

# Minutes

# Board of Education Meeting

April 22, 2013

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

**CALL TO ORDER:** The Board of Education Meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by President, Harry Blish, followed by the pledge of allegiance.

**MEMBERS PRESENT** Lisa Benedict, Harry Blish, William Brewer, Harvey Harris, Joseph Sullivan, Andrew Willard

**MEMBERS ABSENT** Christopher Callas

**OTHERS PRESENT** Mary Beth Fiore, Debra Palmer, Tom Boyanowski, Dawn Hanrahan, Andy Lutz, Carol Cady, Barb Day, Melanie Beach, Keith Beach, YNN, WENY

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES

#### **Agenda:**

A motion was made by Harvey Harris seconded by William Brewer and carried 6-0 to approve the April 22, 2013 Board of Education agenda with one addition.

#### **Minutes:**

April 17, 2013 Meeting- A motion was made by Joseph Sullivan, seconded by Andrew Willard and carried 6-0 to approve the minutes of the April 17, 2013 Board of Education Meeting.

#### **Clerk Pro-Tem:**

A motion was made by William Brewer, seconded by Andrew Willard and carried 6-0 to appoint Debra Palmer as Clerk Pro-Tem for tonight's meeting.

### COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC AND STAFF

Mary Beth Fiore - Superintendent ♦Government Services Advisory Board – Superintendent was asked to sit on this Panel – Board of Education asked her to decline the offer – she is already way to busy ♦Testing Angst – tests were more difficult and lengthier than thought

Andy Lutz –Elementary School Principal ♦Testing has provide significant challenge in preparation for next year (teacher training, classroom time and common core application) ♦Safety Committee – reviewing plan and planning an evacuation ♦Vitamin L – grant sponsored singing group – great job promoting self-esteem and friendship building (many positive comments about our school were received from group directors)

Dawn Hanrahan - Middle School Principal/CSE/CPSE Chair ♦Math testing – students with IEP's cannot use calculators for the 1<sup>st</sup> part of test. ♦ELA testing – 7<sup>th</sup> grade was fair, 6<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> caused more anxiety and many could not finish ♦Marking Period 3 has ended ♦Tutoring for 4<sup>th</sup> marking period ♦Report Cards – mailing vs. sending home – 86%-90% are on the e-mail parent portal – (sent the 8<sup>th</sup> grade report cards home with a syner-voice that failures need to be signed and returned – Ms. Hanrahan will follow-up to get feedback on the process)

Tom Boyanowski – High School Principal ♦Mock DUI – excellent program – one speaker was actually involved in an accident that resulted in a death due to texting – very good reminder with proms and graduations coming up

Debra Palmer – Business Manager ♦Health Insurance – continue with enrollment process – majority of retirees are selecting MVP ♦Pre K and Kindergarten registrations are progressing.

Public Comments ♦President Blish asked for thoughts and prayers as we remember Horseheads Head Mechanic, Rick West – who passed away.

### PERSONNEL

A motion was made by Harry Blish seconded by Lisa Benedict and carried 6-0 to approve the following recommended personnel items F-1a through F-1b as presented, 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 Appointments**

##### **a. Substitutes – for the 2012-13 school - approved**

Substitute Teacher Matthew Stiadle

Substitute Support Staff Matthew Stiadle

##### **b. Student Teacher - acknowledged**

Ashlee Sands

Acknowledged the student teaching assignment of Elmira College student, Ashlee Sands, effective April 23, 2013 through May 29, 2013 at the Cohen Middle School. Ms. Sands is an Elmira College student that shall be mentored by Ms. Kerry Johnson, an Elementary Teacher in the subject area of Math.

## FINANCIAL

### **G-1 Budget Status Report as of April 15, 2013- acknowledged**

A motion was made by Joseph Sullivan, seconded by Harry Blish and carried 6-0 to acknowledge the budget status report as of April 15, 2013.

### **G-2 Treasurer's Report (February 2013) - acknowledged**

A motion was made by Andrew Willard, seconded by William Brewer and carried 6-0 to accept the Treasurer's report for February 2013.

### **G-3 Investment Report**

No Report

### **G-4 Claims Auditor Report (February 2013) - acknowledged**

A motion was made by Lisa Benedict, seconded by Harvey Harris and carried 6-0 to accept the Claims Auditor Report for February 2013.

### **G-5 Extra-Classroom Report (February 2013) - acknowledged**

A motion was made by Andrew Willard, seconded by William Brewer and carried 6-0 to accept the Extra-Classroom Report for February 2013.

### **G-6 Independent Audit Proposal – Auditing Services - approved**

A motion was made by Lisa Benedict, seconded by William Brewer and carried 6-0 to approve the understanding with Buffamante, Whipple Buttafaro, P.C. to contract for auditing services for the year ending June 30, 2013, 2014, 2015 with the option to extend the contract for subsequent years ending June 30, 2016 and 2017.

