

**EAST TROY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Regular Meeting Minutes – September 27, 2021**

The East Troy Community School District Board met in regular session on September 27, 2021. The meeting was called to order by President Ted Zess at 7:42 p.m followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members also present were Dale Ames, Bob Dignan, Anna Janusz and Steve Lambrechts. Also present were Dr. Christopher Hibner, Amy Foszpanczyk, Kathy Zwirgzdas, administrators/supervisors, and nine 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***

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

***V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES***

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A motion was made Bob Dignan and seconded by Steve Lambrechts to approve the minutes of the August 23, 2021 regular board meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

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

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Ed Hinsberger requested ethics training; that board members should not silence people as a government official.

Kelly Guentner spoke about COVID protections, and COVID affecting children.

Christine Liea spoke about that new increases in cases from COVID should change mitigation protocols. She also shared a letter from Jonah Swanson concerned about the rising number of cases at East Troy Schools and the lack of mitigation protocols this year at school.

Barb Hotz spoke that the state windfall should have been shared with the school district. She also spoke about the apartments going in nearby to her property and asked that the Board negotiate a smaller imprint with the builder (less apartments).

Jeremiah Thomas spoke about COVID spread with particles on human breath, and that masks help significantly.

David Banks spoke about future referendum votes not occurring during spring break. He also spoke about wearing masks to be the best protection for our students in school, and asked when are we going to change from monitoring to taking action.

Micah Roberts spoke about freedom and that the Board has a solemn duty to protect those freedoms. He requested that there be no change to the mask policy; that people who want to wear one can. He also indicated that scientists have been wrong many times. He also stated he hopes ETCSD bus drivers are not bullying students into wearing masks. He also stated that the vaccines do not work and vaccines should not be required for working.

## ***VII. FINANCIAL REPORT***

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Bob Dignan made a motion to approve August 2021 payments in the amount of \$807,334.88 and receipts in the amount of \$4,033,343.93 as reflected on the financial statements. Anna Janusz seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

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

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- A. Presentation to our district for becoming one of just eleven districts in the nation being recognized as “Storm Ready”: Mark McGinnis spoke about the education, training, and safety measures the school has put in place over the last four years, mitigating the risk of weather incidents.  
Moved up the Director of Pupil Services: Bullying Prevention Update: ETCSD counselors presented on District Initiatives and Practices.
- B. Staffing resignation(s): None.
- C. Staffing recommendation(s): Bob Dignan made a motion to approve the hire of Jean Freund as a Middle School counselor. Anna Janusz seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Ted Zess made a motion to approve the hire of Jennifer Giera as Physical Therapist (shared with Whitewater). Bob Dignan seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
- D. Approval of donation(s): Bob Dignan made a motion to approve the donation(s) from East Troy Lions Club in the amount of \$200 for the East Troy girls volleyball and soccer programs, Gus Athanasopoulos with Gus’s Drive In in the amount of \$2000 for the wrestling program, and Mr. and Mrs. John Brehm in the amount of \$100 for the boys soccer program, and Tim Werwie with

State Farm for \$200 to the school budgets. Dale Ames seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

- E. Short term borrowing – Approval of Resolution Authorizing Temporary Borrowing in an amount not to exceed \$1,500,000 Pursuant to Section 67.12(8)(a)1, Wis. Stats.: Bob Dignan made a motion , pursuant to Section 67.12(8)(a)1, Wisconsin Statutes, authorizing temporary borrowing for the East Troy Community School District, the aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$1,500,000. Anna Janusz seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
- F. COVID-19 update and review operational guide: Dr Hibner reported on current ETCSD Covid Dashboard statistics. The Board deliberated on options and asked for building level feedback on any changes to mitigation measures. Dr. Hibner requested if a future special board meeting is scheduled, to have civility, dignity and be a great example for students. The Board requested a feedback survey be conducted. Dr. Hibner commented that a survey would be provide to staff and to families.
- G. Operational updates: State budget, district wide building projects, ESSER funds, and MS HVAC: Andy Daniels reported that the sooner the better on the decision regarding the MS HVAC due to lead times. Bob Dignan made a motion to approve the design of the MS HVAC system, for the purpose of requesting bids. Ted Zess seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
- H. Discussion and action, if appropriate, regarding ESSER II and III prioritization: Kathy Zwirgzdas referenced a possible option for an ESSER II and ESSER III prioritization list in the Board packets.
- I. Change date of October 11 board meeting to October 25: Ted Zess made a motion to change the date. Dale Ames seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
- J. SRO (School Resource Officer): Dale Ames suggested a cost share with the Village. Officer Hackett spoke to his role in the district. Kathy Zwirgzdas stated that if the cost share changes the Village will just tax more to cover their share. (The taxes would shift.)
- K. Commencement policy (345.72): Ted Zess made a motion to approve the policy as presented. Steve Lambrechts seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
- L. Update regarding homecoming for 2021-2022 school year: Stacey Kuehn and Kent Kleinowski reported on the theme and activities that are being done.
- M. Personnel employment issue: Moved to executive session.

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

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- A. District Administrator Report: September 30<sup>th</sup> presentation by Carly Posey and the “I Love U Guys Foundation” pertaining ‘From Sandy Hook to COVID-19: Lessons Learned Through Crisis’
- B. Business Manager Report: None
- C. Director of Teaching and Continuous Improvement of Student Learning Report: None
- D. Director of Pupil Services: Bullying prevention update – was moved up between items A and B.
- E. School Board President’s Report: None

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

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None

***XI. COMMUNICATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS***

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None

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

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Dale Ames requested the Doubek building, marketing, and long term disability.

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

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Bob Dignan made a motion to adjourn to executive session at 11:36 p.m. for the purposes of discussion of personnel employment issue as provided under 19.85(1)(b), 19.85(1)(c), and 19.85(1)(f). Anna Janusz seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Steve Lambrechts – yes; Anna Janusz – yes; Bob Dignan – yes; Dale Ames – yes; Ted Zess – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

***XIV. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION –***

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Bob Dignan made a motion to reconvene to open session at 12:15 a.m. Ted Zess seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

***XV. ADJOURNMENT***

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A motion was made by Ted Zess and seconded by Steve Lambrechts to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 12:16 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Lambrechts