

EL PASO GRIDLEY CUSD #11
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES



March 17, 2014

Centennial Library

President Eric Zehr called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the following Board members present: Jeremy Faulk, John Hartness, Rich Kiefer, David Mool, Brian Stoller, Josh Uphoff, and Eric Zehr. Administrators present: Superintendent Michael Lindy, J.P. /G.G.S. Principal Kelly Throneburg, Centennial Principal Tim Fairchild, E.P.G.J.H.S. Principal Robby Tomlinson, E.P.G.H.S. Principal Karen Krug, Curriculum Director Dr. Nicole Rummel, Bookkeeper Susan Stella, and Building Facilities Manager J.T. Carr.

A motion was made by John Hartness and seconded by David Mool to approve the agenda as presented with one change: 7. Action Item c. should be “six” instead of “five”. All yeas. The motion carried seven to zero.

Visitors included: Howard Crouse (*PMA Financial*), Sara VanScyoc, Sarah Hewitt, Lora Miller, Chanel Johnson, Rhonda Zielsdorf, Kent Zielsdorf, Scott Reid, Bill Schifferer, Bud Malcom, Robert Hunsaker, Erin Lopez, Heidi Kiefer, Jay Kiefer, Charlie Pinkham, John Sutton, Cynthia A. Martorana, Judy Bute, Jenny Haas, Sherrie Kuntz, Jerry Sax, Brad Guth, Kelly Hunt, Alisa Ihlenfeldt, Beth Hartness, Sheryl Bucher, Christy Moss, Ayrrin Kostelnick, Eric Reutter, Jennie Kearney (*El Paso Journal*), Jennifer Smith, Jamie Erwin, Emily Jenkins, Julie Blair, Chris Blair, Rob Shaffer, Jerry Faulk, Ruth Martin, Sharon Flesher, Cheri Eckhart, Ashley Brown, Matt Stuckel, Janet Smith, Eric Baker, Georgia Oltman, Keith Harris, Joe Malcom, Erin Probst, Jenni Bierbaum, Stephanie Hiles, Todd Johnson, Mark Whitcomb, Dustin & Brooke Hinds, Denny Foor, Dee Foor, Eric Kingdon, Michele Marr, Seth Campbell, Mark Campbell, Nathan Hodel, LaRae North, Vicki Cooper, Laurie McCabe, Alcha Bufe, Rhonda Heiken, Jennifer Prather, Elizabeth Krut, John Shaffer, Nathan Ehrhardt, Mary Englehorn, Kathy Paradies, Jaclyn Heller, Joe Kapraun, Tim Maier, and Steve Puck.

Thank-you cards were read from the family of Cindy Koeller and Mark Kessinger.

Several individuals requested a chance to address the Board of Education:

Sara VanScyoc suggested the Board consider administrative reductions or attrition due to the retiring positions.

Beverly Nix (*Elementary Music Teacher*) stated that children tend to excel in music when sports are not their best attribute. She believes that it is essential to have a music teacher with a degree to keep the program alive.

Lora Miller (*Title I and Reading Recovery Teacher*) asked the Board to please consider not reducing the positions providing Title I and Reading Recovery services to needy children. Thirty-seven students will not receive reading help with the proposed cuts.

Barb Bounds had several questions and comments for the Board.

Scott Reid stated that Reading Recovery is great and does not need to be cut. What about the tax rate? Why did the money come from the BMO Fund to build the football field?

Denny Foor was previously a Board Member and explained all the work and time members spend making the best decisions possible. EPG's Board has always been proactive.

A motion was made by John Hartness and seconded by Rich Kiefer to approve the consent agenda as presented:

- Approval of Minutes from the Regular Board Meeting held on February 24, 2014
- Approval of Financial Reports
- Approve Penny Grusy as a Volunteer Junior High Track Coach for the 2014 Season
- Approve Mike Souhrada as a Volunteer High School Baseball Coach for the 2014 Season
- Accept Sandra Ahnfield's Resignation Effective the End of the 2013-2014 School Year
- Approve IHSA Membership for the 2014-2015 School Year

All yeas. The motion carried seven to zero.

Written reports were submitted earlier by the principals and Director of Instruction, and superintendent.

Superintendent Michael Lindy explained we need to amend our current school calendar for the 1.5 extra snow days used. We will have a full day of school on April 9th instead of early dismissal at 1:30 p.m. for school improvement. We will also have a full day of school on May 30th instead of a teacher institute. Mr. Lindy also explained how our projected expenditures are equivalent to FY10.

