

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
FOR THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION
EVERGREEN PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT 124
January 22, 2025

1. A Regular Meeting for the Board of Education of Evergreen Park Elementary School District 124 was called to order at 6:01 p.m. on January 22, 2025 in the Multi-Purpose Room at the Administrative Center, Evergreen Park, IL.

The following Board Members were physically present at roll call:

Mrs. Colleen Klimczak
Mr. Michael Aumiller
Mrs. Denise Jones
Mrs. Rachel Marroquin
Mr. David Sheppard
Mrs. Lauren Dowden
Dr. Michael Thomas

Also present: Dr. Jenna Woodland, Mr. Eric Grossi, Ms. Rebecca Tyrrell, Mrs. Patricia Roberts, Ms. Julie Hemry, Mr. Jim Hennessy, Dr. Matthew Banach, Dr. Jenna Moller, Mrs. Carrie Berry, Mr. Scott Liska, Mrs. Haley Vermeer, Dr. Joseph Zampillo, Mrs. Kathleen Kasprowicz, Ms. Amanda Hattar, Mr. Djimon Smith, Mr. Roland Hernandez, Ms. Angela Iversen, and Recording Secretary, Ms. Sonia Hernandez

2. Mrs. Colleen Klimczak led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Consideration was made by the Board to approve the agenda. A motion was made by Mr. Aumiller and seconded by Dr. Thomas to approve the agenda as presented. A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

Mrs. Colleen Klimczak	yea
Mr. Michael Aumiller	yea
Mrs. Denise Jones	yea
Mrs. Rachel Marroquin	yea
Mr. David Sheppard	yea
Mrs. Lauren Dowden	yea
Dr. Michael Thomas	yea

MOTION CARRIED (7-0)

4. Under Staff Reports:

Dr. Jenna Woodland:

- Directed attention to Ms. Meagan Franko, Assistant Principal NE/NW, who spoke in regards to the upcoming Cultural Night. The following was announced:
 - District Event
 - Goal: To Promote Cultural Awareness
 - When: February 27 from 6-8 p.m.

- Where: Northeast School
- Various Activities Planned:
 - Cultural Display Tables
 - Henna Artists
 - Family Interview Room
 - District 124 Cookbook
 - Scavenger Hunt
 - Board Games from Around the World
 - Irish Dancers
 - Native American Dancers
 - National Anthem from India
 - Steppers
 - Mexican Mojigangas

The Members of the Board and Dr. Woodland thanked Mrs. Franko for her hard work with preparing for this event.

- Reported that during the Special Board Meeting of January 14, the District was presented with an opportunity to partner with a consulting firm, Beyond Your Base. Explained that Beyond Your Base is a public engagement firm that researches public opinion, assisting school districts and facilitating a task force regarding the District's facilities based projects. Provided highlights of some of the important work they will be conducting as follows:
 - Prepare Frequently Asked Questions documents and fact sheets
 - Hold informational sessions with community based task force
 - Provide informational mailers to all community members based on community input
 - Provide ongoing media support in effort to streamline communication
 - Voice of stakeholders to be included in this process

Dr. Woodland stated that this item is listed as an Action Item for approval during this meeting, as discussed and decided during the Special Board meeting.

Curriculum and Instruction:
Dr. Jenna Woodland:

- Directed attention to Ms. Angala Iversen, District Librarian. Ms. Iversen provided a history of Evergreen Reads. She announced that this year's book selection is *The Wild Robot* by Peter Brown, and distributed copies of the book to the Members of the Board. The following was mentioned:
 - 5th Grade Level, but accessible to all
 - Other titles that coincide with it are available for younger students
 - Once books are distributed, programs will take place in school, including a few evening programs at elementary schools
 - Will end with the movie as the culminating event
 - Each school will receive 25 books parents can pick-up on a first come first serve basis
 - Available for sale at Bookies

The Members of the Board and Dr. Woodland thanked Ms. Iversen for the information.

