

**ELMIRA HEIGHTS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ELMIRA HEIGHTS, NEW YORK**

Call to Order: The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on February 4, 2026, by President Joseph Sullivan followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Members Present: Christopher Callas, John Cole, Terry Day, Dominic Lucarelli, Joseph Sullivan, Mikki Yesesky, Jordan Elliott (Student)

Member Absent:

Others Present: Michael Lepak, Michael Gill, Martha Clark, Tom Boyanowski, Melissa Kelley, Cindy Davis, Lillian Cowulich, Jameson Duggan, Zachary Sternfels, Lori Sternfels.

Vacant Board Seat Appointment: Motion was made by Terry Day, seconded by Chris Callas and carried 7-0 to approve the following resolution to fill the vacant seat on the Board of Education by appointing former board member, Michael Lepak:

RESOLVED, that the board seat vacated by Jody Buckley on October 1, 2025, due to moving out of the District, is hereby filled by Michael Lepak effective February 4, 2026. Mr. Lepak shall serve until the next regular school board election on May 19, 2026.

Oath of Office

Oath of Office was administered to the following:

▪ Board Appointed School Board Member **Michael Lepak** ~ Term of Office – February 4, 2026 through May 19, 2026

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES

Agenda – A motion was made by John Cole, seconded by Dominic Lucarelli, and carried 7-0 to approve the agenda of the February 4, 2026 Board of Education Regular meeting.

Minutes – A motion was made by Terry Day, seconded Chris Callas, and carried 7-0 to approve the minutes of the following Board of Education Meetings: January 7, 2026 Board of Education Regular Meeting

Order of Business

A motion was made by Mikki Yesesky, seconded by John Cole, and carried 7-0 to suspend the regular order of business to accommodate guests, special discussion topics and presentations in an order of business as deemed appropriate.

Board President jumped to Discussion Topic N-1:

N-1 Cohen Trails project presented by Junior Rotarians

Jameson Duggan and Zachary Sternfels reviewed a presentation of photos of their progress clearing the trails of overgrown/dead materials, hauling sticks in wheelbarrows, and their goals of fundraising to purchase benches for an outdoor classroom up on the hill at Cohen.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC AND STAFF

Mike Gill - Superintendent ♦ Lots of personnel transitions with buildings & grounds and transportation department. Thanks to Charlie Roman and Rick Rice for stepping up in Todd's retirement. Principal Boyanowski is working directly with Welliver doing capital work in the High School building. Internal transitions in Transportation has not been as smooth with the vacancy of Transportation Supervisor, Cindy and Melissa have really stepped up and are holding it together. ♦ Superintendent CSO Meeting this past Tuesday, really great training on setting goals with GST leadership. Great continuity and collaboration in our region. ♦ Friday we have open mic session with area Superintendents with State Senator Tom O'Mara, building off zero emission topics and foundation aid ♦ Next month, NYCOSS Winter Institute has a wonderful Keynote Speaker from Solution Tree, which is very exciting. Superintendent Gill will be leading a breakout session at the institute to share Elmira Heights journey through PLC standards and implementation.

Tom Boyanowski – Administrator ♦ Students learning at high levels – 4 graduated early, 28 students on high honors and 2 earning an associate's degree. Block scheduling has certainly helped increase credits earned. ♦ Looking forward to the end of the year. ♦ Revamped the schedule to add electives, struggling to find Spanish teacher.

Martha Clark – Business Manager ♦ Budget planning for 2026-27 school year, will have presentation of assumptions at the next meeting. 1% increase from foundation aid doesn't do much for our contractual obligations. ♦ Medicaid Cost reporting and IDEA grants, Federal/State level cost reporting has kept the office busy. ♦ Fire Inspection next week. Elevator work happening. New buses coming soon we hope.

Jordan Elliott – Student Member ♦ Exciting time of year! Everything's fresh and new with new semester. Taking 3 electives. ♦ Winter sports is bustling, very popular. ♦ Play is in 29 days! Starting choreography tomorrow. ♦ Seniors are doing awesome. Snowball is this weekend, Freshman class hosts, the theme is Masquerade Ball. ♦ Senior Prom planning is underway. ♦ New Career Development Council representative – every Wednesday she comes in and can set up Job Shadow events, such a great opportunity and connection.

PERSONNEL

A motion was made by John Cole, seconded by Mikki Yesesky and carried 7-0 to approve the following recommended personnel items F-1 through F-2, and being further resolved that upon receipt of final clearance from the State Education Department, any conditional appointments shall be changed to regular appointments, reflecting the effective date of said Board meeting.

F-1 Resignations/Retirements/Terminations:

a. Retirements:

	NAME	POSITION	EFFECTIVE	notes
1.	John Townson	Bus Driver	02/09/26	15 years of service
2.	Tim Sharp	Math Teacher	06/30/26	21 years of service

F-2 Appointments:

a. Substitute Appointments:

Substitute Teacher: Ryan Stroman, John Townson
 Substitute Support: Ryan Stroman, Tamara Scharborough, Pricilla Barron, John Townson

b. 25-26 Athletic Volunteers:

	NAME	POSITION:
1.	Jack Bates	Wrestling Volunteer

FINANCIAL

G-1 Reports - acknowledged

A motion was made by Terry Day, seconded by Chris Callas, and carried 7-0 to acknowledge the following consent financial reports G1a thru G1f.

