EVERGREEN PARK COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 231
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
September 24, 2024

The September 24, 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, Ms. Merikay Marzoni, Mr. Tom Schergen, Mr. Larry Symanski. Also present: Dr. Michael Riordan, Superintendent; Mr. Matt Dugan, Principal; Mr. Burt Odelson, District 231 Attorney; 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**. There were no comments from the Board or the audience.

5. **Approval of Minutes**.

   5.1. August 20, 2024. A motion was made by Ms. Marzoni, seconded by Mr. Symanski, to approve the open and closed session minutes of the Board meeting on August 20, 2024. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

   Yes: Mrs. Zofkie, Mrs. Kutschke, Mr. Marsan, Mr. Kress, Ms. Marzoni, Mr. Schergen, Mr. Symanski

6. **Public Hearing.**

   6.1. Open Hearing. A motion was made by Mr. Symanski, seconded by Mr. Schergen, to open the public hearing to receive audience comments on the 2024-25 school budget. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

   Yes: Mrs. Zofkie, Mrs. Kutschke, Mr. Marsan, Mr. Kress, Ms. Marzoni, Mr. Schergen, Mr. Symanski

   6.2. Public Hearing. Dr. Riordan's presentation highlighted anticipated revenue, budgeted expenses and projected fund balances. The District has very healthy cash reserves and has no debt. The District anticipates again receiving a perfect financial profile score of 4 from ISBE.

   Dr. Riordan further explained that the Board will need to approve a resolution to transfer funds from the Education Fund to the Operations and Maintenance Fund.

   Mrs. Zofkie invited comments from the audience. Hearing no comments from the Board or the audience, Mrs. Zofkie called for a motion to close the public hearing.

   6.3. Close Hearing. A motion was made by Mr. Kress, seconded by Ms. Marzoni, to close the public hearing on the school budget and return to regular session. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

   Yes: Mrs. Zofkie, Mrs. Kutschke, Mr. Marsan, Mr. Kress, Ms. Marzoni, Mr. Schergen, Mr. Symanski

   6.4. Approve Budget and Associated Resolutions. A motion was made by Mrs. Kutschke, seconded by Mr. Schergen, to approve the resolutions to adopt the 2024-25 school budget and transfer funds from the Education Fund to the Operations and Maintenance Fund. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

   Yes: Mrs. Zofkie, Mrs. Kutschke, Mr. Marsan, Mr. Kress, Ms. Marzoni, Mr. Schergen, Mr. Symanski

7. **Principal's Report**.

   7.1. Achievements. Mr. Dugan reported on:

   - Straight A luncheon on September 13 for Term 2 of last year for 153 students.
   - Mr. Kovacs' presentation for the faculty meeting on de-escalation techniques in the classroom.
   - One student is participating in the construction internship with Specialty Construction, which is going very well.
   - Maximillian Castillo and Benjamin Long are semifinalists in the 2025 National Merit Scholarship competition.
   - A record number of students tried out for boys soccer this year.
   - EPCHS was named a School of Distinction by the Illinois Arts Education Association.
   - Ken Kazin was recognized for his efforts to have the band perform and the University of Illinois Band Day. Amy Kazin was recognized for her efforts to arrange an all-school assembly for Hispanic Heritage month.

7.2. Student Ambassador Report. The student ambassadors reported on the following:

- Hispanic Heritage Assembly. Student were receptive and enthusiastic about the assembly.
- The fall play, *Puffs*, is in rehearsal and will be presented at the end of October.
- The first two Shadow Days went well.
- Everyone is becoming more accustomed to the 5-Star application.

7.3. Presentation. Activities Director Amy Kazin reported on the 5-Star app and demonstrated many of the functions and capabilities currently being used. Additional functions will be implemented in the future.

8. **Facility Director's Report**. In Mr. Masterson's absence, Dr. Riordan reported the locker room renovation and roofing projects are almost complete and expected to be done in approximately 1 week. The new scoreboard provided a "wow factor" at the opening football game.

9. **Superintendent's Report**.

9.1. Monthly Financial Report. Dr. Riordan reported that the monthly bills are within the budget.

9.2. FOIA Requests. FOIA requests were received from South Cook News for a list of extracurricular clubs and sponsor information, the school calendar, current enrollment information, and the student evacuation plan for an active shooting. Mr. B. Weber requested a copy of the evaluation plan for certified staff. Responses have been sent in accordance with FOIA.

