

From the EAWRCHS Board ...

1st Regular Board Meeting – February 7, 2012

What follows is an unofficial summary of the East Alton - Wood River Community High School District #14 Board of Education Regular Meeting of February 7, 2012.

Review of Agenda Items for the February 14, 2012 Regular Meeting

Cell Tower Lease: It appears that, perhaps a performance bond could be arranged which might offer the District some protection, in the case of US Cellular wanting to sub-let its radio tower to a different cell carrier. This sub-lease demand of US Cellular has been a concern for the district in entering into a 25-year lease agreement with US Cellular.

Set Graduation Date: Mr. Pearson reminded the Board that no snow days had been used thus far, and we were now in early February. Therefore, barring something unforeseen, he proposed that the Board set Wed., May 16, 2012 as Graduation Day, at the February 14th Board Meeting.

Facility Use Request: Mrs. Tammy Iskarous has requested that the school allow her CASA group's 5K run on April 21, 2012 to use the track for the final lap in their fund-raising event. Mr. Pearson noted that they had appropriate liability insurance and had already supplied him with a certificate.

Calendar Hearing: The superintendent requested that the Board conduct a calendar hearing so that the District would have the flexibility of choosing to have school on what are normally school holidays in Illinois: Lincoln's Birthday, Columbus Day, Pulaski Day, and Dr. King's Birthday. Since the removal of the waiver requirement, each school board in Illinois can hold school on any or all of those days, provided that it conduct a hearing, and allow citizens and employees to speak at such a hearing.

Mr. Pearson noted, however, that adopting this motion to hold school on all of these holidays does not necessarily bind the District into actually holding school on those days. That would still be a function of the calendar approval process every spring. As a matter of fact, the superintendent guessed that only the Lincoln's Birthday – school attendance-day would still be practiced, and that the other "Monday holidays" would still be school holidays on future EAWR calendars. Adopting this motion would simply authorize the Board to hold school on these other holidays, should it desire at some future point.

Follow-Up From Board Goal-Setting Meeting (Feb. 4th): There were no changes recommended from the Board goals agreed upon at the Feb. 4th meeting.

Following Closed Session ...

The Board approved a motion, with one dissenting vote, to hire Derek Forsting as Asst. Baseball Coach to begin immediately. Mr. Forsting currently also serves as Social Studies Teacher at EAWR and would assist Head Coach Andrew Thompson

Marissa Myers, of Wood River, was appointed as a volunteer Asst. Girls Soccer Coach, to begin immediately.

The Board hired John J. ("Poogan") Stimac of East Alton as Part-Time Bus Driver.

The Board also approved the Maternity Leave request of Math teacher, Krysta Catlin, which take effect at the beginning of "spring break" and would be in effect for the remainder of the school year. Mr. Pearson notified the Board that a long-term sub had been arranged: Mrs. Tiffany Plank of Wood River.

Additional Non-Agenda Item Discussed

The Board reviewed a notice it had just received (after the Agenda had been posted) of a detachment hearing request by two homeowners in East Alton, who wish to detach from EAWR District 14 and East Alton Elem. #13, to Roxana Unit #1. Their properties are on the border of the two districts. The Board will study this further. These two property owners have petitioned the Regional Board of School Trustees to hear their case, as is prescribed in the law.