

AGENDA:

EASTERN HOWARD SCHOOL CORPORATION

221 West Main Street, Suite One * Greentown, Indiana 46936-1118 * (765) 628-3391 * FAX (765) 628-5017

School Board Meeting

Thursday, November 17, 2005, 6:30 p.m.

221 West Main Street, Suite One

“LDA Administrator of the Year Award”

1. Minutes: October 11, 2005 – Regular Session
October 11, 2005 – Executive Session
2. Patron Comments
3. Academic Reports
 - a. Finances, Scheduling, Personnel, etc. Healy
4. Eastern Elementary School
 - a. Facility Requests Healy
 - b. Personnel Healy
 - c. Elementary School Update Stephenson
5. Eastern Jr./Sr. High School
 - a. Computer Programming – Waiver Request Healy
 - b. Field Trip – (Science Club) Healy
 - c. Facility Requests Healy
 - d. Personnel Healy**
 - e. Donations Healy
 - f. Jr./Sr. High School Update Matas
6. EHSC Business
 - a. Additional Appropriations – Public Hearing Vester
 - b. Additional Appropriations - Resolution Vester
 - c. Eastern Jr./Sr. High School Roof Project - Recommendation Healy
 - d. Permission to Advertise - Bus Purchase Healy
 - e. Fuel Adjustment Payment - Recommendation Healy
 - f. Custom Farm Agreement – Recommendation Healy

- g. Policy Revisions – 2nd Reading/Adoption
- h. Health Insurance Update/IRIS Program
- i. Corporation Update

Healy
Healy
Healy

- 7. **Vouchers/Claims**
- 8. Board Comments
- 9. Adjournment

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Greentown, IN 46936-1118

MINUTES

The Eastern Howard School Board met Thursday, November 17, 2005, at 6:30 p.m., at the Eastern Howard School Corporation office.

Mr. Bill Heck, President opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. and led the "Pledge of Allegiance". Mr. Mike Buck, Christian Life Fellowship, offered prayer.

Dr. Healy mentioned that honoring the Indiana Learning Disabilities Association "Administrator of the Year", Ms. Janet Silver, would be postponed until the December meeting due to a scheduling conflict for Ms. Silver.

Minutes

Mr. Hinesley stated that he had reviewed the regular session minutes of October 11, 2005 Board Meeting and the executive session minutes of October 11, 2005 Board Meeting, and made a motion to accept the minutes of both meetings as read. Motion LH/ML. Mr. Heck asked for questions or corrections. None. Motion carried 5-0.

Patron Comments

Mr. Brad Johnson spoke to his concerns about cost cutting by EHSC, especially as these costs related to staffing. Had other options been considered? Mr. Johnson stated that he knew cuts were motivated by reductions in state funding, but wondered if other funding options were available. Mr. Heck informed Mr. Johnson that he thought a number of the options and his general concerns would be addressed by Dr. Healy in his presentation to the Board, and that if he had questions after the presentation, he should feel free to ask them.

Academic Reports

Dr. Healy made a presentation regarding EHSC Finances and Educational Programs (see attached). The presentation included information regarding the various "funds" that were budgeted each year; history of revenues for EHSC operations; 2006 changes in the General Fund "funding formula", history of staffing reductions and student enrollment changes, anticipated revenues and expenses for 2005, 2006, 2007; outside source "income"; anticipated cash reserves for 2005 through 2008.

Dr. Healy reminded the Board that the corporation had set money aside as a cash reserve in order to be better prepared to "weather" hard economic times. Mr. Hubbard reminded the Board that the EHCTA has been aware of these reserves and has supported continuing programs rather than trying to negotiate away cash reserves.

Mr. Heck reminded everyone that funds could not be mixed unless approved by the state such as "outside source" revenue.

Mr. Hubbard stated that "outside source" funds are to be used for utilities and liability insurance.

Discussion was also held regarding the transfer of state funding responsibility to the local taxpayer and the amount of General Fund dedicated to salary/benefits (89% - 2004).

