

From the EAWRCHS Board ...

1st Regular Board Meeting – December 6, 2011

What follows is an unofficial summary of the East Alton - Wood River Community High School District #14 Board of Education 1st Regular Meeting of December 6, 2011.

Rising Star Indicators

Principal Leigh Robinson presented the list of school improvement steps that are a part of the Rising Star system, an ISBE school improvement planning model. She noted that she and Susan Jernigan, RESPRO Coach, and the SIT team had developed the indicators of school improvement, as per the Rising Star model. She asked the Board that they formally approve these Rising Star indicators.

The Board adopted the Rising Star indicators as presented.

Interfund Loan Approval

Supt. Pearson noted that the Board would need to make an Interfund Loan of \$200,000 from the Working Cash Fund to the Bond & Interest Fund, due to the negative cash balance that has resulted from the fact that the Bond payment adopted by the Board in 2001 and in 2004 did not coincide with the extended tax extension and collection schedule imposed by the Madison County Treasurer's office a couple of years ago.

The Board adopted Resolution 2012-4 for the Interfund Loan of \$200,000 from the Working Cash Fund to the Bond and Interest Fund.

Review of Substantive Agenda Items to be Discussed and/or Enacted at the Regular Meeting of December 13, 2011

Audit Presentation: Mr. Pearson reminded the Board that the District Audit presentation from Annette Hipkiss of Allison, Knapp, and Siekmann would be held on Dec. 13th. The audit reports were made available to the Board members, if they chose to review them prior to the meeting.

Estimate 2011 Tax Levy: Mr. Pearson reviewed the Levy as estimated on November 15th and as published in the "truth in taxation" notice. He also noted that he was not recommending

any changes from that levy estimate. He also showed a five year (2010-14) levy estimate showing the effects of keeping the Tech Lease Levy at .05/\$100, also showing the expected increased revenues due to the Refinery assessment increase. He showed them a scenario with a modest increase in that assessment, and the effect on the tax rate.

He also reminded the Board about the levy hearing next week, scheduled to begin at 6:00 p.m., with the Board meeting to shortly follow thereafter (scheduled for 6:05 p.m.).

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.

Curriculum Council Recommendations: Mrs. Robinson noted that the school's Curriculum Council was discussing the addition of three elective courses, with one of them being a higher-tracked math course for selected freshmen. However, since it is uncertain that the course could be scheduled without creating numerous scheduling conflicts, she advised the Board that she might postpone that recommendation until January 2012.

Hear First 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 December 13th 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.

Discuss Board Responsibilities for OMA Training: The Board was advised that all Board members would have to complete an on-line or IASB-sponsored training session on the Open Meetings Act, beginning January 1, 2012, with the deadline for completion of December 31, 2012. Mr. McCoy asked the superintendent to email the link to the Attorney General's OMA training at the appropriate time.