

From the EAWR #14 Board ...

Regular Board Meeting

May 14, 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 May 14, 2019.

Amended FY 2019 Budget Presentation

Dr. Pearson reviewed the major highlights in the proposed Amended FY 2019 District Budget, as compared with the original district budget submitted in September 2018.

Education Fund. Deficit spending increased by an additional \$28,000 in the Fund since Original Budget last September. The reasons for the increased projection in the one-year deficit are: 1) An extra \$160,000 in projected special education out-of-district tuition costs (although about \$80,000 approximately in Room & Board Costs which would have offsetting revenue); 2) A \$10,000 increase in projected energy costs (gas and electric); and 3) Some salary costs (especially health insurance premium costs were unknown at budget time, since the negotiated agreement had yet been settled and the projections for these costs were guesswork in September 2018; and 4) Higher than expected Corporate Personal Property Replacement Tax revenues added (about \$180,000 additional over budget) helped offset some of the higher costs noted above.

O&M Fund. The deficit spending expected to increase to about \$57,000 more than anticipated in September. The O&M Fund is projected to use up most of its surplus this year. The principal reason for this larger projected deficit is that an extra \$47,000 in purchased maintenance services this year (over earlier projections), as well as \$12,000 more in maintenance supplies than was earlier budgeted.

Revenues Up in CPPRT, Local Property Taxes, and State Aid. The positive budget news is that the \$2 Million in WC Fund abatement to the Ed. Fund really improved the District's Operating Funds bottom line, while still maintaining \$2 Million in Working Cash (proceeds from the bond sale). Due to the selling of these bonds – as well as the increases in the Evidence-Based Funds and a boost from local tax revenue - the District has operating funds sufficient to provide adequate services for the foreseeable future.

However, the District will have to keep an eye out to trim those deficits and not have the O&M and Transportation Fund balances continue to be drawn down at this 2018-19 pace.

The Amended FY 2019 budget is on display and will remain there until the June 11th Regular Board Meeting, when the Board will conduct its budget hearing and act to approve the amended budget.

Approve Final Calendar for 2018-19

The Board approved the final school calendar for the 2018-19 school year and authorized the superintendent to submit said final calendar.

IMRF Earnings Resolution

The Board adopted the IMRF Earnings Resolution as proposed by its auditor and as recommended by IMRF. In essence, the Earnings Resolution memorializes current practice as to what earnings are counted (or not counted) as “creditable earnings” under the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund.

The Board resolved the following:

IMRF earnings are equal to compensation for personal services paid during the employment relationship and through the first calendar month after termination of employment.

Compensation for IMRF earnings purposes includes, but is not necessarily limited to, the following:

- Cash payments for personal services
- Overtime pay
- Vacation pay
- Sick pay
- Longevity pay
- Back salary awards received during the term of the employment relationship
- Contract settlement payments (retroactive pay) received during the term of the employment relationship
- Bonuses and awards
- Retirement Incentives
- Pay for personal leave and other paid leaves of absence during the term of the employment relationship
- Supplements paid directly by the employer in addition to workers’ compensation
- Workers’ compensation benefits, only when those benefits are supplemented by the employer

Compensation excluded from the definition of IMRF earnings and not to be reported to IMRF is as follows:

- Value of uniforms provided by employer or uniform allowances if uniforms are required by the employer
- Insurance provided by the employer (this includes the value of life insurance provided in excess of \$50,000)

- Employer's matching contribution for Social Security
- Lump sums paid on account of the death of a member later than the first calendar month after the month of death
- Workers' compensation benefits not supplemented by the employer Reimbursement for business expenses
- Reimbursement for tuition
- Expense allowances
- Physical examinations
- Health club memberships
- In-kind gifts to employees
- Interest free or below market rate loans
- Forgiven loans
- Insurance benefits paid by an insurance company, third party payor, from an insurance pool or employer's self-insurance plan
- Awards or penalties, punitive damages, interest or attorneys' fees in any litigation or arbitration
- Payments made on a basis other than as a regular salary to an employee engaged in an independently established trade or profession
- Cash payments for personal services made after the first calendar month after termination of employment
- Compensation paid under an Internal Revenue Code section 125 plan
- Compensation directed into a premium conversion plan or flexible spending account