Dr. Healy reviewed two options for scheduling at Eastern High School. Implementation of one or the other of these options would reduce the negative cash flow (calculated to be near \$600,000) for

2006 and 2007 combined. A reduction in certified positions would be combined with a reduction in classified positions in order to account for the reduction in cash losses for 2006 and 2007.

The two options for scheduling included (1) maintaining a 4 x 2 Block Schedule with a reduction in staffing positions and (2) returning to a 7 Period Schedule. Both options have educational benefits and drawbacks. Both options reduce the same number of certified positions in the first year.

To accept either option (Traditional Schedule - 7 Periods or 4 x 2 Block Schedule – 8 Periods) will necessitate some curriculum changes and changes in EHSC requirements. These changes will include dropping geography as a requirement, incorporating speech into English, and incorporating computer application into the Grades 5 to 8 curriculum for eventual high school credit.

Dr. Healy recommended that the Board approve remaining on the 4 x 2 Block (Option #1), but with a reduction in teaching positions. This option would reduce some student course sections and some student electives. Option #1 allows the Board and the administration more time (next 18-24 months) to see if state funding is going to improve. Should funding improve for EHSC, the corporation could consider remaining on and expanding the 4 x 2 Block. If the funding does not improve, then alternate scheduling may need to be considered.

Discussion was held reviewing concerns over the benefits of remaining on the 4 x 2 Block for the majority of EHS students; the use of 90 minute periods for instruction; the groups who had input into the decision; any other schedule options; the use of grants; Core 40 requirements; elementary school sections and class size.

Dr. Healy replied to some concerns about the state meeting even its reduced financial commitments by stating that he would place a “financial review and update” on the Board agenda quarterly. In this way, we could review expenses and revenues in terms of EHSC planning and expectations.

Motion to accept Option #1 (4 x 2 Block Schedule) PH/LH.

Mr. Heck asked if there was any more discussion. Mr. Lantz thanked the administration for the thoroughness of the report and the care exhibited in keeping the corporation in good fiscal condition so that there is time to weigh options and to make calculated decisions.

Mr. Heck reiterated the comments of Mr. Hubbard in thanking teachers for helping the school corporation when fiscal times are hard. This was shown during negotiations when the EHCTA took a 0% increase on the base salary. He felt that everyone in the corporation was working together to make the best use of EHSC resources for the best possible educational programs.

Mr. Heck called for the vote on Option #1. Carried 5-0.

Eastern Elementary School

Facility Requests

Dr. Healy recommended the following facility requests:

1. Ms. Cyndy Kendall utilizing the Elementary Cafeteria for aerobics classes November 1 through December 29, 2005; January 2 through February 28, 2006; February 28 through April 20, 2006; April 25 through June 15, 2006; June 20 through July 27, 2006.
2. Mr. Doug Lantz (Greentown Wesleyan Church) to use Elementary Gym on Thursdays 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.
3. Mr. Tony Porter (Greentown Wesleyan Church) to use Elementary Gym on Sunday, November 20, 2005, 5:30 – 8:00 p.m.

4. Ms. Laura Cook (PTO) to use Elementary Cafeteria for "Secret Santa Shopping" on Friday, December 2, 2005 from 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Motion BH/MM Carried 5-0

Elementary Personnel

Dr. Healy recommended the following Eastern Elementary School personnel items:

1. Mr. Kevin Moss and Mr. Greg Kingseed to drive for AAA and middle school after school tutorial programs beginning October 30, 2005.
2. Ms. Cristi Boyer requesting an extension of her leave through the end of the 2005 – 2006 school year.
3. Ms. Cindy Kady as a temporary elementary special education teacher for Ms. Cristi Boyer for the remainder of the 2005 -2006 school year.
4. Ms. Laura Campbell as a temporary elementary teacher (Grade 2) for Ms. Christine Trainer through the end of the 2005 – 2006 school year.
5. A number of volunteer "coaches" for Destination Imagination (see attached).

Motion ML/LH Carried 5 -0

Elementary School Update

Ms. Stephenson discussed the staff development programs that are currently going on and programs scheduled for the future.

