



MEETING MINUTES

East Marshall Community School District
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Anthony Ryan, Superintendent
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Matt Rasmusson	Kim Tarbell	Cathy DeBondt	Allison Frost
High School Princ.	M.S. Princ.	Elementary Princ.	Business Manager
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TENTATIVE AGENDA

NOTICE OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING

You are hereby notified that the Board of Education of the East Marshall Community School District will conduct a Regular School Board meeting at the District Office in Gilman, Iowa on Monday, March 25, 2024 at 6:30pm (Regular Meeting will begin after the adjournment of the Public Hearing).

At the meeting, the tentative agenda will be as follows:

Attendees

Voting Members

Andrea Terrones, Board President
Elizabeth Crandon, Board Vice President
AnnDee Bloom, Board Member
Lisa Meling, Board Member
Megan Ruopp, Board Member

Non-Voting Members

Anthony Ryan, Superintendent
Allison Frost, Business Manager

1. Call Meeting to Order, Read the Mission Statement, and Approve Agenda

Chairman Terrones called the Regular meeting to order at 6:34 pm. Ruopp read the mission statement. Crandon made the motion to approve the agenda; second by Bloom. All in favor.

Those in attendance are Andrea Terrones, Elizabeth Crandon, Ann Dee Bloom, Megan Ruopp, and Lisa Meling; Superintendent Anthony Ryan; Business Manager/Board Secretary Allison Frost, Principals Cathy DeBondt, Matt Rasmusson and Kim Tarbell; Tyler Riley (FEH); Numerous citizens in attendance as well.

Motion made by: Elizabeth Crandon

Motion seconded by: AnnDee Bloom

Voting:

Andrea Terrones - Yes

Elizabeth Crandon - Yes

AnnDee Bloom - Yes

Lisa Meling - Yes

Megan Ruopp - Yes

2. Greet Visitors and Hear Citizen Concerns and Comments. (Citizens wishing to address the board during public comment must notify the board secretary prior to the board meeting by noon on March 25th. Each speaker's participation is limited to three minutes once per board meeting. The public forum will be limited to 30 minutes.)

Terrones greeted the crowd of parents and citizens and thanked them for attending. Terrones advised the room that public speaking would be limited to 30 minutes, with each person being allowed three minutes. Those that notified the board secretary of their desire to speak would be allowed to speak first, and then any remaining time would be open for others to speak. Christina Jung Malcom, Amanda Dougherty, Blair Ulery Paxton, Kylee Cibula all spoke and expressed their concerns about the principal recommendation. Additional comments were made by Julie Lamer on behalf of the interview team/staff and Brett Schutt in support of the recommendation. Mark Alberstsen read a statement to those in the room. Terrones asked if anyone else would like to speak. At 6:56 pm, Terrones closed the public comment portion of the meeting.

3. Closed Session pursuant to Code of Iowa 21.5.1 (a) & (i), To review or discuss records which are required or authorized by state or federal law to be kept confidential or to be kept confidential as a condition for that governmental body's possession or continued receipt of federal funds. AND To evaluate the professional competency of an individual whose appointment, hiring, performance, or discharge is being considered when necessary to prevent needless and irreparable injury to that individual's reputation and that individual requests a closed session.

At 6:57pm Meling made the motion to go into Closed Session; Second by Ruopp. All in favor. Roll call: Ruopp-Aye; Bloom-Aye; Terrones-Aye; Meling-Aye; Crandon-Aye.

8:37 pm Ruopp made the motion to return to Open Session; Second by Bloom. All in favor. Roll call: Ruopp-Aye; Bloom-Aye; Terrones-Aye; Meling-Aye; Crandon-Aye.

Motion made by: Lisa Meling

Motion seconded by: Megan Ruopp

Voting:

Andrea Terrones - Yes

Elizabeth Crandon - Yes

AnnDee Bloom - Yes

Lisa Meling - Yes

Megan Ruopp - Yes

4. Staff Presentation(s): ISASP Data Tools - DLT Members

High School principal Matt Rasmusson and Master Teacher Jordan Augspurger gave a presentation/slide show on ISASP Data Tools. Broad testing scores and data were presented. ISASP testing will be conducted in April. Parents will have access to their child's ISASP data through an online login system that is individualized for their child.

5. Approve Consent Agenda

Motion to approve the consent agenda, as presented, with pulling Item I (Contracts) for further discussion; Second made by Crandon. All in favor.

Motion made by: Megan Ruopp

Motion seconded by: Elizabeth Crandon

Voting:

Andrea Terrones - Yes

Elizabeth Crandon - Yes

AnnDee Bloom - Yes

Lisa Meling - Yes

Megan Ruopp - Yes

A. Good Things in Schools

a. Bells and Whistles

b. Other

B. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes

Approval of minutes from 2/19/2024 Regular meeting.