Review and Adopt Student Meal Price Fees for 2019-20

As noted at the first May school board meeting, the Board is faced with increasing the full-price lunch to the calculated \$2.93 next year or increasing the student lunch price by 10 cents per year ramp-up method, until the target is reached. Currently, the lunch price is \$2.70.

The issue with using a ramp-up method is that the District would likely be increasing that lunch fee at 10 cents per year for several years, just in order to hit a target that will almost assuredly keep increasing due to inflationary increases in foodstuffs.

The other option is to set the price at \$2.93, which might be confusing to parents trying to ascertain what is owed, paid, etc. Increasing it to \$3.00 solves that issue, as well as hopefully setting the price for 2-3 years without change, and still be in compliance with Federal standards.

The increase is meant to ensure that Federal meal aid is meant to go towards the Federal free lunch program, and not inadvertently subsidize those students on the paid lunch program.

Mr. St. Peters inquired about changes to the breakfast prices. Mr. Mattix-Wand replied that the breakfast price can remain at \$1.25.

The Board agreed to set the full-paid student lunch price for 2019-20 at \$3.00.

Hear 2nd Reading of and Adopt Board Policy Revisions

Dr. Pearson inquired as to whether the Board members had any questions or concerns regarding the proposed Board policy revisions that were discussed in the first April board meeting. Those policies in their first reading are: 4.30 (Revenue & Investments); 4.110 (Transportation); 4.150 (Facility Management); 5.250 (Leaves of Absence); 5.330 (Sick Days, Vacation, Holiday, and Leaves); 6.15 (School Accountability).

No Board members expressed any concerns or had additional questions.

The Board adopted the revisions to the following Board policies: 4.30 (Revenue & Investments); 4.110 (Transportation); 4.150 (Facility Management); 5.250 (Leaves of Absence); 5.330 (Sick Days, Vacation, Holiday, and Leaves); 6.15 (School Accountability). Motion Carried Voice Vote.

Principal's Report

Upcoming dates to remember

May	15	Graduation—7:30 pm
	24/28	Underclass Finals
	30	Start of Summer School

Committees

Focus Groups continue to meet monthly

Miscellaneous

Career Day was April 26th and feedback was positive.

Prom April 28th

Oiler Olympics May 3rd

Mrs. Robinson also shared some photos from the 2019 Prom, recently held at The Commons at Lewis & Clark College. She noted that we had the first brother-sister elected as Prom King & Queen, likely in school history. They are below:



Athletic Director's Report

Mr. Gockel gave the Board an update on next year's varsity football schedule. Given the loss of a couple of Prairie State Conference teams (due to their districts dropping the sport due to participation numbers), he has had to schedule a couple of distant destinations in order to fill out the nine-game non-conference schedule, both in 2019 and 2020 [Beginning with the 2021 season, the new district schedules will come into effect, thereby helping scheduling immensely.] We will play Johnsbury H.S. (from McHenry County) at a neutral site, Illinois Wesleyan University in Bloomington, on the last Friday of the regular season. That game will just be for one year.

Also, we will host the Mt. Carmel Golden Aces on a Saturday in Week Six in 2019 and will travel to Mt. Carmel, Illinois on that same weekend in 2020. Lastly, in 2020, we will likely play Trenton Wesclin in Week 9.

Following Executive Session

Motion by Mr. Duncan; second by Mrs. Bartels, to appoint Michael McBrien of Godfrey as the new JV Volleyball Coach. He replaces Ms. Jen Boyd who resigned earlier. Motion Carried Voice Vote.