EVERGREEN PARK COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 231
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
November 19, 2024

The November 19, 2024, regular meeting of the Board of Education of Evergreen Park Community High School District 231 was held at Evergreen Park Community High School in the Professional Development Room.

1. **Call to Order**. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Mary Zofkie.

2. **Roll Call**. On roll call, the following members were physically present: Mrs. Mary Zofkie, Mrs. Maryann Kutschke, Mr. Tom Marsan, Mr. Mike Kress, Mr. Tom Schergen. Absent: Ms. Merikay Marzoni, Mr. Larry Symanski. Also physically present: Dr. Michael Riordan, Superintendent; Mr. Matt Dugan, Principal; Student Ambassadors Makayla Knight and Rosebud Summers. Absent: Mr. Terry Masterson, Facilities Director.

3. **Pledge of Allegiance**. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mrs. Zofkie.

4. **Communications**. Mrs. Zofkie commented that the musical theater concert was excellent as was the play *Puffs.* The open house was a great opportunity to show what we have to offer.

   There were no comments from the audience.

5. **Approval of Minutes**.

   5.1. October 22, 2024. A motion was made by Mr. Kress, seconded by Mrs. Kutschke, to approve the open and closed session minutes of the Board meeting on October 22, 2024. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

   Yes: Mrs. Zofkie, Mrs. Kutschke, Mr. Marsan, Mr. Kress, Mr. Schergen

6. **Principal's Report**.

   6.1. Achievements. Mr. Dugan commented on:

   - College Fair that was held during the day and attended by all students.
   - The performance of *Puffs*. He recognized Ann Sekula for her efforts in planning the senior dinner preceding the play.
   - Virtual parent-teacher conferences on November 4. He recognized Rachael Mayo, Jim Donato, and Alex Nine for coordinating the event and technical support.
   - NHS Veterans Day breakfast that welcomed the largest attendance at this event. He recognized Logan Scalf and the chorus for their performance and Ben Nesler and NHS students for sponsoring the event.
   - Musical theater concert on November 10. He recognized Logan Scalf and Amy Kazin.
   - Open House on November 13. More than 150 students and staff, including sponsors and coaches, assisted. He recognized the Maintenance Department for preparing the building.
   - Athletics update.

   6.2. Student Ambassador Report. The student ambassadors reported on:

   - The performance of *Puffs*, that was an amazing show.
   - The musical theater concert that was fun for all ages.
   - The Wellness Week activities and assembly speaker that the students enjoyed.
   - The veterans' breakfast, where the choir sang to honor the veterans.
   - The college fair.
   - The Trick or Treat event, which was a fun event for the community.

   6.3. Presentation. Curriculum Director Meg Schillo presented rationale and recommendations for new courses for the 2025-26 school year.

   6.4. New Courses. A motion was made by Mrs. Kutschke, seconded by Mr. Schergen, to approve new courses Bilingual Algebra 1, Bilingual Earth & Space Science, Bilingual Human Geography, ELL English 1, Advanced Strength and Conditioning, Geometry in Construction, Chicago History, and AP World History and to change year-long courses Geometry with Statistics and US History to one-term courses for the 2025-26 school year. Motion carried on roll call vote.

   Yes: Mrs. Zofkie, Mrs. Kutschke, Mr. Marsan, Mr. Kress, Mr. Schergen

7. **Facility Director's Report**. In Mr. Masterson's absence, Dr. Riordan reported that he met with Mr. Masterson and Mr. O'Malley to discuss summer projects that include expanding the theatre area, industrial tech upgrades, curb paving, bleachers, and pool rehab work at the sports complex. Proposals and quotes are being solicited.

8. **Superintendent's Report**. Dr. Riordan commented that he was very impressed with the Veterans Day breakfast and the chorus performance. He also congratulated the Foundation on the well organized and attended fundraiser at Bourbon Street.

   8.1. Monthly Financial Report. Dr. Riordan reported that spending is on track with the budget.

   8.2. FOIA Requests. Two requests were received and responses have been sent.

   8.3. Estimated Tax Levy. Dr. Riordan reported that the estimated amount of the tax year 2024 levy is $21,535,704. He also reported that the fund balances are as follows:

   - Education Fund: $17.4 million
   - Operation and Maintenance Fund: $4.9 million
   - Transportation Fund: $2.6 million
   - Working Cash Fund: $1.4 million

   The District again qualified for the Property Tax Relief Grant and will be able to abate $935,000 back to the taxpayers.

