

EASTLAND COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #308

Board of Education Meeting

October 20, 2021

6:30 p.m.

Steven Snider, Presiding

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

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT: Alex Kashner, Monica Burkholder, Kayleigh King

OTHERS PRESENT: Michele Hartman, Anna Ludwig, Becky Roethe, Dan Rusmiser

ADOPTION OF BOARD OF EDUCATION AGENDA:

A motion was made by **Heldt** and seconded by **Waller** to approve the agenda adjusted, adding a request for approval for building use under New Business.

Roll call vote showed Cassens, Heldt, Henze, 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:

- Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on September 15, 2021, and the destruction of the audiotape minutes of the March 18, 2020 Executive session, per statute;
- Payment of Accounts Payable for the month of October, 2021 in the amount of \$262,729.75, which includes FY21 CollegeNow reimbursements.

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

BOARD INPUT:

Details about the upcoming Board Convention were discussed. Superintendent Kashner commented that this conference is a great professional development and is looking forward to the breakout sessions. Superintendent Kashner presented the strategic plan updated schedule. He shared that he will start scheduling committee meetings now through January with a first draft of the four year strategic plan to be presented in March 2021.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS:

Visitors were welcomed. No one addressed the Board.

COMMUNICATIONS:

The Pre-K Board report was shared.

OLD BUSINESS:

> APPROVAL OF BOARD POLICIES

A motion was made by **Heldt** and seconded by **Henze** to approve updates to board policies: 1:10, 1:20, 1:30, 2:10, 2:20, 2:30, 2:120, 2:125, 2:130, 2:150, 2:200, 2:220, 2:230, 2:240, 2:250, 3:30, 3:70, 4:15, 4:40, 4:60, 4:140, 4:170, 5:10, 5:30, 5:40, and 5:125, as recommended by PRESS, as presented.

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

> APPROVAL OF SNOW PLOW BIDS FOR

A motion was made by **Heldt** and seconded by **Witt** to approve the FY22 Esser III, Title I, Title II, Title IV, 3 Circles, and Ag Incentive Grants, as presented.

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

NEW BUSINESS:

> EASTLAND REBRANDING PRESENTATION

Superintendent Kashner shared logo designs for an updated Eastland Cougar head and "E". He stated that the goal was to update the logo, while staying true to our traditional look. Board members discussed the options and decided to maintain the traditional approach. Principal Burkholder commented that the recommended logos are actually one of the multiple in circulation and this process will allow us to become aligned throughout the District.

> FY22 1ST QUARTER FINANCIAL REPORT

A 1st quarter financial report was shared. Superintendent Kashner commented that expenses are slightly over at this point, but capital projects such as the parking lot and HVAC units have already been paid for the year, as well as the leases on the buses, which skews the number. He added that he feels we will be on budget at the end of the year on the current projections.

> REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL OF WORKERS COMPENSATION INSURANCE

A motion was made by **Heldt** and seconded by **Preston** to approve moving forward with a RFP for Workers Compensation Insurance, as presented.

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

> REQUEST FOR USE OF SCHOOL FACILITY

A motion was made by **Preston** and seconded by **Henze** to approve the request for youth basketball to use the EJSHS facility, as presented.

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

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:

During the Superintendent report, a report on the secure entrance at EJSHS was shared. Construction will start in April 2022 with a projected finish date in September 2022.

The proposed timeline would see final renderings in December, with bids out in January, and work to begin in April. This project would add a safety entrance, new office area on the ground level, and a remodel of the current office area into a classroom and meeting area. Superintendent Kashner commented that safety is a priority and a secure entrance would enhance that component. Adding an additional classroom as we continue to grow is also extremely helpful.

Superintendent Kashner also shared preliminary work regarding a proposed addition at Eastland Elementary School. The purpose of the addition would be to add additional classrooms and work areas to match our enrollment. The proposal would give enough space to allow for PreK-6 to be held at EES with EJSHS returning to 7-12. A discussion was had on whether we should be proceeding with construction beginning in June 2022 or June 2023. Superintendent Kashner will share a formal recommendation at the November 10th board meeting.

CLOSED SESSION:

A motion was made by **Waller** and seconded by **Heldt** to enter into closed session at 7:00 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, Heldt, Henze, Preston, Snider, Waller, and Witt voting aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by **Heldt** and seconded by **Witt** to exit closed session at 7:29 p.m. Voice vote showed all ayes. **Motion carried.**

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

➤ APPROVAL OF PERSONNEL:

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

- The hire of **Shawna Reynolds** as EES Kitchen Assistant.
- The hire of **Kara Howell** as EJSHS Nurse.
- The hire of **Amanda Bauer** as EJSHS Instructional Aide.

- The hire of **Rachel Streight** as EES Homebound Instructional Consultant.
- The hire of **Kristoffer Manthei** as a substitute Bus Driver, pending certification.
- The hire of the following long-term substitutes, covering upcoming maternity leaves:
 - **Shelley Stoner** at EJSHS.
 - **Larry Tigges** at EJSHS.
 - **Sara McAuliffe** at EES.
- The reassignment of **Nicole Ruter** from EES Kitchen Assistant to EES Instructional Aide.

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

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by **Henze** and seconded by **Heldt** to adjourn at 7:40 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