EVERGREEN PARK COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 231
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
March 26, 2024

The March 26, 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 LRC Professional Development Room.

Students were paired with the following Board members and administrators for this student leadership meeting:

Mrs. Zofkie, President	Micky Joyce
Mrs. Maryann Kutschke, Vice President	Taylor Yeaman
Mr. Tom Marsan, Secretary	Ulises Cardenas
Mr. Michael Kress	Theresa Brady, Matthew Dever
Ms. Merikay Marzoni	Natalia Macias
Mr. Thomas O'Malley, Superintendent	Colin Kelly
Mr. Matthew Dugan, Principal	Joie Burns
Mr. Terry Masterson, Facilities Director	Lilli Gleason
Student Ambassador	Maggie Joyce
Student Ambassador	Xalani Mitchell

1. **Call to Order**. The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Student President Micky Joyce.

2. **Roll Call**. On roll call, the following members were present: Mrs. Mary Zofkie, Mrs. Maryann Kutschke, Mr. Thomas Marsan, Mr. Michael Kress, Ms. Merikay Marzoni. Absent: Mr. Thomas Schergen, Mr. Larry Symanski. On roll call, the following student Board members were present: Theresa Brady, Ulises Cardenas, Matthew Dever, Micky Joyce, Natalia Macias, and Taylor Yeaman. Also present: Mr. Thomas O'Malley, Superintendent; Colin Kelly, Student Superintendent; Mr. Matthew Dugan, Principal; Joie Burns, Student Principal; Mr. Terry Masterson, Facilities Director; Lilli Gleason, Student Facilities Director; Student Ambassadors Maggie Joyce and Xalani Mitchell.

3. **Pledge of Allegiance**. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Joyce.

4. **Communications**. Mr. Joyce recognized the following:

   - Mr. Nesler and the students who performed in the NHS talent show.
   - Ms. Hyland and Ms. Zingrebe for Snowball weekend in which 85 students participated. EPCHS received a certificate in honor of 20 consecutive years of participation.

   Mr. Joyce asked for comments from the audience. Ms. Terri Pool, Association president, addressed the Board about concerns related to the 2024-25 school calendar including the early start date and inconsistency between the terms in the timing of parent-teacher conferences.

5. **Approval of Minutes**.

   5.1. February 27, 2024, Regular Meeting. A motion was made by Ms. Brady, seconded by Ms. Yeaman, to approve the open and closed session minutes of the regular Board meeting on February 27, 2024. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

   Yes: Ms. Brady, Mr. Cardenas, Mr. Dever, Mr. Joyce, Ms. Macias, Ms. Yeaman

6. **Principal's Report**.

   6.1. Achievements. Ms. Burns reported on the following:

   - Collegiate athlete seminar, presented by teachers who were college athletes, was attended by 250 students.
   - Ever Read YA Lit Fest, co-sponsored with the Evergreen Park Library, was attended by 79 students.
   - The staff vs. students volleyball game was an optional assembly that was well attended by students.
   - Ticket sales from Mr. Nesler's NHS-sponsored talent show were designated to support a student's family who suffered a tragic loss.

   6.2. Student Ambassador Report. Student Ambassadors Maggie Joyce and Xalani Mitchell reported:

   - Students and staff competed in a volleyball game after school on March 22. The staff won but the students will be asking for a rematch in basketball.
   - The NHS talent show on Friday, March 22, was enjoyed with many great student performances.
   - Boys volleyball played their first games of the season, winning two of three games.

6.3. Presentation: Instructional Coaches. The presentation by instructional coaches Jim Smith, Colleen McWalter, Mike Thomas, and Michelle Vucsko covered teaching and learning supports available to staff and students including professional development, reading supports, additional specific coaching for individuals and paraprofessionals, student test prep and Khan Academy challenges for students.

6.4. Presentation: Athletic Director. Jim Soldan's presentation covered information on a strength conditioning course to be offered to all athletes in June, weekly eligibility stats that have been positively impacted by the IDEA resource period, conference coach of the year recognition earned by two winter coaches, and earning points for the conference competition for the President's Cup. Mr. Soldan concluded his presentation with a student-created video highlighting athletics.

7. **Director of Facilities Report**. Student Director of Facilities Lilli Gleason reported that the locker room renovations have begun with the demolition of the four locker rooms. Expected start dates for other projects are athletic field turf replacement on April 4 and pool roof on April 15. Discussion with lighting contractors for the football field LED lighting project continues.

8. **Superintendent's Report**. Student Superintendent Colin Kelly commented on:

- The very successful NHS talent show under the direction of Mr. Ben Nesler.
- Conclusion of the winter sports season congratulating the very successful seasons for wrestling and boys basketball.
- The optional assembly volleyball game of staff vs. students.

