

# Quick Board Summary

# EPG

Connecting: ...to our students, staff, and community  
Creating: ...the best learning opportunities  
Committing: ...to student achievement

## Board of Education

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John Hartness (2013)

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Member  
Jeremy Faulk (2015)

Member  
Rich Kiefer (2015)

Superintendent of Schools  
Rick Johnston

District Office  
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The Board of Education met in regular session at 7:00 pm at the El Paso Gridley Junior High Library in Gridley.

### **Overview**

The meeting was called to order by President John Hartness and the posted agenda was amended to include the discussion items relating to Administrative Procedures and Technology policy readings under old business.

There were six people that formally addressed the BoE concerning the request to add swimming as a cooperative for EPGHS. A parent also addressed the Board concerning the denial to allow his daughter to compete in two school sponsored sports during the same fall season at EPGJH. Mr. Hartness complimented these individuals as to their positive approach toward their issues. While addressing the consent agenda items, Mr. Johnston explained that in the August meeting, there may be an adjustment to the volunteer position at the junior high to an "as warranted" position for baseball. The consent agenda passed unanimously.

### **Administrative Reports**

During the summer there are no building reports and Mr. Carr did not have any items to discuss at this time. Mr. Ferrenburg, EPGHS Athletic Director, supplied an annual athletic report. It is attached to this publication. One of his highlights was the fact that the HS has gone from a 39% participation rate in 2007-08 to over 52% of the student body participating in at least one sport during the 2010-11 school year.

### **Consent Agenda Items:**

- Approval of minutes from the Board Meeting held on June 27, 2011
- Approval of minutes from the Board Closed Meeting held on June 27, 2011
- Approval of financial report
- Approval of bills
- Approve hiring Kathy Faulk as a Teacher Assistant for 2011-2012
- Approve hiring Heidi Kiefer as a Teacher Assistant for 2011-2012
- Approve Cari Pokarney as an "as warranted" assistant for EPGJH Softball for 2011-2012
- Approve Denny Ortinau as a volunteer for EPGJH Softball for 2011-2012
- Approve Wade Furrow as a volunteer for EPGJH Baseball for 2011-2012
- Approve Jake Foor as a volunteer for EPGJH Baseball for 2011-2012
- Accept Cassi Fever's resignation effective June 14, 2011
- Accept Judy Hinthorne's resignation as a bus monitor effective July 14, 2011
- Accept Amy Orsburn's resignation as a teacher assistant effective July 21, 2011
- Approve Annie Furrow's leave of absence
- Approve keeping Closed Session Minutes dated 01/01/2011 thru 06/27/2011 Closed
- Approve destroying Closed Session audio tapes dated 07/20/2009 thru 12/14/2009 per policy 2:220
- Approve Orthopedic & Sports Enhancement Center Agreement for 2011-2012

**Superintendent Report**

Mr. Johnston shared the preliminary results of the AYP reports for each building. The strongest gains were at the HS where reading scores increased by 3.9% and Math scores jumped by 8.5% of those students meeting or exceeding the state benchmark. When the scores are released for schools in the upcoming months, the district dashboard that illustrates our growth scores as a class moves through our district as well as the comparative results for area school districts will be updated. Our students and staff continue to improve academically.

The district recently received notice of "Financial Recognition Status" for fiscal year 2010. Mr. Johnston shared with the Board that because the Woodford county treasurer changed the way in which tax revenues flow to school districts this year, the district will show a deficit for FY11. Had the district received those dollars prior to June 30<sup>th</sup>, preliminary in-house numbers indicate EPG would have been right at a balanced budget for the year. The district did receive notification that our Preschool Grants were awarded \$180,000 for the upcoming year. This will allow us to maintain the robust programs our district has put in place over the recent years serving 70+ kids with a waiting list for services.

Mr. Johnston also shared with the Board that he attended the Gridley TIF meeting. He shared at that meeting the district is most concerned with the size and the length (23 years) of the proposed TIF arrangement. He has shared our concerns with the mayor and multiple village board members in Gridley. The district can be neutral on the issue given a better solution.

**BLDD Architect Report**

Carson Durham (District Architect) and Jean Underwood (BLDD consultant) presented the findings of the Health-Life-Safety Survey recently completed by their firm. In this evaluation, the report lists findings that are category A (must address within one year), Category B (required to address within five years), and Category C (recommended HLS work). They have cited \$85,000 in category A with \$599,000 listed in Category A/B. Category C has \$720,000 in recommended work in order to keep the existing buildings safe and reliable as they are today. Mr. Johnston indicated that the BoE will be setting a work day for long range facility planning in August.

**Discussion Topics:**

- The Board heard Mr. Johnston's support of the recommendation from Ms. Krug and Mr. Ferrenburg to investigate for the next several months the viability of joining a swimming cooperative for girls and boys athletes. Investigating transportation and participation costs, affect on existing programs, arranging multi-district agreements, analyzing student activity survey results, and communicating with all affected stakeholders will be goals for this time.
- Ms. Krug updated the Board on the progress for an electronic message board for the high school complex. Monies are being raised primarily through 50/50 drawings at high school events for this \$13,000 project.



