Education for their information)

President Amy Bond shared that the Board of Education received correspondence from the following individuals:

Ganiard Staff, Kristy Ribitch, Michael Moutsatson, DO and Tamara Moutsatson, DO, Carolyn E. Hancock, LPC, Kathy Lester, Jennifer Gerrard, Teri Christman, Nina Beans, Debbie Mikula, Kelsey James, Magen Jennings, June May, Elle Kyle, Caryn G., Farnaz Hakimian, Lori Jenkins, Sharon Trumpy, Kathy Lester, Teresa Knezek, Rei Grover, Sarah Gerber, Liz Diether-Martin, Anika Butler, Pamela RW Kandt, Brianna Vasquez, Emily Rupnik, Maureen Walton, Heather Trommer-Beardslee, Rod Grandy, Joe Ferry

CONSENT AGENDA

Board Minutes

Sheila Murphy moved to approve the minutes from the April 19, 2021 Regular Meeting and the April 19, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes with Closed Session. Tim Odykirk seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with a 7 - 0 vote.

NEW BUSINESS

GI-RESD General Fund Proposed Budget and Resolution

Sheila Murphy moved to adopt the Resolution for Local District Vote on the GI-RESD Budget as presented by Kevin Kolb earlier in this meeting. Courtney Stegman seconded the motion. Roll call was taken.

AYES: Amy Bond, Dana Calkins, Jessica Jernigan, Sheila Murphy,
Tim Odykirk, Wiline Pangle, Courtney Stegman

NAYES: None

Motion passed unanimously with a 7 – 0 vote.

Teacher Tenure Candidate Extensions

Dana Calkins moved to approve the following Teacher Tenure Candidate extensions, as presented:

First Name	Last Name	Position	Year of Hire
Kendra	Asher	3rd Grade Fancher	2016
Ashley	Buckley	Special Education Fancher	2016
John	Burnett	Science MPHS	2019
Sophia	Darter	DK. Ganiard	2016
David	Durfee	5th Grade McGuire	2019
Alicia	Debus	First Grade Pullen	2016
Ashley	Carpenter	PE & Computers Ganiard	2016
Kaylyn	Carroll	Second Grade Pullen	2016
Kim	Chapman	Math MPHS	2019
Kristi	Fancon	Art MPMS	2019

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Ryan	Greaves	Social Studies MPMS	2016
Sarah	Greaves	Social Studies MMS	2016
Julie	Jackson	4th Grade McGuire	2019
Aubrey	Johnson	Special Education MPMS & Oasis	2016
Desiree	McCormick	GI-Tec	2016
Sarah	Muscott	Mathematics MPMS	2016
Allision	LaPreze	Fourth Grade Fancher	2016
Jacob	Lazarov	Counselor MPHS	2016
Madeline	Ribant	Physical Education MPMS	2016
Amanda	Rissley	Special Education MPHS	2016
Emily	Shiner	Special Education CBE Program	2016
Jessica	Stefani	Elementary Art Teacher	2016
Jessica	Trawick	Social Studies MPHS	2016
Stefanie	Sedlar	Special Education MPMS	2016
Wendy	Ullery	Special Education MPHS	2019
Megan	Williams	GI-Tec	2016

Wiline Pangle seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with a 7 – 0 vote.

Probationary Teacher Contract Extensions

Jessica Jernigan moved to approve the following Probationary Teacher Contract extensions, as presented:

Year 5 of Probationary Status~Tenure Predicted for 2022:

Kayla Ayling	Amanda Thompson
Brynn Gudemann	Kristi Volz
Amanda Hutchins	Alex Wagner
Lori Lillie	Dan Weber
Stephanie Olver	Amber Yeagley
Mike Marshall	Angela Zeneberg
Josh Stutsman	

Year 4 of Probationary Status~Tenure Predicted for 2023:

Josh Ayerdi	Sarah Keebauch
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Brandy Brewer	Andrea Langley
Marilyn Dawson	Abigail Lewandowski
Lynette Eichenlaub	Cara Noel
Jordan Gerhart	

Year 3 of Probationary Status~Tenure Predicted for 2024:

Jennifer Chandler-Conner	Alexandra Mielke
Danielle Formsma	Cassandra Mistrzak
Chelsea Gordon	Chelsea Ouellette
Katelyn Kovach	Sarah Ouellette
Scott McNeal	Craig Surbrook

Year 2 of Probationary Status~Tenure Predicted for 2025:

Hanna Allen	Alaura Soto
Zachary Brown	Isabel Stanton
Abby Ernst	Samantha Schopfer
Karen Kimball	Samantha Snow
Alycia Krieger	Samantha Stobbe
Mary Melaragno	Emily Stout
Abigail Miklusicak	Louis Vjada
Megan Phelps	Breyanna Wing-Brenner
Allison Riedel	Karen Zileski

Sheila Murphy seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with a 7 – 0 vote.

PNC Bank Account Signatory Approval

Sheila Murphy moved to approve that the following changes be made to the Mt. Pleasant Public Schools’ PNC bank account number ending in 1948: Removal of Michael Pung from the account in entirety; addition of Superintendent Jennifer Verleger as a signer; and change Ginger’s last name from her maiden name Stowell to her married name Faber. Wiline Pangle seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with a 7 – 0 vote.

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CITIZENS REQUEST TO ADDRESS BOARD

The following citizens addressed the Board of Education: Erica Patera, Angelina Maney, Bernita Bradley, Rod Grandy, Victoria Bradley

BOARD OF EDUCATION DISCUSSION

Tim Odykirk reminded the public that tomorrow is election day, please vote. He also mentioned that May 4th is a single day fundraiser for the Mt Pleasant Education Foundation. Donation details are available on their website.

ADJOURNMENT

The Regular Board Meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m. by general consent.

APPROVED:

Secretary, Board of Education

Recording Secretary

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