

# EPG Unit #11 Quick Board Summary

## January 24, 2011 Regular Board of Education Meeting

Rick Johnston, Superintendent of Schools

(El Paso, IL—Centennial Library) The Board of Education met on Monday night in regular session. The following is a summary of that meeting.

**Communications:** Visitors and Correspondence

**The consent agenda action approval contained the following items:**

- Approval of minutes from the Board Public Hearing held on December 20, 2010
- Approval of minutes from the regular Board meeting held on December 20, 2010
- Approval of minutes from Closed Board meeting held on December 20, 2010
- Approval of financial report
- Approval of bills
- Approve Nancy Altman retirement effective January 31, 2011
- Approve Georgia Oltman's retirement at the end of the 2013-2014 school year
- Approve Bev Nix's retirement at the end of the 2013-2014 school year
- Approve Andy Mock's resignation effective January 24<sup>th</sup>
- Approve hiring Mike Heffron as the junior high cross country coach for 2011-2012
- Approve hiring Bryce Hansen as the junior high school boys track coach for 2010-2011
- Approve hiring Mike Souhrada as the assistant softball coach for 2010-2011
- Approval to transfer Amy Thalman to "cook" in Gridley effective February 1, 2011
- Approval to reduce Becky Gruen from a 12-month employee to a 9-month employee
- Approval of EPG Foundation Request List
- Approve keeping Closed Session Minutes dated 10/25/2010 thru 12/20/2010 Closed
- Approve destroying Closed Session audio tapes dated 01/15/2009 thru 05/05/2009 per policy 2:220

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**Administrative Reports:** The building principals submit their reports for inclusion in the Board packet. The Board reviews these reports prior to the meeting. Board members then offer comments or ask for clarity on specific listings. The administrators can also add topics if appropriate for the BOE.

**Facilities Manager Report:** J.T. Carr (Facilities Manager) Progress report on the Health/Life/Safety work that is to be done on the Centennial doors during spring break was discussed. Then double set of doors will be replaced. Mr. Carr is also getting quotes for industrial ceiling fans for the Titan Center gymnasium that could be installed over spring break. This project will be brought back to the BOE for approval in February.

**Library Report:** Georgia Oltman (District Librarian) Ms. Oltman discussed the overall internal review of our district libraries. There are three categorical ratings (Basic, Proficient, Exemplary) that can be reached in four different categories. Ms. Oltman rated our libraries at basic on two categories and proficient on the remaining two. She cited the need lack of 24/7 access of our staff and students to library resources as well as the need to "weed" our book inventory at all sites. Information regarding the schedules for library time in all buildings as well as staffing for those libraries was shared with the Board.

**Graduate Report Survey:** Lucy Loper (EPGHS English Dept) Dr. Loper reviewed the process and product of a class project in her advanced class on College and Career Preparedness through a graduate survey. The findings are included in this report of the next pages. It was noted that this information is utilized by the Building Leadership Committee, District Administration, and the Board of Education. This data is reviewed when planning for the district.

**Finance Committee Report:** Eric Zehr (Finance Committee Chair) Mr. Zehr reviewed the Finance Committee meeting with PMA consultant Howard Crouse and how we are preparing the format for data to be shared during the BOE work day in February.

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**Transportation Committee Report:** Dave Mool (Transportation Committee Chair) Mr. Mool presented the proposal for a bus lease renewal for our bus fleet. Goals of the committee included all units on the same lease schedule, reducing the full size bus fleet by one unit, adding a 14 passenger activity bus, replacing the current fleet to avoid potential maintenance costs, outfitting the fleet with Wig Wag lighting systems/LED upgrades to aid in foggy conditions, and securing the best available lease price with the best available equipment. The recommendation was to contract with Midwest Transit Equipment for International Buses through a four year lease.

## Superintendent Report:

- A. Community Pride—Our two basketball teams capturing the McLean County/HOIC Tournament was tremendous for our community. Attendance at the Shirk center was outstanding. The show of support and crowd involvement during those games speaks so well for the unity that can grow within our district. Congratulations to our teams for making history this past weekend.
- B. Heartland Community College—A team from HCC will be here on Thursday to meet with Director of Instruction Kurz, Principal Krug, and me to discuss the dual credit options for next year. This may include 0 hour, after school or even tuition waved courses already being taught within our day. We will be investigating qualified staff and course descriptions to determine how many total courses this could entail. This is exciting news for our students who could graduate high school with college hours at a much reduced or even tuition waved courses.
- C. HOI Conference Superintendents Meeting—this group will meet on Jan. 25<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon to discuss collective public relations efforts for our conference schools.
- D. PMA Budget Planning Seminar- I will be attending this seminar in East Peoria on Thursday. This is one of the sources we use for planning. IASA lobbyists will be presenting their thoughts on the most recent legislative updates.
- E. EPG Technology Communication Guidelines—This Thursday after school the EPGEA leadership and I will meet to discuss the recently drafted Communication's guidelines for staff and students. This is an effort to protect the district and our staff in the new technology age. David Braun (Miller, Tracy, Braun and Funk) has been working with me to develop these guidelines. We will be sharing these through the building level leadership teams and discussions with the EPGEA. Our discussions will aid in developing the final draft for adoption by the board in February or March.

## Old Business

- 4<sup>th</sup> year Elective Math Class in EPGHS (The proposal is enclosed in this document)

## Action Item(s)

- Addition of 4<sup>th</sup> year Elective Math Class in EPGHS
- Approval to hire Abbie Freed as the BB/ECE teaching assistant
- Approval to hire Cassi Fever as the JHS special education aide
- Approve library report
- Approve bus lease agreement

## Closed Session: Personnel

Meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.