Howie Crouse (*PMA Financial*) reviewed the three-year financial outlook for EPG. We are financially stable. Our current Education Fund tax rate is 3.40 and the maximum is 4.0.

The Board discussed the Intergovernmental Agreement with Livingston County so we can start receiving that money. It is anticipated to be approximately \$9,000 - \$10,000 that can be used for capital projects.

We will need to amend the 2013-2014 school calendar as previously explained by Mr. Lindy. This is a formality.

The Board discussed the FY15 budget and expenditure reductions. We will do away with the Titan Transition Class, increase the high school Math class size, reduce K-3 teacher aides hours, reduce the number of Title I/Reading Recovery teachers, and reduce support staff by 5 (we will still have 33). This will save \$633,302. We may have to raise taxes to keep all of the teachers.

A motion was made by John Hartness and seconded by Rich Kiefer to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with Livingston County. All yeas. The motion carried seven to zero.

A motion was made by Jeremy Faulk and seconded by John Hartness to approve amending the 2013-2014 School Calendar. All yeas. The motion carried seven to zero.

A motion was made by Eric Zehr and seconded by David Mool to adopt the resolution for the honorable dismissal of certified Employee 1 as presented and that the Superintendent be authorized and directed to deliver or cause to be delivered the notice to the employee as specified in the Resolution. All yeas. The motion carried seven to zero.

A motion was made by Eric Zehr and seconded by David Mool to adopt the resolution for the honorable dismissal of certified Employee 2 as presented and that the Superintendent be authorized and directed to deliver or cause to be delivered the notice to the employee as specified in the Resolution. All yeas. The motion carried seven to zero.

A motion was made by Eric Zehr and seconded by John Hartness to adopt the resolution for the honorable dismissal of certified Employee 3 as presented and that the Superintendent be authorized and directed to deliver or cause to be delivered the notice to the employee as specified in the Resolution. All yeas. The motion carried seven to zero.

A motion was made by Eric Zehr and seconded by John Hartness to adopt the resolution for the honorable dismissal of certified Employee 4 as presented and that the Superintendent be authorized and directed to deliver or cause to be delivered the notice to the employee as specified in the Resolution. All yeas. The motion carried seven to zero.

A motion was made by Eric Zehr and seconded by David Mool to adopt the resolution for the honorable dismissal of certified Employee 5 as presented and that the Superintendent be authorized and directed to deliver or cause to be delivered the notice to the employee as specified in the Resolution. All yeas. The motion carried seven to zero.

A motion was made by Eric Zehr and seconded by David Mool to adopt the resolution for the honorable dismissal of certified Employee 35 as presented and that the Superintendent be authorized and directed to deliver or cause to be delivered the notice to the employee as specified in the Resolution. All yeas. The motion carried seven to zero.

A motion was made by Eric Zehr and seconded by John Hartness to adopt the resolution for the dismissal for certified Employee 6 as presented and that the Superintendent be authorized and directed to deliver or cause to be delivered the notice to the employee as specified in the Resolution. All yeas. The motion carried seven to zero.

A motion was made by Eric Zehr and seconded by Jeremy Faulk to adopt the resolution for the reduction of hours of noncertified Employee 7 as presented and that the Superintendent be authorized and directed to deliver or cause to be delivered the notice to the employee as specified in the Resolution. All yeas. The motion carried seven to zero.

A motion was made by Eric Zehr and seconded by Rich Kiefer to adopt the resolution for the reduction of hours of noncertified Employees 8-34 as presented and that the Superintendent be authorized and directed to deliver or cause to be delivered the notice to the employees as specified in the Resolution. All yeas. The motion carried seven to zero.

A motion was made by John Hartness and seconded by Josh Uphoff to adjourn to Closed Session at 8:30 p.m. to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. All yeas. The motion carried seven to zero.

A motion was made by John Hartness and seconded by Brian Stoller to adjourn from Closed Session at 10:05 p.m. All yeas. The motion carried seven to zero.

A motion was made by John Hartness and seconded by Brian Stoller to approve the Closed Session Minutes. All yeas. The motion carried seven to zero.

A motion was made by Rich Kiefer and seconded by David Mool to adjourn the meeting at 10:06 p.m. All yeas. The motion carried seven to zero.

President, Board of Education

Secretary, Board of Education