EVERGREEN PARK COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 231
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
February 27, 2024

The February 27, 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. Larry Symanski. Absent: Mr. Tom Schergen. Also physically present: Mr. Thomas O'Malley, Superintendent; Mr. Matt Dugan, Principal; Mr. Terry Masterson, Facilities Director; Student Ambassadors Micky Joyce and Shyair Rowser.

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

4. **Communications**. Mr. Kress reported that a fundraiser at Bourbon Street is being planned for March 24 to support the MBA program

   Mrs. Zofkie congratulated the cast and crew of the musical *Something's Rotten,* saying the students did a fabulous job.

   Mrs. Kutschke reported that the Buddy Guy presentation was amazing and an incredible opportunity.

   4.1. Audit Presentation. Mr. Nick Cavaliere of Baker Tilly presented the annual audit. He was complimentary of the District's fiscal responsibility and preparation for the audit. The District again received an unmodified opinion, which is the highest assurance that the auditor can assign and consistent with last year's opinion.

   4.2. Credit Union Grant. After expressing the credit union's thanks for providing space at EPCHS for their office, Mrs. Anna Papasideris presented a check for this year's grant winner, Mr. Terence Masterson, who will use the funds for supplies in teaching 3-D printing. Mr. O'Malley added that the technology curriculum provides opportunities for students and this course is thriving.

   4.3. Ever Read YA Literary Festival. Mrs. Tina Ward presented an overview of the upcoming literary festival for young adults, planned in conjunction with the Evergreen Park Library, that will take place at EPCHS on March 16.

5. **Approval of Minutes**.

   5.1. January 23, 2024. A motion was made by Mr. Symanski, seconded by Mr. Kress, to approve the open and closed session minutes of the regular Board meeting on January 23, 2024. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

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

6. **Principal's Report**.

   6.1. Achievements. Mr. Dugan commented on:

   - Mustang Pride Breakfast on January 26 recognizing 34 students.
   - Straight A luncheon on January 31 honoring 149 students.
   - Freshman registration that took place on three days registering 160 students.
   - Bryn Zingrebe being named ISBE's Outstanding Early Career Educator.
   - ExcelEdge SAT prep course offered to juniors.

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

   - Hallway sweeps as a method of getting students into class on time.
   - Trades Fair, which was a great idea to introduce students to careers in the trades.
   - Boys basketball regional championship that was attended by many students and a very exciting game.
   - Buddy Guy appearance.
   - Musical, *Something's Rotten*, that was previewed during IDEA as an incentive to attend the weekend performances.

   6.3. Presentation. Tim Moran, director of public relations, gave a presentation on the technology and forums used to promote the achievements and activities of our students and staff. He also discussed future plans for expanding the District's social media presence.

7. **Facility Director's Report**. Mr. Masterson reported on upcoming capital projects and discussed the contracts for the work on the pool roof, locker rooms renovation, turf replacement on the football field, and track resurfacing.

8. **Superintendent's Report**. Mr. O'Malley commented on:

- Boys basketball regional championship game and the great cheering section.
- Wrestling team winning the conference for the second year in a row.
- Scholastic Bowl, sponsored by Mr. Nesler and Mr. Smith, who won the conference title.
- Varsity and JV cheer winning the conference title.
- Buddy Guy appearance, organized by Mr. Nesler.

8.1. Monthly Financial Report. This month's bills of $786,000 are in line with the budget.

8.2. Property Tax Relief Grant. A motion was made by Mr. Symanski, seconded by Mr. Kress, to approve the 2024 Property Tax Relief Grant and the resolution partially abating the 2023 tax levy in the amount of $993,605. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

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

8.3. 2024-25 School Fees. A motion was made by Ms. Marzoni, seconded by Mrs. Kutschke, to approve the 2024-25 school fees as recommended by the superintendent. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

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

8.4. Capital Projects. A motion was made by Mr. Kress, seconded by Ms. Marzoni, to approve the contracts for capital projects summer work with Garland/DBS, Inc., Brock, Midwest Track Builders, and Cosgrove Construction, Inc. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

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

8.5. Amended 2023-24 Calendar. A motion was made by Mrs. Kutschke, seconded by Mr. Symanski, to approve the amended 2023-24 calendar. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

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

8.6. 2024-25 Calendar. A motion was made by Ms. Marzoni, seconded by Mr. Kress, to approve the 2024-25 calendar. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

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

8.7. Overnight Field Trip. Mr. O'Malley presented the dance team request to attend a camp at Wheaton College from June 4 through 7 and recommended approval on the consent agenda.

9. **Committee Reports**.

SCOPE. Mr. Marsan reported that at the meeting the governor's budget and a list of bills were reviewed.

10. **Closed Session**. At 8:22 p.m., a motion was made by Ms. Marzoni, 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, Ms. Marzoni, Mr. Symanski

11. **Open Session**. At 8:47 p.m., a motion was made by Mrs. Kutschke, seconded by Ms. Marzoni, to reconvene in open session. Motion carried unanimously on voice vote.

12. **Action Items**.

12.1. Extracurricular Sponsor. A motion was made by Mr. Symanski, seconded by Mr. Kress, to appoint Jason Fundukian as a Leadership sponsor. Motion carried on roll call vote.

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

12.2. MOU re: Paraprofessionals. A motion was made by Mr. Kress, seconded by Ms. Marzoni, to approve an MOU with the Education Association regarding paraprofessionals assigned supervision duties at the Main entrance. Motion carried on roll call vote.

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

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

    - Payroll: January 15, 2024: $534,232.93
      January 31, 2024: $592,745.83
    - Monthly Bill List: $786,793.47 (Education Fund: $584,158.58; Building Fund: $138,151.21; Debt Service Fund: $2,583.25; Transportation Fund: $61,900.43; Capital Projects Fund: $0; Tort Fund: $0; Life Safety Fund: $0)
    - Destruction of closed session audio recording dated August 23, 2022
    - Facility Committee summary notes
    - Overnight field trip to dance camp at Wheaton College from June 4-7, 2024

    Motion carried on roll call vote.

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

14. **Announcements**. The next Board meeting will be held on March 26, 2024, at 7 p.m. in the Professional Development Room.

15. **Adjournment**. At 8:51 p.m., a motion was made by Mrs. Kutschke, 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