

**EAST TROY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Regular Meeting Minutes – August 5, 2024**

The East Troy Community School District Board met in regular session on August 5, 2024. The meeting was called to order by Ted Zess, Board President, at 6:00 p.m followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members also present were Anna Janusz, Adam Witkiewicz, Kevin Bong and Steve Lambrechts. Also present were Dr. Christopher Hibner, Taylor Baumeister, Amanda Jones and administrators/supervisors, and one guest. 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***

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

***V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES***

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A motion was made by Steve Lambrechts and seconded by Adam Witkiewicz for the approval of minutes from July 15, 2024 (Regular Board Meeting) and July 29, 2024 (Special Board Meeting). Motion carried unanimously.

***VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PER BOARD POLICY***

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Gene Rozmarynowski, resident of the village of East Troy, began by indicating that he participated in the audience at the last board meeting and had a difficult time hearing. He requested that microphones are held closer to ensure clearer audio for audience members and those watching the meeting online. Secondly, Mr. Rozmarynowski stated that the meeting minutes from the July meeting (Regular meeting) was not available online for him to access on time. Lastly, Mr. Rozmarynowski urged the Board to move forward with a capital referendum dollar amount that represented what they really needed to complete the necessary projects, and not just a lower amount in hopes that the community would “bite” on a lesser dollar amount.

## **VII. FINANCIAL REPORT**

A motion was made by Adam Witkiewicz and seconded by Steve Lambrechts for the approval of June 2024 payments in the amount of \$5,438,983.18 and receipts in the amount of \$793,501.20 as reflected on the financial statements. Motion carried unanimously.

## **VIII. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS**

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- A. Staffing resignation(s): A motion was made by Ted Zess and seconded by Anna Janusz to approve the resignation of Andy Van Sistine. Motion carried unanimously.
- B. Staffing recommendation(s): A motion was made by Anna Janusz seconded by Steve Lambrechts to approve the hiring recommendation for Joseph Arendt, 1.0 FTE Middle School Band Teacher. Motion carried unanimously.
- C. Approval of donations: None.
- D. Preliminary board review of initial development of resolution language for consideration: Dr. Hibner informed the Board that tonight a final resolution would not be made, but that the Board will continue to decide if they are moving forward with the general resolution language based upon review of the plan/project information. Official referendum resolution language with a dollar amount would be put into the agenda for action at the August 19, 2024 meeting. On August 1, 2024, Dr. Hibner stated that he, Jake Hernandez and the Buildings & Grounds subcommittee met regarding the base plan items. Dr. Hibner reviewed the minutes from this August 1, 2024 subcommittee. The committee asked for projects of \$50,000 or less to be addressed through positive variance if available in the future instead of referenda dollars. The roofs were identified as a high priority in the base plan, as well as science classroom renovations in the middle school per the facilities subcommittee. Dr. Hibner continued to outline discussion amongst committee members regarding what projects could be completed based upon certain tax impact amounts. Additionally, Dr. Hibner shared two plans with the Board that Jake Hernandez had compiled. The first base plan including safety, and the other base plan not including safety items within the plan. Combining these two plans, these would total \$19.4 million. Baird will know more by August 15, 2024 per equalized valuation growth which has a direct impact on the final overall projected tax impact. Also, Dr. Hibner explained that early estimates had a 4.75% interest rate and per Baird, it is reasonable at this time to use 4.25%, thus assisting with the tax impact. It has also been requested of PSI to hone in on the details/potential cost of the projects to get to a more targeted cost, rather than projecting the maximum costs of the scope of each

project. The Board discussed the timing options of the capital referendum, considering November 2024 and spring 2025 with the additional consideration of the next operational referendum planning/timing. A motion was made by Adam Witkiewicz and seconded by Anna Janusz to continue resolution language of \$19.4 million as discussed for the August 19, 2024 Regular Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

