

**EAST TROY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes – January 16, 2023**

The East Troy Community School District Board met in regular session on January 16, 2023. 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, Steve Lambrechts, and Adam Witkiewicz. Anna Janusz attended virtually. Also present were Dr. Christopher Hibner, Amy Foszpanczyk, Amanda Jones, 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 for the approval of the agenda as posted. The motion was seconded by Dale Ames. Motion carried unanimously.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Steve Lambrechts and seconded by Adam Witkiewicz for the approval of the minutes on December 12, 2022 (Regular Board Meeting) and on December 21, 2022 (Special Board Meeting). Motion carried unanimously.

VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PER BOARD POLICY

Gene Rozmarynowski discussed the citizen letters that were sent to all parents and guardians but were never on the district website or on the Facebook page. Mr. Rozmarynowski stated that this information needs to be shared with all East Troy citizens and taxpayers. He urged Board members to attend community events in order to inform citizens of the referendum.

John Lightfield expressed disappointment that the Board discussed only moving forward with an operational referendum but appreciates the difficult decision in response to the community survey results.

VII. FINANCIAL REPORT

Dale Ames made a motion for approval of November 2022 payments in the amount of \$1,778,477.95 and receipts in the amount of \$1,414,334.97 as reflected on the financial statements. Steve Lambrechts seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Dale Ames made a motion for approval of December 2022 payments in the amount of \$1,727,618.73 and receipts in the amount of \$113, 558.95 as reflected on the financial statements. Steve Lambrechts seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

VIII. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

A. Auditors going over audit report: This item was moved up after the approval of the minutes. David Minch from KerberRose presented the audit report.

- B. Student Representative Report: None.
- C. Approval of donations: Ted Zess made a motion to approve the following donations: \$1,000 from Ms. Stephanie Kratochwill, \$500 to the East Troy Robotics Club from Ms. Kathleen Boemer, and \$500 for the East Troy Angel Fund from Ms. Debbie Hodges. Steve Lambrechts seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
- D. Strategic Priorities presentation: Ruth Bentley (Director of Food Service), Aaron Judd (Athletic Director), Justin Modrak (Director of Technology), and Dr. Chris Hibner on behalf of Andy Daniels (Director of Buildings & Grounds/Transportation and District Safety Coordinator) presented action steps and key performance indicators for their respective departments to address the district's strategic priorities.
- E. Staffing recommendations: None
- F. Staffing resignation: Ted Zess made a motion to accept the retirement of Ron Ruud, Computer Network Administrator. Dale Ames seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Ted Zess made a motion to accept the resignations of Andy Daniels (Director of Buildings & Grounds/Transportation and District Safety Coordinator) and Kathy Zwirgzdas (Director of Business Services). Dale Ames seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
- G. Open enrollment space calculation/determination (see policy 425): Amanda Jones presented the special education open enrollment space calculations for the 2023-2024 school year. Ted Zess made a motion to move forward with no limitations for spaces in general education open enrollment and zero spaces available for special education open enrollment. Steve Lambrechts seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
- H. Consideration of impact needs for 2022-2023 school year: Dr. Hibner explained that, given the unknowns, the district will not be moving forward with impact needs for the 2022-2023 school year. However, an increase in student needs requires the district to hire a special education teacher at Little Prairie Primary. Additionally, it must be noted that the Salary and Benefits Specialist position that will be hired in the upcoming months has been in the budget for the 2022-2023 school year. Moving forward we will need to consider the fact that reconfigurations that have been implemented to save money (high school leadership model and athletic director position) have forced the district to move backwards in the progress that has been made and is not sustainable or effective as a long-term solution. Finally, attracting and retaining high quality staff must also be addressed.
- I. Resolution Authorizing the School District Budget to Exceed Revenue Limit by \$3,000,000 Per Year for Three Years for Non-Recurring Purposes: Steve Lambrechts made a motion be it resolved by the School Board of the East Troy Community School District, Walworth and Waukesha Counties, Wisconsin that the revenues included in the School District budget be authorized to exceed the revenue limit specified in Section 121.91, Wisconsin Statutes, by \$3,000,000 per year beginning with the 2023-24 school year and ending with the 2025- 2026 school year, for non-recurring purposes consisting of operational expenses to help maintain existing programs and staffing. Anna Janusz seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Anna Janusz - Yes, Steve Lambrechts - Yes, Adam Witkiewicz - Yes, Dales Ames - Yes, and Ted Zess - Yes. Motion carried unanimously.
- J. Resolution Providing for a Referendum Election on the Question of the Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the School District Budget to Exceed Revenue Limit by \$3,000,000 Per Year for Three Years for Non-Recurring Purposes: Steven Lambrechts made a motion for resolution providing for a referendum election on the question of the approval of a resolution authorizing the school district budget to exceed revenue limit by \$3,000,000 per year for three