   A motion was made by Mr. Kress, seconded by Mrs. Kutschke, to approve the resolution regarding estimated amounts necessary to be levied for the year 2024. Motion carried on roll call vote.

   Yes: Mrs. Zofkie, Mrs. Kutschke, Mr. Marsan, Mr. Kress, Mr. Schergen

   8.4. Workers' Compensation Renewal. A motion was made by Mrs. Kutschke, seconded by Mr. Kress, to approve the annual premium quote of $78,065 from Alliant for renewal of Workers' Compensation insurance. Motion carried on roll call vote.

   Yes: Mrs. Zofkie, Mrs. Kutschke, Mr. Marsan, Mr. Kress, Mr. Schergen

   8.5. Board Policy 7:60, Residence. A motion was made by Mr. Kress, seconded by Mrs. Kutschke, to approve an amendment to Board Policy 7:60, Residence, to allow children of full-time employees to enroll at Evergreen Park High School District 231 at a reduced tuition rate. Motion carried on roll call vote.

   Yes: Mrs. Zofkie, Mrs. Kutschke, Mr. Marsan, Mr. Kress, Mr. Schergen

9. **Committee Reports**.

   - AERO. Mrs. Zofkie reported that a plan has been developed to address the kitchen repair work during the winter break with an alternate plan in place if needed.
   - SCOPE. Mr. Marsan reported that discussion at the SCOPE meeting focused on a paid-leave requirement that negatively impacts school districts and efforts to have the requirement changed.
   - Foundation. Mr. Kress reported that the fundraising event on November 17 at Bourbon Street was very successful and recognized Amy Kazmierowicz and Steve Duffy for their efforts.

10. **Closed Session**. At 7:39 p.m., a motion was made by Mr. Mrs. Kutschke, seconded by Mr. Kress, to recess to closed session regarding the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of an employee and collective bargaining. Motion carried on roll call vote.

    Yes: Mrs. Zofkie, Mrs. Kutschke, Mr. Marsan, Mr. Kress, Mr. Schergen

11. **Open Session**. At 7:57 p.m., a motion was made by Mrs. Kutschke, seconded by Mr. Marsan, to reconvene in open session. Motion carried unanimously on voice vote.

12. **Action Items**.

    12.1. Employment: Coach. A motion was made by Mr. Kress, seconded by Mr. Schergen, to approve employment, contingent upon successful completion of pre-employment requirements, of assistant dance coach Jazmyne Davis. Motion carried on roll call vote.

    Yes: Mrs. Zofkie, Mrs. Kutschke, Mr. Marsan, Mr. Kress, Mr. Schergen

    12.2. Approval: Extracurricular Assignments. A motion was made by Mrs. Kutschke, seconded by Mr. Schergen, to approve Matt Mitchell as play director for 2025-26 and Jim Ramazinski and Brian Zofkie as weight room supervisors for the winter season. Motion carried on roll call vote.

    Yes: Mrs. Zofkie, Mrs. Kutschke, Mr. Marsan, Mr. Kress, Mr. Schergen

13. **Consent Agenda**. A motion was made by Mrs. Kutschke, seconded by Mr. Kress, to approve the consent agenda to include:

    - Payroll: October 15, 2024: $657,746.46
      October 31, 2024: $530,093.13
    - Monthly Bill List: $572,210.90 (Education Fund: $323,547.38; Building Fund: $142,086.25; Debt Service Fund: $2,583.25; Transportation Fund: $103,994.02; Capital Projects Fund: $0; Tort Fund: $0; Life Safety Fund: $0)
    - Destruction of closed session audio recordings dated May 23, 2023

    Motion carried on roll call vote.

    Yes: Mrs. Zofkie, Mrs. Kutschke, Mr. Marsan, Mr. Kress, Mr. Schergen

14. **Announcements**. The next Board meeting will be held on December 17, 2024, at 7 p.m. in the Professional Development Room.

15. **Adjournment**. At 8:00 p.m., a motion was made by Mrs. Kutschke, seconded by Mr. Kress, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously on voice vote.

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President

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Secretary

Sheri Sochacki
Recording Secretary