

From the EAWRCHS Board ...

Regular Board Meeting

March 8, 2016

What follows is an unofficial summary of the East Alton - Wood River Community High School District #14 Board of Education Regular Meeting of March 8, 2016.

Oiler Achievers

Mr. Gockel introduced the three Wrestlers who advanced to the state tourney in Champaign:

Zach Blasioli, a junior, has competed in wrestling and football while attending high school. Zach would like to finish his career as a state champ, then go on to college and continue wrestling. He enjoys spending time with his family and friends when he is not training. His accomplishments include placing twice at the IHSA State finals, with a 6th Place finish as a freshman and wrestling in the championship match, placing 2nd in 2016. He boasts a career record of 109-21.

Coach Sobol had this to say about Zach: "Zach is one of the toughest wrestlers I have ever had the pleasure of coaching. He works hard every day at practice and competes at a very high level. Zach has wrestled the best in the state the last three years and his record shows just how good he is in his weight class."

Zach Kincade, a sophomore, has participated in football and wrestling and works out throughout the year training for both sports. He enjoys spending time with his family and friends. Zach competed at the state tournament for the first time in 2016 and hopes to go back the next two years. His record for 2015-16 was 26 - 10, with 18 pins. Further, he finished as the champion in his weight class at the Mount Olive, Civic Memorial and the IHSA Regional tournaments. He also placed second at the Rochester Tournament and fourth in the IHSA Sectionals.

Coach Sobol had this to say about Zach. "Zach really came on this year as a wrestler. He dedicated himself to the training and made his first state appearance, which is an accomplishment to his dedication. He is ready to repeat the next two years."

Drew Sobol, a junior has competed in wrestling and golf. Drew holds the school record for lowest nine-hole score at 33. Although Drew enjoys spending time with his friends outside of school, they have to find him usually at the golf course or

training for wrestling. After high school, Drew would like to go to college on a golf scholarship. His wrestling accomplishments include: Three-time IHSA Regional Champion; two-time IHSA Sectional Champion; three-time State Qualifier; and 4th Place in state this season. Drew also compiled a 39-5 season record in 2015-16, with 32 pins - an Oiler single-season record (eclipsing the former record of 27). And, he has a career record of 106-14 for career.

Coach Sobol had this to say about Drew. "Drew is an outstanding athlete who not only excels in wrestling, but also golf. He had to maintain a weight this year that was extremely difficult to maintain. Coaching your son is not always easy, but I could not be more proud of my son for his work ethic and dedication to the sport. He literally had to paddle across a lake one day to get to wrestling practice. The heart of this young man is like a lion."

Coach Sobol also observed that this marked the first time in Oiler history that two placed in the same state tourney.

The Board congratulated these three outstanding student representatives of EAWR and thanked them, Coach Sobol, and their parents for attending.



Board Correspondence

Dr. Pearson reminded the Board about the invitation to present at the National Honor Society Induction Ceremony on Wednesday, March 9, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. He noted that Board member Scott Miner has already agreed to attend, but that more were welcome.

He also reminded the members about the Silver Medallion Banquet on April 28th at Lewis & Clark College.

Adopt 2016-17 School Calendar

The Board adopted the recommended 2016-2017 School Calendar. The highlights of the proposed 2016-17 Calendar are:

- School would begin with 2 Teacher Institute Days on Aug. 18 & 19th, with the first attendance day for students on the following Monday (August 22, 2016).
- Teacher Institute on Oct. 7, which in 2016 is a County Institute
- Two Parent-Teacher Conferences (Oct. 19-20 & March 15-16)
- Christmas Break would run from Thursday, Dec. 22, 2016 through Tuesday, January 3, 2017, inclusive. Faculty will return for an Institute on Wednesday, January 4th, with students returning for 2nd Semester on January 5th.
- Use of a “buy-back day” (April 13, 2017 - Thursday before Easter), which is tentatively listed as a non-attendance day, but could be reverted to an attendance day, to compress the calendar. This would translate into another short Easter Break in 2017.
- If all five snow days were used, school would be dismissed on May 31, 2017. If no snow days were used, school would be dismissed on May 23, 2017.

Renew Membership in the IHSA

The Board approved the renewal of membership in the Illinois High School Association, the state’s interscholastic athletics and activities association.

