

Minutes of Board Meeting

<u>Kind of Meeting</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>
Regular	HS Cafeteria	February 19, 2025	6:00 p.m.

Board Members Present:	Board Members Absent:
Glen Foote, President	David Sendt, Vice President
Don Kussmaul, Secretary	
Christina Schauer	
Daniel Dalberg	
Esta Poulton	
Others Present:	
TJ Potts	
Darren Sirianni	

1. **Call to Order** The East Dubuque Board of Education met in regular session on Wednesday, February 19, 2025. President Foote called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Roll call with 5 members present. Sendt was absent.

2. **Consent Agenda** Kussmaul moved to approve the Consent Agenda with a second by Poulton. Roll call, all present voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

3. **Recognition of Visitors and Correspondence**
 - 3.1 Student Council Representative Vice President, Joe Delaney said the SnoCo Dance was a huge success and wanted to thank Mr. LaPage for his help with the DJ. The Student Council is currently having a bake sale to help raise funds for Senior Cohen Meyer in his quest to get a new handicap accessible van. Future plans will be to have a soft serve ice cream day in the spring and on March 31st the Student Council will be bussing tables at Pizza Ranch for donations to go towards next year's fundraisers. Morning Debate questions have been a huge success. All are asked to wear their Mr. Reisen shirts, Cubs or Warrior attire on Monday Feb 24th to honor the 1 year passing of Mr. Reisen.

4. **Staff Reports**
 - 4.1 **Mr. Heiar, Elementary Principal** - On January 17, the Elementary School held an Accelerated Reader (AR) celebration for the 2nd quarter superstar reading students. Each quarter this year, students will be celebrated who are gung-ho about achieving their AR goals and reading. Thank you to Mrs. Ward and Mrs. Oney for coordinating this initiative.
Here are the students who earned this 2nd quarter honor:
2nd grade- Nicholas Jackson, Dimitri Haskin, Max Lehnen, Janes Lechnir, Kasen Hooper, Emerly Roling

3rd grade- Henry Howell, Shyla Fuglsang, Landyn Mulgrew, Wyatt Howell, Luke Hoftender, Evelyn Kemp, Charlie Craven, Semaj Timmons, Max Manuel
 4th grade- Avie Beecher, Hadley Freund, Abel Breitbach, James Lange, Charli Strauser, Emberly Ludwig
 5th grade- Cole Schoenhard, Jensen Williams, Cooper Weimerskirch, Jacob Eason, Ireland Harkey, Sybil Riniker, Flynn Edge, Lex Winders, Maddie Schlinder
 6th grade- Ava O'Dell, Allison Klinge, Makynlee Edge, Ella Steffens, JoAnne Bowman, Karlie Mootz

Since the middle of January we have started a new Response To Intervention (RTI) process with our Kindergarten classes. Instead of the classroom teachers and paraprofessionals solely guiding students in small group instruction, we have enlisted fourteen of our 5th and 6th grade students to assist. This group (who I've affectionately labeled our Young Ambassadors) lead two Kindergarten students each Monday through Thursday in various RTI skill building activities like number formation, CVC words, letter and number identification, and sight words. This "pilot program" has been incredibly beneficial so far and we're excited to build on this success as the year progresses.

Grade	2025- # Enrolled	2024- # Enrolled
Kindergarten	38	36
FIRST	31	35
SECOND	39	55
THIRD	58	32
FOURTH	35	49
FIFTH	50	39
SIXTH	42	46
TOTAL	293	292
PRE-SCHOOL	63	59
In District TOTAL	356	351
Out of District	2	1
Total Students	358	352

4.2 Mr. Sirianni, JH/HS Principal Activities: Winter activities are wrapping up and Spring activities will be starting up at the beginning of March. Archery is preparing for their State Tournament in April. Girls Basketball is hosting Regionals this week. Boys Basketball will be starting Regionals next week. JH Girls Basketball finishes their season the weekend of March 1st. Scholastic Bowl is in the middle of their season, with Regionals beginning the week of March 10th.

On Wednesday, February 26th and Thursday, February 27th, the Spring Parent/Teacher Conferences will take place. Looking forward to seeing as many parents as possible stop in to meet with their child's teachers and be an engaged part of their education.

Projected Enrollment: (As of February 13 2025)

Grade	Students		(Totals)		
7	43		August 24	January 25	February 25
8	38				
9	50	7-8	82	81	81
10	43	9-12	186	178	177
11	41	Total 7-12	268	259	257
12	43				(1 Foreign Exchange)

4.3 Mr. Potts, Superintendent,

Maintenance-From Grover: All boilers have passed inspections and have the new two-year certification. Basketball, academic, and archery has had us very busy with many events happening on the same nights. Thank you to my staff to make sure these events go off without a hitch and getting everything ready to go the next day.

