

**REGULAR MEETING  
EVERGREEN BOARD OF EDUCATION  
APRIL 19, 2021 6:00PM**

President Nora Kiefer called the meeting to order. Members in attendance were Matt Vaculik, Zach Murry, Jason Miller, Don Smith, and Nora Kiefer.

President Nora Keifer asked if anyone wished to add, delete, or separate any items of the consent agenda as proposed. No changes were made to the agenda.

Matt Vaculik moved, supported by Jason Miller, to approve the meeting agenda for the Regular Board meeting on April 19, 2021.

Ayes: Murry, Miller, Smith, Vaculik, Kiefer  
Nayes:

**Motion Carried.** **37-21**

Zach Murry moved, supported by Don Smith, to approve the minutes of the Regular Board meeting held on March 22, 2021.

Ayes: Murry, Miller, Smith, Vaculik, Kiefer  
Nayes:

**Motion Carried** **38-21**

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Superintendent Eric Smola reported Mrs. Danett Setmire, High School Art teacher, that two Evergreen Art students (Walter Foster and Alysa Chupurdy) were winners for the Why County Government Matters Art contest.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Mr. Jerod Schmidt spoke about random drug testing and having a privacy concern.

Mr. Scott Gruber from Meeder Investments gave the Board an update on district investments.

**FINANCIAL**

Treasurer Brian Carroll reviewed the March financials including the Cash Reconciliation, Cash Summary, Disbursement Summary, General Fund Graph, and Payroll and Benefits report.

Accepted the following donations:

- \$100.00 anonymous donation to 018-9220: Student Assistance Fund
- \$200.00 from Patrick Abec to 200-9371: Class of 2022

Approved the appropriation modification to increase 022-9021: Tournament Fund \$350.00 and transfer remaining balance to Fund 300 (Athletics).

Approved a revised Auxiliary Services Agreement with Educational Service Center of Lake Erie West for the 2020 - 2021 school year in the amount of \$73,337.20 for Auxiliary services on behalf of Holy Trinity.

Matt Vaculik moved, supported by Zach Murry, to approve the preceding financial motions, reports, and other financial items.

Ayes: Murry, Miller, Smith, Vaculik, Kiefer

Nayes:

**Motion Carried**

**39-21**

**PERSONNEL**

Approved to non-renew all supplemental and pupil service contracts such as coaches, club moderators, etc. for the 2020 - 2021 school year, effective at the conclusion of the current school year.

Offered Chris Lyons an Instrumental for Spring Musical supplemental contract to be paid from the General Fund for the 2020 - 2021 school year in the amount of \$200.00. All other pay and benefits will be according to Board adopted policy.

Approved Henry Roberts as a seasonal worker to maintain campus grounds as needed during the 2021 mowing season. Compensation is set at \$18.00 per hour at a maximum of forty hours per week beginning May 3, 2021 and ending August 13, 2021. The superintendent or designee will make all work assignments. All other pay and benefits will be according to Board adopted policy.

Approved the employment of two student workers: Jacob Blanchard and Morgan Kohler, at minimum wage and as needed, during the summer months of 2021. All other pay and benefits will be according to Board adopted policy.

As recommended by the Superintendent, Don Smith moved, supported by Jason Miller to approve the above listed personnel items.

Ayes: Murry, Miller, Smith, Vaculik, Kiefer

Nayes:

**Motion Carried**

**40-21**

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Approved updates to current Board Policy, which includes new, revised, and replacement policies.

