

MINUTES OF THE EAST UNION COMMUNITY SCHOOL
BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR BOARD MEETING
February 19, 2024

Board President Adam Tallmon called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 5:30pm in the Collaborative Learning Center Sam McKnight (arrived at 5:34pm), Amber Tate, Jamie Buffington and Carol Eckels answered roll call. Also present was Superintendent Tim Kuehl and School Business Official Rhiannon Tessum.

Motion by Eckels to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Tate. Motion carried 4-0.

The President announced that this was the time, place and date to hold a hearing on the proposed Resolution to Continue Participation in the Instructional Support Program. The following persons appeared on behalf of the ISL: No One was in Attendance. The President declared the hearing closed.

RESOLUTION TO CONTINUE PARTICIPATION IN THE INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors has determined that to continue the current level of services and to fund the ongoing programs of the School District, continuation of participation in the Instructional Support Program for a period of five years is necessary and in the best interests of the District and its residents and students; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors has given consideration to continue participation in the Instructional Support Program as provided in Sections 257.18 through 257.21, Code of Iowa; and

WHEREAS, the Board has published notice of the time and place of a public hearing on the Resolution; and

WHEREAS, a hearing has been held upon the proposal to continue participation in the Instructional Support Program and any objections are overruled:

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED:

1. The Board of Directors determines that it is consistent with the five-year finance plan to fund the ongoing programs and services of the School District and it is in the best interest of the School District to continue participation in an Instructional Support Program as provided in Sections 257.18 through 257.21, Code of Iowa, and to provide additional funding therefor for a period of five (5) years commencing with the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025.
2. The additional funding for the Instructional Support Program for a budget year will be determined annually and will not exceed ten percent (10%) of the total regular program district cost for the budget year and moneys received under Section 257.14, Code of Iowa, as a budget adjustment for the budget year.
3. Moneys received by the District for the Instructional Support Program may be used for any general fund purpose.
4. The Instructional Support Program shall be funded by instructional support state aid and a combination instructional support property tax levied annually upon the taxable property within the School District commencing with the levy of property taxes for collection in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, and an instructional support income surtax imposed annually, the percent of income surtax to be determined by the Board for each budget year to be imposed upon the state individual income tax of each individual income taxpayer resident in the School District on December 31, 2024, and each year thereafter.
5. Unless, within twenty-eight days following the adoption of this Resolution, the Secretary of the Board receives a petition containing the signatures of eligible electors equal in number to not less than one hundred or thirty percent of the number of voters at the last preceding regular school election, whichever is greater, asking that an election be called to approve or disapprove this action of the Board adopting the Instructional Support Program, this action of the Board is final and the Secretary is authorized and directed to certify a copy of this Resolution to the Department of Management.

In the event a petition containing the required number of signatures is filed with the Secretary of the Board within twenty-eight days of the adoption of this Resolution, the President shall call a meeting of the Board to consider rescission of this Resolution, or to direct the county commissioner of elections to submit the following question to the qualified electors of the School District at a special election.

If the Board determines to submit the question to the electors, the public measure to be submitted shall be as follows:

Shall the Board of Directors of the East Union Community School District, in the Counties of Clarke, Madison, Ringgold, and Union, State of Iowa, be authorized for a period of five (5) years to continue to levy and impose an instructional support tax in an amount (after taking into consideration instructional support state aid) of not exceeding ten percent (10%) of the total of regular program district cost for the budget year and moneys received under Section 257.14, Code of Iowa, as a budget adjustment in the budget year, and be authorized annually, in combination, as determined by the Board, to levy an instructional support property tax upon all the taxable property within the School District commencing with the levy of property taxes for collection in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, and to impose an instructional support income surtax upon the state individual income tax of each individual income taxpayer resident in the School District on December 31 for each calendar year commencing with calendar year 2024, or each year thereafter, the percent of income surtax to be determined by the Board for each fiscal year, to be used for any general fund purpose?

Director Eckels introduced the following Resolution and moved its adoption. Director Tate seconded the motion to adopt. The roll was called, and the vote was: Ayes: 5 Nays: 0. The President declared the Resolution adopted as stated above. PASSED AND APPROVED this 19th day of February, 2024

Public Comments to the Board

Documents are provided to facilitate public comments to the board. This document is located in the boardroom and should be given to the Board Secretary prior to the start of the Regular Meeting. During this Public Comment portion of the agenda, the board may receive comments on items that are not on the agenda as well as items that are on the agenda. Twenty minutes are allotted for public comments and a three (3)-minute time limit per person, if needed. The board may choose to extend this time if they wish, but that is a board decision. The board does not need to respond to any comments made. All parties are reminded that public comment specific to any employee is not appropriate in an open meeting. Members of the public are encouraged to visit directly with employees and/or administrators to resolve their concerns.

