

Minutes of Board Meeting

<u>Regular</u>	<u>HS/JH Library</u>	<u>January 17, 2017</u>	<u>6:30 p.m.</u>
Kind of Meeting	Place	Date	Time

Board Members Present:	Board Members Absent:
Terry Schulting, President	Ben Andersen
DJ Loeffelholz, Vice President	
Donna Quinn, Secretary	
Glen Foote	
Don Kussmaul	
Harold Middendorf	
Others Present:	Others Absent:
Tori Lindeman, Superintendent	Jeff Weydert, Transportation Director
Darren Sirianni, HS/JH Principal	
Crissy Johnson, Elementary Principal	
Grover Priebe, Building and Grounds Director	
Corinne Meyer, Board Recording Secretary	

1. Call to Order

- 1.1. The East Dubuque Board of Education met in regular session on Tuesday, January 17, 2017 with 6 members present and 1 members absent. President Schulting called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

The pledge to the flag was given.

2. **Consent Agenda**

Kussmaul requested to remove scheduled item to allow additional time for review.
Kussmaul stated this would be done within the next week.

2.6 Destruction of audio recordings for June 24th and July 1st: closed session

Kussmaul moved to approve:

- 2.1. Minutes for Regular Meeting held December 20, 2016
- 2.2. Minutes for Policy Committee held December 15, 2016
- 2.3. Minutes for Calendar Committee held January 12, 2017
- 2.4. Approval of Bills (Board)
 - Bills: \$116,363.04
 - Imprest: \$2,510.00
 - District Activity: \$18,868.78
- 2.5. Approval of the December 2016 Treasurer's Report
- 2.6. Removed Action Item (Destruction of audio recordings for June 24th and July 1st: closed session)
- 2.7. Concur with suspensions (none)

On a second from Foote, the motion carried on a vote of 6 ayes and 0 nays with the votes as follows: Foote aye, Kussmaul aye, Loeffelholz aye, Middendorf aye, Quinn aye, Schulting aye.

3. **Recognition of Visitors and Correspondence**

- 3.1. Superintendent Lindeman read a thank you from Lois Herbst.

4. **Old Business**

4.1. Update: Directors for the Board of the East Dubuque School District Foundation.

Superintendent Lindeman stated she had sent an invitation to those that expressed an interest in serving on the new board to meet and discuss the opportunity.
Superintendent Lindeman stated that the members of the board could total 5 or 7 members, but it must be an odd number.

4.2. 5Essentials Survey Results to Date:

	Student	Teacher	Parent
High School	96%	94%	21%
Junior High	98%	84%	16%
Elementary	98%	100%	22%

Superintendent Lindeman stated the deadline is January 31, 2017, and at least 20% parent response was needed to receive a report.

Mr. Sirianni stated that some students that were no longer enrolled are still listed on the survey roster, which is why the percentages for students were not at 100%.

4.3. Other Old Business

None

5. New Business

5.1. Informational Item: PARCC 2017 Testing

Superintendent Lindeman informed the board that the elementary school had been chosen to participate in PARCC testing starting March 15th.

Schulting asked about the length of the testing times. Mr. Sirianni advised that the testing periods were 90 minutes. Kussmaul asked about any breaks the students were allowed during the tests and Ms. Johnson confirmed that unless an IEP was in place to allow for additional testing breaks students would take the test in the required testing period.

5.2. Informational Item: School Facilities Tax Report

Superintendent Lindeman gave an update on the School Facilities Tax Report.

5.3. Action Item: Change of ED grading scales.

Superintendent Lindeman recommended that the East Dubuque Junior and Senior High School grading scale be amended to reflect a more realistic and comparative scale to all other districts in the region. Additionally, this scale would be uniformed from 7-12th grades. At this time, we have three scales currently in place for the 7-12 grades.

A	90-100	D	60-69.99
B	80-89.99	F	Below 59.99
C	70-79.99		

Kussmaul asked if the teachers had been consulted and concurred with the change. Mr. Sirianni stated that they hadn't had a change to address changing the grading scale with

the staff. Mr. Sirianni also stated that additional discussion was needed on if the change would start for incoming 2017-18 freshman or if there would be mixed grading scales for student.

