EVERGREEN PARK COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 231
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
October 27, 2026

The October 27, 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. Tom Marsan, Mr. Mike Kress, Ms. Merikay Marzoni. Absent: Mrs. Tracy Ricks, Mr. Tom Schergen. Also physically present: Mr. Thomas O'Malley, Superintendent; Mr. Matt Dugan, Principal; Mr. Terry Masterson, Facilities Director; Student Ambassador Emily Mills. Absent: Ryan Brennan.

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

4. **Communications**. Pastor Doyle addressed the Board regarding a visitor interaction last April.

5. **Approval of Minutes**.

   5.1. September 29, 2026. 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 29, 2026. 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:

   - Pre-ACT testing on October 7. He commended the counselors and technology department and recognized Mrs. Meg Schillo who coordinated the testing.
   - Hispanic Heritage month culminated in a student-run assembly on October 15. He commended sponsors Jen O'Connor and Carlos Ruiz.
   - Sounds of the Stadium concert. He commended the students for an exceptional performance
   - Athletics: volleyball team won conference championship. A new school record was set for diving.
   - *She Kills Monsters,* which was performed on October 22 and 23. He congratulated the show's director Amy Kazin.

   6.2. Student Ambassador Report. Student ambassadors Ryan Brennan and Emily Mills commented on:

   - Sounds of the Stadium performance.
   - ILMEA. Five students qualified to perform.
   - Spanish class field trip.
   - Mustang Mentor program.
   - *She Kills Monsters*. Approximately 45 senior citizens attended the pre-performance dinner.

   6.3. Presentation. Mr. McCarthy presented a report on attendance and truancy. He discussed the daily attendance rate, comparison of attendance and truancy for the years 2023-2025 showing the reduction each year in absences and truancies, parent communication, and support systems in place to address attendance and truancy issues. Chronic truancy and chronic absence rates are both down significantly.

7. **Facility Director's Report**. Mr. Masterson reported that a new HVAC roof unit was installed at the sports complex. A building environmental automation system has been installed, which allows for remotely controlling the system. The bowling alley is complete and open for use. Capital projects for next year are under discussion.

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

   - Sounds of the Stadium concert. He commended the band and color guard for a great job.
   - Dan Truffa named Esports Coach of the Year for 2026. He commended Dan for hosting the state tournament multiple times.
   - Fall sports coaches. He congratulated the coaches for the great successes achieved in their respective sports.
   - Community trick or treat event. He commended Amy Kazin for organizing this annual event and the coaches, sponsors, and students who participated in handing out candy.

8.1. Monthly Financial Report. This month's bills of $863,935 are in line with the budget.

8.2. FOIA Requests. One FOIA request was submitted by SEIU73 for employee data. A response has been sent in accordance with FOIA.

8.3. Overnight Field Trip. A request was submitted for an overnight field trip to attend the Illinois High School Theatre Festival in Urbana from January 7 through 9, 2027. Approval is included on the consent agenda.

9. **Committee Reports**.

- SCOPE. Mr. Marsan reported that he attended a presentation given by ISBE directors covering new funding.
- IASB. Mrs. Kutschke thanked the Board members for their responses regarding proposed resolutions to be voted on at the Delegate Assembly in November. She also commented on the new time of the assembly and invited interested Board members to attend.
- Foundation. Mr. Kress reported that the Foundation fundraiser will be held on November 22 at Bourbon Street. Committee members are seeking raffle donations. He also said that the Foundation is seeking new Board members.

10. **Closed Session**. At 7:04 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, collective bargaining, student residency, and semiannual review of unreleased closed session minutes. Motion carried on roll call vote.

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

11. **Open Session**. At 7:44 p.m., a motion was made by Ms. Marzoni, seconded by Mr. Marsan, to reconvene in open session. Motion carried unanimously on voice vote.

12. **Action Items**.

12.1. Employment: Noncertified. A motion was made by Mr. Kress, seconded by Ms. Marzoni, to approve employment, contingent upon successful completion of pre-employment requirements, of custodian William Keiss. Motion carried on roll call vote.

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

12.2. Approval: Coach. A motion was made by Mrs. Kutschke, seconded by Ms. Marzoni, to approve employment, contingent upon successful completion of pre-employment requirements, of assistant girls basketball coach Kristen Presniakovas. Motion carried on roll call vote.

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

12.3. Semiannual Review: Closed Session Minutes. A motion was made by Mr. Kress, seconded by Mrs. Kutschke, 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

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

- Payroll: September 15, 2026, payroll of $671,667.77
  September 30, 2026, payroll of $629,711.77
- Monthly Bill List: $$863,935.69 (Education Fund: $261,309.08; Building Fund: $508,766.44; Debt Service Fund: $0; Transportation Fund: $86,518.21; Capital Projects Fund: $0; Tort Fund: $0; Life Safety Fund: $4,183.43)
- Destruction of closed session audio recording dated April 30, 2025
- Overnight field trip to the Illinois High School Theatre Festival in Urbana on January 7-9, 2027

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 November 17, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. in the Professional Development Room.

15. **Adjournment**. At 7:47 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