

**Grand Rapids Christian Schools  
Board of Trustees  
September 18, 2006**

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

**Members Absent with Notice:** Cathie Brassler

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

**Guests:** Mike VanGessel, Tim Marcus (Rockford Construction), Brent Dykstra (AMDG), Greg Schierbeek, Get Healthy Cabinet Co-chair, Randy Commeret, GRCHS Teacher

1. Welcome and call to order – Jim Schipper
2. Devotions – Ross Leisman read from II Kings 5 and opened with prayer
3. Approval of Minutes from August 21, 2006 meeting – **MOTION PRESENTED BY DAN HOLTROP AND SECONDED BY GAYLE VANGESSEL** to approve the minutes of the August 21, 2006 GRCS Board Retreat  
**MOTION PASSED**
4. Public Comment – none
5. Items for information, discussion, and action
  - A. Superintendent's Report
    - 1) Introduction of new staff: Josh Rozema – GRCHS Math; Steve Tuit – GRCHS English; Kristin VanEyck – GRCHS English; Christine Tuit – GRCMS Guidance Counselor; Sara Oren – Rockford Christian 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> English and Social Studies; Tom Elzinga – Rockford Christian School 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Science and Math
    - 2) Energy Management: Randy Commeret, GRCS energy manager and teacher at GRCHS, reported on the results of our efforts to reduce gas and electric consumption during the 2005-06 school year
    - 3) Get Healthy: Mike VanGessel, Tim Marcus (Rockford Construction), Brent Dykstra (AMDG), and Greg Schierbeek (Get Healthy Cabinet co-chair) provided the Board with an update of the status of the anticipated capital improvements and construction schedule for the renovation and reconstruction of the athletic stadium at GRCHS
  - B. Executive Committee
    - 1) Jim Schipper reported on the results of the superintendent's 2005 – 06 performance assessment summarized below:

The Board of Trustees assessed Mr. DeJonge's overall performance as *Exemplary* in all duties and functions of his position, exceeding expectations in eight of nine added-compensation goals the board established in the following areas: spiritual formation, academic excellence, marketing and student recruitment, increasing diversity, and implementation of a funding initiative for the purpose of debt retirement. Mr. DeJonge's assessment reinforced the importance of maintaining a balanced budget each year.
    - 2) **MOTION PRESENTED BY JIM SCHIPPER AND SECONDED BY PAUL JELTEMA** that, as the Executive Committee has completed its assessment of the Superintendent's 2005-06 performance, the Grand Rapids Christian Schools' Board of Trustees approves the Committee's recommendation to accept its assessment and provide the Superintendent a bonus for his performance on the goals established and approved by the Board in February 2006.  
**MOTION PASSED**

- 3) **MOTION MADE BY JIM MCCLURG AND SECONDED BY PAUL JELTEMA** to move into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing issues related to the sale of property and funding initiative strategy  
**MOTION PASSED**

C. Operations and Finance

- 1) **MOTION MADE BY JIM BUSH AND SECONDED BY PAUL JELTEMA** that the Grand Rapids Christian Schools' Board of Trustees charges the Superintendent with a goal of raising the needed funds to pay off \$8.5 million, and not less than \$5 million of Bond Debt Principal by December 31, 2011.

**MOTION MADE BY ROSS LEISMAN AND SUPPORTED BY DAN HOLTROP TO TABLE THE MOTION ABOVE** and to send it back to Finance and Operations for review by the board at a later date.  
**MOTION PASSED**

- 2) **MOTION PRESENTED BY ROSS LEISMAN AND SECONDED BY DAN HOLTROP** that, since the necessary resources have been committed through the Get Healthy funding initiative, and in order to allow the stadium to be completed by September 2007, the Grand Rapids Christian Schools' Board of Trustees authorizes the Superintendent to begin the renovation and construction of the athletic stadium at Grand Rapids Christian High School as soon as the current high school football season is completed.

(This motion replaces one passed at the August 8, 2006 meeting of the Grand Rapids Christian Schools Board of Trustees, which required the board's approval of the guaranteed maximum price contract)

**MOTION PASSED**

D. Development

Upcoming Events: Lon Swartzentruber invited all members of the Board and constituency to attend the October 20, 2006 closing ceremony of the athletic stadium and the October 26, 2006 Bright Hope for Tomorrow celebration which raises funds for tuition assistance

E. Enrollment

Eric Burgess distributed samples of several new publications that are utilized in promotional events and reviewed admissions planning for the 2007-08 school year

F. Correspondence – none

G. Meeting closed with members reciting The Lord's Prayer and adjourned at 9:50 PM

Next meeting – Monday, October 16, 2006 at 7:00 p.m.; GRCHS Stapert Commons

Minutes respectfully submitted by Sara Buchholz, GRCS Administrative Assistant