EVERGREEN PARK COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 231
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
October 28, 2025

The October 28, 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 6:30 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; Mr. Burt Odelson, Board Attorney; Student Ambassadors Jade Alfano and Jazmin Ayala.

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

4. **Closed Session**. At 6:31 p.m., a motion was made by Mr. Kress, seconded by Mr. Symanski, to recess to closed session regarding the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of an employee and semiannual review of unreleased closed session minutes.

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

5. **Open Session**. At 7:05 p.m., a motion was made by Ms. Marzoni, seconded by Mrs. Kutschke, to reconvene in open session. Motion carried unanimously on voice vote.

6. **Communications**. Mrs. Zofkie commented that *Little Shop of Horrors* will be presented on November 6 and 7.

   Mrs. Zofkie told the individuals who submitted cards to address the Board that the Board will not be responding to their comments tonight and asked them to be respectful of the 5-minute time limit.

   Monica Cisneros addressed the Board regarding an occurrence at Fan Fest. She was not satisfied with the administration's response to her complaint.

   Anna Papasideris addressed the Board to ask the Board's plans for hiring a superintendent.

   Pastor Doyle addressed the Board about the importance of mental health.

   Isaiah Frandsen also addressed the Board about the importance of mental health.

7. **Approval of Minutes**.

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

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

   7.2. October 15, 2025, Special Meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Kress, seconded by Ms. Marzoni, to approve the open and closed session minutes of the Board meeting on October 15, 2025. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

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

8. **Principal's Report**.

   8.1. Achievements. Mr. Dugan commented on:

   - Testing. He recognized the counselors and Technology Department for the successful execution of the pre-ACT testing for freshmen, sophomores, and juniors. Some students excelled in the NMSQT, which serves as a qualifier for the National Merit Scholarship Program.
   - Shadow Days. Eighty students have shadowed so far and another 40 are signed up through December. Jim Ramazinski was recognized for coordinating Shadow Days.
   - Hispanic Heritage month concluded with a very enthusiastic student-run assembly.
   - Marching Band won several awards in competition and concluding the season with the Sounds of the Stadium concert.

8.2. Student Ambassador Report. The student ambassadors reported on the following:

- Hispanic Heritage month assembly. Many students were actively engaged.
- Lockdown video is in progress with half of the areas filmed.
- Trick or Treat community event. Every club will be represented.
- Halloween movie night on Thursday, October 30. Students chose the movie *Coraline*.
- At the Principal's Advisory meeting, students suggested electives and activities they would like offered in the future.

8.3. Presentation. A presentation on the functions and responsibilities of the assistant principal's office was given by Rob McCarthy. Topics included:

- Multi-tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) team that provides and tracks student interventions
- Residency verification process
- McKinney-Vento (Homeless) oversight, ensuring rules are followed
- Dean's Office that is responsible for parent notifications through an automated email and phone call process and parent meetings.

9. **Facility Director's Report**. Mr. Masterson reported on the status of the prop shop construction. The work is on track and expected to be completed by the end of November.

10. **Superintendent's Report**. Mr. O'Malley recognized the following:

- Student ambassadors Jade Alfano and Jazmin Ayala. He thanked them for doing a wonderful job of representing the student body.
- Boys and girls cross country teams. He congratulated them for qualifying for sectionals.
- Tom Eisenbraun for his efforts to organize and execute the college fair for all students.
- Principal Matt Dugan. In recognition of Illinois Principals Appreciation Day, Mr. O'Malley thanked Mr. Dugan for his dedication, wisdom, and energy, saying he has made a positive impact on our school.

10.1. Monthly Financial Report. This month's bills of $648,848 and are in line with the budget.

10.2. FOIA Requests. Responses have been sent in accordance with FOIA to three requesters. Details are included in the Board packet.

11. **Committee Reports**.

- IASB. Mrs. Kutschke referenced a letter sent to each Board member from IASB and encouraged them to respond. Tri-conference workshops were briefly discussed.
- Foundation. Mr. Kress said that the Foundation fundraiser for the scholarship fund will take place on November 16 at Bourbon Street. Tickets purchased in advance are $45 and at the door, $50.

12. **Action Items**.

12.1. Approval of Coaches. A motion was made by Mr. Symanski, seconded by Mr. Kress, to approve employment, contingent upon successful completion of pre-employment requirements, of assistant boys basketball coach Reginald Hamilton and assistant boys bowling coach Katherine Strache. Motion carried on roll call vote.

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

12.2. Semiannual Review of Closed Session Minutes. A motion was made by Mrs. Kutschke, seconded by Ms. Marzoni, to approve the Board's semiannual review of unreleased closed session minutes and the Board's decision to maintain confidential treatment of these closed session minutes. 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 Mr. Kress, seconded by Mr. Symanski, to approve the consent agenda to include:

    - Payroll: September 15, 2025: $609,526.09
      September 30, 2025: $573,703.30
    - Monthly Bill List: $648,848.03 (Education Fund: $467,279.33; Building Fund: $116,587.23; Debt Service Fund: $0; Transportation Fund: $62,981.47; Capital Projects Fund: $0; Tort Fund: $0; Life Safety Fund: $0)
    - Destruction of closed session audio recordings dated April 23 and April 29, 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 November 18, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. in the Professional Development Room.

15. **Adjournment**. At 7:49 p.m., a motion was made by Ms. Marzoni, seconded by Mr. Kress, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously on voice vote.

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President

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Secretary

Sheri Sochacki
Recording Secretary