

**EAST TROY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Regular Meeting Minutes – May 20, 2024**

The East Troy Community School District Board met in regular session on May 20, 2024. The meeting was called to order by Board Member Ted Zess at 6:01 p.m followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members also present were Kevin Bong, Anna Janusz, Steve Lambrechts, and Adam Witkiewicz. Also present were Dr. Christopher Hibner, Amy Jenquin, Amy Foszpanczyk, Amanda Jones, administrators/supervisors, and three guests. Ted Zess read the open meeting statement indicating that the meeting is open to the public as required by state statute and that notice of the meeting had been sent to the media and/or posted.

***IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AS POSTED***

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A motion was made by Steve Lambrechts and seconded by Adam Witkiewicz for the approval of the agenda as posted. Motion carried unanimously.

***V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES***

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A motion was made by Steve Lambrechts and seconded by Anna Janusz for the approval of the regular board meeting minutes from April 22, 2024 (Regular Meeting). Motion carried unanimously.

***VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PER BOARD POLICY***

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Trudy Schultz, community member, spoke regarding School Board Policy 361.1 - Selection of Library Instructional Materials and changes being proposed. Ms. Schultz would like to see books removed during the review process, staff should be required to read the entire book when language is identified by the requester as not age appropriate, and asked the board if a professional critic's opinion is more important than a parents' opinion. In response to proposal question #10 Ms. Schultz asked the board if state aid is more important than a parents' beliefs of what they want available to their children. She believes these components are bias and not in favor of parents, making it difficult for parents who want to be involved in their children's education.

Gene Rozmarynowski, a resident in the village of East Troy/community member, would like to have packets of board information that is available to citizens so that everyone has the same information as the board receives, as he has brought forward before. He stated that the only separate packet information would need to be closed session items as private information.

## **VII. FINANCIAL REPORT**

Adam Witkiewicz made a motion to approve April 2024 payments in the amount of \$2,058,183.11 and receipts in the amount of \$743,732.18 as reflected on the financial statements. Steve Lambrechts seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

## **VIII. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS**

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- A. Staffing resignation(s): None
- B. Staffing recommendation(s): A motion was made by Ted Zess and seconded by Steve Lambrechts to approve the hiring recommendations for Kayla Booth (1.0 FTE 2nd Grade Teacher), Bree Parent (1.0 FTE 2nd Grade Teacher), Emily Wendt (1.0 FTE 2nd Grade Teacher). A motion was made by Adam Witkiewicz and seconded by Anna Janusz to approve the hiring recommendations for Melissa Konkel (1.0 FTE MS Agriculture Teacher) and Alyse Gomez (1.0 FTE HS/MS Spanish Teacher) A motion was made by Ted Zess and seconded by Anna Janusz to approve the hiring recommendation of Taylor Knight (1.0 FTE District-Wide Occupational Therapist). Motion carried unanimously. Brian O’Leary, Athletic Director, provided an informational update that Noah Phillips has been selected for the head varsity boys basketball coach position due to a resignation.
- C. Discussion Related to “Standard Response (shelter) Protocol” (discussion): Steve Lambrechts indicated he received some phone calls from parents indicating frustration over not being able to pick up their children during a recent tornado warning prior to dismissal time, in which the school district responded through the Standard Response Protocol. He indicated that perhaps communication immediately would be beneficial to indicate approximately how long the shelter protocol would be in place, and/or directions to parents. Dr. Hibner stated he respects parents wanting to pick up their child(ren) for various reasons, but the district has 1,500 students and over 200 staff to be responsible for their safety. Jake Hernandez, Director of Buildings & Grounds, spoke about streamlining communication through Skylert, which conveys emergency information to parents/guardians. Dr. Hibner reiterated that the District provided a reminder to parents about the “shelter” procedure and that Skylert will be utilized in the future with messaging any “shelter” action toward informing parents to the best of their ability in advance.
- D. Discussion and action, if appropriate, regarding Community Survey composed per School Perceptions: Dr. Hibner shared information regarding the community survey and process that was completed in its creation. Dr. Hibner reviewed the draft communication to families and

community members, the proposal of the base plan, as well as additional middle school projects. The survey would include a question asking if they would support a \$24 million referendum to pay for the base plan, as well as if they would support expanding the referendum by \$8 million (to a total of \$32 million) to pay for the additional middle school projects. Dr. Hibner reviewed the most pressing needs identified by various groups over time. Survey results will be collected by School Perceptions. Anna Janusz shared edits to the language she would like to incorporate, with the board having discussion about specific language within the communication of the survey. A motion was made by Kevin Bong and seconded by Adam Witkiewicz to approve the survey, pending approval of any editing changes made by Anna Janusz and Ted Zess. Motion carried unanimously.

