

From the EAWRCHS Board ...

1st Regular Board Meeting – January 3, 2012

What follows is an unofficial summary of the East Alton - Wood River Community High School District #14 Board of Education Regular Meeting of January 3, 2012.

Review of Substantive Agenda Items to be Discussed and/or Enacted at the Regular Meeting of January 10, 2012

Update on Cell Tower Proposal: There was nothing additional to report on the progress of the negotiations between the school district and US Cellular for using the Main Building chimney to erect several cell phone antennae. The superintendent noted that there were still language issues between the two parties.

Hear Second Reading of the Following Recommended Board Policy Additions and Revisions: 7.305 and 7.305-AP; 2.250 and 2.250-AP; 3.60; 5.90; 5.200; and 5.240: The Board would be asked to consider the first reading of these policy revisions and/or new policies at the January 10th Meeting. The superintendent noted that most of the language changes were not substantive and were simply revisions prompted by changes in state law and regulations.

There was one new policy, however: the “concussion” policy, which would prescribe the orientation and training of coaches and PE teachers regarding the effects of concussions on student-athletes. Although the District has already taken steps to implement the new state and IHSA requirements, the Board had not yet enacted corresponding policy language in its policy manual.

Curriculum Council Recommendations: Mrs. Robinson presented the three new courses as recommended by the Curriculum Council: Honors Algebra and Honors Geometry, which would be advanced classes for freshmen and sophomores, and would be aligned with the new Common Core standards in Math, and would include emphasis on STEM (Science-Technology-Engineering-Mathematics) in its curriculum. The third new class would be “Civics,” which would serve as an elective course, in which students would be exposed to more of the political side of state and local government than does the current “Government” course. Government would still be retained in the course offerings and would remain a requirement for graduation.

Rising Star School Level Indicators: Mrs. Robinson presented on behalf of the School Improvement Team and RESPRO Coach, Susan Jernigan. She distributed the indicators of school improvement, as prepared under the Rising Star model and as developed through the cooperative efforts of the School Improvement Team, Mrs. Robinson, and Mrs. Jernigan. The Board would be asked to formally approve these “school-level-indicators” at the January 10, 2012 Board Meeting.

Purchasing of New Vehicles: There was a consensus of the Board to purchase some new fleet vehicles using some of the surplus funds in the Transportation Fund. The district had not purchased any replacement, non-school bus vehicles since around 2003. Mr. Pearson and Mr. Duncan both brought information to the table regarding replacement of two vans; a 1996 Chevy Astro van and a 1998 Ford Windstar van, used as a Driver Ed. vehicle, and then eventually replacing them with a 2012 Dodge Caravan (which would replace the Astro) and a 2012 Chevy Impala, Dodge 200, or a 2012 Chevy Malibu (replacing the Windstar used as a Dr. Ed. Car). It was recommended that a 3rd Van be purchased, to be used for student and staff hauling, which may be used to replace the other 1998 Windstar van or simply used to augment the fleet. Mr. Foxall, District Transportation Director, had researched and received price quotes from area dealers, such as Jack Schmitt Chevy in Wood River, and Federico Dodge – Chrysler in Wood River. Mr. Duncan had also received proposals from Jack Schmitt Chevy as well as Steve Schmitt Chevy in Highland.

Mr. Pearson noted that the total price if all three were purchased would be about \$60,000. He also noted that the price of replacing the Malibu with an Impala (which is a slightly larger car) would add an extra \$3,000 to the cost. After some discussion, there was a consensus to adopt a motion.

The Board adopted a motion to authorize the superintendent to replace the school vehicles – the 1998 Chevy Astro Van and at least one of the 1998 Ford Windstar Vans (the one currently used as a driver education vehicle) as recommended, including the purchase of an Impala and up to two Dodge Caravans, with him authorized to purchase up to the general price goals as quoted and discussed between the school and the two dealerships, one a one vehicle purchase at a time basis.

Quarterly Report: Strategic Plan: The superintendent noted that he would have the 2011 Strategic Plan at the January 10th Meeting for the Board's review.

Executive Session:

The Executive Session was tabled.

Adjournment:

Motion by Duncan; second by Leggett, to adjourn. Motion Carried Voice Vote at 6:53 p.m.