Superintendent Lindeman clarified that the scale would be applied going forward, not retroactively and that East Dubuque was the only school in the region using the current scale, that updating the scale would mitigate differences and challenges faced by students and parents when transitioning to another school.

Loeffelholz asked if retroactive changes would need to be done manually or if it could be done systematically. Superintendent Lindeman confirmed that any retroactive changes would need to be done manually.

Foote requested additional clarification on how the change would be implemented. Superintendent Lindeman stated that the change would start with 2017-18 incoming freshman (class of 2021), that they had attempted to find a solution with Skyward to apply blanket updates for all students but that was not an option.

Schulting asked if percentages could be changed across the board, questioning why it could not be done on a technical level.

Foote asked what cons were identified in changing the grading scale. Superintendent Lindeman stated that the only con she identified was the logistics of making the change. Superintendent Lindeman advised that she had spoken with both Clarke, University of Dubuque and other schools, all expressing only benefits for students if the grading scale was changed. Mr. Sirianni brought up the potential issue of how to handle a situation where a student had had failed a course previously but would have a passing grade with the new scale; that the attorney consulted recommended the scale be changed starting with incoming freshman for this reason. Mr. Sirianni spoke about how a change in the grading scale would impact class rankings for both the high and low end.

Quinn addressed potential scholarship issues for graduation seniors, if the new grading scale would be as beneficial or if a higher ACT score was more advantageous. Superintendent Lindeman stated she spoke with 5 different schools and they all incorporated GPA into their review for scholarships.

Middendorf asked if parents had had the opportunity to provide feedback on the change in grading scale and thought it was important that the question be posed to the community.

Superintendent Lindeman and Kussmaul also discussed the number of students impacted, specifically at the high and low end of the scales and if a weighted system would be a better option. Mr. Sirianni mentioned the idea of using a laude system rather than class rank to give recognition to students.

The board agreed that action item would be postponed until the scheduled board meeting. and:

- Feedback was needed from both parents and teachers.

- Additional research into the pros and cons should be completed and presented to the board
- Superintendent Lindeman stated she would set up time to discuss this further with Mr. Sirianni.

5.4. Action Item: Change of the ED Start/End time

Superintendent Lindeman recommended that the East Dubuque Junior High School and the East Dubuque High School start and end times be synchronized. The proposed starting bell would be 7:45 a.m. and the ending bell would be 2:45 p.m.

Students class and passing periods would be staggered as they are now to allow for each level to have their own passing periods and time in the locker bay areas. Students of the Junior and Senior High Schools would ride the same bus.

With this meshing at the secondary building, an adjustment will also be required at the Elementary School. The start time that is recommended is 8:35 a.m. with an ending bell at 3:20 p.m.

Superintendent Lindeman also stated that she discussed this matter with the transportation and it was agreed that there would be significant cost savings with less routes and mileage on the buses.

Schulting asked if any issues with after school activities had been identified if the bell times were adjusted. He also asked if any concerns were received from parents and teachers on the change in the elementary school bell times.

Foote asked if there were concerns from parents or teachers on the later drop-off and pick-up times at the elementary school, if there would be issues with parent and teacher schedules.

Superintendent Lindeman stated she would work with principals to on additional logistics with changing the bell times.

Schulting moved to approve start/end times for school beginning with the 2017-2018 school year. On a second from Kussmaul, the motion carried on a vote of 6 ayes and 0 nays with the votes as follows: Foote aye, Kussmaul aye, Loeffelholz aye, Middendorf aye, Quinn aye, Schulting aye.