Tech Report and Recommendations

Mr. Mattix-Wand presented several tech and network recommendations for 2016-17, as seen below in his report and recommendations:

E-rate Budgeting

Our discount rate will be 80% for the year 2016-17. We will be responsible for 20% of the costs of our services and items we purchase under this program. Costs shown in this report are all pre-discount costs.

Category 1 - Telecommunications and Broadband Internet Service

- Internet Connection - We will continue to use ICN for our Internet Provider. Currently, we have a 100MB connection with some restructuring we can get a 250MB connection and pay about the same. Our ICN charge will change from \$600 to \$1375 per month pre-discount or \$275 after discount.

- Internet “Last Mile” - AT&T provides our transport to ICN services. We are going to renew our contract for 5 years with a different line type. Our charge will change from \$1,051 to \$518 per month pre-discount or \$117.72 after discount.
- Hosted VoIP - We will renew a 3-year contract with Mitel’s Hosted VoIP Service. Our monthly cost will change from \$1,260 to \$1,434 pre-discount cost. Our discount will be reduced to 40% as they phase out telecommunications from the E-rate program.
- POTS (“Plain Old Telephone Service”) Lines - Our lines for Fax machines and alarm systems will be provided by AT&T. Our monthly cost is \$720. Our discount will be reduced to 40% as they phase out telecommunications from the E-rate program.
- Cellular Service - Provided by Verizon. Our monthly cost is \$320. Our discount will be reduced to 40% as they phase out telecommunications from the E-rate program.

Category 2 - Internal Connections

Internal connection monies will be limited to a budget of \$150 per student over a period of 5 years, however the program is only funded for the first 2 years. For us, it means we can get up to \$77,700 dollars of services and only pay \$15,540. Last year we did not expend all of our Category 2 funding so we can still purchase with an 80% discount on qualified equipment.

- Wireless - We are recommending the creation of a wireless network out to the stadium area. This will cost \$2048.85.

Chromebook Purchase

Mr. Miller and I attended a vendor showcase of Chromebooks in Litchfield on Feb. 29. We were able to look at several different models from 6-7 different manufacturers. Based on what we saw, we have ordered demo units of the most promising models.

Later this spring, the administration will return with a recommendation for lease-purchase, as set forth in the Board’s Strategic Plan.

The Plan - including the creation of a wireless presence at Memorial Stadium - was approved.

Principal’s Report

Mrs. Robinson reported on the following:

Upcoming dates to remember

Mar	9	NHS Induction
	11-13	Spring Play
	16-17	P/T Conferences
	17	8 th Grade Parent Night
	18	No School
	25-28	Spring Break
	31	PARCC Testing
Apr	5	PARCC Testing
	6	PARCC Testing

Committees

Focus groups will continue to meet throughout the 2015-16 school year. Also, the PJC committee continues to meet to discuss evaluation issues.

Miscellaneous

College panel—March 16th for seniors

Mannie Jackson Center for the Humanities - EAWR has put together a six-student team who, along with Mrs. Robinson, is writing a grant proposal for the MJCH. The proposal must be on one of the “four pillars” of the Center, with the EAWR team selecting the pillar, Respect. The goal of the group is to increase respect amount students, teachers, and at community events. The team has chosen the familiar EAWR acronym: Every Action & Word = Respect.

Community Service Update—Mrs. Robinson currently has four opportunities available to students for the month of March. Below is a table indicating the number of students with their service hours completion:

43/103--Done
37/103--Over half
14/103--Under half
9/103—Zero

Superintendent’s Report

Dr. Pearson reported that the District fared well in the recent ROE Compliance Audit. He reported briefly on the process, noting that only the audit team raised only a few

minor and easily-corrected Life Safety issues, including the installation of an emergency light in the Auditorium Control Booth.

He also reported that the first year of the PERA teacher evaluation process was wrapped-up, culminating in the production of a Sequence of Honorable Dismissal List, which would be presented to the union President, Jeni Timmins, on Wednesday. This list is required to be compiled annually, with EAWR using a commercially-produced software program to input teacher licensure and evaluation ratings data and to create the mandated List. This List would be used in the event the Board would decide to initiate a reduction in force.

Following Executive Session

The Board accepted the resignation of Jesse Daniels as Asst. Girls Basketball Coach.