

**EAST TROY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes – December 16 , 2024**

The East Troy Community School District Board met in regular session on December 16, 2024. The meeting was called to order by Ted Zess 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 Amy Jenquin, Taylor Baumeister, Kirstin Kanoff, Amanda Jones, 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

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

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Taylor Baumeister corrected the date from November 16, 2024 to November 18, 2024. A motion was made by Steve Lambrechts and seconded by Kevin Bong for the approval of the regular board meeting minutes from November 18, 2024. Motion carried unanimously.

VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PER BOARD POLICY

None.

VII. FINANCIAL REPORT

A motion was made by Adam Witkiewicz and seconded by Steve Lambrechts for the approval of November 2024 payments in the amount of \$2,036,535.75 and receipts in the amount of \$400,647.96 as reflected on the financial statements. Motion carried unanimously.

VIII. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

- A. Staffing retirement(s): Anna Janusz made a motion to approve the retirement of Barbara Hodkiewicz. Steve Lambrechts seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

- B. Review State Report Cards for each school and district: Administrators presented information as reported by the DPI State Report cards for each school and overall as a district for the 2023-24 school year. Taylor Baumeister began the presentation with state report card scoring information for the school district as a whole, including: Priority Area Scores in the areas of Achievement, Growth, Target Group Outcomes, and On-Track to Graduation data information. She explained the changes and scale adjustments made by DPI and the impact on the District score(s). Lindsey Harris shared that since students at Little Prairie do not take state assessments, she completes a DPI required Alternate Accountability Information document that focuses on goals in ELA, Math and Attendance. She shared goals in these areas, the ways in which these goals are progress monitored, and data around each of the goals. Taylor Baumeister shared on behalf of Mark Weerts, outlining the pride of Prairie View in review of local academic and social/emotional data, as well as additional data and information found in the state report cards. It was noted that as cohorts move, year to year data does adjust with the strengths and needs of various cohorts. Adam Trindl shared the state report card data for the middle school, in addition to data points of pride that are not included in state report card scores. A point to note is that achievement scores are on an upward trajectory. A focus in the 24-25 school year is Universal Design for Learning and coaching teaching teams, which will be part of the continuous improvement work at the middle school. Stacey Kuehn discussed state report card data, including target groups, growth and explained graduation rates. She further explained that students with IEPs who continue to receive services past their four year cohort (receiving services ages 18-21) count as a non-graduate per DPI guidelines. This includes students attending Lakeland School of Walworth County, which is accounted for within our District data. She mentioned the importance of advanced courses as well as dual enrollment, making East Troy Community a leader in the state in postsecondary preparation. Mrs. Kuehn also discussed the important opportunities offered within industry-recognized credentials as well as work-based learning.
- C. Approval of 2025 - 2026 School Year Calendar: Taylor Baumeister highlighted a change from the National Weather Service in regards to a cold weather warning, which has moved from -35 degrees (with windchill) to -30 degrees (with windchill). This is the new threshold for school closures. A motion was made by Anna Janusz and seconded by Adam Witkiewicz to approve the 2025-2026 School Year Calendar. Motion carried unanimously.
- D. 2025-2026 High School Planning Guide: Ted Zess made a motion to approve the 2025-2026 High School Planning Guide. Adam Witkiewicz seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

- E. 2025-2026 Middle School Planning Guide: Ted Zess made a motion to approve the 2025-2026 Middle School Planning Guide. Kevin Bong seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
- F. Summer School dates for 2024-2025: Taylor Baumeister shared the proposed summer school dates and planning for summer school 2025. Elementary summer school, not for credit, and credit recovery classes will run from June 16-July 10th (Monday - Thursday), with no classes July 3rd. East Troy High School will offer “for credit” courses, which require a little more time by state standard, so those classes will run from June 16 - July 17th.
- G. Notice of School Board election: Kirstin Kanoff read the notice of the school board election on Tuesday, April 1, 2025. There are two offices to be elected to succeed the present incumbents: Ted Zess (3 year term) and Adam Witkiewicz (3 year term). The candidates receiving the highest number of votes will fill the regular term up for election and serve a three-year term beginning April 28, 2025 and ending the 4th Monday in April 2028. Notice is hereby given that a Campaign Registration Statement and a Declaration of Candidacy, must be filed no later than 5:00 pm on Tuesday, January 7, 2025 in the office of the school district clerk: 2040 Beulah Ave., East Troy, WI. Notice is further given that if a primary is necessary, the primary will be held on Tuesday, February 18, 2025. A description of the school district boundaries can be obtained from the school district office.
- H. Employee Grievance: Moved to executive session

IX. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

- A. School Board President’s Report: (moved up) Ted Zess requested a moment of silence for the students, staff and families of Abundant Life Christian School for the tragic events that happened today. A statement was then read regarding Dr. Hibner’s current medical leave due to a medical emergency that occurred on November 11, 2024. Interim Superintendent responsibilities are being handled by Amy Foszpanczyk. Lastly, a statement was read regarding the Board of Education being aware of a plea deal that was reached in the criminal case of John Rash, a former teacher at East Troy Middle School.
- B. District Administrator Report: None
- C. Business Manager Report: None
- D. Director(s) of Teaching and Continuous Improvement of Student Learning Report:
 - i. Student Learning Subcommittee minutes from November meeting - Taylor Baumeister Director of Secondary Teaching and Learning, presented the minutes from the November 2024 Student Learning Subcommittee to the board. The subcommittee met on November 18, 2024, and the

meeting included Adam Witkiewicz, Amy Foszpanczyk, Taylor Baumeister, Adam Trindl, Amanda Jones and Mark Weerts.

E. Director of Pupil Services: None

X. POLICY REVIEW AND DEVELOPMENT

3rd Reading of Neola Policies - 000 Bylaws - Moved to January 2025 Regular Board meeting.

XI. COMMUNICATION / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Amy Jenquin, Business Manager, presented a report on behalf of Transportation Director, Rachel Neubauer, on red runners (defined as vehicles who move past buses once the lights and arm are out). Forty-seven red runners have been reported to law enforcement since the start of the 2024-25 school year, and continues to be a problem across the state of Wisconsin. The safety of all students is crucial.

XII. BOARD OF EDUCATION – FUTURE ITEMS

None

XIII. ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Ted Zess and seconded by Anna Janusz to adjourn to executive session to discuss and take action regarding an employee grievance as provided under s.s. 19.85(1)(c) and 19.85(1)(f). Roll call vote to adjourn to executive session: Steve Lambrechts-Yes, Adam Witkiewicz - Yes, Kevin Bong - Yes, and Ted Zess - Yes. Motion carried unanimously and the Board moved to executive session at 6:51 p.m.

XIV. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

At 7:03 p.m., a motion was made by Ted Zess and seconded by Adam Witkiewicz to resume to open session per s.s. 19.85(1)(c) and 19.85(1)(f). Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Ted Zess and seconded by Adam Witkiewicz to approve the Attorney Heiden as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Anna Janusz and seconded by Steve Lambrechts to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Lambrechts