A regular meeting of the School Board of said district was held in the Administrative Offices on the above date. The meeting was called to order by President Joseph at 6:00 p.m.

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Members Present: Bajema, Haidle, Joseph, Thorne and Zinger

Member Absent: None

Kent ISD Staff Present: Superintendent Konarska, Assistant Superintendents Hagerty, Koehler, Smith and Recording Secretary Conners; Directors Finkel, Grandy, Kaufman, Peraino and VanderPloeg; Principals Johnson, Kimber and Kraus.

Guest: Jenin Shamali-Bradfield

President Joseph welcomed guest Jenin Shamali-Bradfield, a teacher at Kent Innovation High.

Upon motion of Member Haidle, supported by Member Thorne, it was resolved to approve the minutes of the February 18, 2013 regular meeting of the School Board.

Ayes: Members Haidle, Thorne, Zinger, Bajema and Joseph
Nays: None
Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Thorne, supported by Member Zinger, it was resolved that the bills from February 1, 2013 through February 28, 2013 be allowed and orders drawn on the Treasurer for the amount summarized in the accounts payable report:

a. General Education	$ 3,191,615.39
b. Special Education	1,275,245.61
c. Career Technical Education	340,108.43
d. Cooperative Education	23,104.30
e. Capital Projects:	
1) General Education	0.00
2) Special Education	128,373.66
3) Career Technical Education	178,190.78
f. Skutt Scholarship Fund	500.00
g. Trust & Agency	15,235.04
h. Internal Service Fund	30,050.67
TOTAL	$ 5,182,423.88

Ayes: Members Thorne, Zinger, Bajema, Haidle and Joseph
Nays: None
Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Haidle, supported by Member Bajema it was resolved to approve personnel recommendations regarding resignations and terminations, appointments, new assignments and/or contract adjustment, leaves of absence, and temporary contract employees. A copy of the recommendations is included with the legal minutes of this meeting. Superintendent Konarska reported that this month's personnel recommendations are routine. Member Haidle congratulated Dr. Johnson on his upcoming adoption of a child.

Ayes: Members Zinger, Bajema, Haidle, Thorne and Joseph
Nays: None
Motion declared to have carried

Upon motion of Member Haidle, supported by Member Thorne, it was resolved to approve the hiring of one additional Quality Improvement Specialist for the Great Start to Quality Program as authorized by the Early Childhood Investment Corporation. Superintendent Konarska explained that this position is needed to meet the needs of the growing Great Start Readiness Program and the need for staff to monitor quality. President Joseph said that this department has seen steady growth. Superintendent Konarska said that Kent ISD is currently overseeing this program in 18 of the 20 Kent County school districts, and that the final two districts may transition over next year which would require an additional 60-70 staff.

Ayes: Members Bajema, Haidle, Thorne, Zinger and Joseph
Nays: None
Motion declared to have carried

Upon motion of Member Thorne, supported by Member Bajema, it was resolved to approve adopting the waiver and consent to authorize the Treasurer of a local governmental unit to strike property taxes from their tax rolls. Assistant Hagerty stated that this was a new addition to the waivers received that were approved at the last board meeting.

Ayes: Members Haidle, Thorne, Zinger, Bajema and Joseph
Nays: None
Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Haidle, supported by Member Zinger, it was resolved to approve an overnight field trip for two days and one night for forty-four (44) Kent Career Technical Center high school students and fourteen (14) advisors to participate in the SkillsUSA State Competition April 19-21, 2013 in Grand Rapids, MI. Member Haidle thanked Principal Kraus for a complete outline of expenses for this trip. Principal Kraus said that this State Competition is usually held in Lansing but is being held in Grand Rapids both this year and next year.

Ayes: Members Thorne, Zinger, Bajema, Haidle and Joseph
Nays: None
Motion declared to have carried.

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Communication Items:
Superintendent Konarska introduced Assistant Superintendent Bill Smith to give an update on several initiatives in the Instructional Learning Department. Assistant Superintendent Bill Smith showed a presentation entitled "We Lead Instruction" that highlighted successes in many areas of Kent ISD including the following:

KTC
Principal Johnson reported that the KTC students hosted an excellent open house with over 215 people attending. They continue to build relationships with local districts and connect with agency partners. Principal Johnson talked about the new Introduction to Child Care program which will allow students to work toward articulated credit with Grand Rapids Community College next year. He stated that KTC is on target to meet or exceed school improvement goals as measured with Keytrain. 39% of the students had met Keytrain goals at this time last year. This year 70% have already met Keytrain goals set. Member Haidle commented on the lovely floral arrangement at the open house and the outstanding job that the students did on this project.

KCTC
Principal Kraus focused on several awards the KCTC programs have won this year. He shared the "Excellence in Practice" award received from the MDE Career Technical Education Office. This award was given to KCTC at the State Conference in February. He reported that we were one of two programs out of 50 or 60 to receive this prestigious award. This award led to a newscast on Wood TV. KCTC was also featured in the ACF culinary magazine, a national trade journal for culinary arts. Principal Kraus said that other ISDs are visiting our program and we are sharing out best practices learned.

