

Minutes of Board Meeting

Kind of Meeting

Regular

Place

JH/HS Cafeteria

Date

Nov 15, 2023

Time

6:00 p.m.

Board Members Present:	Board Members Absent:
Glen Foote, President	
David Sendt, Vice President	
Don Kusssmaul, Secretary	
Daniel Dalberg	
Christina Schauer	
Nikki Nelson	
Esta Poulton	
Others Present:	
Wes Heiar, Elementary Principal	TJ Potts, Superintendent
Darren Sirianni, HS/JH Principal	

1. Call to Order

The East Dubuque Board of Education met in regular session on Wednesday, November 15th, 2023 with 7 members present. President Foote called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Roll call with all 7 members present.

2. Consent Agenda

Sendt moved to approve the Consent Agenda with a second by Nelson. Roll call, all present voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

3. Recognition of Visitors and Correspondence

3.1 Student Council Representative Christopher DeMotta took time to speak to the Board Members about some of their activities so far this year. They have sponsored Homecoming week, held a Culvers Ice Cream Fundraiser during lunch at school and gave Halloween treats to Teachers and Staff. Some of their planned events include, Thanksgiving-grams to students, a hot-coca bar fundraiser, pizza day with Papa Johns and they will be teaming up with Paige Johnston and her non-profit organization to sponsor a giving tree. The Student Council wanted to thank the School and the Board for their continued support so they can keep doing all of these events.

3.2 Jenny Blocker from the Benning Group, the firm that oversees our yearly audit, gave the board the FY 23 audit review. The District maintained a 3.9 Financial Profile Score out of 4. Board Members thanked the District Office for their hard work and dedication.

4. **STAFF REPORTS**

- 4.1. **Mr. Heiar, Elementary Principal**, updated that Parent/Teacher conferences went extremely well on Oct. 4th and 5th. The kindergarten parents hosted a bake sale and raffle which earned just over \$1,000. Thanks to all those amazing parents who solidified donations from businesses for basket items, planned and set up for the event, worked the table during P/T conferences, and cleaned up after.

A huge thank you to JoAnne, D.J. and Joe Loeffelholz for a massive donation of winter coats, hats, gloves and other gear they dropped off during the last week of October. These items are already being distributed to a multitude of East Dubuque Elementary students who unfortunately come to school without these basic necessities. The Loeffelholz family has been donating these the last few years and I wanted to be sure to take a moment and publicly thank them for their incredible generosity.

The annual Pumpkin Run for all students in 1st and 2nd grade took place on October 20th. Nice work to Mr. Eyres for another successful race.

- 4.2. **Mr. Sirianni, JH/HS Principal**, reported JH Boys Basketball is already midway through their season. HS Girls have their first games this week and HS Boys begin next week. Archery will begin in another week with their practices. We have three boys who have joined the new Wrestling Co-op with Galena and have begun practicing. Scholastic Bowl has also begun practicing.

On Thursday, November 9th, the District-wide Veteran's Day Assembly was held at the HS/JH gym. It was a great turnout of 45-50 Veterans and about half stayed to enjoy lunch afterwards.

The High School Drama department put on "Pandemonium" on Saturday, November 4 and Sunday, November 5. Mrs. Kenkel, Mr. Lange and the students put on an entertaining performance!

Mr. Sirianni also noted that the Jr High has received the US News & World Report Best Middle Schools Award. Congratulations to all those hard working students and teachers.

Projected Enrollment: (As of November 9, 2023)

Grade	Students		(Totals)		
			May 23	August 23	November 23
7	41		88	85	88
8	47		189	182	181
9	44	7-8	277	267	269
10	48	9-12			
11	52	Total 7-12			
12	37				

4.3. **Mr. Potts, Superintendent**,

Maintaince – From Grover Phase II update. The air compressor and lines are being installed in the shop for the welding booths and the shop area. Painting is still being done. The basketball supports and hoops were installed and we are still waiting on the rooftop units for heat to be installed. Until then, we will have to wait for the gym flooring to be delivered and installed. Landscaping and blacktopping will be done this week as well. Brick washing and expansion fill will be completed this week also.

