EVERGREEN PARK COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 231
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
April 28, 2026

The April 28, 2026, 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. Mike Kress, Ms. Merikay Marzoni. Absent: Mr. Tom Marsan, Mr. Tom Schergen, Mr. Larry Symanski. Also physically present: Mr. Thomas O'Malley, Superintendent; Mr. Matt Dugan, Principal; Mr. Terry Masterson, Facilities Director; Student Ambassadors Jade Alfano and Jazmin Ayala.

   Mrs. Kutschke served as secretary pro tem.

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

4. **Communications**. Ms. Camille Dickey presented the Evergreen Park Employees Credit Union grant check to Robin Fullarton for her work in the courtyard to create a pollinator garden and involve students in AERO and science classes in the planting process.

5. **Approval of Minutes**.

   5.1. March 24, 2026. A motion was made by Ms. Marzoni, seconded by Mr. Kress, to approve the open and closed session minutes of the Board meeting on March 24, 2026. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

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

6. **Principal's Report**.

   6.1. Achievements: Mr. Dugan's report.

   - Congratulations were extended to Colin Curatolo, Logan Scalf, and Kylie Boksa on the successful Music Department trip to Disney World.
   - Announcement of the certified staff member of the year Alyssa Migler and noncertified staff member of the year Vern Estes.
   - Testing for freshmen, sophomores, and juniors was done on April 22. The efforts of the counselors and Technology Department in preparing for administration of the test were acknowledged.
   - Students enjoyed the Rolling Into Spring event on April 25, which included roller skating and outdoor games.

   6.2. Student Ambassador Report: Jade Alfano and Jazmin Ayala.

   - Students were excited about the Rolling Into Spring event and offered many great comments.
   - The Music Department Disney World trip was very successful. The band was selected to march in a prestigious Disney parade that was featured on a local news station. Students enjoyed the special Disney performance workshops that were part of the trip.
   - Students recently participated in the Battle of the Books competition and took second place.

   The Board viewed the training lockdown video that Jade and Jazmin created during the school year that will be shown to students every year.

   Jade and Jazmin both thanked the Board for the opportunity to be student ambassadors and the experience this provided. Mrs. Zofkie presented each of them with gifts from the Board and thanked them for their participation and contributions.

   6.3. Presentation. Instructional coaches Mike Thomas, Jen O'Connor, and Colleen McWalter presented an overview of their work this year to provide professional development in the areas of technology, planning and supporting students, ACT prep sessions, and one-on-one coaching and interventions provided by the reading specialists.

7. **Facility Director's Report**. Mr. Masterson commended his staff for the work accomplished over spring break. He also acknowledged Jack Jerozal, Kevin Schwer, and Steve Stump for the extensive work they did on the pool. The splash pad at the sports complex is expected to be ready by opening day.

   Mr. Masterson recommended Board approval of the contract with Cosgrove Construction for projects at the sports complex.

   7.1. Cosgrove Construction Contract. A motion was made by Mr. Kress, seconded by Ms. Marzoni, to approve the contract with Cosgrove Construction for projects at the sports complex. Motion carried on roll call vote.

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

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

- Robin Fullarton was recognized and thanked her for her gardening efforts to beautify the courtyard.
- Instructional coaches were recognized for doing a phenomenal job.
- Advice Beyond the Classroom (ABC) is a voluntary program for senior students that culminates in a competition where our students did very well. Graduate, Cullin Moonan, was recognized and commended for his efforts to bring this program to our school and for all of his work with our students.
- Student ambassadors Jade Alfano and Jazmin Ayala were thanked for the great job they have done this year.

8.1. Monthly Financial Report. This month's bills of $782,797 are in line with the budget.

8.2. FOIA Requests. Four FOIA requests were submitted. Responses have been sent in accordance with FOIA.

8.3. Abate Emergency Days. A motion was made by Ms. Marzoni, seconded by Mr. Kress, to approve abatement of 5 emergency days from the 2025-26 calendar. Motion carried on roll call vote.

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

8.4. Policy 7:325, Fundraising. Mr. O'Malley explained that the policy was revised to identify the local charities that are preapproved for student organizations to donate to and to require administrative preapproval of any charities not designated.

A motion was made by Mr. Kress, seconded by Ms. Marzoni, to approve revised Board policy 7:325, Student Fundraising Activities. Motion carried on roll call vote.

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

8.5. ATI Physical Therapy Contract. A motion was made by Ms. Marzoni, seconded by Mr. Kress, to approve the 2-year contract with ATI Physical Therapy to provide athletic trainer services. Motion carried on roll call vote.

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

8.6. Overnight Field Trip. Mr. Dugan is sponsoring an overnight trip to Great America on May 9 that rewards seniors who have achieved ACT benchmarks.

9. **Committee Reports**.

- SCOPE. Mr. O'Malley reported that calls to senators and representatives have had an impact on preventing the passage of a bill to allow 10-month employees to collect unemployment as the bill did not advance out of committee.
- IASB. Mrs. Kutschke reported that the school board conference will be held from November 20-22, 2026. Registration opens on June 1.
- Foundation. Mr. Kress reported that six scholarship winners will be announced at Honors Night on May 4. There will be a reception for Hall of Fame nominee David McGrath at 5:30 p.m. The golf outing is planned for June 5 at Coyote Run.

10. **Closed Session**. At 7:16 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, student residency, and semiannual review of unreleased closed session minutes. Motion carried on roll call vote.

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

11. **Open Session**. At 7:58 p.m., a motion was made by Ms. Marzoni, seconded by Mr. Kress, to reconvene in open session. Motion carried unanimously on voice vote.

12. **Action Items**.

12.1. Staff Appointments. A motion was made by Mr. Kress, seconded by Ms. Marzoni, to approve appointment of Matthew Kovacs as director of discipline and Tammy Pietruszynski as instructional coach for math, effective for the 2026-27 school year. Motion carried on roll call vote.

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

12.2. MOU: Paraprofessionals. A motion was made by Ms. Marzoni, seconded by Mr. Kress, to approve the MOU addressing teaching assignments of paraprofessionals. Motion carried on roll call vote.

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

12.3. Semiannual Review of Closed Session Minutes. A motion was made by Mr. Kress, 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. Kress, Ms. Marzoni

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

- Payroll: March 15, 2026: $554,318.85
  March 31, 2026: $593,696.50
- Monthly Bill List: $782,797.98 (Education Fund: $360,956.76; Building Fund: $189,869.45; Debt Service Fund: $3,158.53; Transportation Fund: $120,013.24; Capital Projects Fund: $0; Tort Fund: $0; Life Safety Fund: $108,800.00)
- Destruction of closed session audio recording dated October 22, 2024
- Overnight field trip to Great America on May 9, 2026

Motion carried on roll call vote.

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

14. **Announcements**. The next Board meeting will be held on May 26, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. in the Professional Development Room.

15. **Adjournment**. At 8:02 p.m., a motion was made by Mr. Kress, seconded by Ms. Marzoni, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously on voice vote.

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President

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Secretary

Sheri Sochacki
Recording Secretary