- E. Pupil Nondiscrimination Self-Evaluation report per DPI: Amanda Jones, Director of Pupil Services, reported on the process of the 5 Year Pupil Nondiscrimination Self-Evaluation report, as required by the Department of Public Instruction (every five years). Mrs. Jones highlighted and reported out recommendations and findings from the eight (8) areas of the report, as follows: 1) School Board policies and administrative procedures, 2) Enrollment trends in classes and programs, 3) Methods, practices, curriculum and materials used in instruction, counseling, and pupil assessment and testing, 4) Trends and patterns of disciplinary actions, including suspensions, expulsions, and handling of pupil harassment, 5) Participation trends and patterns and school district support of athletic, extracurricular and recreational activities, 6) Trends and patterns in awarding scholarships and other forms of recognition and achievement provided or administered by the district, 7) School district efforts to achieve equality of educational opportunity and nondiscrimination, and 8) School district technology, including electronic communications by school district staff. Assurance of completion of the report will be submitted to DPI no later than May 30, 2024. Anna Janusz made a motion for the approval of the 5 Year Pupil Nondiscrimination Self-Evaluation report as presented. The motion was seconded by Steve Lambrechts. Motion carried unanimously.
- F. Overnight field trip request(s): Anna Janusz made a motion for the approval of the overnight field trip request for the State FFA convention June 10-13 2024, and overnight field trip request for FFA to Devil's Lake State Park July 15-17 2024. The motion was seconded by Steve Lambrechts. Motion carried unanimously.
- G. Enhancement / Supplemental compensation requests: Moved to executive session.
- H. Administration and Supervisory contracts per Statute 118.24(6): Moved to executive session.
- I. Employee leave of absence request: Moved to executive session.

- J. Request for consideration of an easement with ETCSD (discussion/action): Jim Sedgwick, representing East Troy Heritage, spoke regarding seeking feasibility for expansion of The Hertiage - East Troy, as they continue to explore their options. He spoke about the storm water issues they are currently facing in their expansion process. The latest plan that they have has a municipal well with a restriction of storm water facilities within a 400 foot radius of the well. They are seeking an easement, with a one time payment, with East Troy Community School District land in order to assist with the storm water issues, to allow for a stormwater pond on district property. Final engineering would determine what type of retention would be needed. Discussion was had amongst the board about permanency of the easement, considerations of other locations of the potential easement, and potential future use of the school district land. Further discussion/consideration moved to executive session.

## ***IX. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS***

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- A. District Administrator Report: Graduation Ceremony - June 2nd at 1:00pm - Dr. Hibner shared the celebration of the upcoming graduation ceremony and asked board members to let Stacey Kuehn, High School Principal, know if they will be attending the ceremony.
- B. Business Manager Report: None.
- C. Director of Teaching and Continuous Improvement of Student Learning Report: Update related to District Library services - Amy Foszpanczyk, Director Teaching & Learning, discussed the historical evolution of the district's library services and collaboration with the public library. Mrs. Foszpanczyk shared that the East Troy Public Library notified the school district in April that they would not be continuing their Memorandum of Understanding agreement with the school district into the 2024-25 school year. The school district is required to have a library media specialist assigned, and therefore will be looking at options to fill this position, which may result in additional (and unexpected) incurred cost to the district.
- D. Director of Pupil Services: None.
- E. School Board President's Report: None.

## ***X. POLICY REVIEW AND DEVELOPMENT***

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- A. *2nd Reading* -Administrative Rule 345.4 (Acceleration)
- B. *2nd Reading* -Policy 361.1 (Selection of Library Instructional Materials)

## ***XI. COMMUNICATION / ANNOUNCEMENTS***

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Dr. Hibner discussed data since 2000 (each month) about passage/failure percentage rates of referendum (recurring and non-recurring) provided by BAIRD, as it relates to the timing of a referendum for informational purposes. He reiterated it is not so much about the “when”, but more about the need and the solution; however, the data does provide insight into timing of a referendum.

## ***XII. BOARD OF EDUCATION – FUTURE ITEMS***

None.

## ***XIII. ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION***

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A motion was made by Ted Zess and seconded by Adam Witkiewicz to adjourn to executive session for the discussion of enhancement/ supplementary compensation requests, administration and supervisory contracts per Statute 118.24(6), employee leave of absence request, and request for consideration of an easement with ETCSD as provided under s.s.19.85(1)(c), 19.85(1)(e), and 19.84(1)(f). Roll call vote to adjourn to executive session: Steve Lambrechts-Yes, Adam Witkiewicz - Yes, Kevin Bong - Yes, Anna Janusz - Yes, Ted Zess - Yes. Motion carried unanimously and the Board moved to executive session at 7:43 p.m.

## ***XIV. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION***

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At 9:40 p.m., a motion was made by Ted Zess and seconded by Kevin Bong to resume to open session to take action based upon discussion in executive session as per s.s.19.85(1)(c), 19.85(1)(e), and 19.85 (1)(f). Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Anna Janusz and seconded by Kevin Bong to approve of enhancement pay requests and contractual revisions as discussed. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Anna Janusz and seconded by Steve Lambrechts to approve the employee leave of absence request for the remainder of this school year as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

## ***XV. ADJOURNMENT***

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A motion was made by Ted Zess and seconded by Kevin Bong to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Lambrechts