

**EAST TROY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes – February 13, 2023**

The East Troy Community School District Board met in regular session on February 13, 2023. The meeting was called to order by Board Member Anna Janusz at 6:00 p.m followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members also present were Dale Ames, Steve Lambrechts, and Adam Witkiewicz. Also present were Dr. Christopher Hibner, Amanda Jones, administrators/supervisors, and seven guests. Anna Janusz 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. Anna Janusz made a note that the board would likely not be taking any action on Agenda Items J & K, with the absence of Board President, Ted Zess.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Steve Lambrechts and seconded by Adam Witkiewicz for the approval of the minutes on January 16, 2023 (Regular Board Meeting) and on February 1, 2023 (Special Board Meeting). Motion carried unanimously.

VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PER BOARD POLICY

David Amyx expressed concern over his tax bill from last year, indicating a 26% increase. He referenced that the potential referendum would cause his tax bill. Mr. Amyx posed a question to the Board, wondering if they have taken into consideration the impact and if the referendum is needed.

Gene Rozmarynowski recently attended the wrestling tournament and was impressed at how well they performed. He encouraged others to go to watch and support them.

Elwyn Jones is concerned with the referendum as he is on the verge of retiring and on a fixed income.

VII. FINANCIAL REPORT

None.

VIII. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

- A. Basic overview of referendum question: Dr. Hibner provided a statement of the referendum question, being “Shall 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 121.19, Wisconsin Statutes, by \$3,000,000 per year beginning with the 2023-2024 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?” The district does not have enough predictable and stable funding to maintain the quality educational opportunities for students, attract and retain our quality staff in the ever-increasing competitive labor market, and maintain the schools’ facilities (in terms of repairs). Some of what the board is trying to accomplish through passing a referendum are funding issues, staffing issues, and normal operating expenses (excluding large maintenance projects). Dr. Hibner has been asked the question of what the district’s plan is for the facilities, since these capital projects are not part of the currently proposed operational referendum. He also indicated that the board has had to consider what our students need, as well as what our staff need to promote a healthy organizational culture and stability. The hardest decisions for the board include which ones make families and students leave the district, or do not attract new students and families, with enrollment directly impacting the revenue limit. Dr. Hibner discussed that the state funding mechanism formula from 1993 as antiquated, with revenues from the state not keeping pace; especially since 2009 for operations.
- Board member Anna Janusz encouraged other board members to make it out to municipal board meetings, and shared schedules of meeting dates and times with the board.
- B. Staffing Recommendations: Anna Janusz made a motion to approve the hire of Amy Jenquin for 1.0 FTE Director of Business Services. Dale Ames seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
- C. Approval of donations: Adam Witkiewicz made a motion to approve the following donations: \$1,000 from The Mockingbird Foundation, Inc. Dale Ames seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
- D. RVA Agreement - Invested Member Commitment: Anna Janusz made a motion to approve the RVA Agreement - Invested Member Commitment. Dale Ames seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

- E. East Troy Middle School Planning Guide: Anna Janusz made a motion to approve the East Troy Middle School Planning Guide. Steve Lambrechts seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
- The high school PLC planning guide is available on the East Troy website as well.
- F. Overnight field trip request: Steve Lambrechts made a motion to approve the NASA HUNCH and Championship Esports Club trips. Dale Ames seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
- G. Summer School 2023 update: Dr. Hibner shared that we currently have 21 educators within the district interested in teaching summer school, and 3 educators from outside of the district. Additional teachers are needed to provide further course offerings, so positions are posted on WECAN, but do not have any applicants as of February 9th. Decisions will need to be made about potential course offerings if more educators do not show interest in teaching summer school.
- H. School Board Candidacy Primary - February 21, 2023 for April 4, 2023 election: Steve Lambrechts seat is up for re-election, with Mr. Kevin Bong, Mr. John Lightfield, and Mr. Steve Lambrechts running for the seat in the February 21, 2021 primary election. The two individuals receiving the highest number of votes will move to the April 4, 2023 election.
- I. Administration and supervisory contracts per Statute 118.24(6): Moved to executive session.
- J. Evaluation of District Administrator: Tabled until special meeting or March board meeting.
- K. Negotiations pertaining potential sale of approximately 1.75 acres of school district property: Moved to executive session.

IX. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

- A. District Administrator Report:
- i. Staffing updates - Rachel Neubeur (previously the transportation administrative assistant) will now be the District Director of Transportation. The transportation administrative assistant position has been posted with interviews happening. The Salaries and Benefits Specialist position will be filled by Kirstin Kanoff (currently the payroll coordinator). The payroll coordinator position is posted and will be filled in the coming weeks. The salary and benefits specialist position is to support all of our district staff with ensuring the highest quality assistance with: payroll, onboarding, benefits, contracts and benefits reconciliation, unemployment, recommended proposed policy/policy revisions, salary comparables, benefit analysis' and comparables, FMLA paperwork, WRS and other imperative compliance duties,

meeting all ACA requirements and compliances, etc.. The Director of Buildings & Grounds interviews have been conducted, with second interviews occurring within the next week and with a temporary start date of March 6. Mr. Daniels last day will be Friday, February 17th, but has been gracious enough to support the new Director and district with their expertise to ensure a smooth transition.

ii. Vision for CTE per board member request - Tabled until later board meeting

B. Business Manager Report: January count

C. Director of Teaching and Continuous Improvement of Student Learning Report: None

D. Director of Pupil Services: None

E. School Board President's Report: None.

X. POLICY REVIEW AND DEVELOPMENT

None.

XI. COMMUNICATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

XII. BOARD OF EDUCATION – FUTURE ITEMS

None.

XIII. ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

- Anna Janusz made a motion to adjourn to executive session for the discussion of administration and supervisory contracts and deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties related to negotiations pertaining potential sale of approximately 1.75 acres of school district property as provided under s.s.118.24(6), 19.85(1)(b), 19.85(1)(c), and 19.85(1)(e). Adam Witkiewicz seconded the motion. Roll call vote to adjourn to executive session: Steve Lambrechts-Yes, Adam Witkiewicz-Yes, Dale Ames-Yes, Anna Janusz - Yes. Motion carried unanimously and moved to executive session at 7:37 p.m.

XIV. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

Steve Lambrechts made a motion to resume to open session at 8:43 p.m. Dale Ames seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Steve Lambrechts made a motion to approve of administrative contracts with no salary changes to updated contracts until budgets have been determined. Adam Witkiewicz seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Steve Lambrechts and seconded by Dale Ames to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Lambrechts