

EASTLAND COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #308

Board of Education Meeting

September 19, 2018 6:30 p.m.

Lorrie Heeren, Presiding

MEMBERS PRESENT: Diann Cassens, Lorrie Heeren, Brian Heldt, Anthony Preston, Steven Snider, and Jennifer Sturtevant

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT: Mark D. Hansen, Monica Burkholder, Angela Mahoney

OTHERS PRESENT: DiAnn Adolph, Dan Beyer, Tina Dickman, Eric Haan, Vanessa Hansberry, Jim Helton, Erin Paulsen, Beth Wilkinson, Tyler Zumdahl

ADOPTION OF BOARD OF EDUCATION AGENDA:

A motion was made by **Heldt** and seconded by **Sturtevant** to adopt the agenda as presented. Roll call vote showed Cassens, Heeren, Heldt, Preston, Snider, and Sturtevant voting aye. **Motion carried.**

Karl Henze entered the meeting at 6:31 p.m.

CONSENSUS ITEMS:

A motion was made by **Heldt** and seconded by **Cassens** to accept the consensus items as presented:

- Minutes of the August 22, 2018 Public Budget Hearing and August 22, 2018 Regular Board of Education meeting; destruction of the audiotape minutes of the May 17, 2017 Executive session, per statute;
- Payment of Accounts Payable for the month of September, 2018 in the amount of \$222,363.23;
- Approve the School Treasurer's Report for the month of August, 2018;

Roll call vote showed Cassens, Heeren, Heldt, Henze, Preston, Snider, and Sturtevant voting aye. **Motion carried.**

BOARD INPUT:

The following items were discussed:

- Dates/Tasks for upcoming Committee Meetings.
- Board Convention Plans
- IASB NW Division Dinner -- Stillman Valley HS, Mon, Oct 29, 6:00 p.m.

- Election calendar and open seats:
Four (4) board members will have terms expiring in April, 2019. Information and details about the election, including nominating petitions, are available at the Carroll County Clerk's office and online at www.carroll-county.net.
- Media Center Program Review for 2017-18:
The Media Center Annual Report was shared with Board members. The report was prepared by Media Specialist Erin Paulsen, EES Librarian Laurie Woessner and EJSHS Media Center Aide Stephanie Higley. The report highlighted statistics in reading by students at all levels and the Summer Reading program. During the summer, both the EES and the EJSHS Media Centers were opened regularly to encourage students to read during the summer months. This year's program was coordinated with the Lanark Public Library. To learn about about the 2018 summer reading program, please visit <http://epaulsen.weebly.com/summer-reading-initiative.html>.
- Strategic Plan:
The Board discussed whether to engage in a strategic planning process to renew the current plan for another 3 years, or to make minor changes for one year and to engage in a full planning process with the next superintendent. Discussions on strategic planning will continue in October.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS:

The Board thanked all visitors for attending.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Dr. Hansen shared a letter congratulating the marching band and Director Ben Randecker for their great performance in the Lena parade. A letter regarding Custodian Appreciation Day was also shared.

OLD BUSINESS:

➤ UPDATE ON THE IASB EXECUTIVE SEARCH PROCESS AND STAKEHOLDER SURVEY

Jim Helton of the IASB Executive Search Service briefed Board members on the results of the stakeholder surveys that were conducted. Dr. Helton reported that fifteen (15) candidates have thus far expressed interest or accessed the posting. He shared a brochure that will be used to advertise more aggressively. Through discussion with the Board members regarding the responses from the surveys, the following parameters were established:

- The superintendent will be expected to establish residency within the District.
- The deadline date for application will be Monday, October 15, 2018.
- A Special Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 30, 2018, starting at 6:30 p.m. This will be a closed session meeting at which the IASB Search Team will present information on the six (6) finalists they have chosen to bring to the

board. Finalists will be chosen based on the qualities identified as important, references and background checks.