9.3. Compensation Report. Dr. Riordan presented the 2023-24 compensation report to the Board as required. The report will be posted on our website.

9.4. Resolution: Trustee of Schools. A motion was made by Ms. Marzoni, seconded by Mr. Kress, to approve the resolution appointing Dr. Michael Riordan as Trustee of Schools for Evergreen Park High School. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

Yes: Mrs. Zofkie, Mrs. Kutschke, Mr. Marsan, Mr. Kress, Ms. Marzoni, Mr. Schergen, Mr. Symanski

9.5. AERO Classroom Use Agreement. A motion was made by Mrs. Kutschke, seconded by Mr. Symanski, to approve the agreement with AERO to lease two classrooms for the 2024-25 school year. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

Yes: Mrs. Zofkie, Mrs. Kutschke, Mr. Marsan, Mr. Kress, Ms. Marzoni, Mr. Schergen, Mr. Symanski

10. **Committee Reports**.

10.1. Facility Committee. The Facility Committee will meet before the October Board meeting.

10.2. Finance Committee. Mrs. Kutschke reported on the Finance Committee meeting on September 10. The committee discussed the 2024-25 budget and reviewed the proposed capital projects. The committee recommends adoption of the budget by the full Board.

10.3. Policy Committee. The Policy Committee will meet before the October Board meeting.

10.4. AERO. Mrs. Zofkie reported that AERO is holding monthly job fairs where candidates are interviewed and possibly offered a job on the spot. The fairs have been successful in hiring applicants for difficult-to-fill positions.

10.5. SCOPE. Mr. Marsan reported that discussion was held on legal matters related to TRS Tier II and changes that will require legislative action.

10.6. IASB. Mrs. Kutschke reported that students will be performing at the November conference. Mrs. Zofkie said that AERO has won an award that will be presented at the conference. She and Dr. Dan Riordan will be accepting the award on behalf of AERO.

10.7. Foundation. The annual fundraiser will be held at 115 Bourbon Street on November 17. Tickets are $40. Ms. Marzoni thanked Tim Moran for his help with the Foundation Facebook page and advertising the fundraiser.

11. **Closed Session**. At 7:51 p.m., a motion was made by Mr. Symanski, seconded by Ms. Marzoni, 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, Ms. Marzoni, Mr. Schergen, Mr. Symanski

12. **Open Session**. At 8:13 p.m., a motion was made by Mr. Symanski, seconded by Mr. Kress, to reconvene in open session. Motion carried unanimously on voice vote.

13. **Action Items.**

13.1. Approve Coaches. A motion was made by Mr. Kress, seconded by Ms. Marzoni, to approve employment, contingent upon successful completion of pre-employment requirements, of assistant coaches Mike Markowicz, bowling; Alyssa Migler and Kelsey Ryan, boys volleyball; Pat Flannigan and Dayanna Sanchez, boys track; Kacey Gardner, girls basketball; and Zachary Kapinus, wrestling; and fall weight room supervisors Dave Pierce and Mike Brahm. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

Yes: Mrs. Zofkie, Mrs. Kutschke, Mr. Marsan, Mr. Kress, Ms. Marzoni, Mr. Schergen, Mr. Symanski

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

Payroll: August 15, 2024: $117,841.07
August 31, 2024: $550,516.77

- Monthly Bill List: $871,124.01 (Education Fund: $669,461.56; Building Fund: $150,779.38; Debt Service Fund: $2,583.25; Transportation Fund: $48,299.82; Capital Projects Fund: $0; Tort Fund: $0; Life Safety Fund: $0)
- Destruction of closed session audio recordings dated March 8 and March 28, 2023
- Finance Committee summary notes

Motion carried on roll call vote.

Yes: Mrs. Zofkie, Mrs. Kutschke, Mr. Marsan, Mr. Kress, Ms. Marzoni, Mr. Schergen, Mr. Symanski

15. **Announcements.** The next regular Board of Education meeting will be October 22, 2024, at 7 p.m. in the Professional Development Room.

16. **Adjournment**. At 8:18 p.m., a motion was made by Mrs. Kutschke, seconded by Ms. Marzoni, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously on voice vote.

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President

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Secretary

Sheri Sochacki
Recording Secretary