years for non-recurring purposes. Whereas, the School Board of the East Troy Community School District, Walworth and Waukesha Counties, Wisconsin (the “District”), has heretofore duly adopted a resolution entitled: “Resolution Authorizing the School District Budget to Exceed Revenue Limit by \$3,000,000 Per Year for Three Years for Non-Recurring Purposes” (the “Revenue Limit Resolution”); and Whereas, the School Board deems it be desirable and in the best interest of the District to direct the District Clerk to submit the Revenue Limit Resolution to the electors for approval or rejection at the regularly scheduled election to be held on April 4, 2023. Adam Witkiewicz seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Anna Janusz - Yes, Steve Lambrechts - Yes, Adam Witkiewicz - Yes, Dales Ames - Yes, and Ted Zess - Yes. Motion carried unanimously.

K. Approval of 2023 - 2024 School Year Calendar: Adam Witkiewicz made a motion to approve the 2023-2024 calendar with the exception of moving the January inservice from January 29th to January 15th. Steven Lambrechts seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

L. Overnight Field Trip Request: Ted Zess made a motion to approve the field trip requests as presented. Dale Ames seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

M. School Board Candidacy for April 4, 2023 election: Dr. Hibner read the notice for school board candidacy. A primary is scheduled for February 21, 2023 and the regular election on April 4, 2023.

N. Choose Board of Canvassers for February primary election: Ted Zess made a motion to identify Adam Witkiewicz, Ted Zess, and Stacey Kuehn as the Board of Canvassers for the February primary election. The Board of Canvassers will meet on Friday, February 24, 2023 at 8:00 a.m. at District Office. Steven Lambrechts seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

O. Student request for early graduation: Moved to executive session.

P. Evaluation of District Administrator: Moved to executive session.

Q. Consideration of land negotiations for expansion of Heritage: Moved to executive session.

IX. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

A. District Administrator Report:

B. Business Manager Report: None

C. Director of Teaching and Continuous Improvement of Student Learning Report:

i. Student ACCESS - Amy Foszpanczyk shared the ACCESS for ELL test schedule.

ii. 2023 Summer School - Amy Foszpanczyk shared summer school dates as well as an update regarding current staffing numbers.

iii. State Standardized Testing - Amy Foszpanczyk shared the testing schedule for the Wisconsin Student Assessment System including: Wisconsin Forward Examination, PreACT Secure, and the ACT.

D. Director of Pupil Services: None

E. School Board President’s Report: None.

X. POLICY REVIEW AND DEVELOPMENT

None.

XI. COMMUNICATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Hibner indicated that the Citizens Letters referenced during public participation were included on the district webpage, linked on social media, and included in the East Troy paper on October 7 and October 14.

Stacey Kuehn thanked Dr. Hibner, Amanda Jones, and Amy Foszpanczyk for attending the High School Galla.

Dr. Hibner shared a letter from Gateway thanking the East Troy Community School District for offering transcribed coursework. This included 625 students enrollments and a total savings of \$276,604.90 for our students per the dual credit program..

Dr. Hibner recognized Martin Luther King, Jr. Day and shared the quote - “Darkness cannot drive out darkness, only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate, only love can do that.”

XII. BOARD OF EDUCATION – FUTURE ITEMS

Dale Ames would like to discuss Dr. Hibner’s future vision of robotics, PLC, etc.

XIII. ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ted Zess made a motion to adjourn to executive session for the discussion of consideration of student request for early graduation, evaluation of District Administrator, and consideration of land negotiations for expansion of Heritage as provided under s.s. 118.125, 19.85(1)(b) and 19.85(1)(c). Steve Lambrechts seconded the motion. Roll call vote to adjourn to executive session: Steve Lambrechts-Yes, Adam Witkiewicz-Yes, Dale Ames-Yes, Ted Zess-Yes. Motion carried unanimously and moved to executive session at 9:28 p.m.

XIV. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

Steve Lambrechts made a motion to resume to open session at 10:10 p.m. Ted Zess seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Ted Zess made a motion to approve as presented the student request for early graduation. Steve Lambrechts seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Steve Lambrechts and seconded by Ted Zess to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 10:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Lambrechts