KCTC was also awarded the Isaac Walton League Award for their work in conservation and sustainability. Four students and two instructors representing KCTC accepted this award at a presentation last month. KCTC students also decorated theme-based cakes for a fundraiser at the Grand Rapids Children's Museum. Students are currently involved in a video challenge for Discover Manufacturing and will have an Alternative Energy Booth at the CTE showcase in the Lansing Capitol Rotunda on April 24th. Member Haidle suggested that we immediately contact our legislators and let them know that we will have an exhibit at the rotunda.

KIH
Principal Kimber highlighted the growth in collaboration between staff at Kent Innovation High and the Kent Career Technical Center. She stated that staff from both areas had PD last fall helping to establish career pathways, especially in the STEM area. She also highlighted a recent service based project on the industrial revolution that KIH students completed. The Grand Rapids Chamber of Commerce was involved judging this project also and was very impressed with the student's work. This has helped the students recognize the relevance of their current work. Principal Kimber also gave a report on the current construction happening at KIH saying that it is going well and is on schedule to finish August 5th. Member Haidle asked about the application process for students next year. Principal Kimber said that they are in the middle of enrollment now, and have about 4-5 students coming in to shadow the program daily, which is a new requirement.

Downtown Market

Director Grandy gave an overview on the Downtown Market and Kent ISD's investment into this. He stated that project helps highlight our role in economic development. We will have approximately 300 students at the downtown market in the Health Science/Early College Academy program and the Hospitality program. This will help bring these programs closer to many local districts and also reaches various types of students. He stated that in the 2010-11 school year we had 120 students, and we have grown to the current 199 students. Students completing two years in our Health Science program receive one semester of college credit. He provided a handout on the transcripted credit earned by hospitality students through Ferris State University resulting in over $221,000 saved. Director Grandy said that this program is helping connect kids to post-secondary level schooling and thanked the board for investing in our community, saying that this will make a difference to many kids.

President Joseph asked if we had lost any students in the program last year. Director Grandy said we always lose some through attrition, but have an overall increase in the number of students. President Joseph asked about programming for students that do not meet the minimum 3.0 GPA for the downtown or Metro program. Our main campus program is still available to all students and does not have a minimum GPA requirement.

President Joseph asked about safety and the proximity of the downtown market to the Grand Rapids bus station. Director Peraino said that the bus station is two blocks away, but that we have buses that will drop students off right at the site. Assistant Superintendent Hagerty reported that there is a completely separate entrance on the opposite side for our students. President Joseph asked if security guards would be needed. Superintendent Konarska stated that the Downtown Market is an important piece of growth in downtown Grand Rapids and that Kent ISD along with many other partners will work together to assure a safe environment. President Joseph said that these programs increase the visibility of Kent ISD and is also great for the community. Member Haidle commented that all these separate programs are pieces to a puzzle and together they meet the needs of all students. She stated that the growth and quality of the programs at Kent ISD is amazing.

Assistant Superintendent Smith also gave a brief overview of the Career/College readiness program and the work with post-secondary partners such as GRCC and Ferris State University. He gave information on the FASTRAC program which provides instructional interventions in the summer to help assure students are ready for college level courses when they enter college.

Report from Board Members

Member Zinger informed the board that he will be unable to attend the April board meeting as he will be attending the NSBA conference in San Diego at that time. He is also attending NBC's Education Nation in Detroit this Friday, March 22nd. President Joseph informed the board that GRPS has hired a staff for HR and Legal Services, similar to the role that Assistant Superintendent Sullivan has at the Kent ISD. Member Haidle reported on the current status of the EAA and on HB 4135. She asked if Member Zinger would be able to obtain a list provided previously from MASB outlining all the legislative changes and hits to education since Proposal A. Member Zinger will check if this is available.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Konarska gave a report on the March 16th GRPS State of the Schools address that he attended. He said that we have the support of funders and business leaders for our presence at the Downtown Market and that this is increasing the visibility of our programs. Legislation coming out of Lansing on the Michigan Merit Curriculum could offer increased flexibility for CTE classes. He said that school funding could be lower with the decrease in best practice funds.

Superintendent Konarska thanked Principals Kraus and Johnson for their successful open houses which were so well attended. He stated that Cindy has information for Kent ISD board members that are up for re-election. A board work session will be scheduled in mid-April to review the budget. Member Haidle asked if the numbers regarding property tax would be available in April. Assistant Superintendent Hagerty said that the final numbers will come out the first of May.

The next Regular Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 15, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. at Kent Intermediate School District's Educational Service Center in the Board Room.

President Joseph thanked the Kent ISD for their assistance to the Kentwood Board in their superintendent search. The meeting was adjourned by President Joseph at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes Approved: April 15, 2013

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Steve Zinger, Secretary

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Bill Joseph, President

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