

EAC Meeting

3/5/09

Wealthy St Bakery

608 Wealthy Street, Grand Rapids, MI

1. Call to Order: 7:15 pm
2. Attendance: Anne Marie Bessette, Andy Bowman, Vickie Craig, Kate McCrindle, Denise Blair & Sara Potyraj.
3. Agenda Approval. Agenda approved with addition of EGR Town Hall style meeting by general concurrence.
4. Approval of Minutes. Blair moves, McCrindle supports to approve minutes of 2/5/08. Ayes all.
5. Resolution
 - a. Blair distributed the resolution and the group wordsmithed the whereases. She will rework and send out for PTSA Board meeting.
6. KISD Grassroots update.
 - a. Rep Pierce to revisit HS requirements over 2 years.
 - b. Also looked at drop out age.
 - c. Sinking fund still needs work. State Chamber neutral if business are not part of millage.
 - d. All-day K will be moved to the Appropriations Committee. GR does not want all day K because of effect on Title I monies. Financial crisis right now.
 - e. 2x Formula cuts off the table due to Stimulus this year only.
 - f. Kent County is a donor county in education.
 - g. MEA retirement initiative is cost prohibitive to districts due to buy outs in long term. Gov doesn't like the bill.
 - h. Stimulus package is still being sifted through by all stakeholder parties.
 - i. Next meeting of GRPS Board legislative committee is March 23, 5:00 pm at Franklin Campus. They want notice of attendance.
7. Education "YES". Bowman will consider responding. Group will complain about the late notice.
8. GRPS Candidate Forum:
 - a. League of Women's Voters will be glad to work on it with us.
 - b. Location. Still looking Loosemore or Burton or Central High (most likely).
 - c. Date. Not sure yet. Either April 14, 15 or 16.
 - d. City PTSA Bullet Points will be in their Voter Guide. City students may be able to distribute for service hours.
 - e. Community Newsletter is a problem for time. Kate suggested to send out quicky post cards to City parents with some voter points on them along with spot for candidate questions. Also promoting Advocacy Day. More thorough Community Newsletter prep for beginning of next year may be more useful, would be best in the Fall.
9. EGR Town Hall Meeting. Blair reported it will be Monday, April 20th, in the EGR High School. We need to contact Dean and Schmidt to be involved in their meeting.
10. Next Meeting: EAC will meeting again on April 30, 2009, 7:00 pm, Wealthy St Bakery.
11. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.