8.1. Monthly Financial Report. The monthly bills totaled $605,548 and are in line with the budget.

8.2. FOIA. One FOIA request was submitted for video of the sports complex parking lot. A response has been sent in accordance with FOIA.

8.3. IHSA Membership. A motion was made by Ms. Brady, seconded by Ms. Macias, to approve renewal of membership in the Illinois High School Association. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

Yes: Ms. Brady, Mr. Cardenas, Mr. Dever, Mr. Joyce, Ms. Macias, Ms. Yeaman

8.4. Capital Projects. A motion was made by Mr. Dever, seconded by Ms. Yeaman, to approve a capital projects contract with Golden Rule. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

Yes: Ms. Brady, Mr. Cardenas, Mr. Dever, Mr. Joyce, Ms. Macias, Ms. Yeaman

9. **Committee Reports**.

- Finance Committee. Ms. Yeaman reported that the Finance Committee met to review capital projects and discuss the Property Tax Relief Grant.
- AERO. Mr. Joyce reported that a defect was discovered in the tile that was installed at the new AERO facility. The flooring will be replaced this summer at no additional cost. The construction project was completed within the budget.
- SCOPE. Mr. Cardenas reported that an update on recent legislative sessions was presented, including information on Senate Bill 3606 addressing tuition reimbursement equity for special education students who attend separate public schools.
- IASB. Ms. Yeaman reported on a bill that requires climate change to be taught in certain classes. Registration for the school board conference will open in June.
- Foundation. Mr. Dever reported that the committee discussed plans for the golf outing, which will be held on June 7 at Coyote Run. This year's Hall of Fame nominee is Gary Sievers. An all-school reunion is planned for September 20, 2025.

At 7:44 p.m., the student portion of the meeting ended. Mrs. Zofkie thanked the students for their participation and expressed the hope that they learned from the experience and from Mayor Burke's presentation.

Ratify Votes. A motion was made by Mrs. Kutschke, seconded by Ms. Marzoni, to ratify the votes cast by the student Board members as the designated delegates of the elected members of the Board of Education for this Board meeting. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

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

10. **Closed Session**. At 7:50 p.m., a motion was made by Mr. Kress, seconded by Ms. Marzoni, to recess to closed session regarding the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of an employee, student discipline, and collective bargaining. Motion carried on roll call vote.

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

11. **Open Session**. At 8:33 p.m., a motion was made by Mr. Kress, seconded by Mrs. Kutschke, to reconvene in open session. Motion carried on voice vote.

12. **Action Items.**

12.1. Employment: Noncertified. A motion was made by Ms. Marzoni, seconded by Mr. Kress, to approve employment, contingent upon successful completion of pre-employment requirements, of custodian Josh Silva. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

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

12.2. Employment: Coaches. A motion was made by Mrs. Kutschke, seconded by Mr. Kress, to approve employment, contingent upon successful completion of pre-employment requirements, of head girls basketball coach George Shimko and assistant soccer coach Corey Anderson. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

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

12.3. Confirm Tenure. A motion was made by Ms. Marzoni, seconded by Mr. Kress, to confirm tenure status of Maggie O'Shea and Bryn Zingrebe. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

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

12.4. Staffing Authorization. A motion was made by Mr. Marsan, seconded by Ms. Marzoni, to authorize staffing for the 2024-25 school year as recommended by the superintendent. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

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

12.5. Non-Reemployment Resolution. A motion was made by Mr. Kress, seconded by Mrs. Kutschke, to approve a non-reemployment resolution of a nontenured teacher. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

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

12.6. Memo of Agreement and Settlement Agreement. A motion was made by Ms. Marzoni, seconded by Mr. Kress, to approve a resignation, Memorandum of Agreement, and Settlement Agreement with the Association. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

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

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

- Payroll: February 15, 2024, payroll of $517,084.42
  February 29, 2024, payroll of $529,171.26
- Monthly Bill List: $605,348.04 (Education Fund: $339,632.16; Building Fund: $185,497.80; Debt Service Fund: $2,583.25; Transportation Fund: $68,934.83; Capital Projects Fund: $0; Tort Fund: $0; Life Safety Fund: $8,400.00)
- Destruction of closed session audio recording dated September 27, 2022
- Finance Committee and Search Committee summary notes

Motion carried on roll call vote.

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

14. **Announcements**. The next Board meeting will be held on April 23, 2024, at 7 p.m. in the Board Room.

15. **Adjournment**. At 8:36 p.m., a motion was made by Ms. Marzoni, seconded by Mr. Marsan, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously on voice vote.

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President

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Secretary

Sheri Sochacki
Recording Secretary