C. Approval of Bills, Invoices, and Financial Statements

Approval of Bills, Invoices, and Financial Statements as presented.

D. Approve donations and fundraisers .

Approval of the following fundraisers:

Benefactor Bingo--Requested by Class of 2025/Junior Class crews. Fundraiser will be in March/April 2024 and donations will go towards Prom and/or graduation.

Plant Sales--Requested by Haley Breeden, FFA Advisor. Fundraiser will be from April through June and profits will go towards the National and State Convention, and other FFA activities.

E. Approval of AEA Purchasing Agreement for 2024-2025 School Year.

Approval of AEA Purchasing Agreement for 2024-2025, as presented.

F. Approval of Interfund Transfers.

Approval of the Interfund Transfers as presented and as follows:

1. Transfer \$59,719.20 from General Fund to Self-Insurance Fund for self-insurance claims for employees on the district's partially self-funded health insurance plan.

2. Transfer \$9616.00 from Management fund to Self-Insurance fund for self-insurance claims for retirees on the district's partially self-funded health insurance plan.

3. Transfer \$2524.80 from Nutrition Fund to Self Insurance fund to self-insurance claims for employees on the district's partially self-funded health insurance plan.

G. Approve Interagency Special Education Agreement(s).

Approval of Interagency Special Education Agreements with Marshalltown CSD, South Tama CSD, Grinnell CSD.

H. Approvals of Open Enrollment

a. Open Enrollment IN

Approval of the following Open Enrollment In to East Marshall for 2024-2025: Jacob Fox-10th grade-from Marshalltown; Eleanor Wunn-KDG-From South Tama.

b. Open Enrollment OUT

Approval of the following Open Enrollments Out of East Marshall: 2023-2024: Jordyn Baumfalk-10th grade-To Grinnell-Newburg; 2024-2025: Kaine Wright-KDG-To Marshalltown; Brooklyn Ridout-9th grade-to GMG.

I. Approvals on Resignations, Retirements & Contracts

Terrones addresses those in attendance and briefly discussed the hiring process and how the committees are selected. She explained that in-depth conversations were had and questions were answered in closed session.

a. Resignations

Resignations: Cale Eastin as Middle School teacher, effective at the end of the 2023-2024 school year; Amanda Ostrander-Lawrence as 7th/8th Science teacher, effective 5/24/2024; Tashina Azure-Mitchell as Elementary Secretary, effective 5/30/2024; and Trent Taylor as High School Counselor, effective 5/31/2024. Many thanks to the resigning employees and Mr. Taylor for his many years of service to the district. Crandon made the motion to approve resignations as presented; second by Meling. All in favor.

Motion made by: Elizabeth Crandon

Motion seconded by: Lisa Meling

Voting:

Andrea Terrones - Yes

Elizabeth Crandon - Yes

AnnDee Bloom - Yes

Lisa Meling - Yes

Megan Ruopp - Yes

b. Retirements

c. Contracts

Contracts presented:

Joe Terrones as Middle School Associate-starting 3/18/2024 at \$11.25/hour. Roll Call: Bloom-Aye; Ruopp-Aye; Crandon-Aye; Terrones-Aye; Meling-Aye.

Mark Albertsen as Elementary Principal-starting 7/1/2024 at \$100,000 annually for a 220-day contract. Roll Call: Meling-Nay; Bloom-Aye; Crandon-Aye; Terrones-Aye; Ruopp-Aye.

The board then briefly addressed the crowd and asked for their support.

J. Reports from Principals and Directors

a. High School, Middle School, and Elementary Principals

b. Buildings & Grounds Director

c. Technology Director Report

6. Discussion on Facilities Planning Update (FEH Architects).

Tyler Riley with FEH gave an update on the Facilities Planning. The final meeting took place in February and the process is ready for the next step in communication. Tyler presented the committee's findings/suggestions. Tyler advised that the school board needs to discuss what they wish to do, based on the input and findings from the facilities' committee. We will need to determine next steps and a PR communications plan for a possible bond referendum. Discussion on a philosophical survey being sent out to get a better idea of what the public wants to see done with the school buildings. FEH will generate the questions and will meet with Piper Sandler prior to the survey to inquire about bonding capacity.

7. Discussion on Four Day Academic Calendar Research Committee Update.

Sean Thurm and Jordan Augspurger presented the board with survey results of the four-day calendar. Mr. Ryan spoke: If there is a desire to continue to investigate this topic, there will be a second phase of surveys to send out and scheduled community forums. If there is a desire to consider this for next year, we can move to gather more data in the short term. If we need to approach this with a desire for more time, that works too. If the board does not want to consider the option of a 4-day calendar, we can move on from the inquiry of this idea. Discussion among board members occurred and feedback was provided to the administration to continue gathering data and research for this to be a possibility for the 2025-2026 school year, but approach 2024-2025 school year with a traditional academic calendar.

