

**EVERGREEN PARK COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 231  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
November 15, 2022**

The November 15, 2022, regular meeting of the Board of Education of Evergreen Park Community High School District 231 was held at Evergreen Park Community High School in the Professional Development Room.

1. **Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Larry Symanski.
2. **Roll Call.** On roll call, the following members were physically present: Mr. Larry Symanski, Mrs. Mary Zofkie, Mrs. Maryann Kutschke, Mr. Mike Kress, Mr. Tom Marsan, Mr. Tom Schergen. Absent: Ms. Laura McRae. Also physically present: Mr. Thomas O'Malley, Superintendent; Mr. William Sanderson, Assistant Superintendent/Principal; Mr. Terry Masterson, Facilities Director; Student Ambassadors Helen Joyce and Jack Donnelly.
3. **Pledge of Allegiance.** The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Symanski.
4. **Communications.** Mrs. Kutschke expressed thanks to the clubs and sponsors who sponsored a food drive for the benefit of the Evergreen Park Food Pantry.  
  
There were no comments from the audience.
5. **Approval of Minutes.**
  - 5.1. October 25, 2022. A motion was made by Mr. Kress, seconded by Mrs. Zofkie, to approve the open and closed session minutes of the special Board meeting on October 25, 2022. Motion carried on a roll call vote.  
  
Yes: Mr. Symanski, Mrs. Zofkie, Mrs. Kutschke, Mr. Kress, Mr. Schergen  
Abstain: Mr. Marsan
  - 5.2. October 25, 2022. A motion was made by Mrs. Zofkie, seconded by Mr. Schergen, to approve the open and closed session minutes of the regular Board meeting on October 25, 2022. Motion carried on a roll call vote.  
  
Yes: Mr. Symanski, Mrs. Zofkie, Mrs. Kutschke, Mr. Kress, Mr. Schergen  
Abstain: Mr. Marsan
6. **Principal's Report.**
  - 6.1. **Achievements.** Mr. Sanderson reported that 800 appointments were scheduled for parent-teacher conferences that were conducted via Zoom. Additional appointments were scheduled outside of the conference times to accommodate all parents.
  - 6.2. **Student Ambassador Report.** Student ambassadors Helen Joyce and Jack Donnelly reported on discussion items at the Principal's Advisory meeting:
    - **Cafeteria.** Lunch line improvements were implemented to make the lines more efficient. Pricing has changed. Students requested more visible pricing information posted or sent to them. Mr. O'Malley said that future pricing will be approved by the administration before changes are implemented.
    - **Halloween Events.** Students enjoyed the door decorating competition and the indoor trick or treating community event that was very well attended. Many students volunteered with their clubs and activities to help at the trick or treating event.
    - **School Spirit.** The after-school assembly held prior to the first football playoff game was well attended. The fan bus for the football game was a great idea; however, the weather and distance impacted the number of students who attended. Wellness week is in progress with small activities and spirit days planned.
    - **LRC Hours.** Students involved in after-school activities can benefit from expanded LRC hours.
  - 6.3. **New Courses.** Mr. Sanderson presented a synopsis of the proposed new courses.  
  
A motion was made by Mr. Kress, seconded by Mr. Marsan, to approve the following new courses: Transition to College English, AP Seminar, AP Precalculus, Pre-AP Chemistry, Computer Maintenance and Repair, Drawing/Painting, and the recommended additional course requirements for certain established courses.

7. **Facility Director's Report.** Mr. Masterson reported on the following facility projects:

- Sports complex projects: the roof replacement which should be completed soon and siding that will be installed over the next few weeks.
- Two seven-seat Kia Sorentos were purchased for driver education that will also be used for other activities.
- An application has been submitted for a \$50,000 maintenance grant to replace air handlers for pool heating.

8. **Superintendent's Report.** Mr. O'Malley presented each Board member with a certificate in recognition of School Board Member Day and thanked them for the countless hours spent, hard work, and dedication to the school.

