

# EPG Unit #11 Quick Board Summary

## February 22, 2010 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 for its February regular meeting. The following is a summary of that meeting.

Correspondence: Numerous thank you cards.

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

- Approve minutes from the regular Board Meeting held on January 25, 2010
- Approve minutes from the Board Closed Session held on January 25, 2010
- Approve minutes from the Closed Sessions held on February 11, 2010
- Approve Nancy Schuler's request to retire at the close of the 2012-2013 school year
- Approve Colleen Mc Donald's resignation effective March 19, 2010
- Approve Shannon Dudek's resignation as of June 30, 2010
- Approve 2010 High School Graduation for May 30, 2010
- Approve the 2010 Library Report from Nancy Peterson
- Approve the Requests List for presentation at the next EPG Foundation Meeting
- Approve financial report
- Approve bills

**Administrative Reports:** Each building administrator shared their monthly report in writing prior to the meeting. Building principal's reports are emailed to the board and to the local media. Typically, board members ask questions about the report and the principal can add to or highlight each report as needed.

### **Superintendent's Report**

1. **FRIS report and Categorical spreadsheet-** Included in your materials tonight is the FRIS report summary of what state payments are vouchered and/or paid to this point.
2. **HOIC Superintendent School Funding Initiative:** Each district has signed up for a week to reach out to state legislators in order to create urgency for the state funding issue facing our schools and other state funded agencies. We plan on a mass email notifying our stakeholders of who their elected officials are including contact information. We will supply some simple background information and talking points for them if they choose to contact their representatives. Remember that our theme is "the local taxpayers are doing their job—local school boards are creating responsible budgets—the state of Illinois needs to fulfill their commitment to school funding. The calling/emailing schedule for our districts is as follows:

#### **Schedule:**

**March 8<sup>th</sup>: Blue Ridge, Heyworth**

**March 15<sup>th</sup>: Fisher, Tri- Valley, GCMS**

**March 22<sup>nd</sup>: LeRoy, Dee-Mac, Tremont**

**March 29<sup>th</sup>: EPG, Ridgeview, Lexington**

**April 5<sup>th</sup>: Fieldcrest, Flanagan**

It was interesting that area school districts surrounding Peoria followed suite by holding a joint meeting like the HOIC did in January to raise awareness.

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3. **Generator Backups:** We are working to resolve a compatibility issue between the new generators and our battery backup systems. The electricity that one phase of the generator is creating is not recognized by our current system. Both Zeller Electric and our staff are working to resolve the scenario.
4. **Bloomington Vocational Meeting:** The enrollment figures for 2010-11 are attached. We have 16 students enrolled right now at the vocational center. There has been much discussion with Heartland College regarding dual credit for many of these courses. There is a strong reluctance by Heartland to grant dual credit and therefore many courses would have to be retaken at Heartland. The superintendents of the BACC Council will be contacting and meeting with the Heartland President to address this issue soon. Our next meeting is April 20<sup>th</sup>.
5. **EPG Foundation:** The Foundation request list was included in your board packet. After they determine their level of commitment, we will begin Phase II of our Interactive White Board installations to move toward the 90% installation rate of our classrooms. This would take care of all the requests on this list plus a few more rooms. This would be done within our current technology capital outlay budget.
6. **Show Choir Fund Raising Competition:** Thank you to all who assisted in some manner for the success of that first time event. The planning and communication that was involved with this project early made for an efficient and effective competition. We have many activities for students here at EPG and we try to do the best we can to make each feel respected and significant. If our goal is to be first class, we made additional steps in that regard this weekend.
7. **Fitness Center:** The Open House was held on February 13<sup>th</sup> by the Parks and Recreation Department of El Paso. They are planning on beginning the three month trial period March 1<sup>st</sup>. According to the recreation department personnel, there were between 40-50 visitors during the open house. Registration will take place during the open hours of the program. The two treadmills that were just purchased are included in the picture below.
8. **IASB Policy Manual Progress:** Copies of the rough draft created by the IASB will be distributed tonight to the Policy Committee members. We will be organizing our next committee meeting prior to spring break in order to move forward. Bushue Associates will be reviewing section 5 (Personnel) for us additionally. This customization will have all PRESS policy changes through December 2009 included.

## Old Business

- Review and finalize Superintendent Three Year Plan  
Click [HERE](#) to view that document

## New Business

- a. **School Calendar for 2010-2011**
  - i. *A rough draft calendar was shared with the Communications Lab (Union group who meets with Mr. Johnston quarterly in January). Specific issues were discussed as far as start time, Christmas Break, professional improvement days, and parent/teacher conferences. The calendar was approved by the board with a provision to adjust the fall Parent/Teacher Conference Day.*

## Action Item(s)

- a. **Approve 2010-2011 School Calendar**
- b. **Approve Certified Staff Employment List for 2010-2011**
  - i. *This is to ease the apprehension of our non-tenured staff as well as our tenured staff this year. The Board approved this list earlier than in the past. We did this since this may be a year where more Reduction in Force and teacher non-renewal will occur across the state than ever before. We believe we can weather this financial storm while being responsible. (see the Three Year Plan)*
- c. **Configuration of Administrative Team**
  - i. *The Board recognized a need for addressing curriculum and instruction two years ago when they investigated hiring an Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum Director. In an effort to be as efficient as we can with placing our staff where their strengths lie, the Board transferred Kelly Throneburg to PK-3 District Wide Principal and Brian Kurz to Centennial Principal/Unit #11 Director of Instruction. This creates the need to hire a new El Paso Gridley Junior High Principal. We look at this as an opportunity to further strengthen our district with this realignment. The Board is reviewing the possibility of a HS/JH Dean of Student position.*

## Closed Session

- **Personnel**

(The meeting adjourned at approximately 11:00 pm.)