

EVART PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION

Minutes

December 9, 2024

7:00 p.m.

**Our Mission: Provide the tools to succeed**  
**Our Vision: Equipping All to reach their highest potential**

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL

Alan Bengry X, Todd Bruggema X, Mark Moody X, Gerald Nichols X  
Bre Grabill X, Eric Schmidt X, Kelly Whitman 7:24 pm.

Present: Amber Payne, Ben Bryant, Valerie Hopkins, Debbie Todd, Janice Bullock, Wayne Bullock, Jamie Hulliberger, Zoe Babb, Marie Wilkerson, Paul Bullock, Macey Wallace, Jennifer Joyce, Pepper Lockhart, Sherry Morgan, Dawn Rueffer, Rosie McKinstry, Dylan Schwartz, Ellen Bengry, Jenna Bissett, Debbie Stair, Tracy Gray, Ken Wirth, Shari Bengry, Mary Kienitz, Mark Kienitz, Russ VanderVeen.

Also Present: Dan Boyer- Superintendent  
Jessica Kolenda- High School Principal  
Amy Booher- Recording Secretary

IV. PRESIDENT'S REMARKS/RECOGNITION OF GUESTS/PUBLIC COMMENT

A. The following people spoke during Public Comment: Valerie Hopkins, Rosie McKinstry, Zoe Babb, and Marie Wilkerson.

B. Bart Gallinger- Water, Water everywhere every drop to drink. Dan spoke on this topic. EPS received a Filter First grant for all our water fountains.

C. Strategic Plan- Debbie Stair-shared about our Strategic Plan-She discussed some proposed changes to certain parts of the plan.

MOVED BY MOODY SUPPORTED BY SCHMIDT TO APPROVE THE MISSION, VISION AND BELIEF STATEMENTS AS WELL AS THE REVISED GOALS INCLUDING ADDING THE WORDS, "SOCIAL EMOTIONAL AND BEHAVIORAL" TO THE ACADEMIC AND PROGRAMS GOAL.

Goal would read:

EPS will provide programming that meets the academic, social emotional, and behavioral needs of all students.

V. COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE

VI. FINANCIAL

VII. ACTION ITEMS

- A. Recommendation to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held November 11, 2024.

MOVED BY NICHOLS SUPPORTED BY BRUGGEMA, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD NOVEMBER 11, 2024.

Ayes:6 1 Abstain Nays: 0 Results: Carried

- B. Payment of Bills

MOVED BY BRUGGEMA SUPPORTED BY WHITMAN THAT THE TREASURER'S REPORT OF DISBURSEMENTS BE APPROVED AS PRESENTED.

General Fund invoices be approved for checks #49997 through #50079 in the amount of \$193,693.85 and the November 8<sup>th</sup> and 22nd payrolls and benefits for the total amount of \$524,437.62.

Hot Lunch Fund invoices to be approved for checks #8093 through #8103 in the amount of \$64,413.66

Trust and Agency Fund invoices to be approved for checks #19423 through #19452 in the amount of \$9,388.83

Athletic Fund invoices to be approved for check #10399 through #10405 in the amount of \$3,578.55

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Results: Carried

- C. Recommendation to approve Carter Pritchard as Varsity Assistant Baseball Coach for the 2025 Season.

MOVED BY GRABILL SUPPORTED BY SCHMIDT TO APPROVE CARTER PRITCHARD AS VARSITY ASSISTANT BASEBALL COACH FOR THE 2025 SEASON.

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Results: Carried

- D. Recommendation to approve Blake Werner as the JV Baseball Head Coach for the 2025 Season

MOVED BY WHITMAN SUPPORTED BY NICHOLS TO APPROVE BLAKE WERNER AS THE JV BASEBALL HEAD COACH FOR THE 2025 SEASON.

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Results: Carried

VIII. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. Entry Fees for Home Sporting Events- Dan spoke on the entry fees to home sporting events,  
B. FAFSA Challenge- The State of Michigan is offering EPS money for our students who fill out the FAFSA. A resolution needs to be in place by August 15, 2025.

IX. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- A. Trane Scholarship- At a recent conference, Dan won a \$500 Scholarship for one of our students in the Tech/Vocational Field.  
B. Driver's Training Update- January 28, 2025 is the proposed start date of Majors Driving School.

C. District Communication Tools- Dan is looking at Messenger and Parent Square for better means of communication for the district.

D. Elementary Pick up/Drop Off- Dan noticed some problems where busses are dropping off and picking up. Looking at a proposed change to help with this.

E. Health Center- Plans are approved and we can now move forward after the first of the year,

F. Board Retirement- Dan spoke in regards to our 2 board members – Alan Bengry served on the board for 36.5 years, and Kelly Whitman served on the board for 6 years.. Many thanks to both.

#### X. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Recommendation to go into Closed Session under Section 8(a) of the Open Meetings Act.

**MOVED BY MOODY, SUPPORTED BY SCHMIDT TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION UNDER SECTION 8(A) OF THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT FOR SUPERINTENDENT MID YEAR REVIEW.**

Roll Call Vote:

Bengry YES Whitman YES

Nichols YES Grabill YES

Bruggema YES Schmidt YES

Moody YES

The Closed Session ended at: 8:52

#### XI. ADJOURNMENT

A. Recommendation to adjourn.

**MOVED BY GRABILL, SUPPORTED BY WHITMAN THAT THE MEETING BE ADJOURNED.**

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Results: Carried

The meeting adjourned at 8:54 p.m.

*To ensure due process and respect of individual rights, the District maintains a formal process for handling complaints against individuals. A problem involving an individual or specific incident is best handled through administrative channels. Speakers are asked to express themselves in a civil manner, with due respect for the dignity and privacy of others who may be affected by your comments. While it is not our intent to stifle public comment, speakers should be aware that if your statements violate the rights of others under the law of defamation or invasion of privacy, you may be held legally responsible. If you are unsure of the legal ramifications of what you are about to say, we urge you to consult first with your legal advisor.*