

EVART PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Minutes  
November 14, 2022  
7:00 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY ALAN BENGTRY, AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE BOARDROOM LOCATED AT 321 NORTH HEMLOCK STREET, EVART, MICHIGAN 49631.

II. ROLL CALL

Alan Bengry x, Rosie McKinstry x, Kelly Millen x, Gerald Nichols x,  
Karen Pylman x, Eric Schmidt x, Kelly Whitman X.

Also present: Shirley Howard, Superintendent  
Jessica Kolenda, High School Principal  
Jason O'Dell, Middle School Principal  
Ken Ranjel, Elementary School Principal  
Amy Booher, Recording Secretary

Guests present: Santana Scott, Amber Payne, Zoe Babb, Valerie Hopkins, Chelsea Bancroft, Pat Craven, Diana Craven, Bre Grabill, Sherry Morgan, Ken Wirth, Kenzie Wirth, Josh Wirth, Riley Connell, Todd Bruggema, Chelsea Bancroft, Olyvia Campbell, Kristopher Keathley, Heather Keathley, Tracy Gray, Crystal Nelson, Tiffany Wolak, Santana Scott, Kaylee Nelson, Ayla Schmidt, Shannon Schmidt, Josiah Beard, Chris Emerick, Clint Brown, Paul Dyer, Jeanine Dyer, Taylor Mckay, Molly Cataldo, Gary Ernest, Marilyn Ernest, Joanne Brown. Dave Scott, Kaylee Nelson, Brenna Neill

III. PRESIDENT'S REMARKS/RECOGNITION OF GUESTS

Mr. Pat Craven gave all the Board Members a copy of a letter he had wrote. If there are any questions, the board can reach out to him.

Jessica Kolenda spoke on the Points of Pride. She shared on conflict resolutions and strategies. She shared handouts with the Board to teach our student the soft skills. Also included was a Evart High School Mutual Respect Agreement. She also shared with the Board an apology from Iron Mountain Athletic Director pertaining to in appropriate action from one of their players.

Crystal Nelson shared with the Board her agenda regarding the Class of 2024 trip to LA and Francisco.

Recommendation to approve the Class of 2024 trip to Los Angeles/San Francisco in March/April of 2024.

MOV ED BY MCKINSTRY, SUPPORTED BY SCHMIDT TO APPROVE THE CLASS OF 2024 TRIP TO LOS ANGELES/SAN FRANCISCO IN MARCH/APRIL OF 2024.

Ayes: 7

Nays:

Results: Carried

IV. COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE

A. Shirley read a statement she had wrote in regards to a recent incident.

B. Eric Schmidt had questioned some policy information. Shirley responded that Kids are our #1 priority and that we keep kids safe.

V. FINANCIAL

VI. ACTION ITEMS

A. Recommendation to approve the minutes of the Board Meeting held October 10, 2022.

MOVED BY MILLEN, SUPPORTED BY PYLMAN APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING HELD OCTOBER 10, 2022.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Results: Carried

B. Payment of Bills

MOVED BY MCKINSTRY SUPPORTED BY SCHMIDT THAT THE TREASURER’S REPORT OF DISBURSEMENTS BE APPROVED AS PRESENTED.

General Fund invoices be approved for checks #48815 through #48921 in the amount of \$524,933.79 and the October 14th and 28<sup>th</sup> payrolls and benefits for the total amount of \$660,401.96

Hot Lunch Fund invoices to be approved for checks #7803 through #7817 in the amount of \$80,070.12 .

Trust and Agency Fund invoices to be approved for checks #18682 through #18716 in the amount of \$20,337.83

Athletic Fund invoices to be approved for check #10174 through #10183 in the amount of \$11,978.03.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Results: Carried

C. Recommendation to approve the following coaches for Spring Athletics 2022-2023:

HS Girls Track- Santana Scott

JR High Girls Track- Macy Wallace

Varsity Baseball- Josh Johnson Asst. Baseball Blake Werner

Varsity Softball- Amanda Brown Asst- Jennifer Langworthy

JV Softball- Karina Hipkins

MOVED BY MILLEN SUPPORTED BY NICHOLS TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING COACHES FOR SPRING ATHLETICS 2022-2023:

HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS TRACK-SANTANA SCOTT

JR HIGH GIRLS TRACK – MACY WALLACE

VARSITY BASEBALL- JOSH JOHNSON

ASST. BASEBALL BLAKE WERNER

VARSITY SOFTBALL- AMANDA BROWN ASST- JENNIFER LANGWORTHY

JV SOFTBALL- KARINA HIPKINS

Ayes: 6

Nays: 1

Results: Carried

D. Recommendation to approve Richard Douglas as a regular “ Full Time: Bus Driver

MOVED BY MILLEN SUPPORTED BY MCKINSTRY TO APPROVE RICHARD DOUGLAS AS A REGULAR “FULL TIME” DRIVER

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Results: Carried

E. Recommendation to approve the following for High School Schedule B & C Positions:

Lunch Duty: Doug Helmling, Lorissa Helmling, Kevin Mills, Josh Johnson, Andrea Schneider, and Travis Veit.