Annual sprinkler inspection passed.

Jonathon Wilson from Gallagher Basset did his HLS walk through. I am awaiting his report.

We have the concession stands winterized and shut down for the winter. The football field has been rolled and all fields have been sprayed.

Transportation- From Jeff: Our new bus driver, Elizabeth Honeyfield, is resigning her position. We are shorthanded again and will try to get by the best we can.

Please, if you know of anyone interested in driving a school bus, let me know, we will help them to become an East Dubuque bus driver.

Safety and Security- From Nate

The Law Enforcement drill went well. It was an excellent launch pad to continue training in the district. We are engaged with Special Education District wide addressing behaviors before incidents happen. There have been multiple VAPE detections with many students being suspended and parents notified due to using, posing, and selling. Multiple Marijuana VAPes have also been discovered on campus. Three students have been sent to expulsion hearings for this reason. Officer Mast has been included in discussions on having preventative VAPE lessons for JH/HS students and he has been forwarded several incidents including the marijuana VAPes.

Superintendent: Buildings and Grounds Committee will meet at 5:00 pm on January 17, 2024.

A student Reinstatement Meeting is tentatively set for Monday, January 8 at 5:30pm.

Next month the levy will be brought before the Board. We have continuously worked to not go to Truth in taxation so as to keep the tax base down for our community. I feel that we will again be able to do so, even with rising costs. I wanted you to know and the East Dubuque community.

Pride- I just wanted to share how proud I am of the pride that our staff takes in their work. There are so many avenues in life where it seems that less and less people are taking pride in things. Not here! I want the board to know that our teachers and support staff do take pride in our district. I see it, and maybe have taken it for granted at times, but I do recognize it. It is one of the nice things about a district this size. You don't have to look far to see someone doing something really outstanding

5. Old Business

- 5.1. Phase II Update: Mr. Sirianni updated the Board on the Phase II construction. The two heating units are still not here to install which means that the gym floor cannot be installed until they are in. Possible Jan time frame for the completion of the floor. Work was to be completed on the asphalt out by the new gym before winter gets here. The AC compressor and lines are leaking in the welding room which has held that classroom up.

6. New Business

- 6.1. The June 2024 interest payment was included in the total of the Bond transfer amount given to the board to approve last month for series 2020A and 2022ARS.
- 6.2. It has been noted that the 2023-2024 dues for the IASB have been paid.
- 6.3. The FOIA received from SmartProcure for employee staff contact information has been completed.
- 6.4. The Illinois Report Card presentation will be presented at the December board meeting.
- 6.5. Kussmaul made a motion and Dalberg seconded to approve a boys baseball overnight trip to Jacksonville, IL for 3/22/24 to 3/24/24. All present voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

7. Personnel

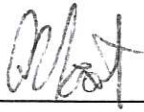
Sendt made a motion to approve the Personnel Agenda as presented with a second by Poulton. Roll call vote, all present voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

8. President's Prerogative

President Foote took this time to thank the Student Council for their hard work and for the card the Board received from them. He also congratulated Mr. Sirianni that the Jr High achieved from the US News & World Report Best Middle Schools Award.

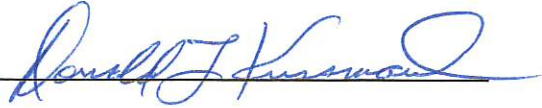
- 8.1. **Adjourn** Motion by Dalberg to Adjourn with a second from Schauer. Motion carried 7-0 and meeting was adjourned at 6:37 pm.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Glen Foote', written over a horizontal line.

Glen Foote, President

Attest:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Don Kussmaul', written over a horizontal line.

Don Kussmaul, Secretary