- Directed attention to the Principal Team who presented on Fall to Winter Benchmark Data. Dr. Matthew Banach, Principal at NW, explained that mClass is the new assessment for K-1 this year, which focuses on early reading skills needed by students to be successful with reading. STAR is the benchmark assessment for grades 2-5 that is taken three times a year; in the fall, winter, and spring, and allows for the review of student growth over the course of the school year. The goal is for students to reach meets or exceeds level in STAR. Dr. Banach explained that two scores are reviewed, the Achievement Score (how students scored compared to other peers) and the Growth Score, how they grew compared to other peers. Fall and winter STAR Assessment Data was shared. All building presentations depicted growth in the areas of Reading and Math. Action plans to improve student achievement were shared by building as follows:

➤ Northwest School – Dr. Matthew Banach

- Culture
 - ✓ Strengthened classroom management and responses to students who need support
- Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment
 - ✓ Creating quick, intensive skill-based interventions
 - ✓ Using coach (happy to have her back!) to model/co-teach with grades that did not have expected growth
 - ✓ Using Tier 1 discussions to look at small group instruction using skills from MClass/Star
 - ✓ Working on building resources for fluency and word problem help to supplement math instruction
 - ✓ Continuing to utilize interventions and homework help

➤ Southwest School – Mr. Scott Liska

- Culture
 - ✓ Enhanced Extracurricular Activity Options - Continue to partner with outside vendors and internal staff to offer a variety of clubs and extracurricular opportunities for students. Designate days of the week to allow student choice and still receive academic support. Community Partnerships - Library, Taekwondo.
 - ✓ PBIS Bulldog Bonus Bonanza - Enhanced School-wide recognition system for behavioral expectations. Celebrate behavior and attendance. Bonanza Assembly today!
- Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment
 - ✓ Targeted After School Skill Groups - Continue to ensure a wider array of students are given the opportunity to receive targeted academic support, including enrichment groups when possible.
 - ✓ Fidelity of Implementation - Allocate time to continue to familiarize staff with our new programs. Continue current work with school based coaches, grade level peers, and curricular coaches

- ✓ Intervention Programs - Continue to identify programs, including core program aligned interventions, that target deficits connected to student need.
- Northeast School – Mrs. Carrie Berry
 - Culture
 - ✓ Continue to build a school culture that focuses on the following:
 - Celebrate diversity and inclusion- Incorporate cultural education and integrate diverse perspectives into the curriculum.
 - We are hosting our very first multicultural event where we will showcase and celebrate the community's diverse backgrounds.
 - Implemented leadership opportunities to increase student voice through student councils, clubs, or peer mentorship programs.
 - Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment
 - ✓ Celebrate effort and progress, not just outcomes.
 - ✓ Ensure teachers and students have access to tools and materials they need to succeed.
 - ✓ Continue to offer targeted support- Identify struggling students or staff and provide interventions to help them thrive.
 - Social and Emotional Well-being
 - ✓ Continue to implement the PBIS model with integrity and consistency (behavior trend headed in the right direction- have seen a decrease in referrals every month since October).
 - ✓ Grade levels continue to collaborate and reflect on the piloting of Capturing Kids' Hearts- SEL program
 - ✓ Use restorative justice practices/peer mediation to follow up with behaviors
- Southeast School – Mrs. Haley Vermeer
 - What are we proud of?
 - ✓ Our overall SGP numbers- in math we have a median SGP above 50 in every grade level and in reading we also have median SGP in the 60's for the majority of grade levels
 - Focus areas for 2024-25:
 - ✓ Culture
 - Celebrating the Positives
 - High Expectations
 - Open and Honest Communication
 - Relationships
 - Student Advisory Group-4th/5th
 - ✓ Attendance
 - Traveling Trophy
 - Increase communication
 - ✓ Family and Community Partnerships
 - Continued monthly events
 - Increased involvement with SEES
 - ✓ Curriculum and Instruction