Student Government ( Council ) Kelly Buckley

French Club- Crystal Nelson

Tutoring: Lorissa Helmling, Crystal Nelson, Ted Marthakis, and Kevin Mills.

MOVED BY NICHOLS SUPPORTED BY MCKINSTRY TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING HIGH SCHOOL SCHEDULE B & C POSITIONS:

Lunch Duty: Doug Helmling, Lorissa Helmling, Kevin Mills, Josh Johnson, Andrea Schneider, and Travis Veit.

Student Government ( Council ) Kelly Buckley

French Club- Crystal Nelson

Tutoring: Lorissa Helmling, Crystal Nelson, Ted Marthakis, and Kevin Mills.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Results: Carried

F. Recommendation to accept the resignation of Breanna Beemer, Educational Assistant, effective November 22, 2022

MOVED BY PYLMAN, SUPPORTED BY MILLEN TO ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF BREANNA BEEMER, EDUCATION ASSISTANT, EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 22, 2022

1. Eric Schmidt had questioned if we do exit interviews with employees that are leaving.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Results: Carried

G. Recommendation to approve the following winter coaches:

8<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys Basketball- Brian Koopman

7<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys Basketball- Aaron Anderson

MOVED BY PYLMAN SUPPORTED BY MILLEN TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING WINTER COACHES

8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE BOYS BASKETBALL- BRIAN KOOPMAN

7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE BOYS BASKETBALL- AARON ANDERSON

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Results: Carried

H. Recommendation to approve the following coaches for Competitive Cheer for the 2022-23 Season.

8<sup>th</sup> Grade Competitive Cheer Coach- Ashlee Flachs

7<sup>th</sup> Grade Competitive Cheer Coach- Connie Boyd

MOVED BY MCKINSTRY SUPPORTED BY PYLMAN TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING COACHES FOR COMPETITIVE CHEER FOR THE 2022-23 SEASON:

8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE COMPETITIVE CHEER COACH- ASHLEE FLACHS

7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE COMPETITIVE CHEER COACH- CONNIE BOYD

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Results: Carried

VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. MDOT Signs- The committee met with Todd Bruggema and decided we will put the signs of the State winners on hold at this time.

B. Superintendent Contract- The Negotiations Committee met on November 8 and changes were suggested for Shirley Howards Contract. They had researched 11 different districts with a variety of Superintendent's wages.

1. During this Discussion Eric Schmidt had recommended an employee survey or closed session.

Recommendation to approve the Superintendent's contract by the negotiations committee.

MOVED BY MILLEN, SUPPORTED BY NICHOLS TO APPROVE THE AMENDMENT TO THE SUPERINTENDENT'S CONTRACT AS RECOMMENDED BY THE NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE.

Ayes: 6

Nays: 1

Results: Carried

2. Tracy Gray spoke in regards to the board of education's attendance at sporting events and how approachable Eric Schmidt is to speak with as he is at all the events.

3. Diana Craven spoke on her concerns with the Administration past and present.

4. Molly Cataldo spoke on her concerns with approaching the administration and would like to see more people involved in our school.

5. Pat Craven spoke on his concerns over the last 7 years.

6. Chris Emerick spoke with dozens of people this summer on their concerns about our district.

C. Board Goals- Shirley spoke to the Board on the packet of information she has in regards to the goals. She asked what they would like to accomplish.

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. District Leadership Team- Shirley spoke on the upcoming Board Training and if the Board would like to go to the ISD or have an in house training. The Board decided they would like to meet in house, possibly the month of January.

IX. PRESIDENT’S REMARKS/RECOGNITION OF GUESTS

- A. Chris Emerick spoke on her concerns.
- B. Shannon Schmidt said she would like us to consider the survey idea. She mentioned we should slow down and really process things.
- C. Bre Grabill spoke. She would like to see the Board more involved in our nonprofit, Promise Program and community events.
- D. Kenzie Wirth gave information on the Safe Sport Non Profit to help with our Coaches and training.
- E. Chris Emerick spoke on her input for exit surveys and interviews. She feels it’s an approachable way to give honest feedback.
- F. Kenzie Wirth agreed on the Exit Surveys and offered to help develop them in Google.
- G. Molly Cataldo complimented the good things going on at the Elementary and Middle School.
- H. Ken Ranjel spoke with great encouragement for one of our teachers.
- I. Pat Craven thanked Shirley and the board for all they did for his Football team and the travel to Iron Mountain.
- J. Amber Payne shared on how much her mom enjoys the Evart Wildcats
- K. Kenzie Wirth spoke on the recent incident she was involved with. Hoping new plans are being put in place.
- L. Ken Wirth spoke on getting along and working issues out as a community.
- M. Eric Schmidt shared that the Karate shop will offer the Wrestling Team a new location. Only charge will be for heat and electricity. He also mentioned working on fundraisers with a possible match to take place.
- N. Molly Cataldo asked if we can look into helping out the Performing Arts/ Art and Band financially for future.

X. ADJOURNMENT

- A. Recommendation to Adjourn

MOVED BY SCHMIDT SUPPORTED BY PYLMAN THAT THE MEETING BE ADJOURNED.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Results: Carried

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.