5.5. Action Item: Board Policy Updates - Second Reading

Foote moved to approve:

2:30, School District Elections

2:120, Board Member Development

2:125, Board Member Compensation; Expenses

2:200, Types of School Board Meetings
2:220, School Board Meeting Procedure
2:250, Access to District Public Records
3:40, Superintendent
3:50, Administrative Personnel Other Than the Superintendent
4:10, Fiscal and Business Management
4:55, Use of Credit and Procurement Cards
4:60, Purchases and Contracts
4:80, Accounting and Audits
4:110, Transportation
4:130, Free and Reduced-Price Food Services
4:150, Facility Management and Building Programs
4:170, Safety
4:175, Convicted Child Sex Offender; Criminal Background Check and/or Screening; Notifications
5:10, Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment
5:30, Hiring Process and Criteria
5:60, Expenses
5:100, Staff Development Program
5:125, Personal Technology and Social Media; Usage and Conduct
5:185, Family and Medical Leave
5:190, Teacher Qualifications
5:250, Leaves of Absence
5:260, Student Teachers
5:280, Duties and Qualifications
5:330, Sick Days, Vacation, Holidays, and Leaves
6:15, School Accountability
6:50, School Wellness
6:60, Curriculum Content
6:140, Education of Homeless Children
6:145, Migrant Students
6:160, English Learners
6:170, Title I Programs
6:310, High School Credit for Non-District Experiences; Course Substitutions; Re-entering Students
6:340, Student Testing and Assessment Program
7:15, Student and Family Privacy Rights
7:30, Student Assignment and Intra-District Transfer
7:50, School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools
7:60, Residence
7:70, Attendance and Truancy
7:190, Student Behavior
7:250, Student Support Services
7:260, Exemption from Physical Activity Education
7:270, Administering Medicines to Students
7:305, Student Athlete Concussions and Head Injuries
7:310, Restrictions on Publications; Elementary Schools
7:315, Restrictions on Publications; High Schools
7:340, Student Records

8:30, Visitors to and Conduct on School Property
8:70, Accommodating Individuals with Disabilities
8:100, Relations with Other Organizations and Agencies

On a second by Loeffelholz, on a voice vote of 6-0 the motion carried.

5.5.1. 5:250, Leave of Absence Immediate Family Definition

Superintendent Lindeman requested that the definition of immediate family be revised to match the definition in the teacher contract.

Kussmaul moved to approve. On a second by Mliddendorf, on a voice vote of 6-0 the motion carried.

5.6. Other New Business

None

6. Information & Staff Reports

6.1. Committee Updates: Calendar

Superintendent Lindeman will share 3 proposed calendar options for the 2017-2018 school year on the website and instruct parents to send feedback to the principals or herself. Parents will also be notified via Twitter and SkyAlert.

6.2. Elementary School - Ms. Johnson

Staff News

Andrea Sprengelmeyer moved to full-time with us starting 1/11/2017

We welcome two new paraprofessionals: Margaret Merza and Christie Dalsing (half-days until Feb. 1, 2017 then she will be full-time).

Professional Learning Communities Updates

Our focus for the second semester is math. Teachers will turn in math lesson plans weekly and receive feedback. Deb Endress from the ROE was here Jan. 11, 2017 and worked with our first and sixth grade teacher teams to collaborate in the plan-teach-reflect cycle with our math core standards. She returns in March and May to work with the rest of the grade-level teams.

Student Leadership

Mrs. Rennison's sixth grade class recently read about Hurricane Matthew in Haiti. Some of her students were so moved and felt compelled to help; students organized a food, coin, and clothing drive to help support Haiti. All items collected will be donated to the Red Cross, Salvation Army, and other charitable organizations directly assisting Haiti with relief.

Enrollment

Pre-K-65	K-35				
1 -45	2 -40				
3 -40	4 -44				
5 -40	6 -54				
		Total		363	

Loeffelholz asked if the Elementary School was fully staffed for aides. Ms. Johnson stated they were but there have been changes to students needs and IEP programs that necessitate additional aides.

6.3. High School/Junior High - Mr. Sirianni

Mr. Sirianni reviewed the Illinois Report Card.

End of Semester: We completed the first semester this past Friday. Of note, of 204 High School Students, 154 were eligible to exempt at least one class during final exams. The students must have a minimum grade of A- in the course for the semester, be earning at least a C- in all of their courses and must meet attendance and behavioral components to be eligible for an exemption.

