EVERGREEN PARK COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 231
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
May 27, 2025

The May 27, 2025, 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 7:04 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. Absent: Mr. Tom Schergen, Mr. Larry Symanski. Also physically present: Mr. Thomas O'Malley, Superintendent; Mr. Matt Dugan, Principal; 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 audience.

5. **Approval of Minutes**.

   5.1. April 30, 2025. A motion was made by Ms. Marzoni, seconded by Kress, to approve the open and closed session minutes of the Board meeting on April 30, 2025. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

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

6. **Principal's Report**.

   6.1. Achievements. Mr. Dugan commented on:

   - Honors Night, commending Ben Nesler and Rachael Mayo for their work on this event.
   - AP testing for 242 students taking 374 tests, which is 21 more students and 36 more tests than the previous year. Ann Sekula was recognized for organizing and coordinating the AP testing.
   - Stampede providing lunch for staff appreciation and ice cream for the students.
   - Mustang Pride breakfast honoring 22 students.
   - Perfect Attendance breakfast for 15 students, one of whom had perfect attendance for 4 years.
   - Graduation. Ann Sekula, Terry Masterson and the maintenance staff, and Jim Donato were recognized for their efforts.
   - Athletics including the win against Marist in the Tony Knight memorial "Dust Bowl" game, regional champs in girls soccer and softball.
   - Prom attended by 240 students. Eileen Durkin and Veronica Almendarez were commended for a successful event.
   - Music Department earning a National Association of Music designation of Best Communities for Music Education.
   - The summer theater camp has enrolled 73 campers and will present *Beetlejuice, Jr.* over 4 days in two casts.

   6.2. Presentation. Tina Ward presented her annual LRC in review, highlighting the LRC use, activities and events offered during the previous school year. She also presented background on the books chosen for the summer read.

7. **Facility Director's Report**. Mr. Masterson provided an update on projects. The bleachers and landscaping work are complete. The main gym floor will be screened and a finish applied by the end of the summer break. Work on the cafeteria roof, which will match the pool area, has begun. Completion is expected by mid-July. The parking lot will be resurfaced and striped.

8. **Superintendent's Report**. Mr. O'Malley recognized this year's retirees: Ruth Bittorf, Jolie Burns-Casey, Ken Kazin, Terri Pool, Maria Vinci, and SRO Luciano Valdez. Their combined years of service is more than 120 years.

   He credited the staff for a great year, particularly the teachers, paraprofessionals and administrators.

   8.1. Monthly Financial Report. This month's bills of $967,977.02 are in line with the budget.

   8.2. FOIA Request. SmartProcure requested purchasing information. A response has been sent in accordance with FOIA.

8.3. Overnight Field Trip. Mr. O'Malley recommended Board approval on the consent agenda for an overnight field trip to Eastern Illinois University from July 13-18 for eight students to attend the Cebrin Goodman Teen Institute.

8.4. Health Insurance Renewal. A motion was made by Mr. Kress, seconded by Mrs. Kutschke, to approve the renewal of health, dental, and life/LTD insurance. Motion carried on roll call vote.

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

8.5. AERO Budget. A motion was made by Ms. Marzoni, seconded by Mr. Kress, to approve the FY26 AERO budget. Motion carried on roll call vote.

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

9. **Committee Reports**.

- SCOPE. Mr. Marsan reported that legislation was reviewed at the meeting and a proposed budget was presented.
- IASB. Mrs. Kutschke reported that IASB asked for support of proposed legislation that would put limits on AI-generated FOIA requests to school districts
- Foundation. Mr. Kress reported that the alumni golf outing is June 6 at Coyote Run and thanked the Board for sponsoring a hole.

10. **Closed Session**. At 7:38 p.m., a motion was made by Ms. Marzoni, seconded by Mrs. Kutschke, 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

11. **Open Session**. At 8:03 p.m., a motion was made by Ms. Marzoni, seconded by Mrs. Kutschke, to reconvene in open session. Motion carried unanimously on voice vote.

12. **Action Items**.

12.1. Approval: Coaching Staff. A motion was made by Mr. Kress, seconded by Ms. Marzoni, to approve employment, contingent upon successful completion of pre-employment requirements, of head boys basketball coach Mike Glennon, assistant boys basketball coach Ahmad Jarad, assistant girls basketball coach Madison Sukalo, and diving coach Walter Forsythe. Motion carried on roll call vote.

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

12.2. Approval: Temporary Summer Employees. A motion was made by Ms. Marzoni, seconded by Mrs. Kutschke, to approve temporary summer employees Rocco Cipolla, Tyler Schied, Bryanna Morin, and Dan Gleeson. Motion carried on roll call vote.

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

12.3. Approval: Extracurricular Assignments. A motion was made by Mr. Kress, seconded by Ms. Marzoni, to approve extracurricular assignments for Brian English, head Mathletes; Abra Petraitis, assistant Mathletes; Kevin Knapik and Alivia Aldape, co-class sponsors; and Amy Kazin, fall play. Motion carried on roll call vote.

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

12.4. Appointment: Student Ambassadors. A motion was made by Mrs. Kutschke, seconded by Ms. Marzoni, to appoint Jade Alfano and Jazmin Ayala, as student ambassadors to the Board of Education for the 2025-26 school year. Motion carried on roll call vote.

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

12.5. Employment Agreements. A motion was made by Mr. Kress, seconded by Ms. Marzoni, to approve the 2025-26 employment agreements for administrators and union-exempt employees. Motion carried on roll call vote.

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

12.6. Collective Bargaining Agreement. A motion was made by Mrs. Kutschke, seconded by Mr. Kress, to approve the 2025-29 collective bargaining agreement between the Evergreen Park High School District 231 Board of Education and the Evergreen Park Education Association. Motion carried on roll call vote.

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

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

    - Payroll: April 15, 2025: $591,660.62
      April 30, 2025: $539,100.03
    - Monthly Bill List: $967,977.02 (Education Fund: $426,756.64; Building Fund: $455,241.18; Debt Service Fund: $2,583.25; Transportation Fund: $83,395.95; Capital Projects Fund: $0; Tort Fund: $0; Life Safety Fund: $0)
    - Destruction of closed session audio recording dated November 28, 2023
    - Finance Committee summary notes
    - Overnight field trip to attend CTGI leadership camp in July

    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 June 24, 2025, at 7 p.m. in the Professional Development Room.

15. **Adjournment**. At 8:09 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