

Quick Board Summary

EPG

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

Board of Education

President
John Hartness (2013)

Vice President
Eric Zehr (2015)

Secretary
David Mool (2015)

Member
Bill Schifferer (2013)

Member
Matt Stuckel (2013)

Member
Jeremy Faulk (2015)

Member
Rich Kiefer (2015)

Superintendent of Schools
Rick Johnston

District Office
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El Paso, IL 61738
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<http://www.unit11.org>



The Board of Education met
in regular session at 7:00 pm
at the Centennial School
Library in El Paso.

Overview

The meeting was called to order by President John Hartness with all members in attendance. All members of the administrative team as well as JT Carr (facilities manager) were there. Visitors included Janet Smith and Jennifer Kearney (El Paso Journal).

In addition to the regular Principal Reports....

El Paso Gridley Junior High School Principal Robby Tomlinson recognized Rich Martin for his recent publication in the Illinois English Bulletin.

Jr. High Athletic Director Tim Fairchild thanked all who have been helping out with Dave Ferrenburg's duties in his absence.

There are 10 students from EPGHS attending the Bloomington Area Career Center. This vocational training is part of the varied curriculum offered by EPGHS. Auto Tech (2), CAD, Construction, Cosmetology (1), Criminal Justice (2), Culinary (1), Early Childhood, EMT Basic, Fire Science, Health Occupations (1), and Metals (2) are offered. (EPG students enrolled)

Consent Agenda Items (continued)

- Approve PMA Network Contract for Financial Consulting/Program for 2012
- Approve District Administrative Salary Compensation Report
- Approve Application for Recognition of Schools for 2011-2012
- Approve Foundation Request List
- Approve Surplus Items

Consent Agenda Items:

- Approval of minutes from the Special Board Meeting held on August 16, 2011
- Approval of Closed Session minutes from the Special Board Meeting held on August 16, 2011
- Approval of minutes from the Board Meeting held on August 22, 2011
- Approval of Closed Session minutes from the Board Meeting held on August 22, 2011
- Approval of financial report
- Approval of bills
- Approve hiring Geri Grieser as a cook at Centennial Cafeteria starting September 27, 2011
- Approve hiring Mary Beth Rebbec as a teaching assistant at J.P. starting September 27, 2011
- Approve hiring Alcha Bufe as a teaching assistant at J.P. starting September 27, 2011
- Approve hiring Frankie Finck as a bus driver starting August 25, 2011
- Approve Julie Carr as a volunteer for high school cheerleading for 2011-2012
- Approve Nicole Glacinski as a volunteer for high school cheerleading for 2011-2012
- Approve Michele Ludwig as a volunteer for junior high cross country for 2011-2012
- Approve Eric Reutter's request for FFA to attend the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis in October

Superintendent Report

- Village of Gridley TIF: We are still negotiating with the Village on the terms of the Intergovernmental agreement between the Unit #11 and the village board. The concept of keeping the district “whole” is our goal. There has been movement on reimbursement rates due to the potential effects of new residential growth. The village board understands this theory. The reimbursement rates for commercial property are in question currently.
- HLS: Two amendments for Health Life Safety work have been submitted for work on the electrical system at the football field and addressing the aging north side fire escapes at EPGHS. These fall under the currently approved HLS plan through the ISBE, as well as, the soon to be adopted HLS plan by BLDD. These will be items that we will look to approve in October after the Facilities Committee reviews the details.
- Corn Festival Booth: While we had great participation from the BoE and administration, the number of visitors to the tent was down this year. Mr. Johnston asked for suggested changes or modifications for next year.
- Industrial Appraisal: The Company hired to create a district wide inventory for insurance purposes began today. They will be developing these lists and assigning value to all equipment and facilities with a value greater than \$500. Many of our district employees have worked to begin this process already. Their efforts are key to this endeavor.
- Special Education Cooperative: Mr. Kurz and Mr. Johnston met with the new director of the Tri-County Special Education Cooperative recently. Scott Hogan discussed what our partnership might look like with their group. Lexington, LeRoy, Heyworth, Tri-Valley, Ridgeview, Olympia, Clinton and Lincoln make up this coop. We continue to investigate our future options of Tri-county SPED Coop, Woodford County SPED COOP, or independent stand alone district. There will be a resolution next month on the dissolving of the Mackinaw Valley Special Ed Coop between Unit #5 and Unit #11. Keep in mind that Unit #5 has decided to end the MVSEC based on their most recent audit report.
- Pontiac HS District Visit: District personnel will visit on Thursday to review our configuration with Skyward student information system and the Skyward Financial Software. Eureka visited recently.
- Citizens Advisory Council: We will be bringing the complete list for the council in October. We want this group to be engaged this year with solid feedback for the BoE. Anyone with suggestions for members please forward those to me.
- ISBE Advisory Committee Meeting: I will be attending the first meeting of the year as the regional representative to this group that includes State School Superintendent Dr. Koch and his leadership team, the administrative team of the Illinois Association of School Administrators and twelve superintendents from across Illinois share information. An area of concern to many superintendents in our region is the educational piece of Educational Reform in regard to Senate Bill 7 for our employees. We have begun discussions with the EPGEA in efforts to be appropriate for and with our teachers.

- Flu Clinic for EPG: The nursing staff has organized flu clinic dates for staff members through Doc’s Pharmacy again this year. We appreciate their willingness to make this easily available.
- Policy Committee: We will need to meet within the next two weeks to review Press release #76 from the IASB Press Plus. Information regarding these policy changes will be sent to the committee members



Architectural Firm Presentation:

Sam Johnson, Jeanne Underwood, and Carson Durham from BLDD updated the Board on the long range facilities plan. They are developing a Master Planning Process with Mr. Johnston to work towards community engagement. The community engagement process will be shared with the public within the next two weeks. This series of meetings will be set in order for the Board of Education to gain input from the public on how best to address current aging facilities. Attendance will be encouraged through media outlets, school communication tools, and informational flyers distributed throughout our communities.

Individual Action Items

- A motion was made by Rich Kiefer and seconded by Bill Schifferer to approve the 2011-2012 Budget. All yeas.
 - This followed the Budget hearing that was held at 6:45 pm prior to the regular meeting. Mr. Johnston reviewed the Revenue and Expense history of the district. He also reviewed the projected fund balances for this fiscal year with the BoE. Copies of the budget are posted online.
- A motion was made by Jeremy Faulk and seconded by David Mool to approve the Educational Support Personnel Handbook. All yeas.
 - In old business, Jeremy Faulk reviewed the Education Support Personnel Handbook.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.