

From the EAWRCHS Board ...

Regular Board Meeting May 14, 2013

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

Adopt Resolution: Working Cash Fund Loan to Tort Fund

The Board adopted a resolution to issue a Working Cash Fund Loan to the Tort Fund in the amount of \$100,000.

Conduct Public Hearing for Renewal of Waiver Application with the Illinois General Assembly

President McCoy called the hearing to take any public comments regarding the District's intent to apply for a renewal of its Waiver, which would allow non-resident, full-time employees to enroll their children at EAWR, tuition-free.

Mr. Pearson reminded the Board about the policy, and that 2013-14 would be the last year of the current 5-year waiver. Two employees are currently taking advantage of the policy, with two non-resident students enrolled here at present. He also noted that, although one of the students will be graduating this month, another from the same family is expected to enroll next year.

He also noted that the renewed waiver would run from 2014-15 through 2018-19.

No members of the public gave any comments about the waiver.

President McCoy adjourned the hearing.

Hear 2nd Reading and Approve Board Policy 6.235 and 6.235-Ex1 (Acceptable Use Policy)

The Board adopted the revision of Board Policy 6.235 and the accompanying Acceptable Use Policy. Both policies address student and employee acceptable use of district technology equipment and the network, and have been updated to reflect concerns over cyber-bullying and social media, as well as addressing the new 1:1 Computer Program, which is scheduled for implementation in 2013-14.

Hear 1st Reading of Board Policy 6.220 (District 1:1 Policy)

Mr. Pearson briefly discussed the new Policy 6.220, which addresses the Board's role in support and development of the 1:1 Program. This policy would specify the Board's support of the network infrastructure, staff development, and the providing of devices to every student.

The Board would act on this policy at the June 2013 Board Meeting.

Approve Five-Year Waiver Application: Tuition Waiver for Non-Resident, Full-Time District Employees

The Board of Education approved the application with the Illinois General Assembly, via the Illinois State Board of Education, to renew the District's waiver, which would allow a non-resident, full-time District employee to send his/her child to EAWR, without paying the required out-of-district tuition charge.

Accept Tuition-Free Enrollment of Student

The Board voted to accept Andrew Sobol, the son of David Sobol - a full-time teacher at EAWR - as a non-resident student, with the waiver of the out-of-district tuition charge for his attendance, beginning with the 2013-14 school year. This admission was based upon the current waiver, which is still in force through the 2013-14 school year.

Final School Calendar for 2012-13

The Board adopted the final school calendar for 2012-13, and directed it to be submitted to the ROE and ISBE at the end of the year.

Declare Bus #2 as Obsolete and Surplus Equipment and Authorize Its Disposal

Since Bus #2 (a 1995 Bluebird) has been "totaled" by the District's insurance carrier, Maintenance Director, Jeff Foxall, has arranged with Pro Automotive Services of Wood River, to salvage some of the parts, engine, tires, etc. for future repairs of other buses, and would have Pro Automotive Services sell what cannot be salvaged, which would comprise its compensation for salvaging the parts. The District would soon be receiving the insurance settlement check, which is expected to be in the amount of about \$4,500.

Bus #2 was involved in an accident with another District bus, in the school's bus parking lot a couple of weeks ago. The District has plans to replace the totaled bus in the near future with a used bus, most likely.

Lease-Purchase Resolution Adoption

The Board adopted a formal resolution to enter into a lease-purchase agreement with 1st Cloverleaf Bank for the lease-purchase of Chromebooks and other computer hardware.

Award Bids – Life Safety Work – Summer 2013

Architect Brent Lance addressed the Board and recommended that the two apparent low bidders for each of the Life Safety projects this summer (Fire Alarm renovation and Door renovation) be awarded contracts. Since the combination of the two apparent low bidders came in under the architect's estimates by a total of about \$17,000, he suggested that that "budget surplus" may need to be used for also adding a "change order" to the contract, if the two fire alarm panels (which would be the new panel in the East Building and the existing panel for the Main Building) are not able to "communicate" with each other via the software, and, if not, a new panel would have to be purchased and installed in the Main Building, as well.

