

EPG Unit #11 Quick Board Summary

May 21, 2009 Regular Board of Education Meeting Rick Johnston, Superintendent of Schools

(Centennial Library) The Board of Education met last night in regular session for its May meeting. The agenda was quite extensive with much action taking place.

Visitor: Aaron McCardle of Zeller Digital gave a review of the technology upgrade project for EPG schools that has taken place over the past year. Mr. McCardle shared that the “enterprise” infrastructure that is in place rivals any corporation. He mentioned State Farm, Country Companies, and area hospitals. The expandability of the system was discussed along with 25 year warranty. He then moved to the functionality and new applications that staff members will be able to capitalize on with our connectivity. Williamsville School District came to EPG on May 20th to do a site visit. These type visits may become more frequent in the future as other school districts want to see our operations.

The consent agenda contained the following items:

- Approval to hire Nathaniel Meiss as a EPGHS Math teacher and boys varsity basketball coach
- Approval to hire Christina Lohrberg as a EPGHS Band Director
- Approval to hire Laurie Lorton as a Gridley Grade School 3rd Grade teacher
- Approval to hire Jennifer Smith as a EPGHS Special Education teacher
- Approval to hire Alexander DePauw as EPGHS social studies teacher
- Approval to hire Kristine Ruegge as a EPGHS Science teacher
- Approval to hire Megan Tolle as a EPGHS Science teacher
- Approval to hire Amy Fossett as the 4th and 5th grade classroom teaching assistant at Centennial
- Approval to hire Natalie Fierce as cheerleader coach at EPGHS
- Approval to hire Phil Kemp “As Warranted” assistant baseball coach at EPGJH
- Approval to hire John Garrels, John Meinhold, and Mark Kessinger as volunteer baseball coaches at EPGJH
- Confirm the resignation of Steph Matzke as EPGJH Scholastic Bowl Sponsor
- Approval of recommendation to add Cross Country as a team sport at EPGHS for the 2009-2010 year

Interactive White Board Presentation: Annie Klinkner (7th grade Math teacher), Rhonda Zielsdorf (HS Math teacher), Carrie Lawton (HS Math teacher) demonstrated applications of the Promethean board for math instruction. The Board was very impressed with this teaching tool and enjoyed learning ways to engage students in the classroom. Lori Kirchner also discussed tools the district is looking to add for teachers next year including Learn360 for the elementary levels and United Streaming Video for the middle and high schools. A Board member shared with the group “we have been waiting for over a year to see this type application—this is great to see!”

Board Member Bill Schifferer, who chairs the Facilities Committee, shared information concerning the May 7th tour and the possible donated work to be done by American Building Company. In these tough economic times, they will allow their employees to work for the district instead of laying off employees. The company is donating materials toward the project and labor for both the concession stand and press box at our football field. Mr. Schifferer also discussed a meeting with the newly hired

architectural firm which developed four project proposals. These include a boiler replacement at Jefferson Park School, a leaking gymnasium roof at Centennial School, a leaking library roof with an asbestos abatement at the high school, and an elevator installation at the high school that must be completed by the fall of 2011. These problems have not been dealt with the past three years and now must be resolved.

The Principal Reports included the changes in the handbooks for next school year. There were no major changes to those handbooks, most changes involved clarifying language. The high school will allow small purses next year (no large book bags/backpacks), the middle school will allow the teacher to determine whether to allow gum in their classroom, and Centennial will add a “punch card” system to encourage respectful and responsible behavior.

The superintendent report included Direction for sport participation at EPGHS/JH; RSS Feeds; Gym Floor Refinishing; Amended Budget Information; Integrated Pest Plan; and Skyward Information. The high school participation for sport seasons will not change for next year while the junior high options will be adjusted back to the 2007-08 procedures along with cross country athletes being allowed to play basketball since there is only a short overlap. A RSS feed creates a subscription process for a user to sign up for notification if a web page has been updates. We now have that capability on our district site. The budget hearing is set for June 18th for an amended budget for 2009-2010. A copy of the amended budget is available to the public online or at the district office. We have adopted a new version of an integrated pest management plan through JT Carr, our facilities manager. The notification piece will be in the student handbooks. And, Skyward student information and financial software program was presented. A summary of these items can be viewed at the superintendents Board report by clicking [HERE](#).

The action items that finalized the meeting included:

- 1) Approval of the school handbook changes
- 2) Approval of the dean of student job description for Gridley Grade School
- 3) Approval of posting and scheduling the hearing on revised budget for 2008-2009
- 4) Approve Fee Schedule for 2009-2010

Base fees will be:

K	\$70
Grades 1-5	\$80
Grades 6-8	\$90
Grades 9-12	\$125

Change for 2009-2010: Less variable fees at the high school. Only additional fees will be Virtual class enrollments (\$50 each), driver’s education (\$75 up from \$50), and athletic participation fees (same as last year). There will be no lock fee at HS or JH.

- 6) Approve the purchase of Skyward as the student information system and financial software system to begin implementation immediately for use beginning in the 2009-2010 school year.