- Interviews with the Board will be scheduled for the week of November 5, 2018.
- The compensation and benefits package will be advertised as “regionally competitive.”
- The search team will be looking for candidates with successful teaching and administrative experience, although not necessarily previous experience as a superintendent.

➤ **REPORT ON PRESENTATIONS TO COMMUNITY MUNICIPALS REGARDING POSSIBLE AGREEMENT TO PURCHASE SERVICES OF A SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER**

Dr. Hansen provided a brief update on progress made toward a possible agreement with the City of Lanark and Village of Shannon to purchase the services of a School Resource Officer (SRO). Hansen made presentations to the Shannon Village Board and the Lanark City Council in September. He plans to return to meetings in October to see if an agreement between the three entities can be reached.

➤ **APPROVAL OF DISTRICT’S RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN**

A motion was made by **Henze** and seconded by **Heldt** to approve the District’s Risk Management Plan, as presented.

Roll call vote showed Cassens, Heeren, Heldt, Henze, Preston, Snider, and Sturtevant voting aye. **Motion carried.**

NEW BUSINESS:

➤ **PRESENTATION ON THE NEW STANDARDS-BASED REPORT CARD**

Eric Haan and Eric Paulsen made a short presentation on the new Standards-Based Report Card which will be published for students in grades K-8 for the first time this October. They shared samples of a current report card for a student, explained how grades are calculated in the new system, and demonstrated how parents and students can access “drill down” reports to look specifically at the standards or skills that the student has demonstrated. The report cards will be published digitally and will be accessed through the school’s Skyward system. Dr. Hansen has published a 9 minute video on the new report cards that has gone out to parents already through email and social media accounts. It will be sent out again over the next several weeks, and a link will be posted on the District website at www.eastland308.com.

➤ **SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT ON STUDENT PERFORMANCE INDICATORS FOR 2017-18 AND DISTRICT STRATEGIC GOALS**

Superintendent Hansen shared information on 2017-18 end-of-year measures associated with the 3-year strategic plan. He highlighted some areas for improvement, and many areas of strength:

Areas for improvement:

- The % of students meeting their individual growth targets in 3rd grade Reading and 5th grade math declined from previous years. 66% of students met their 3rd grade Reading targets, and 70% met their 5th grade math targets. Previous years measures showed about 82% of students meeting their targets. These were not measures of attainment, but rather, measures of whether students made their expected growth for the year.
- The % of 8th graders demonstrating math skills at or above grade level decreased from 65% to 60%.
- The % of students earning a score of “3” or higher in Advanced Placement Courses declined in English Literature & Composition.

Areas of strength:

- 29% of 5th graders scored well above average based on national norms for demonstrating proficiency with “algebraic thinking.” This percentage has risen steadily from 22% in 2014. This is a measure of attainment that indicates an increase in the % of students prepared for higher level math and problem solving.
- The % of 8th graders reading at or above grade level increased from 70% to 75%, the highest level in the last five years.
- 100% (48/48) of 9th graders finished the year on-track to graduate with their classmates in 4 years. This means that they passed at least 7 of their 8 classes, and passed all of their English and Math courses.
- The % of students completing at least one (1) Advanced Placement Course was 22% for the second consecutive year, the highest level over the last six years and above the District goal.
- The % of students earning a score of “3” or higher in Advanced Placement Courses stayed the same or increased in Chemistry, Calculus, US History, and Biology.
- The % of students in grades 3 through 6 who scored a “4” or “5” on the state math testing increased to 62%; the previous 3-year average had been 53%. Hansen noted that the state cut scores for “4’s” and “5’s” are very high.
- The % of students from low-income families and students with diagnosed learning disabilities, when looked at separately, met their individual growth targets for learning at a rate generally equal to, and often better, than when all students in the District are viewed together. Hansen applauded the performance of these students in what the state defines as “sub-groups,” and complimented the students, parents, teachers and administrators for ensuring that ***all*** students are challenged to learn and grow.