Enrollment for Spring 2017: (As of January 11, 2017)

Grade	Students				
7	62				
8	57				
9	52			August	December
10	62		7-8	118	119
11	53		9-12	213	206
12	35	Totals	7-12	331	325
					January
					119
					202
					321

Kussmaul asked on the success of the new evaluation tool. Ms. Johnson and Mr. Sirianni stated that it was going well overall and the tool has allowed for better conversations between staff.

6.4. Maintenance - Mr. Priebe

The golf carts were delivered last week. They were put in service and they look and work very well. We are looking into getting sides on them to protect the riders from the weather.

The new time clocks are being used this pay period on a trial run to get the employees familiar with using them.

The Ansul fire suppression system in the high school kitchen was serviced and passed inspection.

The maintenance department completed work over the Christmas break. At the high school: all of the heat pump units were serviced and filters changed, repaired the exhaust fan in the gym, hung cabinets in the art room that were donated to the art teacher, the carpets in the locker bay were steam cleaned and the restroom floors scrubbed and resealed. At the elementary school filters were changed in the air handling unit, a chalkboard and projector were installed, as well as some cabinets in the art room.

Quinn requested an update on the bleachers. Superintendent Lindeman stated she would follow-up on quotes for bleachers and the gate.

6.5. Transportation - Mr. Weydert

Preventive maintenance was completed over winter break, including: oil changes, brakes, tires and fluids.

The mandatory 6-month safety lane inspections in Lanark have been progressing nicely with no major issues. The entire fleet and the vans are due prior to February 1st.

6.6. Food Service - Ms. Leibold

No changes made in the breakfast or lunch program since the last meeting. Breakfast is averaging 168, Elementary lunch is 211 and High School and Junior High is at 180.

6.7. Superintendent - Mrs. Lindeman

6.7.1. E-Funds for School Partnership through Skyward.

E-Funds will allow parents to complete registration online and pay fees at a very low cost.

Superintendent Lindeman clarified that parents could still pay via check at no additional cost.

6.7.2. Evaluation / Evaluawise

34 evaluations have been completed district wide as of 1/13/17.

6.7.3. Highland Community College

Due to so few of our staff being approved to teach we are looking to expand the search to others in the community to fill positions for a satellite campus. This would also delay the start from summer to fall.

Additional discussion was held on the differences in the requirements for instructors in Iowa and Illinois; Illinois requirements for Masters' certification for instruction and more challenging for teachers to obtain.

6.7.4. School cancellation: options for make-up date

The board approved to have snow days added on to the end of the school year.

7. Personnel

7.1. Action Item: Hire Margaret Merza as Paraprofessional

Foote moved to hire Margaret Merza as paraprofessional. On a second by Middendorf, the motion carried on a vote of 6 ayes and 0 nays with the vote as follows: Foote aye, Kussmaul aye, Loeffelholz aye, Middendorf aye, Quinn aye, Schulting aye.

7.2. Action Item: Hire Christie Dalsing as Paraprofessional

Middendorf moved to hire Christie Dalsing as paraprofessional. On a second by Foote, the motion carried on a vote of 6 ayes and 0 nays with the vote as follows: Foote aye, Kussmaul aye, Loeffelholz aye, Middendorf aye, Quinn aye, Schulting aye.

7.3. Action Item: Resignation of Robin Enstrom-Hall, Elementary School Special Education Teacher

Foote moved to accept the resignation of Robin Enstrom-Hall as Elementary School Special Education Teacher. On a second by Loeffelholz, motion carried on a voice vote of 6-0.

7.4. Informational Item: Andrea Sprengelmeyer was employed at 5/8 time and is now full-time Special Education.

8. Executive Session

None

9. Other Matters to Come Before the Board

None

10. President's Prerogative

None

11. Adjourn

Motion by Foote to adjourn. On a second by Middendorf, motion carried by a voice vote of 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

The minutes contained herein were approved by the Board at its regularly scheduled meeting held Tuesday, February 21, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

Signed:

Attest:

Terry Schulting, President

Donna Quinn, Secretary