- a. Budget Status Report as of January 28, 2026
- b. Revenue Status Report as of January 28, 2026
- c. Budget Transfer Report as of January 28, 2026
- d. Treasurer’s Report for December 2025
- e. Claims Auditor Report for December 2025
- f. Extra Classroom Report for December 2025

FACILITIES

The updates below were reviewed by Superintendent Gill and Business Manager Martha Clark.

H-1 Capital Project 2025 – Transportation Facility Update – The masonry sub-contractor continues to work on interior and exterior masonry walls as the bus wash end of the building. The Electrician has continued working with the Mason as required for in wall rough ins. Masonry work will continue until completion of the concrete masonry units. When the weather cooperates the exterior split face block work will begin. When the weather allows exterior metal framing and vapor barrier work will continue until completion at the transportation facility. Roofing above the high mechanics bay has started but is not completed. The roofing work is the next critical activity to get the building watertight. In the next two weeks work at the driver training room storefront will be completed. Transportation windows are currently onsite. The Plumbing, Electrical and Mechanical contractors will continue to install hangers and piping/conduit where areas are available. Once roofing has moved far enough on the high roof, the office area will be enclosed allowing mechanical, electrical and plumbing rough in to be completed and gypsum wall board to be installed. In ground bus lift work will begin following the completion of the high roof. Once the lifts are installed the final concrete slab on grade will be completed. At the Cohen Elementary building elevator work is wrapping up. Remaining elevator work includes the smoke curtains, power, fire alarm and final testing of the elevator. It is anticipated that the elevator be ready for inspection at the end of February. Once the elevator inspection has passed the elevator will be returned to District use. At Edison new aluminum windows have arrived and are stored at the rear of the adjacent church parking lot. Work has begun on the library windows. Over the February recess work to replace the BOCES wing windows will occur. Following February break one classroom, at a time, will be relocated to complete the window work in that space. This progression, of a room at a time, will continue around the building with the front elevation along College Ave being the last to be completed. The library, kiln and art storage rooms are nearing completion. New library carpet has been completed along with painting. Work assembling the library stacks and furniture is currently underway. The only item that will be incomplete after turnover is the new window shades that go along with the new windows. New flooring, ceiling grid and lights have been installed in the kiln and art storage rooms. Work will continue in these two rooms until completion.

H-2 Capital Outlay 2026 – TAE Classroom renovation – Plumbing and Electrical demolition activities have begun. Over the February recess demolition of the existing casework and countertops will begin. Following demolition new casework and countertops will be installed. Change Order work to add a washer and dryer, additional casework, countertops and ventilation is currently under discussion.

NEW BUSINESS

J-1 Hamilton Education Program Field Trip - approved

A motion was made by Mike Lepak, seconded by Dominic Lucarelli, and carried 7-0 to approve the ACE US History/Honors English 11 class trip to see the Broadway Show, Hamilton, in New York City on May 6, 2026. This trip cost is covered by a grant.

CONSENT

A motion was made by Terry Day, seconded by John Cole, and carried 7-0 to approve the following consent agenda items K-1 through K-4.

K-1 CSE Recommendations – approved

The Board approved the student placement determinations from the January 6, 8, 9, 12, 14, 16, 20, 21, and 29, 2026, CSE/504 meeting(s) and the funds to support such recommendations.

K-2 CPSE Recommendations – approved

The Board approved the student placement determinations from the January 6, 7, 9, and 20, 2026, CPSE/504 meeting(s) and the funds to support such recommendations.

K-3 Tops in Education donations – accepted

The Board accepted with thanks and appreciation, donations from the Tops in Education Program, received during the 2025-26 school year to be used for materials and supplies as specified by each donation for Thomas Edison High School or Cohen Middle School or Cohen Elementary School.

K-4 Day Automation Service Contract 26-27- approved

The Board approved the Day Automation Service Contract for the period of July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027.

DISCUSSION:

N-1 Cohen Trails...moved to earlier in meeting.

N-2 Internal Audit Topic Selection

Business Manager Martha Clark reviewed possible options and past audits completed, the Board is in agreement with the business manager that "Assets and Inventory" should be done this year.

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday	February 25, 2026	Regular BOE Mtg (if needed)	7:00 pm	Comm Rm
Wednesday	March 4, 2026	Regular BOE Meeting	7:00 pm	Comm Rm
Wednesday	March 11, 2026	Regular BOE Mtg (if needed)	7:00 pm	Comm Rm
Wednesday	March 18, 2026	Regular BOE Mtg (Final Budget Review)	7:00pm	Comm Rm
Wednesday	March 25, 2026	Regular BOE Mtg (if needed)	7:00 pm	Comm Rm

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 7:52pm a motion was made by Dominic Lucarelli, seconded by John Cole, and carried 7-0 to enter executive session discuss/review individual employment history and evaluations.

ADJOURN EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 8:45pm a motion was made by John Cole, seconded by Mike Lepak, and carried 7-0 to adjourn executive session.

ADJOURNMENT – At 8:46pm motion was made by Terry Day, seconded by Chris Callas, and carried 7-0 to adjourn the meeting.

Clerk