- 0131 Legislative (Revised)
- 0131.1 Controversial Issues (New)
- 1422 Nondiscrimination and Equal Employment Opportunity (Replacement)
- 3122 Nondiscrimination and Equal Employment Opportunity (Replacement)
- 4122 Nondiscrimination and Equal Employment Opportunity (Replacement)
- 1623 Section 504/ADA Prohibition Against Disability Discrimination Based in Employment (Replacement)
- 3123 Section 504/ADA Prohibition Against Disability Discrimination Based in Employment (Replacement)
- 4123 Section 504/ADA Prohibition Against Disability Discrimination Based in Employment (Replacement)
- 1662 Anti-Harassment (Replacement)
- 3362 Anti-Harassment (Replacement)
- 4362 Anti-Harassment (Replacement)
- 2240 Controversial Issues (Revised)
- 2260 Nondiscrimination and Access to Equal Educational Opportunity (Replacement)
- 2260.01 Section 504/ADA Prohibition Against Discrimination Based on Disability (Revised)
- 2266 Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities (Revised)
- 5336 Care of Students with Diabetes (Revised)
- 5517 Anti-Harassment (Replacement)
- 6114 Cost Principles – Spending Federal Funds (Revised)
- 6144 Investments (Revised)
- 6220 Budget Preparation (Revised)
- 6325 Procurement – Federal Grants/Funds (Revised)
- 6600 Deposit of Public Funds: Cash Collection Points (Revised)
- 7440.01 Video Surveillance and Electronic Monitoring (Revised)
- 7450 Property Inventory (Revised)
- 7455 Accounting System for Capital Assets (Revised)
- 8450.01 Protective Facial Coverings During Pandemic/Epidemic Events (Revised)
- 8500 Food Service (Revised)
- 8510 Wellness (Revised)

Ayes: Murry, Miller, Smith, Vaculik, Kiefer

Nayes:

**Motion Carried**

**41-21**

Don Smith moved, supported by Matt Vaculik, to approve an agreement with Northwest Ohio Educational Service Center (NwOESC) to cooperatively participate in special education services for fiscal year 2021 - 2022 at an estimated cost of \$808,906.63. The Board and NwOESC agree that \$733,906.63 of this amount shall be paid pursuant to R.C. 3313.845 or applicable law by having this amount deducted from the Board's state foundation payment, with remaining balance being invoiced and paid directly to the NwOESC.

Ayes: Murry, Smith, Vaculik, Kiefer  
Nayes:  
Abstained: Miller

**Motion Carried** **42-21**

Zach Murry moved, supported by Matt Vaculik, to approve continued participation in the Optimal Health Initiatives (OHI) Charter Workers Compensation Group Rating Program for the 2022 calendar year.

Ayes: Murry, Miller, Smith, Vaculik, Kiefer  
Nayes:

**Motion Carried** **43-21**

Matt Vaculik moved, supported by Zach Murry, to approve a 2021 - 2022 service agreement between Healthcare Process Consulting (HPC) and Evergreen Local School District for the purpose of HPC assisting in managing the district's Ohio Medicaid School Program (OMSP), in order to procure Federal Medical reimbursement for Medicaid eligible services provided by the district. The term of this agreement shall be for one year, commencing on July 1, 2021 and ending on June 30, 2022, both dates inclusive at an annual fee of \$4,000.00. Renewal and/or amendments of this agreement can be made upon mutual agreement of both parties prior to its expiration.

Ayes: Murry, Miller, Smith, Vaculik, Kiefer  
Nayes:

**Motion Carried** **44-21**

Jason Miller moved, supported by Matt Vaculik, to approve an agreement with Northwest Ohio Educational Service Center to provide training, support, resources, and handbooks to all mentor program participants for the 2021 - 2022 school year.

Ayes: Murry, Miller, Smith, Vaculik, Kiefer  
Nayes:

**Motion Carried** **45-21**

Don Smith moved, supported by Zach Murry, to authorize the purchase of new K-5 ELA curriculum program, Wonders from McGraw Hill, 2020 edition at an approximate cost of \$97,842.91.

Ayes: Murry, Miller, Smith, Vaculik, Kiefer  
Nayes:

**Motion Carried** **46-21**

## **DISCUSSION AND INFORMATION**

Superintendent Eric Smola informed the board of the following items:

Earlier this year we began exploring the possibility of contracting with an outside food service provider. That process required the district to gain ODE approval for Evergreen to post a public RFP. On March 30<sup>th</sup> the RFP notice was made public. On April 14, 2021, six companies attended the pre-bid meeting. The deadline for proposals is April 28, 2021. We intend to invite two or three companies to present to the district committee as we determine if an outside provider is best for our students and district. Any contract would need to be approved by the BOE at the May meeting.

