

**EAST TROY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Regular Meeting Minutes – January 12, 2015**

The East Troy Community School District Board met in regular session on January 12, 2015. The meeting was called to order by President, Ted Zess at 7:04 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members present were Steve Lambrechts, Martha Bresler, Dawn Buchholtz, and Ted Zess. Also present were Dr. Christopher Hibner, Kathy Zwirgzdas, Amy Foszpanczyk, administrators, eight guests and one reporter. Also present was student representative, Julia Kostopoulos. 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 Dawn Buchholtz and seconded by Steve Lambrechts for approval of the agenda as posted. Motion carried unanimously.

***V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES ON DECEMBER 8, 2014 SPECIAL BOARD MEETING***

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A motion was made by Dawn Buchholtz and seconded by Steve Lambrechts to table the minutes of the December 8, 2014 special Board meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

***VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PER BOARD POLICY: NONE***

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***VII. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS***

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A. District Administrator Report:

- i. School Board Candidacy for April 7, 2015 election – One seat is up for election. A total of three candidates will be running for the open seat including: Martha Bresler, Jody Heimos and Gina Dingman. The two individuals with the highest number of votes will then be placed on the April 7, 2015 ballot. Therefore, a primary will be held on February 17, 2015. Dr. Hibner read the notice of election.
- ii. Upcoming WASB State Education Convention – The convention will be held on Wednesday, January 21<sup>st</sup> through Friday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>. Dr. Hibner highlighted topics that appear throughout the convention workshops including: leading for learning in the digital age, gifted and talented policy, systemic professional development, long-term planning for facilities, authentic learning

- experiences, STEM at the elementary level, changing educator practices, the school board's impact on the superintendent's effectiveness and seeking and hiring student centered educators.
- iii. ETCSD named to the AP 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Honor Roll for expanding opportunities and improving performance for Advanced Placement Studies – Dr. Hibner reviewed the following District data: In 2008, 40 students took AP exams and in 2014, 80 students took AP exams; in 2008, 59 AP exams were administered and in 2014, 135 exams were administered; in 2008, there were 30 scores of 3+ and in 2014, there were 66 scores of 3+.
- B. Business Manager Report: No report submitted.
- C. Director of Instruction Report: No report submitted.
- D. Director of Special Education/District Assessment Coordinator: No report submitted.
- E. Student Representative Report – A wrestlers' alumni gathering will be held on Thursday, January 15<sup>th</sup> at 5:45. Jay Asher, the author of *Thirteen Reasons Why*, will be visiting East Troy High School on Tuesday, January 13<sup>th</sup> and will be addressing the juniors and seniors.
- F. School Board President's Report: No report submitted

## ***VIII. FINANCIAL REPORT***

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A motion was made by Martha Bresler and seconded by Dawn Buchholtz for approval of November 2014 payments in the amount of \$1,429,853.64 and receipts in the amount of \$209,583.33 as reflected on the financial statements. Motion carried unanimously

## ***IX. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS***

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- A. Motion(s) by Board of Education toward the initial development of a resolution(s): Dr. Hibner reviewed the administrative recommendations to reduce the referendum budget. Administration feels that projects at the middle school should be included. Therefore, the budget that is designated to renovate Doubek in order to house central office should be reduced. Martha Bresler shared two calls she received regarding including monies in the referendum for the demolition of Chester Byrnes. The callers stated that rather than putting dollars toward demolition, the money should be spent on projects that will immediately impact students. By not including the demolition, this would include another \$350,000 for projects. Bresler stated that this money could be used to ensure that Doubek projects are completed. Martha Bresler also inquired whether it would be possible to ready the mechanicals at Doubek in case there is a need to expand at a later date. Dr. Hibner discussed the importance of maintaining transparency with

the community. This could include the Board stating that they will entertain options with stipulations that are brought forth from parties interested in Chester Byrnes, Doubek and the overall site. Hibner recommended that the Board include language stating that Board will consider proposals; however, if acceptable proposals are not received within entertainment of the stipulations/parameters, the question must include dollars for the demolition. Dollars that are available as a result of this would then have to go to projects listed in the resolution. Kathy Zwirgzdas will consult with legal representation to determine whether or not the resolution could include language stating ‘the possible demolition of Chester Byrnes’. Ted Zess asked representatives from Miron about the success of referenda with two questions. Consultants stated that communication is key and it is important to ensure that the wording is succinct; keep the second question as simple as possible. Dawn Buchholtz wanted to confirm that the new construction does include the core areas that are large enough to support the second grade and that the additional \$2.2 million is only for second grade classrooms. The consultants stated that the gymnasium and cafeteria are of sufficient size. The \$2.2 million would also include a music along with the second grade classrooms. Kathy Zwirgzdas shared that the additional \$2.2 million on the second question would result in a \$16 – \$20 increase per year on \$100,000 home. A motion was made by Martha Bresler and seconded by Dawn Buchholtz to move forward with the proposed referendum budget and draft resolution questions. Motion carried unanimously.

