

EVANSVILLE COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Evansville, Wisconsin

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Evansville Community School District was held Wednesday, December 11, 2019, at 6:00 pm in the District Board and Training Center.

Ms. Hammann, Board President, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Hammann. Roll call was taken. Members present: Hammann, Johnson, Nyhus, Paul, Rasmussen, Swanson, as well as high school representative Diebold.

APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Mr. Rasmussen, second by Ms. Swanson, to approve the agenda. Motion carried, 6-0 (voice vote).

Ms. Klaehn joined the meeting at 6:02 pm.

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS/RECOGNITION/UPCOMING EVENTS:

- EEF Murder Mystery Dinner – January 17 & 18, 2020
- Wisconsin Association of School Boards Convention (WASB) – January 22-24, 2020

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS: None

INFORMATION & DISCUSSION:

Ms. Diebold, High School Representative, reported on activities at the four buildings.

- LEVI: Kindergarten traveled to Whitewater for the play, *Lyle Lyle Crocodile*; several first grade classrooms earned Little Blue Booster celebrations; second grade students will sign the National Anthem at a Badger men's basketball game on December 21; in December, all grades will practice lockdown/barricade drills through the use of *I'm Not Scared... I'm Prepared* resources.
- TRIS: Students and staff met in H.E.R.O.E.S groups, which stands for Helping Everyone Respect Others Every Day at School; the 4th grade concert on November 14 featured a camping theme; the 5th grade sponsored a Holiday Food Drive with a goal of collecting 1,500 items. If successful, Ms. Dorn will take a pie in the face at the TRIS December Celebration and the 5th grade class that collects the most items will pie their teacher.
- J.C. McKenna: Blue Notes traveled to Stoughton Hospital, Stoughton Manor, Levi Leonard classes, Evansville Manor, and Evansville Nursing Home on December 5 to sing holiday songs; 7th and 8th grade bands presented a concert on December 6; Ms. Baumberger's class received the highest score in a trivia contest where staff members shared what they were grateful for; the traditional staff vs. 8th grade boys basketball game will be held on December 20; during December, students will be writing appreciation notes to the construction company and the neighbors around the middle school.
- High School: The 14th annual Big Band Bash was held in November; the new Environmental Club received a \$1,000 donation from Evansville Water & Light; auditions are currently being held for the spring musical, *Crazy for You*; the EHS Dance Team held the first Dancing with the Starz of Evansville, with Kaylee Bauman and Mrs. Kopf winning first place; FFA is creating Blessings Bags to be donated to residents at the Heights; EHS Vocal Jazz was chosen to be featured on the NBC 15 Sounds of the Season program on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

Mr. Roth, District Administrator, introduced Ford Poulson, Qualtrics, and Steve Zach, an independent contractor, to provide details on how they provide Employee Climate Survey services. The approach by Qualtrics is to conduct a comprehensive online survey of all staff, staff and students, or staff, students, and parents. Mr. Zach's approach would focus on a targeted set of employees, with a thirty-minute discussion with representatives of each employee group focused around a specific set of questions. The Board Climate Survey Committee of Ms. Hammann, Ms. Swanson, Ms. Klaehn, and Mr. Roth recommended using a blended approach with Qualtrics providing a global survey and Mr. Zach the targeted discussion. Total cost for the blended approach would be approximately \$7,500. Mr. Roth indicated that there is money available in the budget for this.

Zack Bloom, CPA, and Jessica Nordenstrom, Senior Accountant, from Wegner CPA presented the 2018-2019 Audit Report. Mr. Bloom commended Ms. Merath, Business Manager, on an audit that found zero audit findings that would require resolution. He also noted two new laws that will be in effect in upcoming fiscal years. The first ensures that the district has evaluated all student activities in Fund 60 to determine there is no administrative control, keeping the district in compliance with new standards for fiduciary activities. The second law will require a lease asset and a lease payable on the books for all leases at the end of June 2021. The district currently has no outstanding leases.

