

**EAST TROY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes – August 23, 2021**

The East Troy Community School District Board met in regular session on August 23, 2021. The meeting was called to order by President Ted Zess at 6:00 p.m followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members also present were Dale Ames, Bob Dignan, and Steve Lambrechts. Absent was Anna Janusz. Also present were Dr. Christopher Hibner, Amy Foszpanczyk, Kathy Zwirgzdas, administrators/supervisors, and five guests. Ted Zess read the open meeting statement indicating that the meeting is open to the public as required by state statute and that notice of the meeting had been sent to the media and/or posted.

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AS POSTED

A motion was made by Steve Lambrechts and seconded by Bob Dignan for the approval of the agenda and the amended agenda as posted. Motion carried unanimously.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made Steve Lambrechts and seconded by Bob Dignan to approve the minutes of the July 12, 2021 regular board meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PER BOARD POLICY

Michael Dreyer requested the Board to write a letter regarding their position on critical race theory.

David Banks addressed the Board regarding the positives of wearing masks at school.

VII. FINANCIAL REPORT

Postponed to after item H. on the agenda: Bob Dignan made a motion to approve June 2021 payments in the amount of \$4,476,394.32 and receipts in the amount of \$1,973,214.57 as reflected on the financial statements. Steve Lambrechts seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Bob Dignan made a motion to approve July 2021 payments in the amount of \$822,808.58 and receipts in the amount of \$435,382.28 as reflected on the financial statements. Steve Lambrechts seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

VIII. DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEMS

- A. New educator introductions: Amy Foszpanczyk introduced new contracted positions for the 21-22 school year, hired prior to the new hire educator week.
- B. Presentation to our district for becoming one of just eleven districts in the nation being recognized as storm ready: Tabled.
- C. Staffing resignation(s): Ted Zess made a motion to approve the resignations of Emily Useman, Amanda Kimball, Kelsey Tenaglia, and Betty Spittlemeister. Dale Ames seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
- D. Staffing recommendation(s): Ted Zess made a motion to approve the hire of Kim Frazier as a Middle School math teacher. Dale Ames seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Bob Dignan made a motion to approve the hire of Janel Francs as part-time MS language teacher. Steve Lambrechts seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Bob Dignan made a motion to approve the hire of Cole Blandin as HS social studies teacher. Steve Lambrechts seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Ted Zess made a motion to approve the hire of Katie Steffen as LP special education teacher. Bob Dignan seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
- E. Approval of donation(s): Ted Zess made a motion to approve the donation(s) from East Troy Lumber Company in the amount of \$250 for the East Troy Equestrian Team, Witte Supply Company in the valued amount of \$300 the MS Reading Garden, and Benchmark Landscape Management in the valued amount of \$600 for the MS Reading Garden. Bob Dignan seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
- F. State budget and the impact to ETCSD: Kathy Zwirgzdas showed an updated 5 year projection with the State Budget finalization in July at \$0 revenue limit per pupil, a \$62 per pupil federal funds addition, and spec ed aid reimbursement at 30%. Overall, the budget passage increased projected deficits from the district original projected deficits over the next five years.
- G. Middle School Reading Garden: Pete Syens presented on a project initiated by Tracey Gross for a MS reading garden, funded with a grant.
- H. Review of 2021-22 school year operational plans: Dr. Hibner reported on varying statistics and recommendations from various agencies regarding face coverings. Current status is that face coverings will remain optional. Virtual livestreaming as well as RVA is a virtual learning option offered at East Troy. Dr. Hibner reviewed attendance policies related to positive cases and close contacts. Dr. Hibner reported on participation with a COVID testing system for students (with

parental consent) and staff will be able to receive a PCR test, with results expected between 24 – 48 hrs. Masks are still required on transportation via federal laws.

- I. Annual meeting document preview: Kathy Zwirgzdas showed what will be in the newspaper prior to the annual meeting and a preliminary estimate of a 1% levy increase.
- J. Discussion and action, if appropriate, regarding ESSER II and III prioritization: Kathy Zwirgzdas discussed remaining ESSER II funding and options for ESSER III funding. Dr. Hibner encouraged public participation towards people who want to share direction on the use.
- K. Retirement Benefits (policy 553): Ted Zess made a motion to approve the policy as presented. Dale Ames seconded the motion. Ted Zess made a motion to approve the policy amended with no years. Bob Dignan seconded the motion. Post discussion, the second motion was retracted. The original motion is as presented, with the policy as presented, but at some point in the future to be brought back with future possibilities of changes. Motion carried unanimously.
- L. Discussion and action, if appropriate, related to student request for Start College Now course consideration: Moved to executive session.

IX. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

- A. District Administrator Report:
 - i. Annual Meeting – September 27, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.
 - ii. Bus and van drivers needed
 - iii. CTE – Career and Technical Education Incentive Grant
- B. Business Manager Report: None
- C. Director of Teaching and Continuous Improvement of Student Learning Report:
 - i. August Inservice Schedule
 - ii. Meeting dates and focus areas for Student Learning Subcommittee
- D. Director of Pupil Services: None
- E. School Board President’s Report: None

X. POLICY REVIEW AND DEVELOPMENT

- A. 2nd Reading – Commencement (policy 345.72)
- B. Discussion related to Advertising Policy and Donation Policy – the general consensus was to use the digital boards for advertising ET student accomplishments

XI. COMMUNICATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Hibner thanked staff for a great first day back.

XII. BOARD OF EDUCATION – FUTURE ITEMS

Bob Dignan suggested MS HVAC discussion, how we are going to address future budget shortfalls – possible ad hoc, special meeting – have a discussion of how to take that on, revisiting policy 553.

XIII. ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ted Zess made a motion to adjourn to executive session at 9:36 for the purposes of discussion of student request for Start College Now course consideration as as provided under 19.85(1)(a), 19.85(1)(f), and 118.125. Bob Dignan seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Steve Lambrechts – yes; Bob Dignan – yes; Dale Ames – yes; Ted Zess – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

XIV. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION –

Steve Lambrechts made a motion to reconvene to open session at 9:45 p.m. Ted Zess seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Ted Zess and seconded by Steve Lambrechts to accept the pupil request for Early College Credit / Start College Now. Motion carried unanimously. Motion to adjourn was made by Steve Lambrechts and seconded by Ted Zess. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Lambrechts