

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 272 ~ EDEN PRAIRIE SCHOOLS
OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 28, 2024
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

A Regular Meeting of the Independent School District 272, Eden Prairie Schools, was held on October 28, 2024, in the Eden Prairie District Administrative Offices, 8100 School Road, Eden Prairie, MN 55344.

1. **Convene: 6:00 PM (Roll Call – Call to Order:**

Present: Steve Bartz, Aaron Casper, Debjyoti "DD" Dwivedy, Abby Libsack, Kim Ross, Charles "CJ" Strehl, Dennis Stubbs

Present: Superintendent Josh Swanson

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

3. **Agenda Review and Approval – Motion** by A. Libsack, **Seconded** by D. Stubbs to approve the agenda for the Monday, October 28, 2024, meeting of the School Board of Independent School District 272, Eden Prairie Schools – Passed Unanimously

4. **Approval of Previous Minutes – Motion** by D. Stubbs, **Seconded** by S. Bartz to approve the UNOFFICIAL Minutes of the School Board Regular Business Meetings on September 23, 2024, and the Workshop notes on October 14, 2024 – Passed Unanimously

5. **Spotlight on Success** – Eagle Zone/EPIC

6. **Public Comment** – (2) – Electric School Buses; School Safety

7. **Announcements**

- First, it was so fun to see our community come together at our Citywide Celebration on September 28th! From the parade to the performances, to the GIVE Gathering – it was truly a celebration of all the great work that has happened on behalf of each of our students throughout the past 100 years of Eden Prairie Schools. And I'm really excited to see us carry that tradition of excellence into the future. Thank you to all of the students and families who attended or participated, our community partners who supported it, and all the staff who worked so hard to make it the awesome event that it was.
- **Congratulations:** Our EPHS girls tennis team went to state for the first time in over 20 years! What an achievement. The team was crowned Section 2AA champions after earning a close 4-to-3 victory over Minnetonka in the section tournament earlier this month. It was a hard-fought battle at the state tournament, and we couldn't be more proud of them for their incredible season this year.
- We are so proud of our seven EPHS students who were selected to the Minnesota Music Educators Association's All-State program!
Congratulations to trumpet players Annika Rice and Koto Kazama, bass clarinetist Arya Mehta, cellist Arun Wahlquist, violinist Claire Lee, bass player Alexandra Wahl, and soprano, Abi Swanson. They will perform alongside the 621 other All-State musicians at Orchestra Hall in February. This is a big honor for these talented young musicians!
- Recently, our Executive Director of Community Education Dr. Shawn Hoffman-Bram was selected by the Minnesota Community Education Association as a 2024 Community Educator of Excellence Award winner! The award recognizes the contributions and dedication of community education professionals from across the state. Dr. Hoffman-Bram was honored in Duluth for the award at the MCEA fall conference this past Thursday, and it was awesome to see her work recognized. **Congratulations**, Dr. Hoffman-Bram – very well deserved!
- The EPHS DECA club raised more than \$10,000 for College Possible Minnesota at their annual Powderpuff game for charity on Saturday, October 12th! The nonprofit aids students who face financial obstacles in their transition to college. Great work, DECA!
- Earlier this month, the Civics in ACTION Capstone class at EPHS pre-registered more than 50 of their peers to vote through their registration drive. They're doing a great job living out our Inspired to Vote motto: that safe, respectful, and responsible voting reflects the values we teach our students every day. Well done!

- On Wednesday, October 16th, more than 700 EPHS students attended the College and Career Expo in the school's main gym. The expo is an annual collaborative effort between the district and the EP Chamber of Commerce and allows students to discover and explore a wide variety of post-high school opportunities. Thank you to the 42 local and national business and collegiate partners who participated this year and thank you to the Chamber for their partnership in making this event a success every year!
- Speaking of partnerships, we've loved seeing the ways our community partners have engaged in student learning through the first couple months of the school year. Coding and Robotics students at CMS were wowed when drone creative services company Pictures Over Stillwater showed them how their learning about drones in class could translate to careers. Mary Beech, a Master Gardener intern at the U of M and grandma to a Forest Hills first grader, had fourth grade students at Forest Hills buzzing when she showed them how to build bee houses. We are so proud of our community partners taking an active role in educating our students, and we look forward to seeing more of it throughout the school year.
- You may have noticed a new rain garden at Round Lake Park, you can thank EPHS student Maxwell Amundson. He collaborated with the City of Eden Prairie to create it for his Eagle Scout project! The garden will help manage rainwater runoff and prevent erosion. Helping hands included fellow EP students and Boy Scouts Myles Rocco, Hans Syvertsen, Mason Weber, and Bennett Wimmer. If the results of the project are approved by regional scout leaders, Maxwell will earn the top rank of Eagle Scout! Nice job, Maxwell – our fingers are crossed for you!
- This month is National Principals Month, so **Congratulations** to all of our Principals and Associate Principals. We can't thank them enough for their commitment and hard work they put into meeting the needs of our students, families, and staff daily. The role of principal is not easy, but they spend countless unseen hours preparing, reflecting, and solving issues that arise in an effort to ensure every member of their school community is safe and supported. EPS principals, thank you for taking the time to ensure voices are heard and valued and for fostering an environment where students make a conscious choice to be safe, responsible, and kind.

