

From the EAWRCHS Board ...

Regular Board Meeting

December 10, 2013

What follows is an unofficial summary of the East Alton - Wood River Community High School District #14 Board of Education Regular Meeting of December 10, 2013.

Approve Tax Levy for 2013

Superintendent Pearson gave his final recommendations for the 2013 Levy, which was unchanged from those presented at the December 3rd Regular Meeting. The following “restricted rate” levies were approved, based upon a 6% assumption of equalized assessed valuation (EAV) growth: \$1,625,584 - Education Fund; \$441,735 - O&M Fund; \$212,033 - Transportation Fund; \$88,347 - Working Cash Fund; \$88,347 - Life Safety Fund; \$35,339 - Special Education Levy; and \$88,347 - Technology Lease Levy. The following “discretionary” rate levies were also approved: \$480,000 - Tort Fund; \$90,000 - IMRF levy; and \$90,000 - Social Security Levy.

Even though the district has indications of another slight EAV decline of perhaps 2% (due to a predicted negative state multiplier), the Board could levy up to 6% in the restricted rate levies, without the need of the black-bordered levy notice and the hearing. This was due to the fact that the Bond & Interest Levy is about 2% less than in 2012. Like most every Illinois school district, District #14 is levying at its maximum rates in all funds, partially due to declining state support for schools.

The Board adopted the 2013 Levy as described above.

Technical Services Consulting Agreement

The Board discussed the proposed TSCA with Design Architects for design, engineering, and project management work for the pending Life Safety projects at Memorial Stadium. This work is for the waterproofing, expansion joints repair work, concrete repair of railings, tuck-pointing, re-painting, and new football lockers, with an estimated total project cost of \$177,000. The District will use Life Safety funds and is awaiting grant approval for the state’s matching amount of \$50,000 under the 2014 Maintenance Grant. Also, some of the remaining 2013 Maintenance Grant funds will be used in the locker project. All of this work is expected to be completed by the end of the summer. The agreement calls for a fee to Design Architects of \$22,100.

The Board approved the Technical Services Consulting Agreement with Design Architects for the consideration of \$22,100.

Facility Lease Request

The Board voted to approve the use of either of the two gymnasiums by the East Alton Elementary 5th-6th Grade Girls Basketball team during 2013-14, pending receipt of liability coverage.

Policy Review and Approval

The Board held a second review of the following policy revisions and/or additions: 2.105 (Ethics and Gift Ban); 2.120 (Board Member Development); 3.60 (Admin. Responsibility - Bldg. Principal); 4.100 (Insurance Management); 5.20-AP (Admin. Procedures - Sexual Harassment in the Workplace Investigation); 5.50 (Drug and Alcohol-Free Workplace); 5.90 (Abused and Neglected Child Reporting); 5.100 (Staff Development Program); 5.120 (Ethics and Conduct), 5.120-AP2 (Admin. Procedures - Employee Conduct), and 5.120-E (Code of Ethics for Illinois Educators); 6.60 (Curriculum Content) and 6.60 (Admin. Procedures - Health Education); 6.250 (Comm. Resources Persons and Volunteers) and 6.60-E (Volunteer Info. Form and Waiver of Liability); 6.310 (Credit - Alt. Courses); 7.185 (Teen Dating Violence); 7.340 (Student Records), 7.30 AP1 (Admin Procedures-Student Records), and 7.340-E1 (Notice to Parents - Student Records); 8.30 (Visitors to and Conduct on School Property - Concealed Carry Law and Medical Marijuana).

Mr. McCoy proposed that these policies be approved at this meeting. Hearing no objections, he called for a motion to approve. The Board voted to adopt those aforementioned policy revisions, as recommended.

Curriculum Changes for 2014-15

Mrs. Robinson presented the following proposed curriculum changes, with only one change that would increase district costs:

Algebra III—name change from CP Math

Rationale: Meet NCAA requirements

Cost: none

US History I, II, III

Rationale: Change in content focus, only

Cost: None

Small Engines II

Rationale: State requiring 2nd semester of class for funding

Cost: No overload, Perkins funds and CTEI Grants will cover all materials

Algebra II (special education)

Rationale: Must change because of the PSAE change and PARCC test

Cost: Subscription to Pearson Education for 10-15 additional students

Integrated Science (special education)

Rationale: Free up the schedule for special education students

Cost: none

Motion by Duncan; second by Mr. St. Peters, to approve the recommended curriculum changes for 2014-15. Motion Carried Voice Vote.

Executive Session:

Executive Session was tabled.

Action Items

Lauren Stimac was hired as the new Asst. Cheerleading Coach. Ms. Stimac had been serving as a volunteer coach, but the Board recently approved the other paid Cheerleading position, due to high participation numbers and the desire to have the JV squad also participate in competitive cheerleading.

Principal's Report:

Mrs. Robinson presented her Principal's Report to the Board, as follows:

Upcoming dates to remember ...

Dec	11	Christmas Party (3:30-6:00)
	14	MORP
	17	Christmas Concert—7pm
	19/20	Finals
Jan	6	Teachers Institute
	7	First Day of 2 nd Semester

Committees

Focus groups will meet monthly during the 2013-2014 school year.

Miscellaneous

Lee Ann Parmentier presented the 8 mathematical practice standards and Derek Forsting, Joni Taylor, and Leigh Robinson presented informational text and vocabulary at the November SIP meeting. The presentation centered around the changes to math and English based on common core “shifts.”

Superintendent’s Report

The superintendent reported briefly on the Board of Review decision to drastically lower the tax assessment of the Regions Bank facility in East Alton (Main St.), from an assessed value of approximately \$389,240 (Market Value of \$1.17 Million) to \$54,460 (Market Value of \$160,000). This was due to a late November auction sale (arms length transaction) of that facility, with the high bid of \$160,000. This will cost EAWR approximately \$4,900 per year in lost tax revenue.

Mr. Duncan addressed an issue with the Memorial Gym public address system, reporting that he had difficulty hearing or understanding what was said sometimes. The administration would investigate and report back to the board.

Mr. St. Peters expressed concerns about the middle pair of gym doors on the south end of the basketball court. This pair of doors is directly behind the south basket, and Mr. St. Peters was concerned about safety to players. He believed that the new doors, which were installed that is past August needed some sort of padding or other solution to the doors themselves and the center vertical bar, upon which the doors latch. Mr. Pearson noted that the new doors met all fire and life safety codes, and were identical in design to the new doors in the Auditorium. Board members and administrators expressed several possible solutions, with one solution being to simply remove the vertical bar during basketball games. The administration would study the alternatives.