Transportation- From Jeff: Inspections have been completed at the State inspection lane in Lanark. Our entire fleet has passed with flying colors. The new year has seen an uptick in School Bus stop arm runners. There were 8 violations from August to December. We have had 7 incidents in 2025 so far. We are still looking for new bus drivers.

Superintendent:

Open Board Position- As you know we have an open board position. We will post that on our social media and take resumes for the next couple of weeks. If we have interested candidates, I will host interviews for that spot. The person that we appoint will fill the remainder of that term until the spring of '27. I am looking at a date in the week of March 10 for interviews so we can appoint at the March meeting and stay within the 60 days to fill the position.

Winter Weather- As we have talked about, we still believe that in person is the best way to have school. Last week we had a number of people reach out about doing a virtual day for the potential snow day since we knew well in advance that the likelihood was that we would not be in school. Since it did not sneak up on us, we were able to put a good plan in place for all students. Again, we will not make this our regular plan to just do virtual for every snow day, but having that as an option is great.

Strategic Plan- We need to set a date for the next planning session. Our next meeting is on March 19. We could meet after that meeting or set a date in between now and then.

RISE Network- We are joining with a number of school districts in NW IL in writing a grant to become part of this Network. It will allow students in our district to take classes that we do not/are not able to offer. This plan is a couple years out, but it makes us part of a network with districts in NY, OK, and IL. There is little cost up front for potential down the road. We are joining at a pretty minimal cost and very little set up. We may want to do more for the next round in 3 years, or we may not do much.

Documentation of Partnership: Highland Region Pathways for Success- 18 districts partnering with Highland and each other to deal with shortages in skilled workers and college readiness. This is really a career pathways partnership that ROE is helping to spearhead.

5. **Unfinished Business** – Dalberg reminded everyone of the Northwest Division IASB meeting here on March 31st.

6. **New Business**

- 6.1. The first reading was completed on new policies
- 6.2. The statement of economic interest forms will now need to be completed online.
- 6.3. Information was given to the board on the new purchase of copiers.
- 6.4. Audit procedures have been updated for POs under \$250 for District Staff.
- 6.5. A FOIA was completed for NW IL News
- 6.6. A FOIA was completed for the Retired Teachers Association
- 6.7. Dalberg moved to approved the sequence of dismissal as presented with a second by Poulton. Roll call vote, all present voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.
- 6.8. Poulton moved to approve the purchase of two buses as presented not to exceed \$265,000 with a second by Schauer. Roll call vote, all present voted aye. Motion carried. 5-0.
- 6.9. Schauer moved to adopt calendar option C with a second by Poulton. Roll call vote, all present voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.
- 6.10. Dalberg moved to approve the authorization of the transfer of funds from working cash to the education fund to purchase new copiers with a second by Kussmaul. Roll call vote, all present voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.
- 6.11. Dalberg moved to approve the baseball trip to Jacksonville, IL with a second by Schauer. Roll call vote, all present voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

7. **Personnel**

Schauer made a motion to approve the Personnel Agenda as presented with a second by Poulton. Roll call vote, all present voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.
President Foote welcomed all new employees and thanked those leaving for their time at East Dubuque.

8. **Executive Session**

Dalberg moved to enter into executive session to discuss the appointment, employment and dismissal of employees of the public body or legal counsel of the public body. Public bodies may also discuss the compensation, discipline and performance of specific employees or legal counsel in closed sessions. The act also permits closed meetings to hear testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee or legal counsel to determine its validity (Action item 8.3). Pursuant to Section (c)(1) of the Open Meetings Act [5ILCS120/2(c)(1)]: it was seconded by Schauer. The motion carried 5-0. The Board entered executive session at 6:28pm.

Dalberg moved to return to open session. It was seconded by Schauer and the motion carried 5-0 with the board returning to open session at 7:19pm.

9. **President's Prerogative** – President Foote wanted to express his condolences to three members of the community that were part of the school district for many years even after they retired or moved on. Teacher John Vesley, School Board Member JoAnne Loeffelholz and staff member Fran Ploessl. Each had a way that they impacted the students for many years.

10. **Adjourn**

Poulton made a motion to adjourn with a second from Schauer. Motion carried 5-0 and meeting was adjourned at 7:27 pm.

Signed:



Glen Foote, President

Attest:



Don Kussmaul, Secretary