8. Discussion on Update for Commencement Speakers.

Mr. Ryan discussed the following regarding commencement speakers at 2024 Graduation: From school board discussion last fall, the board had expressed that the district identify student commencement speakers with a focus on Valedictorian(s) and the Salutatorian. Based on the timeline of the graduation ceremony and the release of Marshalltown Community College grades it will be impossible to make this determination by graduation Sunday using the full eight semesters of high school as a consideration.

Proposal: The graduating Valedictorian(s) and Salutatorian will be the students with the highest-grade point average, based on all final grades that are submitted by the Friday before graduation, excluding spring semester college grades of the students' senior year. Again, this gpa measure will not include the college coursework grades during the spring semester of the senior year. These designations will be for the purpose of speaking at the graduation ceremony only. A final class rank will be determined after all courses are submitted which will be AFTER graduation commencement.

9. Approval of Annual Reauthorization of Sharing Agreements with Other LEAs.

Approval of the following Rauthorization of Sharing Agreements with Other LEAs, as presented by Mr. Ryan:

*Transportation Director 20%: Share with West Marshall. It has been decided to no longer share with Dike New Hartford (DNH). This will not impact the incentive amounts from the state.

*Business office 20% (payroll specialist) with Grinnell Newburg CSD. This continues to be a successful share.

*Director of Instruction and Director of Sped: These two positions are contracts with the AEA. There are legislative bills that are being considered that may affect AEA employees. The House bill currently has the AEA sharing incentive within it. The Senate bill eliminates the sharing agreements/incentives. If the Senate AEA bill disintegrates the AEA positions, I would recommend hiring both of these employees as EM employees at their current FTE contracted rate with EM. (40% FTE for Director of Instruction and 20% FTE for Director of Sped)

Motion by Crandon to approve the Sharing agreements as presented; Second by Bloom. All in favor.

Motion made by: Elizabeth Crandon

Motion seconded by: AnnDee Bloom

Voting:

Andrea Terrones - Yes

Elizabeth Crandon - Yes

AnnDee Bloom - Yes

Lisa Meling - Yes

Megan Ruopp - Yes

10. Approval of Emergency Updates and First Reading to Policies 705.01, 705.01R1, & 705.01R2 and the Emergency Addition and First Reading to Policies 705.04, & 705.04R1 (Updates for Federal Grants).

Approval of Emergency Updates and First Reading to Policies 705.01, 705.01R1 & 705.01R2 and the Emergency Addition and First Reading to Policies 705.04 & 705.04R1 (Updates for Federal Grants)

Motion to approve as presented by Crandon and second by Meling. All in favor.

Motion made by: Elizabeth Crandon

Motion seconded by: Lisa Meling

Voting:

Andrea Terrones - Yes

Elizabeth Crandon - Yes

AnnDee Bloom - Yes

Lisa Meling - Yes

Megan Ruopp - Yes

11. Approval of Review of Policy 505.8 (Update for Annual Desk Audit).

Approval of Review of Policy 505.8 (update for annual desk audit). Cathy DeBondt provided an update and summary of examples of how the district has met the requirements of policy 505.8. Motion made by Crandon to approve the review of policy 505.8 and second by Ruopp. All in favor.

Motion made by: Elizabeth Crandon

Motion seconded by: Megan Ruopp

Voting:

Andrea Terrones - Yes

Elizabeth Crandon - Yes

AnnDee Bloom - Yes

Lisa Meling - Yes

Megan Ruopp - Yes

12. Board Professional Development Dialogue/Activity.

The board decides to postpone the professional development activity for tonight.

13. Superintendent Report

Mr. Ryan discussed the following items with the board:

- *Current legislation regarding the AEA bill and the potential increase in salaries for teachers
- *NICL banquet was well attended; great night honoring the top five scholars in each school district
- *Recently inducted the newest members into the East Marshall Honor Society; this was also well attended.
- *Spring athletics are in full swing
- *Next CLT meeting is Wednesday 3/27/24 at the high school, 6:00 pm
- *FY25 Tax Public Hearing notices have been mailed out by the court house. The tax public hearing notice is on our website, as guided by new law.
- *Elementary Family Night was on Thursday night and was a great success.
- *There is no school next Friday or Monday due to Easter weekend.

14. Adjourn

Crandon made the motion to Adjourn at 10:00 pm, second by Ruopp. All in favor.

Motion made by: Elizabeth Crandon

Motion seconded by: Megan Ruopp

Voting:

Andrea Terrones - Yes

Elizabeth Crandon - Yes

AnnDee Bloom - Yes

Lisa Meling - Yes

Megan Ruopp - Yes

Andrea Terrones, Board President

Allison Frost