

From the EAWRCHS Board ...

Regular Board Meeting

June 9, 2015

What follows is an unofficial summary of the East Alton - Wood River Community High School District #14 Board of Education 1st Regular Meeting of June 9, 2015.

Ascertain and Adopt Prevailing Rate of Wages for June 2015

The Board ascertained and adopted the Prevailing Rate of Wages Resolution using the June 2015 prevailing wage rates for Madison County, as required by statute. The prevailing wage rates are a minimum to be paid by contractors to their workers on school district contracted projects.

For example, if the District contracts with XYZ Construction to repair the parking lot, then XYZ Construction must pay its own employees at the prevailing wage rate or higher. The upshot is that contractors are well-advised to bid on school district projects with those wage rate figures in mind, with the District insuring that the contractor is fully aware of the statute and their obligation to pay those rates.

Conduct Public Hearing re: Continuation of Driver Ed. Fee of \$200

President Aguinaga presided over the hearing, which is required to hold if the District wishes to continue charging over the statutory maximum of \$50 for Driver Ed. fees. The District had received two successive five-year waivers from the maximum limit and has charged its students \$200 for the last ten years (It should be noted that the majority of students have this fee waived due to their qualifications for fee waivers in all fees.). However, the General Assembly has replaced the waiver process with a required Board hearing to continue charging above \$50 (up to \$250 maximum).

The Board received no public comments during the hearing.

Following the hearing, the Board approved a motion to continue the Driver Ed. Fee at \$200.

Review Tentative Amended FY 2015 Budget

Dr. Pearson reviewed the Tentative Amended FY 15 Budget. Most notable among the changes to the expenditure side of the budget is the increasing of the Special Education tuition accounts by an additional \$101,857 (from \$255,000 to

\$\$356,857) and the transfer of \$125,932 from the Education Fund to Debt Service Fund, the latter of which is designed to move funds to cover the Chromebook lease-purchase and the Illinois Revolving Technology Loan. Accounting rules require those payments to be made from Debt Service, but the proceeds of those loans were originally booked in the Education Fund two years ago.

Also, over a hundred smaller line item adjustments were made since the adoption of the original budget in September - in most funds and in some revenue accounts.

The Education Fund is projected to lose slightly over \$1 Million in this fiscal year - from a fund balance of \$796,000 down to a negative (\$218,000). The O&M Fund balance will lose about \$46,000 (from \$162,000 to \$114,000); and Transportation will lose about \$3,000 (from about \$136,000 down to \$133,000).

For the first time in many years, the fund balances of the four Operating Funds (combined with Working Cash) are more than 1/3 of the Operating Fund projected fund balances, which has triggered a Budget Plan, according to state law. Even though the District still has some cash reserves on hand, Supt. Pearson reminded the Board that the continuing deteriorating condition of the Education Fund, in particular, will require that the Board of Education take some tough actions in terms of spending reductions and seeking additional revenue.

He reminded the Board of the upcoming Budget Hearing to be held on June 23, 2015, at 6:00 p.m. in which the FY 2015 Amended Budget should be adopted.

Principal's Report

Upcoming dates to remember:

June	1	Summer School Starts
July	2	Summer School Ends

Committees:

The school improvement committee will meet during the summer 2015.

Miscellaneous

Summer school has five regular education sections and six special education sections. There are approximately 150 seats in summer school (many students are taking two classes).

Teachers will be working on and submitting Type II and Type III assessments over the summer and the administrative team will be meeting to review them.

Mrs. Robinson has spoken with both Mark Begando from Lewis & Clark Jr. High and with Alyssa Smith from East Alton Middle School about incoming 9th graders from their respective schools, in order to improve 9th grade transition.

Discuss and Approve Student-Parent Handbook Revisions for 2015-16

Mrs. Robinson briefed the Board regarding the minor revisions that the Student-Parent Handbook Committee is recommending for the 2015-16 Handbook. She outlined them on the table below. After some discussion, the Board approved a motion to adopt the changes as presented.

Handbook Changes for 2015-2016

Page #	Change	Rationale
14	Take our PSAE requirement for Distinguished Grade	PSAE is no longer given and not enough info in terms of scoring has been provided for PARCC
20	Electronic Device Section— changed to confiscate when being used in class for non-education purposes opposed to just being displayed. Removed the laptop language since students all have Chromebooks. Added students are responsible for securing devices including PE.	Needed updated because language hasn't been changed in multiple years. Added additional information about securing devices because it is an ongoing issue.
34	Remove PSAE Exemption	The PSAE is no longer given therefore an exemption is not appropriate. If for any reason PARCC would provide a score for juniors we can discuss creating a new exemption.
49	Unauthorized videotaping/distribution of videos, pictures, or other media that were taken on school property.	Videotaping and posting unauthorized videos/pictures to social media. Examples: Fights

Non-Agenda Discussion Item

Mr. St. Peters asked Mr. Miller whether high school coaches receive information about incoming 9th graders from Junior Oiler coaches, much in the same way that teachers and guidance staff receive information about incoming 9th graders from the junior highs - all done in the spirit of helping them to have more success in high school. Mr. Miller responded that it varies by coaches and sport, with some high school coaches working more closely with the Junior Oiler programs and coaches in this regard than others.

Following Closed Session

The Board appointed Mr. Scott Miner to the vacant Board seat, formerly held by Michelle St. Peters. Mr. Miner - a resident of Wood River, EAWR Alumnus (2013) and an SIUE student, also serves on the Wood River City Council. Welcome aboard, Scott!