

Regular Board Meeting
May 9, 2017
Board Conference Room

Call to Order:

President Nick Aguinaga called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room, whereupon roll was subsequently taken. Melissa Bartels, Missy Bell-Yates, Zach Butkovich, Mike Redman, Mark St. Peters, and Jennifer Murray answered the roll call to establish a quorum. Absent: Leroy Duncan. Present were administrators and/or directors John Pearson, Leigh Robinson, Kevin Gockel, and Gerry Mattix-Wand. Also present was Maintenance Director, Jeff Foxall, and student, Drew Sobol.

Student Recognition:

Mr. Gockel introduced Senior, Drew Sobol, and recognized him as one of our two medal winners at the IHSA State Wrestling Tournament, as well as being a state qualifier in Golf. He observed that Drew finished 4th in the tournament and noted his hard work and dedication to the sport of Wrestling. Mr. Gockel also noted that EAWR had two other state wrestling qualifiers, with Zac Blasioli winning the State Championship at 136 lbs., and Jon Wright qualifying for state at Heavyweight.

[Mr. Duncan arrived at 6:02 p.m.]

The Board thanked and congratulated Drew Sobol and wished him well on his college career, where he will start as a student-athlete at Parkland College in Champaign.

Board Communications:

None.

Public Comments:

None.

Maintenance Director's Quarterly Update:

Mr. Jeff Foxall, Maintenance/Transportation Director, gave the Board a summary of his plan to address some of the concerns expressed about building maintenance and cleaning. Some of his planned activities include: 1) Weekly meetings with night custodians; 2) Assign extra weekly duties; 3) Reiterate the importance of perception from the public and staff; 4) Continue unannounced walk-throughs on night shift and 6) Start daily trash pick up around campus since weather is better.

He also reported on the major summer activities, which include: 1) Installing the new classroom window air units; 2) Continue the stripping and re-waxing of East Building rooms; 3) Continue to repaint walls and fix plaster issues in classrooms as time allows; and 4) Work on cleaning the East Building Courtyard floor.

Discussion of Purchase of Driver Ed. Car and Replacement Buses:

Superintendent Pearson reminded the Board that he and Mr. Foxall would like to begin shopping around for a replacement Driver Ed. vehicle, as well as purchase a couple of used school buses, preferably one with a handicapped lift, and both with diesel engines. Earlier estimates showed that it might be feasible to accomplish this and only spend about \$25,000.

Mr., Foxall noted that he had looked at Midwest Transit for replacement buses, since they had some reasonable low mileage diesel buses (around 90,000 miles) and the advantages of a diesel plant that could likely go many more miles without an engine rebuild, than a gasoline motor. This company - which has locations throughout the state - would ask for \$500 in earnest money to hold a used bus, and would apply that towards the purchase price.

There was a general consensus of the Board to allow Mr. Foxall and Dr. Pearson to get some prices, with the goal of bringing back a proposal / recommendation at the June meeting.

Minutes:

Motion by Mr. Duncan; second by Mrs. Bell-Yates, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meetings of April 4, 2017 and April 11, 2017. Motion Carried Voice Vote.

Approve Payment of District Bills and Quick Pays:

Motion by Mr. St. Peters; second by Mrs. Bell-Yates, that the payment of bills as presented in the amount of \$43,771.08 be authorized; that salaries for the month of April in the amount of \$430,680.69 and bills quickly paid for the month of April in the amount of \$30,790.66 be approved and that May salaries and bills to be paid quickly be authorized. Aye: Ms. Bartels, Mrs. Bell-Yates, Mr. Butkovich, Mr. Duncan, Mr. Redman, Mr. St. Peters, and Mrs. Murray. Nay: None.

Adopt Final School Calendar for 2016-17:

Motion by Mrs. Bell-Yates; second by Mr. St. Peters, to approve the final 2016-17 school calendar and authorize the superintendent to submit it following the last pupil attendance day. Motion Carried Voice Vote.

Hear 2nd Reading and Adopt Board Policy Revisions:

The superintendent inquired as to if any Board members needed any further explanation or clarification to the recommended policy revisions. Hearing none he recommended their adoption.