- E. Consideration of revisions to policy 850/851 related to sponsorships: A motion was made by Anna Janusz and seconded by Kevin Bong to revise policy 850/851 to accept changes that clarify signage and reduce fees of some as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
- F. Update pertaining Fund 46 (Long Term Capital Improvement Trust Fund): Currently the District is projecting a positive variance of \$650,000 to \$700,000 from the 2023-2024 school year (audit still being finalized). Thus this would be added to the current Fund Balance to help maintain our current percentage and as shared previously to the passage of the operational, would be used toward helping with the 2025-2026 projected structural deficit. That said, Dr. Hibner explained Fund 46 is isolated for capital projects that gains interest once money is put into the account. These monies can be accessed five years after the first funds were placed into the account, which will be January 2028 as the Board per the recommendation of administration put \$100 into this account to begin the five year timeline in January of 2023. Dr. Hibner stated the District will be putting approximately \$100,000 into Fund 46 from the positive variance to assist with future facility projects and the remainder of funds moving into the fund balance.
- G. Professional staff member request for consideration of employment leave of absence: Moved to executive session.
- H. Professional staff employment - contract renewal / nonrenewal: Moved to executive session.
- I. Parent/Student request for expungement of expulsion from pupil record: Moved to executive session.

## ***IX. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS***

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- A. District Administrator Report: None.
- B. Business Manager Report: Update related to audit and year end for 2023-2024 school year - So far the audit has gone well and will bring forth all information regarding the audit to the Board in the fall. The 2024-2025 budget will be brought forth to the Board at the September 2024 Annual Meeting.
- C. Director of Teaching and Continuous Improvement of Student Learning Report:

Update related to District New Educator Induction - Taylor Baumeister, Director of Secondary Teaching and Learning, presented the agenda for New Educator Induction from August 12-15 for an approximate 16 educators. The schedule includes tours of every building, time spent reviewing district goals, policies, and systems. The new educators will also have presentations from the Technology, Pupil Services, Safety, and Business Services departments along with several developmental-level-specific sessions.

Update related to District In-service Schedule - Taylor Baumeister, Director of Secondary Teaching and Learning, presented the schedule for district professional development during in-service days from August 22-28. Highlights include district staff gathering on August 22nd, Ready, Set, Go conferences on August 26th, 12:00-3:00, and August 27th 9:00-7:00, and a Wellness Fair organized by the district Wellness Committee who is collaborating with local businesses, organizations, and vendors to host a fair centering on staff wellness on August 22nd.

D. Director of Pupil Services: None.

E. School Board President's Report: None.

## ***X. POLICY REVIEW AND DEVELOPMENT***

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A. Policy 345.1 Administrative Rule: High School Grading System - *1st Reading*

B. Policy 345.7: Graduation - *1st Reading*

C. Policy 363.5 Administrative Rule: Online Learning Policy - *1st Reading*

## ***XI. COMMUNICATION / ANNOUNCEMENTS***

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Student enrollment registration is open from August 1 through August 15th.

## ***XII. BOARD OF EDUCATION – FUTURE ITEMS***

None.

## ***XIII. ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION***

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A motion was made by Ted Zess and seconded by Anna Janusz to adjourn to executive session for the discussion pertaining to professional staff member request for consideration of employment leave of absence, professional staff employment - contract renewal / nonrenewal, and parent/student request for expungement of expulsion from pupil record as provided under s.s. 19.85(1)(b), 19.85(1)(c), 19.85(1)(f), and 118.125. Roll call vote to adjourn to executive session: Steve Lambrechts-Yes, Kevin

Bong, Adam Witkiewicz - Yes, Anna Janusz. Motion carried unanimously and the Board moved to executive session at 7:31 p.m.

#### **XIV. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION**

At 7:54 p.m., a motion was made by Ted Zess and seconded by Adam Witkiewicz to resume to open session as per s.s. 19.85(1)(b), 19.85(1)(c), 19.85 (1)(f, and 118.125). Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Ted Zess and seconded by Anna Janusz to accept administration recommendation to extend the requested employee leave of absence request until January of 2025. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Ted Zess and seconded by Adam Witkiewicz to accept administration recommendation to expunge expulsion record from pupil record per request of parent/student. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **XV. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Ted Zess and seconded by Adam Witkiewicz to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Lambrechts