8. Board Work

A. Decision Preparation

B. Required Board Action

C. Policy Monitoring

1) Executive Limitations (EL's)

a. EL 2.4 - Treatment of Staff - The Superintendent shall not cause or allow a work environment that is unsafe, unwelcoming, inequitable, disrespectful, unclear or that otherwise inhibits effective staff performance.

OI Motion by K. Ross, **Seconded** by A. Casper that the interpretation for the over-arching Global Constraint of EL 2.4 is reasonable – Passed 6-1: Yes – DS, KR, DD, AC, AL, SB; No: 1 (CJ)

Evidence Motion by S. Bartz, **Seconded** by A. Casper to accept the Superintendent's assertion of compliance with the over-arching Global Constraint of EL 2.4 – Passed 6-1: Yes – DS, KR, DD, AC, AL, SB; No: 1 (CJ)

(1) EL 2.4.1 *The Superintendent shall not:* Allow staff to work without a written job description.

OI Motion by S. Bartz, **Seconded** by K. Ross, the OI's for EL 2.4.1 through EL 2.4.5 are reasonable – Passed Unanimously

Evidence Motion by S. Bartz, **Seconded** by D. Stubbs to accept the Superintendent's assertion of compliance with EL 2.4.1 through EL 2.4.5 – Passed Unanimously

b. EL 2.8 - Compensation and Benefits - *With respect to employment, compensation, and benefits to employees, consultants, and contract workers, the Superintendent shall not cause or allow jeopardy to financial integrity or to public image.*

OI Motion by S. Bartz, **Seconded** by K. Ross, that the over-arching Global Constraint for EL 2.8, the OI is reasonable – Passed Unanimously

Evidence Motion by K. Ross, **Seconded** by A. Casper to accept the Superintendent's assertion that EL 2.8 is in compliance – Passed Unanimously

(1) EL 2.8.1 - *The Superintendent shall not:* Promise or imply permanent or guaranteed employment.

(2) EL 2.8.2 - *The Superintendent shall not:* Establish current compensation and benefits that deviate materially from the geographical or professional market for the skills employed. Further, compensation and benefits must not deviate from School Board-established parameters.

OI Motion by K. Ross, **Seconded** by A. Libsack to find that the interpretation of EL 2.8.1 and EL 2.8.2 are reasonable – Passed Unanimously

Evidence Motion by S. Bartz, **Seconded** by D. Stubbs to accept the Superintendent’s assertion of compliance with EL 2.8.1 and EL 2.8.2 – Passed Unanimously

2) Governance Process (GP's)

a. GP 4.0 - Global Governance Commitment: *The purpose of the School Board on behalf of owners, defined as Eden Prairie taxpayers and residents, is to ensure that the Eden Prairie Public School district:*

Motion by K. Ross, **Seconded** by D. Stubbs, that Board behavior is compliant in GP 4.0 and its child policies – Passed Unanimously.

b. 4.1 - Governing Style: *The School Board will govern lawfully, observing the principles of the Policy Governance model, with an emphasis on (a) outward vision rather than an internal preoccupation, (b) encouragement of diversity in viewpoints, (c) strategic leadership more than administrative detail, (d) clear distinction of School Board and Superintendent roles, (e) collective rather than individual decisions, and (f) the future rather than the past.*

Motion by S. Bartz, **Seconded** by A. Casper that the Board is in compliance with GP 4.1 and all its child policies – Passed Unanimously

c. GP 4.2 - School Board Job Product: *Specific job outputs of the School Board, as an informed agent of the owners, are those that assure appropriate district performance. Accordingly, the School Board has direct responsibility to:*

Motion by K. Ross, **Seconded** by A. Casper that Board is in compliance with GP 4.2 and all its child policies – Passed Unanimously

d. GP 4.3 - Annual Work Plan: *The School Board will follow an annual work plan that schedules time to a) maintain purposeful and ongoing linkage with owners, b) review and refine its Ends policies c) review and refine its Executive Limitations policies, d) monitor all written policies and e) continually improve School Board performance through School Board development and education.*

Motion by S. Bartz, **Seconded** by A. Casper that the Board is in compliance with GP 4.3 and all of its child policies – Passed Unanimously

e. GP 4.9 - Governance Investment: *Because poor governance costs more than learning to govern well, the School Board will invest in its governance capacity.*