- Math for All – Eureka
 - Common Assessments
 - Frequent feedback
 - HQT1 Instruction
- Central Middle School – Dr. Jenna Moller
 - Culture and Climate:
 - ✓ Revamping ISS
 - ✓ Clear attendance procedures
 - ✓ Monthly tier 1 attendance incentives
 - ✓ Adding in more supervision to hallway spots
 - ✓ Student Impact Group
 - ✓ Staff listening and learning tours
 - Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment:
 - ✓ Student goal setting
 - ✓ Focus on high-quality tier 1 instruction + Math for All
 - ✓ Star data analysis - department and team
 - ✓ Common assessment analysis in Math
 - ✓ Common rubrics in English
 - ✓ New teacher support
 - ✓ Support science and social studies
 - Behavior/SEL/Attendance:
 - ✓ Consistency with discipline
 - ✓ Capturing Kids' Hearts
 - ✓ Schoolwide expectations + out of the blue days + incentive assemblies
 - ✓ Tiered interventions
 - ✓ Revamping ISS
 - ✓ Clear attendance procedures

After the presentation, Dr. Woodland thanked Dr. Carlson and the Building Principals for their hard work and dedication.

Student Support Services:
Ms. Rebecca Tyrrell:

- Reported on the District Community Leadership Team (DCLT). The following was included:
 - Met in January for quarterly meeting
 - Community Updates
 - Evergreen Park Library
 - ✓ Frank Murray- Citizen of the Year!
 - ✓ All library cards have been processed and are going out to the schools
 - ✓ Reading Buddies Program
 - Center for Self-Actualization
 - ✓ Therapists are busy in all schools
 - Village Pantry Coalition
 - ✓ D124 has been great with the food drives to “stock the shelves”
 - ✓ Between 65-85 families per week utilize the Pantry

- ✓ Hours are typically Friday from 9-12 but will open to support a family in the event of an emergency
- D124
 - ✓ Tammy Bobel has completed Trauma Informed training to 3 to 5 buildings
 - ✓ Staff Mentors at Northeast
 - ✓ New Year brought a Town Hall Meeting to NE which included, PBIS refreshers, resolutions, and goal setting
 - ✓ Capturing Kids Heart (new SEL Curriculum at NE/SW Capturing Kids Hearts) in full swing, teachers had opportunities to reflect on implementation
 - ✓ More individualized meetings on students to help locate specific supports
 - ✓ CMS – year 2 of SEL Curriculum and SISS data Looked promising
 - ✓ Discussion regarding a re-entry process that includes more connected supports to help bridge the gap between students who are hospitalized and then return to school
- Goal
 - ✓ Conduct a community needs assessment and develop a community resource directory to identify needs with aligned resources within the Evergreen Park community.
- Action Items
 - ✓ Needs Assessment Survey
 - ✓ Resource Mapping
 - Programs and services supported by the school, community organizations, and other agencies.
 - Academic, Before/After School, Mentoring, Recreational, Adult Education, Parenting Education, Grief, Mental Health Resources, Housing Assistance, etc.
 - ✓ Community Resource Guide

Business Services:
Mr. Eric Grossi:

- Reviewed the Monthly Financial Report as of December 2024. Shared a report in comparison with last year.
 - Statement of Expenditures
 - Salaries and benefits were main expenses
 - Statement of Revenues
 - Received Bond Revenue from December 20th sale \$6,230,513.77
 - Shared a Fund Balance Graph
 - Fund Balances have gone up due to Bond Revenue
- Welcomed/Directed attention to Mr. Don Shaw of Lauterbach and Amen, who reported on the Audit Review/Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024. The following was mentioned:
 - District 124 received a clean, unmodified opinion (highest opinion one can receive)