Principal Mahoney shared reports on 2017-18 measures for Eastland Elementary School, and the 2018-19 School Improvement Plan and Goals. The goals will be:

- To maintain at least 66% of students meeting their MAP growth goal in reading, with students averaging at least a 2.8 on their end of course assessment for reading.
- To increase to 60% the percentage of students meeting their MAP growth goal in math, with students averaging at least a 2.8 on their end of course assessment for math.
- To work toward performing as an effective professional learning community.

Principal Burkholder shared reports on 2017-18 measures for Eastland Jr./Sr. High School, and the 2018-19 School Improvement Plan and Goals. The goals will be:

- To improve the % of students finishing 8th grade with math skills at grade level. The current level is 60%.
- To improve the % of students finishing 8th grade with reading skills at grade level. The current level is 75%.
- To improve the % of students earning scores of “3” or higher on Advanced Placement courses and to increase the % of students scoring as “college ready” according to the SAT.

CLOSED SESSION:

A motion was made by **Heldt** and seconded by **Preston** to enter into closed session at 8:00 p.m. to consider information regarding:

- The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District or legal counsel for the District, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee or against legal counsel for the District to determine its validity. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1).

Roll call vote showed Cassens, Heeren, Heldt, Henze, Preston, Snider, and Sturtevant voting aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by **Heldt** and seconded by **Cassens** to exit closed session at 8:36 p.m. Voice vote showed all ayes. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by **Heldt** and seconded by **Heeren** to approve closed session minutes. Voice vote showed all ayes. **Motion carried.**

➤ APPROVAL OF PERSONNEL:

A motion was made by **Heldt** and seconded by **Snider** to approve the following personnel actions:

- Approved the hire of **Kelli Gunderson** to serve as a maternity leave sub for 3rd Grade with an estimated start date of October 6, 2018 through an estimated return date of October 29, 2018.
- Approved the reassignment of **Tracy Siegner** from substitute to part-time 1:1 aide.
- Approved the hire of **Danika Starr** as a part-time aide for a special education student requiring 1:1 services, pending completion of her licensing requirements.

- Approved the hire of **Robert Hartman** as 8th Grade Boys' Basketball Coach for the 2018-19 school year.
- Approved the hire of **JorjAnn Fink** as Yearbook Advisor for the 2018-19 school year.
- Approved the renewal of differential assignments for spring sports for 2019 (these were presented for a 1st reading in May, 2018 but not formally approved in June):

HS Head Varsity Baseball Coach	<u>Weston Burkholder</u>
HS Asst. Baseball Coach	<u>Tyler Zumdahl</u>
HS Head Softball Coach	<u>Keali Eich</u>
HS Asst. Softball Coach	<u>Dillion Eich</u>
Jr High Boys' Track Coach	<u>Myles Dunlap, II</u>
- Approved a motion to continue posting the following vacancies for differential positions:
 - Asst. Play Director for 2018
- Approved the renewal of a Memoranda of Understanding with **Cynthia Feltmeyer** and the Eastland Education Association regarding application and additional compensation through the FFA Three Circles Grant for 2018-19.
- Approved a motion to continue posting the following vacancies:
 - Maternity leave sub for 7th-8th Grade English/Language Arts (with estimated dates of Jan 3 - Feb 15, 2019)
- Approved a motion to continue posting the following vacancies:
 - Substitute Bus Drivers
 - Substitute Kitchen Assistants and Cooks

Roll call vote showed Cassens, Heeren, Heldt, Henze Preston, Snider, and Sturtevant voting aye.
Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by **Heldt** and seconded by **Heeren** to adjourn at 8:37 p.m.
 Voice vote showed all ayes. **Motion carried.**

These minutes are not official until approved by the Board of Education.

Lorrie Heeren, President

Jennifer Sturtevant, Secretary