EVERGREEN PARK COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 231
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
December 16, 2025

The December 16, 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, Mr. Larry Symanski. Absent: Ms. Merikay Marzoni, Mr. Tom Schergen. Also physically present: Mr. Thomas O'Malley, Superintendent; Mr. Matt Dugan, Principal; Mr. Terry Masterson, Facilities Director; Student Ambassadors Jade Alfano and Jazmin Ayala.

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

4. **Communications**. After reading the protocol for audience comments to the Board, Mrs. Zofkie allowed Mrs. Cisneros to address the Board regarding an occurrence at Fan Fest. She expressed her dissatisfaction with the administration's response to her complaint.

5. **Approval of Minutes**.

   5.1. November 18, 2025. A motion was made by Mrs. Kutschke, seconded by Mrs. Zofkie, to approve the open and closed session minutes of the Board meeting on November 18, 2025. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

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

6. **Principal's Report**.

   6.1. Achievements. Mr. Dugan commented on:

   - NHS induction ceremony on December 2. Fifty-nine new members were inducted.
   - Cocoa, Comedy and Carols on December 6.
   - Madrigal performances in the community.
   - Winter concert on December 10 with the theme "To the Stars."
   - Elective fairs for freshmen, sophomores and juniors.
   - NHS toy drive. The baseball team also sponsored a toy drive.
   - Success of the girls wrestling team.
   - Participation in activities and events includes 88% of the student body.

   6.2. Student Ambassador Report. Student ambassadors Jade Alfano and Jazmin Ayala commented on:

   - Elective fairs, which provided an opportunity for students to learn about classes they are interested in by talking with currently enrolled students.
   - The theme for the prom will be A Night in Rio and will be held at the Bridgeport Art Center on May 17, 2026.
   - After inducting 59 new NHS members, the total number of students is 107.
   - Madrigals have been performing in the community including events, retirement homes, and hospitals.
   - The Principal's Advisory discussed ideas for half-time activities during the January 30 basketball game.

   6.3. Presentation. The presentation by Mary Kerrigan, director of special education, provided information on student services offered including 504 accommodations, English language learners program, homebound tutoring and testing accommodations; staff training programs; and incoming Central Middle School students for 2026-27.

7. **Facility Director's Report**. Mr. Masterson reported that the prop shop work is complete and the old prop shop is currently being renovated. He also recommended Board approval of a contract with Studio GC Architects for architectural services.

   7.1. Architectural Services Contract. A motion was made by Mr. Kress, seconded by Mrs. Kutschke, to approve a contract with Studio GC Architects. Motion carried on roll call vote.

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

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

- Congratulated the students, Mr. Scalf, and Mr. Curatolo who did a phenomenal job of preparing for the winter concert.
- Recognized Ben Nesler for his efforts and the efforts of the NHS members who collected over 300 toys during the toy drive.
- Recognized Mr. Masterson and his staff for their work to clear snow during the recent severe snowstorm.

8.1. Monthly Financial Report. This month's bills of $430,708 are in line with the budget.

8.2. FOIA Requests. Mr. O'Malley informed the Board that three FOIA requests had been submitted and responses have been sent in accordance with FOIA.

8.3. Tax Levy. Mr. O'Malley presented the fund balances as follows: Education Fund, $18,834,000; Operations and Maintenance, $7,888,000; Transportation Fund, $845,000' and Working Cash Fund, $1,692,000. Mr. O'Malley then presented the 2025 tax levy. A motion was made by Mr. Symanski, seconded by Mr. Kress, to approve the resolution adopting the 2025 tax levy and associated resolutions. Motion carried on roll call vote.

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

9. **Committee Reports**.

- AERO. Mrs. Zofkie commented on the dedication ceremony of the Riordan Gym in recognition of Dr. Dan Riordan and Dr. Michael Riordan, who were instrumental in securing funding and support for the construction of the AERO Therapeutic Center.
- IASB. Mrs. Kutschke gave a brief report on her participation in the Delegate Assembly at the Joint Annual Conference.
- Foundation. Mr. Kress reported on the successful fundraising event for the Scholarship Fund, which saw its largest attendance and raised $18,000 for scholarships. He also said the foundation board is looking for volunteers to fill two positions.

10. **Closed Session**. At 7:02 p.m., a motion was made by Mrs. Kutschke, seconded by Mr. Kress, to recess to closed session regarding the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of an employee and litigation. Motion carried on roll call vote.

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

11. **Open Session**. At 7:08 p.m., a motion was made by Mr. Symanski, seconded by Mr. Marsan, to reconvene in open session. Motion carried unanimously on voice vote.

12. **Action Items**.

12.1. Approval: Noncertified. A motion was made by Mr. Symanski, seconded by Mr. Kress, to approve employment, contingent upon successful completion of pre-employment requirements, of custodian Jack Jerozal. Motion carried on roll call vote.

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

12.2. Approval: Coaches. A motion was made by Mrs. Kutschke, seconded by Mr. Kress, to approve employment, contingent upon successful completion of pre-employment requirements, of head girls soccer coach Rene Lara and volunteer boys basketball coach Mike Glennon. Motion carried on roll call vote.

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

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

- Payroll: November 15, 2025: $565,816.37
  November 30, 2025: $576,534.16
- Monthly Bill List: $430,708.09 (Education Fund: $174,080.43; Building Fund: $214,704.42; Debt Service Fund: $2,583.25; Transportation Fund: $39,339.99; Capital Projects Fund: $0; Tort Fund: $0; Life Safety Fund: $0)
- Destruction of closed session audio recording dated June 25, 2024

Motion carried on roll call vote.

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

14. **Announcements**. The next Board meeting will be held on December 16, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. in the Professional Development Room.

15. **Adjournment**. At 7:11 p.m., a motion was made by Mr. Kress, 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