

EASTLAND COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #308

Board of Education Meeting

May 19, 2021

6:32 p.m.

Steven Snider, Presiding

MEMBERS PRESENT: Diann Cassens, Brian Heldt, Anthony Preston, Steven Snider, Chad Waller, Augusta Witt

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT: Alex Kashner, Monica Burkholder, Angela Mahoney

OTHERS PRESENT: Michele Hartman, Brian Carstens, Sara Swart, Wade Zuberbuhler

ADOPTION OF BOARD OF EDUCATION AGENDA:

A motion was made by **Heldt** and seconded by **Waller** to approve the agenda as adjusted, adding an action item regarding a Booster Club request.

Roll call vote showed Cassens, Heldt, Preston, Snider, Waller, and Witt voting aye. **Motion carried.**

CONSENSUS ITEMS:

A motion was made by **Heldt** and seconded by **Cassens** to approve the consensus items as presented, correcting the Accounts Payable amount:

- Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on April 21, 2021, minutes of the Special Board Meeting on April 28, 2021, and destruction of the audiotape minutes of the September 18, 2019 and October 16, 2019 Executive sessions, per statute;
- Payment of Accounts Payable for the month of May, 2021 in the amount of \$320,898.15.
- Treasurer's Report.

Roll call vote showed Cassens, Heldt, Preston, Snider, Waller, and Witt voting aye. **Motion carried.**

BOARD INPUT:

During Board Input, committee dates and the July board meeting date were reviewed. The Annual School Board conference was discussed and Board members were encouraged to sign up through Mrs. Hartman as soon as possible. Superintendent Kashner commented that the conference is worthwhile and has a lot of great sessions to attend.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS:

Visitors introduced themselves and were welcomed. No public comments were made.

Karl Henze entered the meeting at 6:38 pm.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Superintendent Kashner shared that Eastland High School, once again, earned recognition on the US News Best High Schools Rankings list for 2021. Schools that are ranked in the top 40% nationally achieve this status. Eastland scored in the top 20% nationally and 86th in the state. Rankings are based on performance on state-required tests, graduation, and how well they prepare students for college. He told the Board he was incredibly proud of our students, faculty, and community for achieving this honor. Principal Burkholder seconded those thoughts and shared her appreciation for the efforts of all involved, especially, the teachers.

End of the year dates and times were shared. Board members were asked to be at graduation by 12:45 on Sunday, May 23rd, for our commencement ceremony at 1 pm. Superintendent Kashner also shared procedures for summer school this year, and said that we are expecting between 25-35 students to attend.

The April energy bill through Constellation was discussed. Kashner explained that the recent bill was extremely high and was as a result of the cold freeze that took place in February in Texas. He has submitted an appeal, but says that the approval of the appeal does not look promising. Lastly, correspondence regarding vaccine sites for students ages 12 and up through Carroll County Health Department. Kashner commented that he was pleased that all three districts are working together on this initiative and it is completely voluntary.

OLD BUSINESS:

> RESOLUTION ABATING WORKING CASH AND TRANSFER OF FUNDS

A motion was made by **Heldt** and seconded by **Waller** to approve the resolution to abate working cash funds of new cash bonds of \$600,000 sold in the fall to O/M fund and then transfer \$300,000 of that O/M to Capital Projects, as presented.

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

> APPROVAL OF HEALTH, DENTAL, VISION AND LIFE INSURANCE RENEWAL

A motion was made by **Heldt** and seconded by **Cassens** to approve renewal of 2021-22 group insurance effective July 1, 2021 as follows:

- Health Insurance with Health Alliance/1st Health
 - Option 1 is a standard health plan
 - Option 2 is a HSA plan, with the district passing on the premium savings to the employee by contributing funds to the employee's HSA
- Dental/Vision/Life renewal with Guardian
- Leaving the hold harmless amount for each person insured to \$2,000 (this is toward deductible and/or max out of pocket costs)

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

NEW BUSINESS:

➤ **1ST READING OF THE 2021-22 PARENT-STUDENT HANDBOOK**

The first reading of the 2021-22 Parent-Student handbook was reviewed. Principal Burkholder commented that the suggested changes were minor and if anyone has questions, to please let her know before the June meeting.

➤ **CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF AGREEMENTS**

A motion was made by **Heldt** and seconded by **Waller** to approve the following agreements, as presented.

- IHSA Membership Renewal for the 2021-22 school year.
- 2 year renewal of the Golf Co-Op with Chadwick-Milledgeville.
- 2 year renewal of the Football Co-Op with Pearl City.
- 2 year renewal of the Speech Co-Op with Pearl City.
- Intergovernmental Shared Transportation agreement with Chadwick-Milledgeville for the 2021-22 school year.

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

➤ **APPROVAL BOOSTER CLUB REQUEST**

A motion was made by **Henze** and seconded by **Preston** to approve the Booster Club request to allow the use of lawn mowers and field equipment to be used to maintain the baseball and softball fields at Lions Park in Shannon during summer ball program, as presented.

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

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Superintendent Kashner shared COVID-19 log numbers and reported that numbers are consistent. He commented that he is hoping for a normal upcoming school year, and will be monitoring the guidance from the state and working on a school plan for the 2021-2022 school year.

CLOSED SESSION:

A motion was made by **Heldt** and seconded by **Witt** to enter into closed session at 7:05 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, Heldt, Henze, Preston, Snider, Waller, and Witt voting aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by **Heldt** and seconded by **Waller** to exit closed session at 8:05 p.m. Voice vote showed all ayes. **Motion carried.**

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

➤ **APPROVAL OF PERSONNEL:**

A motion was made by **Henze** and seconded by **Heldt** to approve the following personnel, as presented:

- The resignation of **Olivia Guerra** as EES Art Teacher at the conclusion of the 2020-21 school year.
- The renewal of **Monica Burkholder** as EJSHS Principal, with performance based contract for the 2021-22, 2022-22, and 2023-24 school years.
- The renewal of **John Prowant** as Director of Operations (Transportation, Maintenance, Buildings & Grounds), with performance based contract for the 2021-22, 2022-22, and 2023-24 school years.
- The hire of **Kayleigh King** as EES Principal, with performance based contract for the 2021-22, 2022-22, and 2023-24 school years.
- The hire of **Cassi Sturtz** as EES Media Center/Library Aide for the 2021-22 school year.
- The hire of **Kathleen Gengenbach** as EES Custodian, starting June 1, 2021.
- The hire of **Nicole Ruter** as EES Kitchen Aide for the 2021-22 school year.
- The hire of **Payton Clouse** as summer custodial crew.
- To post the following vacancies:
 - Elementary Art Teacher

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

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by **Heldt** and seconded by **Snider** to adjourn at 8:08 p.m. Voice vote showed all ayes. **Motion carried.**

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

Steven Snider, President

Diann Cassens, Secretary