**Individual Action Items**

- a. Approve transfer of Ann Wettstein from EPGJH to Centennial Spec. Education Teacher (FTE .8) for 2011-12
- b. Approve hiring Garrick Haywood as the EPGHS Special Education Teacher for 2011-2012
- c. Approve Renewal of MBP Health Insurance Package (Health, Dental, Vision, and Life) for 2011-2012  
*Discussion prior to the unanimous vote included:*
  - The renewal is an 8.2% reduction in overall premiums for the district
  - The EPGEA is in support of this renewal
  - BoE Insurance representative Dave Mool is in support of this renewal
  - Bushue Associates (district consultant) is in support of this renewal
  - The district will investigate moving to a calendar year renewal date in the future
- d. Approve Air Conditioning Proposal Priority A  
  - Over the past year and a half, the district has monitored the need for installing air conditioning in educational classrooms across the district. All non-air conditioned areas were prioritized by district administration and the facilities manager. Priority A areas include the third floor of the high school, the second floor of the junior high, and the second floor of Jefferson Park School. These areas have proven to be the most severely affected classrooms during hot weather. Findings that were considered by the Board included degrees days in the fall and spring in addition to average temperature charts for this time of the school year. Over half of our student body (650+) will be directly affected by this install with 11% of our teaching staff and multiple teaching assistants. Over 10% of the school year is affected by this need. The project will be funded within the current facility budgets. The BoE also understands that there is no assumption that Priority B will be done next year.

The meeting adjourned at 8:58 pm.

# High School Athletic Director's Report

May 23, 2011

<b>Participation Numbers:</b>	<b><u>2010-2011</u></b>	<b><u>2009-2010</u></b>	<b><u>2008-2009</u></b>	<b><u>2007-2008</u></b>
Golf	18 (B/12 G/6)	20 (B/13 G/7)	18 (B/9 G/9)	21
Volleyball	27	29	28	28
Football	61	45	39	38
Cross Country	16 (B/7 G/9)	8 (B/3 G/5)	*B/5 G/4	*9
Girls' Basketball	20	16	14	21
Boys' Basketball	27	25	24	28
Wrestling	18	17	11	7
Baseball	26	24	18	24
Softball	16	22	20	22
Track	44 (B/25 G/19)	46 (B/24 G/22)	49 (B/26 G/23)	35
Cheerleading	(FB/12 BB/17)	(FB/10 BB/16)	16	16
<i>% participated in at least one sport:</i>	52%	48%	41%	39%

## Uniforms:

Girls' Basketball is to order uniforms in accordance to the uniform rotation schedule.  
Baseball is to order uniforms in accordance to the uniform rotation schedule.

## Conference Affiliation:

Heart of Illinois Conference (HOIC).  
Membership (13): Blue Ridge, Deer Creek–Mackinaw, El Paso–Gridley, Fieldcrest, Fisher, Flanagan–Cornell, Gibson City–Melvin–Sibley, Heyworth, LeRoy, Lexington, Ridgeview, Tremont, Tri-Valley.  
The HOIC has decided not to expand membership at this time.  
HOIC Sportsmanship Ratings will be expanded to include 6 Varsity sports next year.

## Special Recognition:

Moli Cople received 1<sup>st</sup> place for the HOIC "Female Athlete Scholarship".  
11 Seniors received HOIC Academic All-Conference Honors.  
The following Varsity teams qualified for the *Illinois High School Association (IHSA) Team Academic Achievement Award*: Girls' Cross Country, Boys' Cross Country, Volleyball, Boys' Basketball, Girls' Basketball, Girls' Track, Boys' Track, Baseball, and Softball.  
Boys' Golf – HOIC Tournament Champions, Team Qualified for Sectional.  
Girls' Golf – Regional Championship, 1 Individual Qualified for State (2<sup>nd</sup> place finish).  
Boys' Cross Country – Team Qualified for Sectional  
Girls' Cross Country – Team Qualified for Sectional, 2 Individuals Qualified for State (2<sup>nd</sup> place finish)  
Boys' Basketball - HOIC, McLean County Tournament, and Regional Champions.  
Girls' Basketball – HOIC, McLean County Tournament and Regional Champions.  
Wrestling – 4 Individuals Qualified for Sectional.  
Girls' Indoor Track – 1 Individual Qualified for State (1<sup>st</sup> place finish)  
Girls' Track – Relay Team and 3 Individuals Qualified for State.

## Tournaments/Invitationals Hosted:

IHSA Boys' Golf Regional at El Paso Golf Club  
IHSA Girls' Golf Regional at El Paso Golf Club  
EPG Cross Country Invitational  
IHSA Football Playoff 1<sup>st</sup> Round  
HOIC Baseball Tournament 1<sup>st</sup> Round Game

## General Thoughts:

\*The Fitness Center is being utilized by our teams and is a vital training facility for our athletic programs.  
\*Travel/Dues and Fee Budget Expenses continue to go up due to the advancement of teams and individuals in the post-season.  
\*The Athletic Booster Club continues to be a valuable asset to our programs. Recently donated \$12,000 toward the coaches "Wish List".  
\*Activity Bus recently purchased by the school district.  
\*Attended NIAAA Leadership Training Course: "Athletic Administration: Dealing with Challenging Personalities".