Motion by Mr. St. Peters; second by Mrs. Bell-Yates to adopt the following policy revisions: 2.100: Board Member Conflict of Interest; 4:15: Identity Protection; 5:120: Employee Ethics, Conduct, and Conflict of Interest; 6.70: Teaching About Religions; and 7.100: Health Examinations, Immunizations, and Exclusion of Students. Motion Carried Voice Vote.

Approve Facility Use Request: Machinists Union to Rent Memorial Gym on August 6, 2017:

The Machinist Union for Global Brass requested to use the Memorial Gym to hold its union meeting on Sunday, August 6, 2017. They have agreed to cover the custodial; costs and will provide an appropriate liability insurance certificate.

Motion by Mrs. Bell-Yates; second by Mr. Duncan, to approve the facility use request of the Machinist Union to use Memorial Gym on August 6, 2017, on the condition that custodial costs are reimbursed back to the District and that appropriate liability insurance coverage is provided. Motion Carried Voice Vote.

Discuss City of Wood River's TIF Extension Proposal:

Supt. Pearson reported on a letter recently received from new Wood River Mayor, Cheryl Maguire that asked if the Board would support the City's application for a 12-year extension on TIF #2. This tax increment financing district has been in existence for the statutory maximum of 23 years, but the City would like to retain the TIF, so that it could take any development proceeds to help upgrade the water treatment plan. The City estimates that the Water Treatment Plant upgrade would cost about \$15 Million.

Dr. Pearson reminded the Board that any property improvements would lead to increased tax revenue, and that increased revenue would go completely to the City's TIF Fund, without that revenue helping the school district.

He further noted that the extension would have to be approved by the General Assembly, which explains why the City wishes for the Board to write letters of support to the legislators.

Dr. Pearson recommended that he talk with the Mayor and Finance Director to see what the timeline is for this extension and to see if any sort of consideration can be made with the school districts, as was the case with the recent TIF arrangement with the Village of Hartford.

Principal's Report:

Mrs. Robinson reported on the following:

Upcoming dates to remember

May	10	Senior Assembly—1:15pm
	11/12	Senior Exams
	17	Graduation—8 pm
	22/23	Underclass exams
	30	Start of Summer School

Committees

Focus groups continue to meet throughout the 16-17 school year.

The PJC Committee met on 5/8/17 and will be making recommendations for changes for the 17/18 school year.

Miscellaneous

- Tri-district articulation—ELA/math teachers will meet on May 16th
- Career Day was a successful event. Thirty speakers from the community participated in Career Day on April 28th.

Superintendent's Report:

The superintendent reported that the tax base for the 2016 Tax Year (for FY 2018) improved by 1.5%. While this is not a seemingly large increase, he pointed out that, for many years, the tax base was stagnant.

He also reported that an earlier facility use request for June had been withdrawn, as the sponsoring organization had apparently scheduled its event at Alton High School.

Executive Session:

Motion by Mr. St. Peters; second by Mr. Duncan, to adjourn to executive session to: a) Discuss individual student matters, b) The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District, c) Discuss collective bargaining matters, d) Discuss pending or current litigation, and e) Discuss emergency security matters. Aye: Ms. Bartels, Mrs. Bell-Yates, Mr. Butkovich, Mr. Duncan, Mr. Redman, Mr. St. Peters, and Mrs. Murray. Nay: None. Motion Passed at 7:20 p.m.

Come Out of Executive Session:

Motion by Mrs. Bell-Yates; second by Mr. St. Peters, to come out of executive session. Aye: Ms. Bartels, Mrs. Bell-Yates, Mr. Butkovich, Mr. Duncan, Mr. Redman, Mr. St. Peters, and Mrs. Murray. Nay: None. Motion Passed at 7:20 p.m.

Action Items:

Motion by Mr. St. Peters; second by Mrs. Murray, to approve the destruction of the audio recordings of the Executive Session Minutes of November 2015. Motion Carried Voice Vote.

Motion by Mr. Duncan; second by Mr. Leggett, to approve the Executive Session Minutes of April 4, 2017 and April 11, 2017. Motion Carried Voice Vote.

Adjournment:

Motion by Mrs. Bell-Yates; second by Ms. Bartles, to adjourn. Motion Carried Voice Vote at 7:40 p.m.