On April 6, 2021 the HS locker room renovation and expansion was sent out for bid. The pre-bid walk through for interested contractors is tomorrow, April 20<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 pm. The bid opening will be on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 at 12:00 pm. The best bid will be presented to the Board of Education for approval at the May meeting.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

Curriculum Director, Dolores Swineford reported on the following items:

### **English Language Arts (Grades K-5):**

Elementary school teachers have been evaluating English Language Arts curriculum resources to replace the one being currently used, *Wonders* 2014 edition. After reviewing three different resources: *Wonders 2020*, *Into Reading*, and *Reach for Reading*, *Wonders 2020* received the most responses (22 out of 24 responses). All curriculum resource kits will include both print and digital materials for the next 5 years. During initial conversations with our McGraw-Hill sales representative, the initial quote for the new K-5 curriculum was \$101,427.00, not including the WONDERWORKS intervention component. Knowing how much we had already budgeted for a new K-5 ELA curriculum resource, I contacted our sales representative for a better price. In response, the new quote presented for *Wonders 2020* and WONDERWORKS is \$97,842.91. Additionally, included in the quote is two professional development days to support teachers with the new resource.

### **Environmental Science:**

One of the new high school courses for next year will be Environmental Science. SAVVAS Learning Company's *Environmental Science: Your World, Your Turn*, best aligned to the course expectations and content standards. The cost for a 6-yr subscription is \$4,304.54, including shipping.

### **Elementary Guidance:**

Sharon Lapitsky, our elementary school counselor, provides guidance lessons for each grade level. Second Step is a guidance curriculum that supports social-emotional learning, as well as develops the skills they need to connect and strive in the future. This aligns with the school's R.O.W. and PAX visions. The cost for the Second Step guidance curriculum is \$209 for each grade level (kindergarten through 2nd grade). The total cost will be \$627.00.

### **Viking Virtual Academy Enrollment- 2021-2022**

Recently, the Viking Virtual Academy enrollment application was made available for families considering the VVA for the 2021-2022 school year. Families have until May 21st to complete the application and return it.

By having the applications returned prior to the end of the school year, this will allow us to prepare for the new school year in advance. High school students who participate in the VVA will only have access to courses taught in-person at EHS.

### **Latin Honors System - Beginning with the Class of 2022**

Beginning with the graduating class of 2022, Evergreen High School will use the Latin Honors system to determine graduation honors. The Latin Honors system is based on a student's cumulative grade point average at the end of the seventh semester (the end of the students' first semester during their senior year). We will continue to honor the number one ranked student academically in the class as valedictorian and the number two ranked student academically in the class as salutatorian.

Students with grade point averages 3.50 or higher will be recognized using the Latin Honors system. Graduating students will be awarded honor cords during the Senior awards and will be recognized during the graduation ceremony. The categories for distinction under the Latin Honors system are as follows:

**Summa cum laude:** "with the highest honors" is the highest recognition awarded at graduation. To graduate with summa cum laude, a student must achieve a 3.90 or higher grade point average on a weighted 4.0 scale.

**Magna cum laude:** "with high honors" is the second highest recognition awarded at graduation. To qualify for magna cum laude, a student must achieve a 3.70-3.89 grade point average on a weighted 4.0 scale.

**Cum laude:** "with honors" is the third recognition awarded at graduation. To qualify for cum laude, a student must achieve a 3.50-3.69 grade point average on a weighted 4.0 scale.

### **HB 436 - The Dyslexia Legislation**

On January 9, 2021, Governor DeWine signed into law HB 436. HB 436 includes new requirements for districts related to the identification and education of students who may have dyslexia. District requirements under HB 436 do not begin until the 2022-2023 school year, but we will begin planning and preparing for these requirements during the 2021-2022 school year.