- Summary of how the year performed
 - Income Statement
 - General Fund – Main Operating Fund – Net increase of \$549,000
 - Notes to the Financial Statement
 - Budgetary Information
 - Overall Audit Score 3.9, out of 4
- Provided a Property Tax Grant Update. The following was mentioned:
 - District 124 has officially applied for the for the 2024-2025 Property Tax Relief Grant
 - This will generate \$1,843,000 in tax abatements for the 2024 and 2025 Levy Years
 - In return, the district will start to receive \$1,567,479 annually added to its Evidence Based Funding (State Revenue)
- Stated that a Property Tax Appeal Board (PTAB) is included under the Action Items for approval during this meeting. The following was mentioned:
 - First Midwest Bank/Old National Bank has appealed its 2020-2022 taxes.
 - They are seeking \$22,375 in total refunds from D124 and \$17,117 in total refunds from D231.
 - D124's Requested Refunds by Year
 - 2020 - \$7,239
 - 2021 - \$7,316
 - 2022 - \$7,820
- Provided exciting updates on School Fees for the 2025-2026 School Year! The following was announced:
 - The Online Registration Window for the 2025-2026 School Year will be from March 3rd - March 30th, 2025
 - The 2025-2026 Registration Fees will remain the same as prior year's fees
 - Early Childhood = \$20
 - Kindergarten = \$50
 - Grades 1-5 = \$130
 - Grades 6-8 = \$140
 - 50% OFF REGISTRATION FEES IF REGISTERED BY END OF DAY March 30th, 2025
 - Early Childhood = ~~\$20~~ \$10
 - Kindergarten = ~~\$50~~ \$25
 - Grades 1-5 = ~~\$130~~ \$65
 - Grades 6-8 = ~~\$140~~ \$70
 - Communication Regarding Registration will be coming from Dr. Woodland early February.
- Stated that two quotes are listed on the agenda as Action Items for Board approval during this meeting. Directed attention to Mr. Matt Ernst of Precision Control Systems, Inc. who spoke in regards to the following projects:
 - HVAC Replacement to Southeast Elementary School
 - Aging unit ventilators

- Old control system is in place
- Majority of classrooms have window AC units
- Proposal will move to a central cooling system, more consistent ventilation
- Full remodeled digital control system, visible on computer for O&M staff to troubleshoot and maintain
- HVAC Updates to Southwest Elementary School
 - Phase 1 Approach
 - Humidity Issues
 - Will work on this during 2nd shift and spring break
 - Will provide better cooling, ventilation and humidity control

5. Under 'Public Comments'.

- Board President Mrs. Colleen Klimczak shared reminders on Public Comments as follows:
 - Three minute limit – will set a timer
 - The Members of the Board do not respond to Public Comments, but absolutely hear them

6. Board Reports:

- Mrs. Klimczak spoke in regards to Board Member Elections. Explained/Shared Key Dates for School Board Candidates.
 - 3 candidates running for open seats on April 1 Election
 - Mr. Michael Aumiller
 - Mrs. Rachel Marroquin
 - Dr. Michael Thomas
- Mrs. Klimczak spoke in regards to Board Governance Training. The following was mentioned:
 - Compliance in Training
 - Mandatory New Board Member Training (from IASB Website)
 - PDLT
 - PERA
 - Other Board Member Training
 - Trauma-Enforced Mandated Practices
 - OMA
 - Starting Right Session in summer
- Mr. Michael Aumiller, Board Vice-President, reported on the Finance Committee Meeting, and stated that the following topics were discussed:
 - Registration fees
 - Audit Review
 - Formalizing procedures for committee
- Dr. Woodland reported on a Resolution in Support of Illinois Vision 2030. President Klimczak read the Resolution aloud. Mrs. Klimczak added that this resolution is listed on the Agenda as an Action Item for approval during this meeting.

7. Consent Agenda items 1 through 7 were reviewed by the Board and, thereafter, a motion was made by Dr. Thomas and seconded by Mrs. Marroquin to approve the following items as recommended:

1. Approve Monthly Transaction Reports for December 2024
2. Approve Fund Balance Reports for December 2024
3. Approve Expenditure Report and Projected Payroll Report for January 2025
4. Approve Board Minutes from the Regular Meeting of December 17, 2024
5. Approve Closed Session Minutes from the Regular Meeting of December 17, 2024
6. Approve Destruction of Closed Session Tapes from September 2020
7. Personnel Recommendations:
 - a. Additions:
 1. Deborah Scott, Pre-Kindergarten Teacher - SW, effective January 7, 2025
 2. Colleen Tumino, School Nurse - NE, effective February 3, 2025
 3. Daniel Carpenter, 2nd Shift Custodian - CMS, effective February 3, 2025
 4. Stephen Driscoll, Lunchroom Server Substitute-Floater, effective January 21, 2025
 - b. FMLA Leave of Absence:
 1. Gayle Dwyer, Kindergarten Teacher - NW, effective February 5, 2025
 - c. Resignations:
 1. Deborah Scott, Extended Day Assistant - NW, effective December 20, 2024
 2. Cynthia Morrissey, Lunch/Recess Supervisor - SW, effective January 10, 2025

FUND	IMPREST ACCOUNT December, 2024	EXPENSES December, 2024	PROJECTED PAYROLL January, 2025	TOTAL PROJECTED EXPENSES January, 2025
EDUCA- TION	0.00	19,896.51	2,365,534.91	3,202,831.22
BUILDING	0.00	190.84	126,451.47	254,819.39
BOND/INT	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TRANS.	0.00	0.00	0.00	111,111.31
IMRF	0.00	0.00	99,097.12	99,097.12
TORT	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CAPITAL PROJECTS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
WK. CASH	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
FIRE PREV. & SAFETY	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTALS:	0.00	20,087.35	2,591,083.50	3,667,859.04

A roll call vote was taken with the following response:

Mrs. Colleen Klimczak	yea
Mr. Michael Aumiller	yea
Mrs. Denise Jones	yea
Mrs. Rachel Marroquin	yea
Mr. David Sheppard	yea
Mrs. Lauren Dowden	yea
Dr. Michael Thomas	yea

MOTION CARRIED (7-0)

8. Consideration was made by the Board to approve Public Engagement and Public Opinion Research Services Agreement with Beyond Your Base in the amount of \$85,000. A motion was made by Mr. Aumiller and seconded by Dr. Thomas to approve Public Engagement and Public Opinion Research Services Agreement with Beyond Your Base in the amount of \$85,000. A roll call vote was taken with the following response:

Mrs. Colleen Klimczak	yea
Mr. Michael Aumiller	yea
Mrs. Denise Jones	yea
Mrs. Rachel Marroquin	yea
Mr. David Sheppard	yea
Mrs. Lauren Dowden	yea
Dr. Michael Thomas	yea

MOTION CARRIED (7-0)

9. Consideration was made by the Board to approve Property Tax Appeal Board (PTAB) - First Midwest Bank/Old National Bank 2020-22 Appeals. A motion was made by Dr. Thomas and seconded by Mrs. Marroquin to approve Property Tax Appeal Board (PTAB) - First Midwest Bank/Old National Bank 2020-22 Appeals. A roll call vote was taken with the following response:

Mrs. Colleen Klimczak	yea
Mr. Michael Aumiller	yea
Mrs. Denise Jones	yea
Mrs. Rachel Marroquin	yea
Mr. David Sheppard	yea
Mrs. Lauren Dowden	yea
Dr. Michael Thomas	yea

MOTION CARRIED (7-0)

10. Consideration was made by the Board to approve School Fees for the 2025-2026 School Year as presented by Mr. Eric Grossi. A motion was made by Mrs. Jones and seconded by Mrs. Marroquin to approve School Fees for the 2025-2026 School Year as presented by Mr. Eric Grossi. A roll call vote was taken with the following response:

Mrs. Colleen Klimczak	yea
Mr. Michael Aumiller	yea
Mrs. Denise Jones	yea
Mrs. Rachel Marroquin	yea
Mr. David Sheppard	yea
Mrs. Lauren Dowden	yea
Dr. Michael Thomas	yea

MOTION CARRIED (7-0)

11. Consideration was made by the Board to approve Contracts with Precision Control Systems, Inc. for HVAC Updates to Southwest at a Total Cost of \$161,000. A motion was made by Mr. Aumiller and seconded by Dr. Thomas to approve Contracts with Precision Control Systems, Inc. for HVAC Updates to Southwest at a Total Cost of \$161,000. A roll call vote was taken with the following response:

Mrs. Colleen Klimczak	yea
Mr. Michael Aumiller	yea
Mrs. Denise Jones	yea
Mrs. Rachel Marroquin	yea
Mr. David Sheppard	yea
Mrs. Lauren Dowden	yea
Dr. Michael Thomas	yea

MOTION CARRIED (7-0)

12. Consideration was made by the Board to approve Contracts with Precision Control Systems, Inc. for HVAC Replacement to Southeast at a Total Cost of \$3,040,000. A motion was made by Dr. Thomas and seconded by Mr. Aumiller to approve Contracts with Precision Control Systems, Inc. for HVAC Replacement to Southeast at a Total Cost of \$3,040,000. A roll call vote was taken with the following response:

Mrs. Colleen Klimczak	yea
Mr. Michael Aumiller	yea
Mrs. Denise Jones	yea
Mrs. Rachel Marroquin	yea
Mr. David Sheppard	yea
Mrs. Lauren Dowden	yea
Dr. Michael Thomas	yea

MOTION CARRIED (7-0)

13. Consideration was made by the Board to approve 2nd Reading and Adoption of Revised Board Policies 4:20, 5:250 and 5:330, as recommended by the Board Policy Committee. A motion was made by Mrs. Marroquin and seconded by Mrs. Jones to approve 2nd Reading and Adoption of Revised Board Policies 4:20, 5:250 and 5:330, as recommended by the Board Policy Committee. A roll call vote was taken with the following response:

Mrs. Colleen Klimczak	yea
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Mr. Michael Aumiller	yea
Mrs. Denise Jones	yea
Mrs. Rachel Marroquin	yea
Mr. David Sheppard	yea
Mrs. Lauren Dowden	yea
Dr. Michael Thomas	yea

MOTION CARRIED (7-0)

14. Consideration was made by the Board to approve 2nd Reading and Adoption of Revised Board Policies 2:120, 4:170, 5:100, 5:230, and 6:60 as recommended by the Illinois Association of School Boards. A motion was made by Mrs. Marroquin and seconded by Mr. Sheppard to approve 2nd Reading and Adoption of Revised Board Policies 2:120, 4:170, 5:100, 5:230, and 6:60 as recommended by the Illinois Association of School Boards. A roll call vote was taken with the following response:

Mrs. Colleen Klimczak	yea
Mr. Michael Aumiller	yea
Mrs. Denise Jones	yea
Mrs. Rachel Marroquin	yea
Mr. David Sheppard	yea
Mrs. Lauren Dowden	yea
Dr. Michael Thomas	yea

MOTION CARRIED (7-0)

15. Consideration was made by the Board to approve Resolution in Support of Illinois Vision 2030 . A motion was made by Dr. Thomas and seconded by Mrs. Marroquin to approve Resolution in Support of Illinois Vision 2030. A roll call vote was taken with the following response:

Mrs. Colleen Klimczak	yea
Mr. Michael Aumiller	yea
Mrs. Denise Jones	yea
Mrs. Rachel Marroquin	yea
Mr. David Sheppard	yea
Mrs. Lauren Dowden	yea
Dr. Michael Thomas	yea

MOTION CARRIED (7-0)

16. At 7:31 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Aumiller and seconded by Mrs. Jones to adjourn the meeting. A roll call vote was taken with the following response:

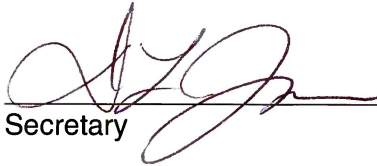
Mrs. Colleen Klimczak	yea
Mr. Michael Aumiller	yea
Mrs. Denise Jones	yea
Mrs. Rachel Marroquin	yea
Mr. David Sheppard	yea
Mrs. Lauren Dowden	yea
Dr. Michael Thomas	yea

MOTION CARRIED (7-0)

The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Education will be held on February 19, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room at the Administrative Center, 2929 West 87th Street, Evergreen Park.



President



Secretary