

From the EAWR #14 Board ...

1st Regular Board Meeting April 2, 2019

What follows is an unofficial summary of the East Alton - Wood River Community High School District #14 Board of Education 1st Regular Meeting of April 2, 2019.

Board Communications

Mrs. Murray asked the administration to acknowledge a particular student athlete's recent accomplishment at the Bloomington indoor track meet on the marquee.

Award of Bid for Restroom Renovation Work – Life Safety

Mr. Tim Downen of Hurst-Rosche presented the proposals from the recent bid opening for the planned restroom renovation work from the District's 10-Year Life Safety Plan. He remarked that all of the bids seem to be pretty close to the estimated project cost of \$225,000. He pointed out that R&W Builders of O'Fallon, Illinois was the lowest responsible bidder with a base bid of \$200,000 for the project. He also noted that R&W was the lowest bidder on the two alternates: 1) Using a poured epoxy flooring instead of tile and 2) Refurbishing the shower walls and fixtures in the Boys PE locker room (instead of demolishing the existing and crumbling shower wall).

Mr. St. Peters asked if the current glazed blocks would be duplicated, to which Mr. Downen replied that the bid specs called for demolishing and re-using some existing glazed block from around the toilet area (which would be replaced by fiberglass stalls) to re-build the shower enclosures.

Alternate #1 was actually a deduction to the overall bid by \$2,981 and Alternate #2 was an added \$6,655, bring the overall bid of R&W's to \$203,674.

Mr. Downen also noted the reference checks on R&W turned out well, with Mascoutah School District and Scott AFB being two notable institutions that have been pleased with the work of this contractor. He also noted that the contractor was called to ascertain its comfort level with its bid and the timeline for the project (June 3rd to August 2nd). Although there was a little concern expressed regarding the August 2nd substantial completion date, they were sticking with their bid.

After some further discussion, Supt. Pearson recommended that the Board award the bid to R&W Builders for the amount specified and with the two alternates accepted.

The Board approved a motion to award the restroom renovation project to R&W Builders for the bid price of \$203,674 and included in that award was Alternates #1 and #2.

Approve Disposal of Obsolete Equipment in Machine Shop Classroom

Mr. Sitze is requesting the disposal of four outdated and non-working lathes and/or milling machines in the machine shop classroom, with the sale of those older machines to Industrial Tools and Machines, LLC, of Millstadt. The proceeds from that sale would be used to finance the purchase of a new lathe. Essentially, the vendor can refurbish the old non-working equipment and is prepared to pay the high school \$4,950, which includes the delivery of a new lathe and haul-off of the obsolete machines.

After some discussion, the Board adopted a motion to declare the four pieces of equipment as described as obsolete and surplus equipment and to authorize their disposal in the manner as described above.

Review of Agenda Items for the April 9, 2019 Regular Meeting

Hear 1st Reading of Selected Policy Revisions. Dr. Pearson reviewed six policy revisions, as recommended by the PRESS Policy Service of the Illinois Association of School Boards. All of the revised language changes were due to minor statutory changes. He did observe that, in the review of one of the policies (4.30 – Revenue & Investments), he was reminded that he needed to bring some routine notifications to the Board more often, such as a list of district depositaries and reports on investment returns. For example, he reported that the District has two depositaries (BMO-Harris Bank and The Bank of Edwardsville (Busey Bank), with one investment firm (PMA Securities through the Illinois School District Liquid Asset Fund).

Discuss Renewal of Intergovernmental Agreement with the Collinsville Area Vocational Center. The superintendent reported that it was renewal time for the agreement to send students to the CAVC for expanded vocational opportunities. Mrs. Robinson reported that, so far, 10 students had signed up for next year. Dr. Pearson reported that the tuition would be the same as this year: \$1,250 per student/per semester. Mr. St. Peters asked if that tuition rate reflected the arranged discount for EAWR transportation of other CAVC Students from Collinsville High School to

outlying job sites. The superintendent reported that discount would come as a deduction, assuming they needed our bus service again.

Flippen Group Training Proposal" Capturing Kids Hearts: Mrs. Robinson reported about her experience in the two-day orientation session hosted by the Flippen Group, noting that it re-affirmed her enthusiasm for this important training opportunity for District teachers and other staff. She remarked how the orientation session of Capturing Kids Hearts showed a glimpse of practical strategies that would be shared with staff, and how some of those ideas caused her to personally experiment this past couple of weeks with simple but effective strategies to engage students. The program trains staff with intensive and practical ideas on "capturing kids hearts," in a research-proven transformation of the school climate, that helps to reduce disciplinary issues and increase student academic performance.

Dr. Pearson showed the Board a copy of the Flippen Group proposal, noting that this was not a typical workshop, but two initial days of intensive and hands-on training, with follow-up reinforcement training with the "superstars" modeling and leading the rest of the staff throughout the year. Training cost also includes on-line and copyrighted resources and idea banks. Cost of the entire training program would be \$44,500. Dr. Pearson recommended that the Board can justify this expense under the new Evidence-Based Funding (additional state aid) and observed that this sort of innovation is what the Evidence Based Funding was intended.

Ball Diamond Issues. Mr. Foxall is meeting with exterminators to come up with cost proposals to address the mole problem on both ball diamonds at the high school. A recommendation may be brought back to the Board very soon. He also reported that the baseball diamond scoreboard issue was apparently fixed. Mr. St. Peters inquired as to whether there any issues with moles on the football field. Mr. Gockel reported that there weren't any, of which he was aware. The superintendent observed that, when the new Bermuda sprigs are put down this spring, perhaps the mole / grub worm issue could be brought to the attention of the sod company and its recommendations on addressing that.

Need for Special Meeting for Board Reorganization. Due to the timing of the election and the requirement for the Board to reorganize within 28 days of the election (held today – April 2, 2019), the Board would have to hold a special meeting by April 30th. It will not be able to wait until the first May meeting, as per usual. He asked the Board to be thinking of some possible dates, including holding that meeting on Tuesday, April 30th. The Board will set this set, hopefully, at the April 9th Regular Meeting.

Village of East Alton TIF Hearing. The Village will conduct its Wilshire TIF Hearing at the Village Hall this Friday (4/9/19) at 11:15 a.m. The superintendent plans on attending.

CAP Community Leaders Breakfast. The WRB Refining company (Phillips 66 Refinery) is hosting an informational breakfast meeting, with community leaders and public officials in the area invited to hear progress from the Community Action Panel (CAP), a committee sponsored by WRB. It will be held on Thursday, May 2nd, at 7:30 a.m. at the RoxArena in Roxana. Dr. Pearson asked that Board members contact him if they desire to attend this event. He noted that, as opposed to the past annual presentations, this one would not include a refinery tour.

Tennis Court Light Issue. Supt. Pearson reported that he had received a phone call from City of Wood River Engineer, Steve Palen, as to some ideas on what to do about the leaning power pole just outside the tennis court security fence. Some ideas were discussed, including two major options: 1) Replacement of the pole and the breaker / circuit box attached to the pole (The box is the main “kill switch” for the tennis courts lights and has the timer mechanism, also), that would entail a 50/50 split on this estimated \$14,000 project. 2) Removing the pole and, thus, having tennis courts unusable after darkness.

The Board discussed the options and it was the general consensus of the Board to work with the City on replacing the power pole, due to its desire to help with community image and to continue to provide a nice recreational venue for residents and students during evening hours. Dr. Pearson was directed to contact Mr. Palen with that consensus.

Following Executive Session

No action items were enacted or discussed following the executive session.