Superintendent Eric Smola reported on the following items:

A recent NWOAL study was conducted to measure the perceptions, opinions, and attitudes of current parents/guardians as well as high school and middle school students regarding Evergreen Local Schools and its membership in the NWOAL. It was designed to assist the District's BOE members with deciding whether or not to explore options outside the NWAOL for athletic competition.

Data was collected using an emailed survey to all of the registered students' parent/guardian email addresses. Additional surveys were emailed to the current students in grades 6-12. While we were hoping for closer to 100% participation, the response rate was 19.8%. A total of 218 parents/guardians and 147 students responded. The survey was open from April 6 to April 14, 2021.

### **Key Findings:**

- 80.2% of the total possible respondents did not complete the survey (1550/1915)
- EES parents/guardians = 16% participation (95/590)

- EMS parents/guardians = 19% participation (51/262)
- EHS parents/guardians = 17% participation (72/426)
- EMS students = 27% participation (68/245)
- EHS students = 20% participation (79/392)

**Parent Feedback:**

*Of the 218 parent respondents:*

- 81% stated they felt adequately informed about a possible league change
- 46% stated they supported district administration exploring league options outside of the NWOAL, 40% did not support, and 14% were undecided
- 29% stated they supported leaving the NWOAL at this time, 46% do not support leaving, and 24% were undecided.

**Student Feedback:**

*Of the 147 student respondents:*

- 85% currently participate or plan to participate in athletics, 15% do not participate
- 52% do not feel informed about a potential league change, 48% feel informed
- 22% stated they supported district administration exploring league options outside of the NWOAL, 45% did not support, and 33% were undecided
- 13% stated they supported leaving the NWOAL at this time, 54% do not support leaving, and 34% were undecided

**Open-Ended Responses:**

Many parents and students also expressed why they felt Evergreen should or should not leave the NWOAL, as well as their thoughts as to why the District does not have a league-winning legacy. These open-ended responses included reviewing coaches and their abilities, building strong youth athletic programming, some sports are more competitive than others, changing leagues is not necessary, a league change would provide the Vikings with the most matched opportunities, and more.

**Summary:**

The results of the survey clearly indicate there is strong support for Evergreen athletics. There are obviously pros and cons to staying and/or leaving the NWOAL. Due to the low participation rate, the survey finds most (80%) of the district families/students are either neutral or perhaps do not care which athletic league Evergreen continues membership in. Only 20% responded to the survey and there were no clear-cut outcomes. In addition, more than half of the students indicated they did not feel adequately informed regarding this situation. At this time, more information needs to be collected, the survey results and open-ended responses need to be explored more in-depth, students need to feel informed, and options need to continue to be considered and evaluated.

**BOARD MEMBER QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS**

Mr. Vaculik asked Mr. Smola and Derick Stoup to look into youth sport options.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Don Smith moved, supported by Matt Vaculik, for members of the Evergreen Board of Education, Treasurer, Superintendent, and invited guests to go into executive session for the following reason:

- To prepare for negotiations or bargaining sessions with employees concerning compensation and other terms and conditions of employment: ORC 121.22(G)(4).

Ayes: Murry, Miller, Smith, Vaculik, Kiefer  
Nayes:

**Motion Carried**

**47-21**

Time in: 7:42  
Time out: 7:56

Don Smith moved, supported by Jason Miller, to approve a one-year Negotiated Agreement between the Evergreen Board of Education and the Evergreen Education Association (EEA) as recommended by the Board's negotiation team and ratified by the association. This agreement includes a .01 (1%) increase on the base salary in 2021 - 2022. It also provides a cap for future insurance premium increases to limit the employer's share of the cost to provide health, vision, and dental insurance.

Ayes: Murry, Miller, Smith, Vaculik, Kiefer  
Nayes:

**Motion Carried**

**48-21**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Matt Vaculik moved, supported by Don Smith, to adjourn the March 22, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Evergreen Local Board of Education.

Ayes: Murry, Miller, Smith, Vaculik, Kiefer  
Nayes:

**Motion Carried**

**49-21**

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Nora Kiefer, Board President

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Brian Carroll, Treasurer