Eastern Jr./Sr. High School

Computer Programming – Waiver Request

Dr. Healy requested Board approval to request a state waiver for Mr. Brandon Mink to teach Computer Programming at Eastern High School for 2005 - 2006 and subsequent years as required.

Motion LH/MM. Carried 5-0

Field Trip – Science Club

Dr. Healy recommended that the Board approve the Science Club field trip to the Science and Industry Museum in Chicago on Saturday, December 3, 2005. Motion BH/PH. Carried 5-0

Fundraiser Requests

Dr. Healy recommended approval of the Boys and Girls Basketball Teams Booster groups to sell "50 - 50" tickets at home basketball games.

Motion PH/LH. Discussion – It was discussed that these groups were in the process of applying for a tax ID number and that this would be completed prior to having 50 - 50 funds placed in booster club accounts. Carried 5-0.

Facility Request

Dr. Healy recommended the following facility requests:

1. EHS Student Council to use the Auxiliary Gym on Friday, December 2, 2005 and Friday, March 24, 2006 for American Red Cross Blood Drives.
2. Ms. Jennifer Klemmensen is requesting use of the Auxiliary Gym, Thursday, April 20, 2006 to hold the IUK School of Nursing Health Fair.

3. Mike and Brenda Medlin are requesting use of the EHS Main and Auxiliary Gyms on Sunday November 13, 20; December 4, 11, 18; January 8, 22, 29; February 5, 12, 26; March 5, 12, 19, 26; April 2, 9, 23, 30 from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. for KIVO Club Team open gym sessions.
4. Ms. Kim Robertson is requesting approval to rent the EHS choir room on Tuesday, December 13, 2005.

Motion PH/LH. Carried 5-0.

Personnel Requests

Dr. Healy recommended that the Board approve the winter coaching positions as submitted (see attached). Motion LH/ML. Carried 5-0.

Donations

Dr. Healy recommended the Board accept the following donations:

1. Load of “diamond mix” valued at \$100.00 from Mr. John Burnett
2. \$200.00 to EHS Athletics from Dr. Thomas Capozzoli.

Motion LH/MM. Carried 5-0.

EHSC Business

Additional Appropriations – Public Hearing

Mr. Heck recessed the regular meeting in order to hold a “public hearing” on the request for additional appropriations in the Debt Service (\$123,083.25) and the Pension Debt Funds (\$579.00).

Mr. Heck asked the Board Members and the public if they had any questions regarding the additional appropriations request. He reminded everyone that this request is for money currently in cash reserve within these funds, but money that was not appropriated for 2005. This additional appropriation has no effect on local tax rates.

No questions arose during the public hearing. Mr. Heck closed the public hearing, and reconvened the regular meeting.

Additional Appropriations – Resolution

Ms. Vester requested Board approval of the “Additional Appropriations” for the Debt Service Fund (\$123,083.25) and the Pension Debt Fund (\$579.00). Motion LH/MM. Carried 5-0.

Eastern Jr./Sr. High School Roof Project

Dr. Healy, referring to the MSKTD presentation at the October 11th Board Meeting, requested permission to advertise for Phase 1 roof repairs at Eastern Jr./Sr. High School. If approved, the advertising would be for an “adhered roof” and the additional “roof and site drainage” outlined in MSKTD Proposal Three – A. EHSC would also request alternate bids for a “geotherm roof “ with “roof and site drainage” outlined in MSKTD Proposal Four – A.

Dr. Healy stated that MSKTD would also do some additional engineering and site work to ensure that proper roof and site drainage would be and could be provided prior to advertising the project.

He indicated that once the project bids were received and evaluated, a recommendation would be brought to the Board for both project work and a method of payment. Motion ML/BH. Carried 5-0.

Permission to Advertise – Bus Purchase

Dr. Healy requested Board approval to advertise for bids on an activity bus for EHSC. These bids would be anticipated back to the corporation during December and a recommendation would be brought to the Board in January, 2006. Motion PH/LH. Carried 5-0.