- B. Set “Notice of Special Meeting” pertaining to referendum solution: . A motion was made by Dawn Buchholtz and seconded by Ted Zess to meet at 5:00 on Monday, January 19, 2015 for a special meeting to discuss and adopt the referendum resolution. Motion carried unanimously.
- C. Donation Approval: A motion was made by Dawn Buchholtz and seconded by Martha Bresler to accept the \$500 donation to Prairie View’s math and science program from Exxon Mobil of East Troy. Motion carried unanimously.
- D. Budget Revisions for 2014 – 2015 school year: A motion was made by Martha Bresler and seconded by Dawn Buchholtz to approve the budget revisions for the 2014 -2015 school year as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
- E. Approval of June 30, 2014 Audit Report (13 – 14 school year): A motion was made by Dawn Buchholtz and seconded by Steve Lambrechts to approve the June 30, 2014 Audit Report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
- F. Curriculum Proposal Document/Template – Amy Foszpanczyk presented the course proposal template that is used by staff members. Foszpanczyk reviewed the process that is followed when a course is proposed and the importance of the information that is gathered from the form. Dr.

Hibner stated that the information that is shared on the form allows the Board to consider all six District goals when reviewing and approving a new course. Bresler stated that, while she is comfortable with the course proposal template, she is concerned about the expectations that currently exist for teachers and would like to streamline responsibilities.

- G. Recording of Board Minutes: – Kathy Zwirgzdas asked for clarification regarding how much content Board members would like to be included in the minutes. Legal counsel has stated that, for regular and special meetings, school districts are required to include motions, names of Board members making motions and the outcome of the motions. Wireless microphones have been ordered and will be used at Board meetings. These microphones would make it possible to record the meetings. However, recording does not relieve districts from the responsibility of keeping written minutes. A motion was made by Martha Bresler and seconded by Dawn Buchholtz to approve taking the shortened form of Board meeting minutes as presented. Minutes for public participation will include the name of the citizen and a brief description of the topic that was discussed.
- H. Update pertaining to preliminary projected budget shortfall for 2015 – 2016 and beyond – Kathy Zwirgzdas presented the Baird budget models that have been created. Baird utilized the middle of the road enrollment projection. The model predicts a \$484,000 deficit in the 2015-2016 school year. This projection includes a standard principle and interest payments, no change to funding and an increase in insurance and on the salary schedule. While this is a discouraging projection, it is better than the anticipated \$600,000 - \$800,000 deficit. Hibner reminded the Board that investing in quality staff, our facilities and programming demonstrates that the district is about the students. An increase in enrollment will continue to assist in supporting these shortfalls. Ted Zess asked Zwirgzdas to add an additional scenario that includes holding the FTE at 1,724 and an equalized property value with a 1.88% increase.
- I. Teacher salary schedule presentation – Kathy Zwirgzdas presented documents relating to the proposed teacher salary schedule and asked the Board to review the information over the next two weeks so that this information can be discussed at the January 26th Board meeting.
- J. Results of Election for ETEA and ETESPA for “Bargaining Representation” – Dr. Hibner reviewed the fact ETEA and ETESPA will be recognized as unions beginning on July 1, 2015 for “representation of bargaining” as it relates to salary. He also stated this could have an impact on the Compensation Model since any additional dollars above the CPI would need to be approved through additives, stipends, bonuses, etc., but would not be able to be associated directly to an

individual salary since we would need to adhere to Act 10 and the implementation of bargaining with represented unions.

K. Professional staff member request of absence for second semester of the 2014 – 2015 school year- Moved to executive session.

L. Evaluation of District Administrator - Moved to executive session.

#### ***X. POLICY REVIEW AND DEVELOPMENT - NONE***

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#### ***XI. COMMUNICATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS***

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Dr. Hibner reminded the Board that this week is National Recognition of Crossing Guards Week. Hibner thanked our crossing guards and asked that this thank you be included in the paper. Martha Bresler suggested that this thank you also be put on the school's digital signs. Please thank our crossing guards especially in the winter months!

Dr. Hibner congratulated the Patronum Bots who competed in Milwaukee on January 3<sup>rd</sup> and received two top awards that earned them a trip to the next level of competition.

#### ***XII. BOARD OF EDUCATION – FUTURE ITEMS: NONE***

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Community group that is looking into bullying and education will be meeting on February 2<sup>nd</sup>. The cultural committee's first meeting will be held tomorrow night. Martha Bresler would like to address the Board in February regarding these committees.

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

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A motion was made by Dawn Buchholtz and seconded by Steve Lambrechts to adjourn to executive session for discussion of professional staff member request of absence for second semester of the 2014 – 2015 school year and evaluation of the District Administrator as provided under 19.85(1) (c). Roll call: Steve Lambrechts, yes; Martha Bresler, yes; Dawn Buchholtz, yes; Ted Zess, yes. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:42 p.m.

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

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A motion was made by Dawn Buchholtz and seconded by Steve Lambrechts to reconvene to open session. Roll call: Steve Lambrechts, yes; Martha Bresler, yes; Dawn Buchholtz, yes; Ted Zess, yes. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting reconvened to open session at 9:56 p.m.

A motion was made by Dawn Buchholtz and seconded by Martha Bresler to approve the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester leave of absence as long as a suitable replacement can be found by administration. Motion passed unanimously.

#### ***XV. ADJOURNMENT***

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A motion was made by Dawn Buchholtz and seconded by Steve Lambrechts to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Buchholtz