Mr. Schwartz, Levi Leonard principal, introduced staff from the four 4K sites and discussed philosophy, growth, and plans for 4K services in the district. Those attending included Jammie Fellows and Carrie Burkhalter (Kids Korner), Tina Harnack (Magic Moments), Michele Soto (Pathway Preschool), and Lee Ann Halla and Angie Olsen (Wee Ones). Mr. Schwartz indicated that 5K teachers feel that students who participate in the 4K program are more prepared socially and emotionally for the rigors of kindergarten. He reported that they are currently about a month ahead in preparation for registration for fall 4K enrollment.

Mr. Roth provided an update on the referendum building progress. Due to weather issues, construction was reported as being about four days off schedule, but that Cullen does not believe this to be a problem.

Ms. Hammann explained the timeline for the spring election for three school board seats. Those positions are currently filled by Ms. Hammann, Mr. Nyhus, and Mr. Rasmussen. At the time of the meeting, one incumbent had filed papers to seek re-election. Incumbents have until December 27 to file a Notice of Non-Candidacy if they are not seeking re-election. All candidates wishing to appear on the spring ballot must submit all completed paperwork by 5:00 pm on January 7, 2020.

Mr. Everson, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, provided information on the results of the 2018-2019 State Report Card. He also provided the summary report cards for the district, TRIS, JC McKenna, and the high school.

Mr. Knott, High School Principal, and Kelly Fanta, Advanced Learner Coordinator, reviewed historical data on AP Exam fees, as well as a proposal for the district to cover the cost of exam fees when students take the exams for AP classes completed through EHS course offerings. Mr. Knott noted that some students are unable to take the exams to earn college credits because of an inability to pay. Comparisons were made between the AP exam process for earning college credit and the Start College Now and Early College Credits programs. Under state law, the latter two programs require that the district pay for costs for up to 18 credits with no consideration of a family's ability to pay. Beloit Turner currently subsidizes the AP exam fee, and four other districts are considering full payment. Motion by Ms. Johnson, second by Mr. Nyhus, to table further discussion until the board budget retreat on January 25, 2020. Motion carried, 7-0 (voice vote).

Mr. Knott and Mr. Everson presented a proposal for offering two additional courses at the high school: Microsoft Office Specialist certification and an Agribusiness course. Both courses are 0.5 credit elective courses, and neither will require additional FTE staffing. Whether either course runs will be dependent upon student course request counts at the time that the master schedule is built.

Ms. Katzenberger, Director of Student Services, reviewed the need for a full-time Educational Interpreter. A trial run on the position was completed during the fall and there is a need to increase the position from three hours per day to full-time. Typical hiring practices would be followed.

Ms. Hammann asked for board input on the resolutions being considered during the WASB Convention in January. Board consensus was to instruct Ms. Paul, the district's voting delegate, to vote in the affirmative on all resolutions.

Mr. Everson, Director of Curriculum, presented proposed Staff and Student calendars for the 2020-2021 school year. By consensus, the board sent the calendars back to committee last month to request adjustments to protect student contact days and professional development days. The latest calendar produced at a November 25 meeting includes 174.5 student contact days, one full day and two half-days for grading, eight professional development days, one work day, two compensatory days, and three paid holidays.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS: None

POLICIES:

Ms. Swanson, Board Vice President, presented for a first reading Policy #443.4 – Student Alcohol, Tobacco, and/or Other Drug Use; Policy #443.41/522.1 – Definition Relating to Alcohol; Policy #453.7 – Mental Health and Wellness Policy – New; Policy #454 – Reporting Child Abuse & Neglect; Policy #454 Rule – Procedures for Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect; Policy #454 Form – Child Protective Services Referral – For Removal; Policy #455.1 – Supervision of Students; Policy #456 – Student Assistance Program.

Ms. Swanson presented for a second reading Policy #446.1 – Student Search Activities; Policy #451 – Student Insurance Program – For Removal; Policy #453 – School Health Services; Policy #453.1 – Emergency Nursing Services; Policy #453.2 – Student Immunizations; Policy #453.3 – Communicable Diseases; Policy #453.4 – Administering Medications to Students; Policy #453.4 Form – Medication Consent Form; Policy #453.4 Form 1 – Physician/Practitioner Medication Consent Form.

Mr. Rasmussen, Treasurer, presented the November donation report with \$4,910 donated. Those donations included funds for the high school STEM lab, as well as funds for music, historical non-fiction books, ozobots for STEAM, sensory room updates, and kindergarten playground updates, all at Levi Leonard.