Meggen Roan signed up to speak about agenda item 9 – School Calendar. She stated over the proposed change to the calendar that when the survey is sent out that the district send it to all the community members not just those that are enrolled in school. The public forum to discuss benefits and answer the questions as she has some questions to understand the why behind this.

Hannah Jackson also signed up to speak on agenda item 9 – School Calendar but had nothing to add to what Meggen had said.

Board Reports were presented.

Elementary Principal Gordan reported:

- Achievement Data
- PTO News
- Professional Development
- America's Farmers Grow Communities
- Ag in the Classroom
- Celebrating our School and Upcoming Events

Secondary Principal Meiners:

- Staff Updates
- Student Updates
- Principal Notes
- Upcoming Dates

School Business Official Tessum reported:

- Aid and Levy Budget
- Grant funding
- ISJIT Interest

Superintendent

- Legislative Summary
- Teacher Salaries
- SSA Rate not set Yet

Board Members

Motion by Eckels to approve the following consent agenda. Seconded by Tate. Motion carried 4-0.

- ❖ Minutes
 - ☐ December 19, 2023
- ❖ Financial Reports
- ❖ Invoices
- ❖ Staff Resignations
- ❖ Staff Contract/Letter of Assignment Approval
 - ☐ Aubrey Hansen – moving from JH Softball to High School Softball Assistant (\$2,333)
 - ☐ Kaylin Lack – High School Softball Assistant (\$2,133)
 - ☐ Maddie Simmons – High School Assistant Girls Track (\$2,133)
- ❖ Open Enrollment Request
 - ☐ 1 – 8th, OUT to Winterset
- ❖ Out of State / Overnight Trip
- ❖ Fundraisers
- ❖ Contracts

Motion by Tate be it RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of EAST UNION community school district, will levy property taxes for fiscal year 2024-2025 for the regular program budget adjustment as allowed under section 257.14, Code of Iowa. Seconded by Eckels. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Eckels to enter the public hearing for the approval of the construction bids for the proposed Plans, Specifications, Form of Contract, and Estimate of Costs for the proposed EAST UNION CSD – EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER PROJECT.at 5:31pm. Seconded by McKnight. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Eckels to leave the public hearing at 5:34pm. Seconded by Tate. Motion carried 4-0.

Discussion to place over the Early Childhood Center Project Construction Bids. Motion by Eckels to table the approval of bids for another meeting. Seconded by Tate. Motion carried 4-0.

Discussion to place of School Safety with a presentation from Bryan St. Bernard from Zero Eyes, a detection software addition to our cameras to heighten security. Motion by Eckels to table until the next meeting. Seconded by Tate. Motion carried 4-0.

Hannah Jackson spoke on School Safety. Asking what the process was on people coming into the district and if they get ID with a visitors badge.

Motion by Tate to approve the presented quote for the mural in the auditorium using ASPIRE More Funds. Of \$9,600. Seconded by Eckels. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Tate to approve the hourly staff to use leave days that they have remaining to cover days missed in January due to inclement weather if they choose to. Seconded by Eckels. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by McKnight to approve the mowing bid for the athletic facilities form Mike’s Services for \$5,040 for the mowing season of 2024. This was the low bid for the season. Seconded by Tate. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Eckels to approve Superintendent Tim Kuehl to approve and sign all Special Educational Contracts from other LEA’s. Seconded by Tate. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Eckels to approve the Naloxone Supply and Administration for Opioid Overdose Policy as presented, waiving the first reading. Seconded by McKnight. Motion carried 4-0.

Discussion took place over the Four Day School Week. If we want to move forward with the process, I’d suggest: - Share draft calendars, research site, and an FAQ about sports, pay, etc. - Hold a community forum in February - Re-survey students, families, and staff - Look to approve a 24-25 calendar in March. We should also consider how the likely pay jump from the legislature impacts our thinking about this topic.

Hannah Jackson spoke on the four-day school week and presented information that has the effects of the four-day school week on school compositions from a Brown University study.

Gary Clear spoke on the four-day school week about the feeling he gets from community members. Concerned about the younger students in a four-day school week. He’s not so sure that this four-day school week would be as helpful as we think. He asked the board to keep an open mind.

Superintendent Kuehl asked the board if they would like to keep exploring, the board decided to keep exploring to look at some more data before a decision is made.

Communication/Correspondence/Comments

Upcoming meeting dates were discussed.

1. Special Board meeting February 7 2024 at 5:30pm

2. Regular Board Meeting: February 19, 2024 at 5:30 pm

3. Regular Board Meeting: March 18, 2024 at 5:30 pm

Goal 1: Growth & Achievement

Goal 2: Engaging Partnerships

Goal 3: Optimal Climate (Culture)

Goal 3: Quality Staff

Goal 3: Resources

Motion by McKnight to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Tate. Motion carried 4-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm.

Adam Tallmon, Board President

Pending Approval

Rhiannon Tessum, Board Secretary