The Board approved a motion to award the bid for the replacement of the East Building Fire Alarm system to the apparent low bidder, Wegman Electric, for the bid amount of \$27,102.

Also, the Board decided to award the bid for the door replacement work in the South Building and the Music Room to L. Wolf Construction for the bid amount of \$47,800.

Following Executive Session ...

The Board decided to post the following vacancies:

- Head Oilerettes Coach, tentatively to be hired pending adequate and appropriate funding being received by the high school by August 13, 2013.
- Head Bowling Coach, tentatively to be hired pending adequate and appropriate funding being received by the high school by August 13, 2013.

It is noted that, if monies are fund-raised and deposited at the school but are not adequate to meet the district's funding goal, those monies would be held in the sport's respective activity fund account, in escrow. Also, it is noted that interviews for these

positions would be done by the June 11, 2013 Regular Board Meeting, with a recommendation for both positions expected by June 11, 2013.

The Board also appointed Joe Parmentier of Wood River, as Head Football Coach, effective immediately. Mr. Parmentier replaces Travis Williams, who had earlier resigned to take another position.

Finally, the Board recalled Mrs. Heather (Moore) Sanders to a Classroom Aide position, to fill a recent vacancy. Mrs. Sanders' aide position had earlier been reduced.

Principal's Report

Mrs. Robinson noted the following calendar events:

May	15	Senior Recognition Assembly—1:15PM
	16/17	Senior Finals
	20	Spring Sports Awards Ceremony—6:30 PM
	22	Graduation—7:30PM
	27	Memorial Day—No School
	30/31	Underclass Finals
June	3	Teachers Last Day

Committees

Mrs. Robinson report that the community service focus group meets weekly to approve service forms, and that only 3 seniors have not completed their required 10 hours of community service for graduation.

Miscellaneous

The Principal noted that 100% of EAWR students took the PSAE test.

She also praised Mrs. Ulmer and Mrs. Walker for their efforts in making the 2nd Annual "Career Day" such a huge success. She observed that 24 different speakers discussed their careers in breakout sessions. Also, she noted that the "Keynote" addresses were well-received by the students, with Mr. Marshall, Mr. Forsting, and herself all describing their particular career paths to working at EAWR.

Mrs. Robinson also reminded the Board that the revisions to the 2013-14 Student-Parent Handbook would be presented at the June Board Meeting.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Pearson reported on Senate Bill 2345, which has been sponsored in the Illinois General Assembly by Sen. Mike Jacobs of the Quad Cities. This bill – if enacted – would effectively remove the ability of the taxing bodies to have their voices heard at the Illinois EPA or the Pollution Control Board in protest to all sorts of refinery production facilities being categorized as “pollution control facilities” and having their property tax assessed value dropped from market value down to “salvage value.”

The upshot of this proposed piece of legislation is that any refinery could approach the Illinois EPA to get a designation of some of their facilities primarily used in the production and refinement of crude oil into diesel fuel, gasoline, jet fuel, etc. as “pollution control facilities,” thereby removing those facilities from the property tax rolls. Since the WRB Refinery has already had \$1.8 Billion dollars of its newly-installed property classified as “pollution control facilities,” and has filed applications to have an additional \$1.2 Billion worth of improvements classified in that manner, not having an ability to challenge these applications could effectively remove the majority of the taxable value of the WRB Refinery off of the tax rolls, which, of course, would seriously harm the school district, and would drive tax rates up for all of the other taxpayers in the community.

Mr. Pearson and several other superintendents from Madison County and Will County who have refineries in their districts and would feel enormous revenue losses if this bill were enacted, met with Senator Jacobs and other members of his committee in the 6th floor of the Capitol on May 2, 2013, to have a discussion about their objections to the bill, and to allow the Senators and their staff discuss the proposed legislation. Mr. Pearson noted the Senator Bill Haine was in attendance for most of that meeting, as well.

Stu and Josh Whitt (Whitt Law Firm of Aurora), attorneys for the WRB taxing bodies consortium, also represent several school districts in Will County, that have the same concerns with the legislation and its potential effects on their operating revenues.