

A RESOLUTION OF THE GROSSE POINTE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM BOARD OF EDUCATION

WHEREAS it is the desire of the Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education to provide the optimal learning environment for all students and

WHEREAS the foundation of learning is established at the lower elementary levels and

WHEREAS, while studies vary as to the effect of class size in lower elementary, parents who have ever increasing educational options for their children prefer lower class sizes and

WHEREAS the administration has established guidelines to maintain the average at each building to a maximum of 24.0 students in kindergarten and 27.0 students in 1st, 2nd and 3rd grade and

WHEREAS the Board of Education has entered into contracts with bargaining units that were intended to allow the district to hire staff in the best interests of students first and compensation would adjust to all economic factors and

WHEREAS the 2011-12 General Fund budget approved by the Board of Education in June, 2011 followed by the approval of two staff reduction options contemplated, as outlined in the Staff Utilization Utility, 148 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) K-5 regular classroom teachers across nine elementary schools and

WHEREAS administration has reported to the Board of Education that after allocation of those 148 FTE's based on August 9th's enrollment the following grades appears they may exceed the above referenced guidelines: Defer 3rd, Kerby 2nd, Maire 1st, Poupard 2nd, and Trombly kindergarten, and

WHEREAS the best option for students, parents and staff alike is for teachers to be hired and preparing for the coming school year as soon as possible and after all other in-district transfers and grade configuration options acceptable by parents have been considered as a means of meeting the guidelines and

WHEREAS without Board of Education consent the administration cannot take the action necessary to staff sufficiently to meet the elementary class size guidelines therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that should enrollment in kindergarten through 3rd grade as of August 19, 2011, not limited to the above referenced schools and grades, appears likely, after due diligence to result in an average class sizes at the building grade level above 24.0 students in kindergarten and above 27.0 students in 1st through 3rd grade that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the administration to hire and/or recall in accordance with other agreements the teaching and/or support staff necessary to address the class size guidelines referenced herein, up to six sections.

Proposed by:

Brendan Walsh, Treasurer

August 11, 2011