Ms. Johnson reported on the Evansville Education Foundation. The Murder Mystery Dinner fundraiser in January will have a 1980s theme. Tickets are priced at \$50 per person. JoMarie Oakeson is the newest member of the Foundation board. The Grove Market donated \$826 to the Foundation that had been added to their collection jar over a two-month period.

Ms. Merath submitted the October summaries for Funds 10 and 27. To date, revenues for the district are \$2,180,587, while expenditures is at \$5,388,070. This disparity is a result of the way equalization aid is distributed by the state and is the reason the district needs to borrow funds on a short-term basis. If aid was distributed equally across months, the district would have already received \$8,788,029.

BUSINESS (ACTION ITEMS):

Motion by Mr. Rasmussen, second by Ms. Swanson, to approve the Act 143 School Violence Event Drill Reports as presented. In discussion, Ms. Dobbs, Middle School Principal, explained that egress changes due to construction at the middle school led to the drills at that building being fire marshal barricade drills. Motion carried, 7-0 (voice vote).

Motion by Mr. Rasmussen, second by Mr. Nyhus, to approve the new middle school name to be J.C. McKenna Middle School. Motion carried, 7-0 (voice vote).

Motion by Mr. Nyhus, second by Mr. Rasmussen, to approve the presented wording change for the High School Handbook. Motion carried, 7-0 (voice vote).

Motion by Mr. Rasmussen, second by Ms. Swanson, to approve the compensation increase as presented for Jessica Mohrbacher for earning a master's degree. Motion carried, 7-0 (voice vote).

Motion by Mr. Rasmussen, second by Mr. Nyhus, to approve the 2020-2021 Staff and Student Calendars as presented. Motion failed, 2-5 (voice vote, Hammann, Johnson, Paul, Nyhus, Swanson opposed).

Motion by Mr. Nyhus, second by Ms. Swanson, to set minimum student contact days to 175. Motion by Mr. Rasmussen, second by Mr. Nyhus, to amend the motion to set minimum student contact days to 175 unless the Department of Public Instruction or other government body instructs otherwise. Motion to amend failed (voice vote, Hammann, Klaehn, Paul, Swanson opposed). Original motion passed, 6-1 (voice vote, Rasmussen opposed).

When the 2021-2022 calendar is reviewed, the committee will include representatives from administration, school board, and one staff member from each building.

Motion by Ms. Johnson, second by Ms. Swanson, to approve a climate survey. Motion by Ms. Klaehn, second by Ms. Swanson, to amend the motion to accept Mr. Roth's suggestion to hire Qualtrics to do a general climate survey and Mr. Zach to do a secondary survey. Motion to amend carried, 7-0 (voice vote). Motion on original motion as amended carried, 7-0 (voice vote).

Motion by Ms. Swanson, second by Mr. Nyhus, to approve the hiring of a 1.0 FTE Educational Interpreter. Motion carried, 7-0 (voice vote).

CONSENT (ACTION ITEMS):

Motion by Mr. Rasmussen, second by Ms. Swanson, to approve the November 13, 2019, Regular Meeting Minutes, October Bills and Bank Reconciliation, Policy #512 – Employee Harassment, Boys Hockey and Swim Co-op Opportunities, Co-curricular Stipend Changes. Motion carried, 7-0 (roll call vote).

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion by Mr. Rasmussen, second by Mr. Nyhus, to convene in closed session under Wisconsin State Statutes 19.85(1)(c) to consider employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility; namely to discuss Administrators' performances and terms of written contracts. Motion carried, 7-0 (roll call vote), at 9:56 pm.

Motion by Ms. Swanson, second by Ms. Paul, to reconvene into open sessions. Motion carried, 7-0 (voice vote).

Motion by Ms. Johnson, second by Ms. Klaehn, to approve the language changes in the contract for District Administrator Jerry Roth. Motion carried, 7-0 (voice vote).

ADJOURN:

Motion by Ms. Johnson, second by Mr. Rasmussen, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried, 7-0 (voice vote). Meeting adjourned at 10:54 pm.

Submitted by Ellyn Paul, Clerk

Approved: _____ Approved: 1/15/2020
Melissa Hammann, President