

# EPG Unit #11 Quick Board Summary

## November 23, 2009 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 November regular meeting. The following is a summary of that meeting.

Visitor Address to Board: Curt and Susan Gramm (presentation of donations to building principals-\$2500 total)

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

- Approve minutes from the regular Board Meeting held on October 19, 2009
- Approve minutes from the Board Closed Session held on October 19, 2009
- Approve financial report
- Approve bills
- Approve recommendation to hire Gene Hostetler as a custodian at the East Campus\*
- Approve recommendation to hire Julie Carr as a Personal Aide at Centennial School \*
- Approve recommendation for Mike Melick to be a volunteer Coach for Boys' Swimming
- Approve recommendation for Alyse Curry to be a volunteer for High School Girls' Basketball\*
- Approve recommendation for Tim Fennell to be a volunteer Freshman Boys' Basketball Coach\*
- Approve recommendation for Brandon Martin to be a volunteer Assistant Varsity Boys' Basketball Coach\*
- Approve recommendation for Derek Hunsinger to be an "as warranted" Assistant Varsity Wrestling Coach\*
- Approve recommendation for Chris Gentes to be a volunteer Assistant Wrestling Coach\*
- Approve recommendation for Jimmy Chism to be a volunteer Assistant Wrestling Coach\*
- Approve recommendation for Brady Sant Amour to be a volunteer Assistant Wrestling Coach
- Approve recommendation for Keith Harris to be a volunteer Assistant Wrestling Coach\*
- Approve recommendation for Patrice Narayanan to be a volunteer Assistant High School Cheerleading Sponsor
- Approve recommendation to appoint Chuck Feeney to the Citizens Advisory Council

*\*pending background check for either full time employee status or volunteer*

**Administrative Reports:** Each building administrator shared their monthly report in writing prior to the meeting. Ms. Krug, Mr. Kurz, Mr. Dudek, and Ms. Throneburg highlighted components of their report. JT Carr shared thoughts on the facilities tour. Board President John Hartness posed this question to each person: If you were questioned about what you are most proud of right now in your building, what would that be? Each shared those initiatives that are on the forefront in their buildings/areas. Karen Krug pointed to the team aspect of the Building Leadership committee at the high school, Brian Kurz talked about the grade level teams working to come together on various issues at the Junior High, Shannon Dudek zeroed in on the RTI initiative with staff/students at Centennial, Kelly Throneburg is excited about the teacher's level of technology implementation into how they do business at the K-3. JT Carr shared that he feels good about addressing the needs of the facilities and not just "putting on a Band-Aid".

**Superintendent Report:**

1. October 22 was Parent-Teacher Conference Day. The percentages of attendance were as follows: EPGHS—42%, EPGJH—39%, Centennial—77%, GGS—93%, Jefferson Park—81%. These numbers don't reflect the parents who came in before or after the conference day to meet with teachers. These numbers are extremely strong—especially at the upper grade levels. A board member commented that this is not only a testimony to the communication between school and home; it is because of the strong parental presence with our schools.
2. The enrollment report was shared. We began investigating our numbers and found glitches in Skyward that were not including the students who were absent on the final day of the month. This hurt our overall enrollment picture that was shared previously with the public. As the chart indicates, our numbers are holding steady with a decrease of only seven students from a year ago at the end of October.
3. CAC Meeting—we met in an organizational meeting last Tuesday night. Brian Kurz shared the testing comparative data. Shannon Dudek shared information on the second year of the teacher mentoring program. Annie Klinkner demonstrated integration of technology tools within the teacher's toolbox with Spark, Learn360, individual learner response system (clickers)—all while using the interactive white board technology. These were well received by members. Attendance was strong.
4. DuPont Donation—DuPont did donate \$3000 as the public saw in the local press. We determined that since DuPont has such a strong science and math presence at the local plant, the donation would go to the science and math departments at the high school. In addition, I toured the plant with President Steve Patron on November 6<sup>th</sup>. It was quite interesting learning about that entity and just how large of a global operation they are.
5. Facilities Committee Tour—The group toured each building in the district and reviewed the issues facing JT Carr and his crew within the next 12 months. The group decided that the solution at Jefferson Park is to move toward completing the air conditioning portion of the project (roof top) to tie it into the current air duct system. The boiler would then be installed after the end of the school year. This plan will be bid in this manner to see if it can be done. The group inspected the high school library project and the roof projects. They also reviewed the plans and location for the elevator project for the high school.
6. Road Commissioner Luncheon—All the road commissioners were invited to a luncheon on November 17<sup>th</sup> at Centennial. Five of the eight commissioners were there to discuss school closing procedures and communication procedures with the district.
7. Tax Levy—The tax levy calculations for 2009 payable in 2010 were shared. Our goal is to access those dollars that we have available to us but not increase the local tax rate. We are able to do this with the levy estimates that were presented. There will be no need for a truth in taxation hearing in December. The overall tax rates were not increased.

**New Business**

There was brief discussion on moving the board meeting start time in December to 6:00 pm from 7:00 pm. The consensus was that by doing so, determining what events would warrant a change in time in the future would be difficult. It was decided to keep the time at 7:00 pm.

**Action Item(s)**

- Approve contract retainer with PMA for the network financial planning software
- Approve the Tentative Levy for 2009 with final action to be taken on December 14th

**Closed Session--**No closed session.

(The meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.)