

**Grand Rapids Christian Schools  
Board of Trustees Retreat  
August 21, 2006**

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

**Members Absent:** Jim McClurg

**Staff Present:** Tom DeJonge

1. Jim Schipper called the meeting to order at 8:50 a.m. and opened with devotions and prayer.  
Scripture reference: Eph 4:1-16  
Board of Trustees 2006-07 theme: Unity in the Spirit
2. **MOTION PRESENTED BY DAN HOLTROP AND SECONDED BY PAUL JELTEMA** to approve the minutes of the August 8, 2006 Executive Session of the GRCS Board of Trustees.  
**MOTION APPROVED**
3. Doug VanderLaan, Breton Group, facilitated a Board of Trustees member orientation on the roles and responsibilities of board members and on the qualities of effective boards.
4. Superintendent's Report
  - A. *Strategic Plan Report of Progress* – Tom presented a review of action steps and progress made on each of the elements of the three-to-five year strategic plan approved by the GRCS Board of Trustees in August 2005. Elements of the strategic plan include:
    - Exploring New Partnerships
    - Ensuring Stabilization
    - Positioning for Growth
  - B. *Spiritual Formation Task Force* – Candace reported on the anticipated work of the Spiritual Formation Task Force, which will have its first meeting on Monday, August 28, 2006. At that time, the charge, mission, and vision of the task force will be reviewed and discussed.
    - Preliminary charge – Evaluate all aspects of the organization to determine ways to be distinctively Christian in all areas.
  - C. *Governance Task Force* – Jim Schipper introduced the charge of the Governance Task Force, which will be chaired by Board of Trustees member, Paul Jeltema. Jim, Paul and Tom will meet to review timeline and task force membership.
  - D. *Enrollment* – Tom reviewed current and anticipated enrollment for 06-07. Current status suggests enrolling approximately 2,400 K-12 students.
5. Correspondence – None received
6. Round the Table – Members expressed support for orientation experience as well as for the need for the board to revisit the issues discussed a various points throughout the year; support expressed for spiritual formation and governance task forces' work.
7. Goals for 06-07 – Members discussed priorities for the 06-07 school year. Executive Committee will review and make recommendations to the Board in September.
8. Jim Schipper closed the meeting prayer.
9. Meeting adjourned at 3:20 PM

**Upcoming Meetings:**

- Combined District Boards @ GRCHS, September 11 @ 7:00 p.m.
- Board of Trustees meeting @ GRCHS, September 18 @ 7:00 p.m. (note location)