Motion by K. Ross, **Seconded** by D. Stubbs, that the Board’s behavior is in compliance with GP 4.9 and all its child policies – Passed Unanimously

D. Record of Board Self-Evaluation

1) 2023-24 Record of Board Policy Monitoring - Board Management Delegation Policies (BMD's) & Governance Policies (GP's)

Motion by K. Ross, **Seconded** by A. Casper to accept the BMD & GP Policy Monitoring as presented – Passed Unanimously

2) 2023-24 Record of Board Policy Monitoring - Executive Limitations (EL's)

Motion by S. Bartz, **Seconded** by A. Casper to approve the Record of Board Monitoring EL’s as presented – Passed Unanimously

3) 2023-24 Record of Board Policy Monitoring - Ends 1.1 - 1.6

Motion by A. Casper, **Seconded** by K. Ross that the Board accepts the Board’s 2023-24 Record of Policy Monitoring for Ends 1.1 through 1.6 as presented – Passed Unanimously

9. Superintendent Consent Agenda

Motion by A. Casper, **Seconded** by A. Libsack to accept the Consent Agenda as presented – Passed Unanimously

A. Monthly Reports

1) Resolution of Acceptance of Donations

2) Human Resources Report

- 3) Business Services Reports
 - a. Board Business
 - b. Financial Report - Monthly Revenue/Expenditure Report

B. MSHSL Form A

10. Superintendent's Incidental Information Report

- A. Enrollment Report as of October 1, 2024 - *Presentation Uploaded*

11. Board Action on Committee Reports & Minutes

- A. Board Development Committee
- B. Community Linkage Committee
- C. Negotiations Committee
- D. Policy Committee

1) Update to GP 4.8 – Per K. Ross email

a. ~~A School Board level committee is created by a majority vote of the School Board to assist in the completion of School Board business. Each committee submits a yearly plan of action to the Board, submits minutes of meetings in a timely manner, and reports progress during Board business meetings. The only School Board committees are those that are set forth in this policy.~~

A School Board-level committee is created by a majority vote of the School Board to assist in the completion of School Board business. The community linkage and board development committees submit a yearly plan of action to the Board. The policy and negotiations committees act as needed by the board and do not submit yearly plans. Each committee submits minutes of meetings in a timely manner, and reports progress during Board business meetings. The only School Board committees are those that are set forth in this policy.

Motion by K. Ross, **Seconded** by D. Dwivedy to accept changes noted above in “red” as referenced in email from K. Ross – Passed Unanimously

12. Other Board Updates (AMSD, BRIGHTWORKS, ISD 287, MSHSL)

- A. AMSD (Association of Metropolitan Schools) - *Abby Libsack updated Board*
- B. BrightWorks (formerly ECSU) - *Dennis Stubbs – No updates*
- C. ISD 287 (Intermediate School District 287) - *Kim Ross updated the Board*
- D. MSHSL (Minnesota State High School League) - *Dennis Stubbs – No updates*

13. Board Work Plan

- A. Work Plan "Change" Document

Motion by K. Ross, **Seconded** by A. Casper to accept the Work Plan document as presented and Amended – Passed Unanimously

Eden Prairie School Board
2023–24 WORK PLAN CHANGES
“Proposed” Changes
October 28, 2024

Date of Meeting/Workshop	Changes Requested
Monday, October 28, 2024	
Tuesday, November 12, 2024 – Special Business Meeting (Canvass Elections)	
Tuesday, November 12, 2024 – Workshop	- ADD: <i>Board Assessment of Culture & Climate relative to Treatment of Students & Treatment of Staff</i>
Monday, November 25, 2024	- ADD: <i>Levy for Learning (Board Education)</i>
Monday, December 9, 2024	
Monday, January 6, 2025 (6:00 p.m.) Annual Org. Meeting	
Monday, January 6, 2025 (6:30 p.m.) – Workshop	

Monday, January 27, 2025	
Monday, February 10, 2025 – Workshop	-
Monday, February 24, 2025	
Monday, March 10, 2025 – Workshop	
Monday, March 24, 2025	
Monday, April 14, 2025 – Workshop	
Monday, April 28, 2025	
Monday, May 12, 2025 – Workshop	
Tuesday, May 27, 2025	
Monday, June 9, 2025 – Workshop	
Monday, June 23, 2025	
Placeholder – General Board Work	
Placeholder – Policy Review	
Policy GP 4.8 – School Board Committee Structure – Referred to the Policy Committee for Review – Changes approved under Policy Committee	

B. 2024-25 Board Annual Work Plan

14. **Adjournment – Motion** by A. Casper, **Seconded** by S. Bartz to adjourn at 8:10 PM – Passed Unanimously



Abby Libsack – Board Clerk