

**Grand Rapids Christian Schools
Board of Trustees
Oakdale Christian School Media Center
January 22, 2007 Minutes**

Members Present: Cathie Brasser, Jim Bush, Ric Hernandez, Dan Hubka, Paul Jeltema, Ross Leisman, Jim McClurg, Jim Schipper, Candace Sorensen, Dave Tiesenga, Gayle VanGessel, Tim Wiersma

Members Absent: Dan Holtrop

Staff Present: Tom DeJonge, Jay Laninga, Lon Swartzentruber, Eric Burgess

Guests: M. Swets (arrived after meeting had begun)

1. Welcome and Call to Order - Jim Schipper, President
2. Devotions - Jim McClurg, Trustee and Oakdale Representative
3. Approval of Minutes
MOTION PRESENTED BY DAVE TIESENGA AND SECONDED BY PAUL JELTEMA to approve the Grand Rapids Christian Schools' Board of Trustees minutes of December 18, 2006.
MOTION PASSED
4. Public Comment - None
5. Reports
 - A. Superintendent's Report
 - 1) Faith in Action
Ashanti Bryant, Oakdale Christian School Principal, reflected on Oakdale's 115 years of serving God's children; Marie Dershem, Oakdale parent, shared her story of the Oakdale community's loving response to her son's peanut allergy.
 - 2) Get Healthy Update
Tom reported that Rockford Construction's guaranteed maximum price of the athletic stadium renovation is \$5.4 million and that this price is well below initial estimates due to numerous in-kind gifts and competitive bids coming in below anticipated costs. He also reported that construction is going smoothly, that it is ahead of schedule, and that all permits have been obtained.
 - 3) Parent Advisory Committee
Tom reported that the first meeting of the Parent Advisory Committee is scheduled for January 25, 2007 and that the first order of business will be to begin a review of GRCS Bylaws
 - 4) 2007-08 Calendar
Tom reported that he is developing the 2007-08 calendar, which will include a post-Labor Day start of school and that the Board of Trustees will be asked to approve it at its meeting in February 2007.
 - 5) Shared Time and Religious Symbols
Tom confirmed the definition of religious symbols as they pertain to Shared Time legislation and reported that no scriptural/religious references are allowed in a classroom during Shared Time instruction.
 - B. Champions of Diversity
Ben Boerkoel was present to answer questions about the Cross Cultural Competencies, a document that the GRCS Champions of Diversity and GRCS Education Committees had approved earlier this year.

MOTION PRESENTED BY CHAMPIONS OF DIVERSITY AND THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE AND SUPPORTED BY RIC HERNANDEZ that the Grand Rapids Christian Schools' Board of Trustees approve instituting the Cross Cultural Competencies as collaboratively developed by the Kent Intermediate School District, Kent Intermediate Superintendents' Association, and Kent Curriculum Council effective the 2007-08 school year.

Following discussion, the following amendment to the original motion was supported (amendment in italics):

MOTION PRESENTED BY CHAMPIONS OF DIVERSITY AND THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE AND SUPPORTED BY RIC HERNANDEZ that the Grand Rapids Christian Schools' Board of Trustees approve instituting, *within the framework of the GRCS Champions of Diversity and Healing Racism Philosophy and Operational Definitions*, the Cross Cultural Competencies as collaboratively developed by the Kent Intermediate School District, Kent Intermediate Superintendents' Association, and Kent Curriculum Council effective the 2007-08 school year.
MOTION PASSED

C. Executive Committee

MOTION MADE BY JIM SCHIPPER AND SUPPORTED BY DAVE TIESENGA that the Grand Rapids Christian Schools' Board of Trustees move to Executive Session for the purpose of reviewing 2007-08 budget expense and revenue projections.
MOTION PASSED

D. Personnel Committee

No report

E. Finance and Operations Committee

Report enclosed in board packet for member review and information

F. Development

Report enclosed in board packet for member review and information

G. Admissions

Eric distributed K – 12 enrollment trends

H. Spiritual Formation

A full report and recommendation is anticipated at the February 2007 Board of Trustees meeting

6. Correspondence

Board members received a letter from R. Nordling relative to Shared Time concerns, Tom to respond

7. Public Comment

M. Swets addressed the board relative to Bylaw amendments he submitted to the Board in February 2006, provided information relative to his claim that the Board violated GRCS Bylaw 13.1b in March 2006, and submitted a new Bylaw amendment.

8. Next Meeting - February 19, 2007 at the GRCS office at 7:00 p.m.

Note - A special Executive Session of the Board was scheduled for February 5, 2007 at 5:00 p.m. at the GRCS office for the purpose of the members' continuing their review of the proposed 2007-08 school year budget.

9. Closing Prayer - Dan Hubka

10. Adjournment - 11:45 pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by Sara Buchholz, GRCS Administrative Assistant