

EVANSVILLE COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Evansville, Wisconsin

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Evansville Community School District was held Wednesday, October 23, 2019, at 6:00 pm in the District Board and Training Center.

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

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Hammann. Roll call was taken. Members present: Hammann, Johnson, Klaehn, Paul, Rasmussen, Swanson. Absent: Nyhus

APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Ms. Swanson, second by Ms. Johnson, to approve the agenda with removal of Policy #512 – Employee Harassment. Motion carried, 6-0 (voice vote).

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS/RECOGNITION/UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Ms. Katzenberger, Student Services Director, introduced Megan Halvensleben and Amberly Mixon to the board. Ms. Halvensleben is the new School Social Worker and Ms. Mixon is a Therapist providing school-based mental health services to the District.

INFORMATION & DISCUSSION:

Ms. Green, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade U.S. History Teacher, presented a proposal for an overnight middle school field trip to Washington, D.C. for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. The four day and three-night trip would be coordinated through World Strides and would be led by a Washington, D.C. local expert. Chaperone to student ration would be 1:12, with no limit on the number of participants. Estimated cost is \$1,771 per student and \$2,037 for adults. Need-based scholarships may be available through World Strides.

Mr. Knott, High School Principal, and Ms. Dobbs, Middle School Principal, presented results of the district survey on adding a School Resource Officer. Representatives from the City of Evansville in attendance were Ian Rigg, City Administrator, and Patrick Reese, Interim Chief of Police. The SRO position would be an officer dedicated to the schools during the school year, at an estimated cost to the District of \$64,000 annually. Acknowledging that the city would see a savings of about \$20,000 on current traffic enforcement and calls for service to the schools, Mr. Rigg indicated that the city would require the District to pay \$44,000 for the first school year, with a 2% increase in each of the next three years of a four-year contract.

Mr. Roth, District Administrator, provided an update on the referendum. Areas that were under construction during the summer are nearing completion. The welding lab was operational the week of October 20, and steel structure began going up at the middle school site as well. The elevator shaft there is nearing completion and the electrical line was being installed the evening of October 23 at a district cost of \$56,000. Funding for that cost is within the referendum budget.

Ms. Merath, Business Manager, reviewed a memo and reports regarding the 2019-2020 Third Friday Count. Enrollment that day was 1,808, with a notable decrease in the Open Enrollment deficit. Last year 33 more students enrolled out of the district than enrolled in. This year, the 20-student disparity represents the lowest deficit in five years.

Ms. Katzenberger, Director of Student Services, provided information regarding the availability of School Based Mental Health resources in the district. Offered to the District through Stateline Mental Health

Services at Beloit, the service accepts insurance from multiple sources so there is no cost to the District for providing a proactive approach to mental health services. Ms. Mixon is currently seeing approximately 30 students and there is a waiting list for those seeking services. Additionally, staff can be made available if it is determined the District needs it.

Ms. Merath advised that Board Docs is willing to waive the \$1,000 implementation fee and will provide on-site training since the initial inquiry was made before September 1, 2019. Access would be granted at the time of contract signing, with annual billing not starting until 90 days later.

**PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:** Ms. Schieldt, High School Math Teacher, spoke regarding the availability of additional budget dollars, which will help make the District a regional leader.

**EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK COMMITTEE SUGGESTED CHANGES:** Ms. Swanson presented a second reading of Employee Handbook Suggested changes on Part II, Certified Staff, Pg 53, Section 8, 8.01, A – Retirement Benefits; Part III, Support Staff, Pg 63, Section 8, 8.01, Holidays; Part III, Support Staff, Pg 61, Section 7, Paid Vacations; Part II, Certified Staff, Pg 47, Section 5, 5.11, Teacher Mentors.

**POLICIES:** Ms. Swanson presented for a second reading Policy #443.8 – Gang-Related or Other Criminal Acts and Student Safety; Policy #447 – Student Discipline: Detention, Suspension and Expulsion; Policy #447.1 – Use of Seclusion and Physical Restraint by Staff; Policy #512 – Employee Harassment; Policy #512/513 Form – Employee Harassment Report Form; Policy #513 – Bullying in the Workplace; Policy #831 – Weapons on School Property.

**BUDGET FINANCE:** Mr. Rasmussen, Board Treasurer, shared that \$11,380 in donations had been received thus far for the 2019-2020 school year. That figure includes the \$11,000 anonymous donation for paying off lunch accounts that were in arrears.

Ms. Johnson updated the board on the Evansville Education Foundation meeting. Current focus is on advertising Giving Tuesday, which is the Tuesday after Thanksgiving. Plans are underway for another Mystery Dinner fundraiser. The group is also considering structural changes to the now ten-year-old group.

Ms. Merath provided the Financial Summary for September. Highlights included receipt of the first general aid payment in the amount of \$1,985,977; September payroll and benefits expense of \$1,609,043.24; and August referendum spending in the amount of \$3,480,705.75.

**BUSINESS (ACTION ITEMS):**

Motion by Mr. Rasmussen, second by Ms. Swanson, to approve the hiring of Jessica Lincoln, Educational Assistant, effective November 6, 2019, for an hourly wage of \$14.50. Motion carried, 6-0 (voice vote).

Motion by Mr. Rasmussen, second by Ms. Paul, to approve the Notice of Change Adopted Budget Worksheet and Budget Publication as presented. Motion carried, 6-0 (voice vote).

**CONSENT (ACTION ITEMS):**

Motion by Ms. Swanson, second by Mr. Rasmussen, to approve the October 9, 2019, September Bills and Bank Reconciliation, and the Purchase of Board Docs. Motion carried, 6-0 (roll call vote).

**BOARD DEVELOPMENT:** Ms. Katzenberger presented information on the District's first Core Belief, the Equitable Distribution of Students. Board development at the November 13 meeting will be on Core Belief #2, Learning Targets.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion by Mr. Rasmussen, second by Ms. Paul, to convene in closed session under one or more of the exemptions provided under Wisconsin State Statutes 19.85(1) (c) (f); namely discuss District Administrator evaluation, considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility; considering financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons, preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems. Motion carried, 6-0 (roll call vote), at 9:46 pm.

ADJOURN:

Motion by Mr. Rasmussen, second by Ms. Swanson, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried, 6-0 (voice vote). Meeting adjourned at 11:33 pm.

Submitted by Ellyn Paul, Clerk

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Approved: November 13, 2019  
Melissa Hammann, President