## FACILITIES

No Report

## OLD BUSINESS

No Items

## NEW BUSINESS

### **J-1 Proposition Number 1 – (Budget)**

A motion was made by Andrew Willard, seconded by Joseph Sullivan and carried 6-0 to approve the following budget resolution and the property tax report card as presented:

*Shall the following proposition be adopted, to wit:*

*BE IT RESOLVED, that the proposed budget of \$20,147,807 of the Elmira Heights Central School District for 2013-2014 be approved in accordance with Section 2022 of the Education Law and that the balance of said budget after applying available public moneys thereto be raised by a tax upon the taxable property of said District.*

*Adoption of this budget requires a tax levy increase of 6.90% which exceeds the statutory tax levy increase limit of 5.42% for this school fiscal year and therefore exceeds the state tax cap and must be approved by sixty percent of the qualified voters present and voting.*

### **J-2 Proposition Number 2 – (Transportation Mileage Limits)**

A motion was made by William Brewer, seconded by Harvey Harris and carried 6-0 to approve the following resolution:

Shall the following resolution be adopted, to wit:

RESOLVED, that the Elmira Heights Central School District shall offer transportation to all its students in Kindergarten through Grade Five (5) whose home residence is more than one (1) mile from the school the student attends, and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Elmira Heights Central School District shall offer transportation to all its students in Grade Six (6) through Grade Twelve (12) whose home residence is more than one and one quarter (1.25) miles from the school the student attends.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the changes above will take effect beginning July 1, 2014.

### **J-3 MVP Medicare Advantage Plan – Over Age 65 Retires**

A motion was made by Harvey Harris, seconded by Lisa Benedict and carried 6-0 to approve the following resolution:

*“Over Age 65 Retiree Resolution”*

*RESOLVED, that Medicare eligible retirees and eligible spouses of the Elmira Heights Central School District have the option to enroll in the District sponsored Medicare Advantage plan effective June 1, 2013. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, all other retirees and eligible spouses of the Elmira Heights Central School District have the option to enroll in the District sponsored Medicare Advantage plan when they reach 65 years of age. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, all retirees and their eligible spouses, upon reaching age 65 and eligible for Medicare must enroll in Medicare Parts A and B. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Medicare eligible retirees of the Elmira Heights Central School District may leave the Medicare Advantage plan and reenroll in the District's current plan in effect for active employees after year one or at the end of year two during the annual open enrollment period. Thereafter, they will not be allowed back into the District's Plan for active employees unless Medicare does not allow the Medicare Advantage Plan. Such retiree and his or her eligible spouse will in the future continue, during open enrollment, have the option of terminating coverage under the District's current plan for active employees and enrolling in the District sponsored Medicare Advantage plan. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, if a retiree and his or*

her eligible spouse choose, a second time to enroll in the District sponsored Medicare Advantage plan they no longer have the option of returning to the District sponsored health plan in effect for active employees. The retiree and his or her eligible spouse will remain in the District sponsored Medicare Advantage plan until no longer eligible for coverage due to a qualifying life event or for contractual reasons between the District and the retiree. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, once a retired employee or eligible spouse of the Elmira Heights Central School District is enrolled in a plan, when their spouse turns 65 years old and becomes Medicare eligible, the spouse will be automatically enrolled in the same plan as the retiree. The exception to this is if both members of the family are District retirees, then each person has the option to choose the plan they want to enroll in. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, retirees over age 65 with dependent children must remain in the District sponsored health plan in effect for active employees with family coverage. When the retiree no longer has dependent children, he or she has the Medicare Advantage plan option. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, upon the death of an over age 65 retiree, the surviving spouse has the option of continuation of coverage in the District sponsored plan in effect for active employees, at full cost to the spouse, or continuation of coverage in the Medicare Advantage plan, at full cost to the spouse, with a direct bill arrangement between the Medicare Advantage plan and the surviving spouse.

## **CONSENT**

A motion was made by Joseph Sullivan, seconded by Andrew Willard and carried 6-0 to approve the following consent agenda items K-1 through K-7.

### **K-1 CPSE Recommendations and Funding - approved**

Approved recommendations and funds to support placements for determinations made at the March 18, April 8, 2013 CPSE meetings.

### **K-2 CSE Recommendations and Funding - approved**

Approved recommendations and funds to support placements for determinations made at the March 25, April 8, 9, 11, 2013 CSE meetings.

### **K-3 Donation \$100.00 – Elm Chevrolet - accepted**

Accepted with thanks and appreciation, a donation of \$100.00 from Elm Chevrolet. Such funds shall be used to support the Spring College Fair.

### **K-4 Donation \$50.00 – Bobby K Entertainment - accepted**

Accepted with thanks and appreciation, a donation of \$50.00 from Bobby K Entertainment. Such funds shall be used to support the Spring College Fair.

### **K-5 Donation \$200.00 – Harry Bowers Agency, Inc. - accepted**

Accepted with thanks and appreciation, a donation of \$200.00 from Harry Bowers Agency, Inc. Such funds shall be used to support the Spring College Fair.

### **K-6 Donation \$500.00 – PFO - accepted**

Accepted with thanks and appreciation, a donation of \$500.00 from the Elmira Heights PFO. Such funds shall be used to sponsor the appearance of Tedd Arnold at the Cohen Elementary School on May 21, 2013.

### **K-7 Final Request for Services - approved**

Approved the Final Request for BOCES Services for the 2013-2014 school year.

## **AWARDS / HONORS / ACHIEVEMENTS**

No Items

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

No Items

## **DISCUSSION**

No Items

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

At 7:50pm a motion was made by Lisa Benedict, seconded by Andrew Willard and carried 6-0 to enter executive session to discuss personnel.

## **ADJOURN EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

At 8:20pm a motion was made by Lisa Benedict, seconded by Joseph Sullivan and carried 6-0 to adjourn executive session

## **NEXT MEETING**

Mon May 13, 2013

7:00 pm -Regular Meeting

TAE Community Room

**ADJOURNMENT** – At 8:21pm a motion was made William Brewer, seconded by Harry Blish and carried 6-0 to adjourn the meeting.

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Clerk