Mr. O'Malley also recognized the following:

- Ben Nesler and NHS students for hosting the Veterans Breakfast for 40 veterans.
- Amy and Ken Kazin for a phenomenal job in presenting the fall play *Peter and the Starcatcher*.
- Jerry Verde, head football coach, and the football staff for a great season.
- Chris Lanuti who has hosted Coach Verde several times this season and is a supporter of EPCHS.
- Foundation members Steve Duffy and Dan Jacobsen for their work on the fundraiser at 115 Bourbon Street and Board liaisons Maryann Kutschke and Laura McRae. The event was attended by 200 people and raised \$10,000.

8.1. The monthly bills totaled \$443,000, and bills and payroll are in line with the budget.

8.2. **Estimated Tax Levy.** Mr. O'Malley reported the estimated levy is calculated to be \$19,772,000. The levy will be adopted at the December Board meeting.

A motion was made by Mrs. Zofkie, seconded by Mr. Schergen, to approve the resolution regarding estimated amounts necessary to be levied for the year 2022. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

Yes: Mr. Symanski, Mrs. Zofkie, Mrs. Kutschke, Mr. Kress, Mr. Marsan, Mr. Schergen

8.3. **Workers Compensation Renewal.** A motion was made by Mr. Kress, seconded by Mr. Marsan, to approve the annual premium quote of \$74,366 from Alliant for renewal of Workers Compensation insurance. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

Yes: Mr. Symanski, Mrs. Zofkie, Mrs. Kutschke, Mr. Kress, Mr. Marsan, Mr. Schergen

9. **Committee Reports.**

- **Foundation.** Mrs. Kutschke thanked everyone for their support at this successful event. The next event is the golf outing.

10. **Closed Session.** At 7:37 p.m., a motion was made by Mrs. Zofkie, seconded by Mr. Kress, to recess to closed session regarding the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of an employee, student residency/discipline and other matters relating to individual students, litigation, and collective bargaining. Motion carried on roll call vote.

Yes: Mr. Symanski, Mrs. Zofkie, Mrs. Kutschke, Mr. Kress, Mr. Marsan, Mr. Schergen

11. **Open Session.** At 7:51 p.m., a motion was made by Mrs. Zofkie, seconded by Mrs. Kutschke, to reconvene in open session. Motion carried unanimously on voice vote.

12. **Action Items.**

12.1. **Employment: Coach.** A motion was made by Mr. Marsan, seconded by Mr. Schergen, to approve employment, contingent upon successful completion of pre-employment requirements, of Declan Smyth as an assistant boys basketball coach. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

Yes: Mr. Symanski, Mrs. Zofkie, Mrs. Kutschke, Mr. Kress, Mr. Marsan, Mr. Schergen

13. **Consent Agenda.** A motion was made by Mrs. Zofkie, seconded by Mr. Kress, to approve the consent agenda to include:

- Payroll: October 15, 2022: \$623,033.39  
October 31, 2022: \$505,021.99

- Monthly Bill List: \$443,384.90 (Education Fund: \$198,432.12; Building Fund: \$45,521.39; Debt Service Fund: \$2,583.25; Transportation Fund: \$196,848.14; Capital Projects Fund: \$0; Tort Fund: \$0; Life Safety Fund: \$0)
- Destruction of closed session audio recording/s dated May 25, 2021

Motion carried on roll call vote.

Yes: Mr. Symanski, Mrs. Zofkie, Mrs. Kutschke, Mr. Kress, Mr. Marsan, Mr. Schergen

14. **Announcements.** The next Board meeting will be held on December 13, 2022, at 7 p.m. in the Professional Development Room.
15. **Adjournment.** At 7:54 p.m., a motion was made by Mrs. Kutschke, seconded by Mrs. Zofkie, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously on voice vote.

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President

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Secretary

Sheri Sochacki  
Recording Secretary