Fuel Adjustment Payment – Recommendation

Ms. Vester requested Board approval to make a fuel adjustment payment to EHSC contract bus drivers on December 1, 2005 for the August 17 to October 31, 2005 timeframe. Motion LH/BH. Carried 5-0.

Custom Farm Agreement – Recommendation

Dr. Healy recommended that the current “Custom Farm Agreement” Contract be amended and changed to a “Cash Rental Agreement” Contract.

The terms of the addendum to the contract would retain Mr. Kent Young as lessee for a period of 3 years. The cash rental would be \$130.00 per acre for 37.7 acres.

Changes were reviewed by the Finance Committee and the School Attorney. Changes make budgeting more effective for the corporation. Motion PH/ML. Carried 5-0.

Policy Revisions – 2nd Reading/Adoption

Dr. Healy recommended that the Board adopt changes to a number of Board Policies (see attached).

He stated that questions raised about Policy 2460.03 during the “First Reading” at the October Board Meeting had been corrected.

Dr. Healy recommended that Policy 5460 be adopted as stated in the First Reading of the policy.

Mr. Lantz had voiced concerns that the wording “Commencement exercises will include students who are eligible for a diploma, certificate...” should read “Commencement exercises will include only students who are eligible for a diploma, certificate...”.

It has been common practice for EHS to allow students “short” 1 or 2 credits to go ahead and participate in the graduation ceremony if they were signed up for summer classes and would have the necessary credits to graduate at the end of the summer.

Mr. Lantz’s concerns were that:

1. The students had not taken the opportunity to complete the work in the thirteen years of school provided.
2. EHSC is misinforming the public that all students walking across the stage meet the requirements for graduation as outlined by the corporation and the state.

Discussion took place involving all Board Members, the Superintendent, and the Principal of EHS regarding concerns with the policy, statements to the public, and the rationale for allowing students to participate in graduation ceremonies while being short 1 or 2 credits.

There was a general feeling that the policy as stated could be acceptable, if the public statement at graduation indicated that some students could be completing work during the summer. This will be done. Motion to adopt Policy 5460 PH/MM. Carried 4 – 1 opposed (ML).

Motion to adopt all other policies on this Second Reading LH/PH. Carried 5-0.

Health Insurance Update/IRIS Program

Dr. Healy updated the Board on the current condition of the Insurance Consortium's reserve funds. These funds should reach the 100% required level by 2008. This will be two years earlier than planned.

Dr. Healy also stated that the Consortium will implement the IRIS Program beginning in January, 2006. This will benefit the individual participants by identifying potential medical errors while saving the Consortium money by reducing some expenses associated with medical errors.

Corporation Update

Dr. Healy reminded Board Members that in addition to the roofing project, next summer we will repair/replace a section of the west outside wall at the elementary school and we will replace some carpeting at the elementary school during the Christmas Break.

Vouchers/Claims

Mr. Hinesley stated that there are three payroll vouchers and three claim dockets in the following amounts:

Payroll: \$276,676.35 – 10/14/05
 \$266,185.60 – 11/01/05
 \$274,598.54 – 11/15/05

Claims: \$205,295.29 – 10/14/05
 \$195,422.88 – 11/08/05
 \$205,503.62 -- 11/15/05

Motion to accept LH/PH. Carried 5-0.

Board Comments

Mr. Hinesley mentioned that even though funding is going down, expenses are going up. He stated our utility costs for October, a mild month, were nearly \$27,000. We must pay the bills and we know these figures will increase in the next few months.

Ms. McWhorter wanted to thank both Ms. Stephenson and Mr. Matas for their time in giving her a walking tour of their schools.

Mr. Lantz stated that he found it a privilege to work in a corporation that cared so much about education. He wanted to thank the staff and, in particular, the administrators for providing good and effective leadership.

Mr. Heck said that even though the (funding) news is not good, there seems to be a positive attitude and outlook in the school corporation. He commended the administration for its work with the staff and asked that the cooperation continue as much as possible.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn LH/ML. Carried 5-0.

Secretary

The next scheduled Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 13, 2005 at Eastern Jr./Sr. High School at 6:30 p.m.