

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

**CALL TO ORDER:** The Board of Education Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President, Harry Blish, followed by the pledge of allegiance.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**    Harry Blish, Christopher Callas, Harvey Harris, Michael Lepak, Joseph Sullivan, Andrew Willard

**MEMBERS ABSENT**    Kristen Wolowitz

**OTHERS PRESENT**    Mary Beth Fiore, Jason Rosno, Tom Boyanowski, Andy Lutz, David Crowley, Colleen Dengler

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES**

**Agenda:**

A motion was made by Michael Lepak seconded by Andrew Willard and carried 6-0 to approve the Agenda for the October 23, 2014 Board of Education Meeting. with a personnel (probation) and discussion item (cheerleading) addition.

**Minutes:**

September 25, 2014 Regular Meeting- A motion was made by Joseph Sullivan seconded by Harvey Harris and carried 6-0 to approve the minutes of the September 25, 2014 Regular Meeting.

**Order of Business:**

A motion was made by Christopher Callas seconded by Andrew Willard and carried 6-0 to suspend the regular order of business to accommodate guests, special discussion topics and presentations in an order of business as deemed appropriate.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC AND STAFF**

Mary Beth Fiore - Superintendent    ♦Close call earlier in week when there was a smoking ballast in one of the stage lights  
♦Graduation requirements – changes will allow for flexibility and an alternative path to graduation    ♦Modified Football team met with speaker regarding hazing

Andy Lutz –Elementary School Principal    ♦County wide early release day is tomorrow    ♦First Marking Period for elementary and middle school ends next Friday    ♦Observations are underway and going well    ♦attended training for identifying students at risk    ♦Harvest Parade is Friday Oct 31 at 1:00pm    ♦Family Literacy night is Nov 6    ♦Fox 40 News will be filming our students doing the pledge of allegiance    ♦the Board inquired about the number of early arrivals at school – Mr. Lutz stated that after looking into the matter it appears that most of the early arrivals were actually walkers that were leaving home too early.

Tom Boyanowski – High School Principal    ♦In addition to the early release day tomorrow the high school has completed their required fire drills for the fall    ♦Excited about the recommendation for a Social Studies teacher appointment later in the meeting- received very favorable references

Jason Rosno – Business Manager    ♦Bonds – official statement update is in progress    ♦Medicaid cost report is finalized  
♦Taxes – to date have collected 86% of school taxes due

Public Comments    ♦David Crowley, Community Advisory Committee member stated that there seems to be more talk about saving money than there is regarding education. He is concerned that the Boards and the Committee get the word out to get people communicating and understanding. Superintendent Fiore followed-up by stating that once the committee and the Boards have a more formal plan there will be a great deal of communication with the community between June & December.

**PERSONNEL**

A motion was made by Harvey Harris seconded by Harry Blish and carried 6-0 to approve the following recommended personnel items F-1a through F-3c 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 2014-15 school - approved**

**Substitute Teacher**    Mary Ann Suggs

**Substitute Support Staff** Mary Ann Suggs

**b. Volunteers- approved**

The following volunteers were approved to work with our athletic program for the 2014-15 school year:

Basketball    Symeon Fulwood    Michelle Woychak    Bill Wilson    Andy Pesesky

**c. Social Studies Teacher - approved**

Michael Larrabee

The Board of Education approved the appointment of Michael Larrabee, as Secondary Social Studies teacher, effective October 24, 2014. Mr. Larrabee will be paid the equivalent of step 1 of the current EHTA contract with 39 graduate hours for a total pro-rated salary of 33,087.98 for the period beginning October 24, 2014. Mr. Larrabee shall serve a three year probationary period, effective October -24, 2014.

**d. Advisors - approved**

The following advisors were approved for the 2014-15 school year..

| <u>Position</u>               | <u>Appointee</u> | <u>Level</u> | <u>Year</u> | <u>Stipend</u> |
|-------------------------------|------------------|--------------|-------------|----------------|
| Spartan Coffee Corner Advisor | Lori Andreine    | 1            | 1           | \$ 0.00        |
| Spartan Coffee Corner Advisor | Tracey Hayes     | 1            | 1           | \$ 0.00        |
| Spartan Coffee Corner Advisor | Tammy Farley     | 1            | 1           | \$ 0.00        |

**F-2 Resignation - accepted**

**a. English Language Arts Teacher**

Adam Williams

The Board accepted the resignation of Adam Williams, English Language Arts teacher, effective end of day October 3, 2014.

**F-3 Change in Status/Stipends - approved**

**Program Elimination/Stipend Change**

Kyle Erickson

The Board approved the recommendation to acknowledge, that due to the termination of the Modified Football season, Kyle Erickson's last day of coaching was October 1, 2014. Mr. Erickson will be paid a prorated stipend of \$1,356.93 for 33 days.

Clyde Stroman

The Board approved the recommendation to acknowledge that due to the termination of the Modified Football season, Clyde Stroman's last day of coaching was October 1, 2014. Mr. Stroman will be paid a prorated stipend of \$1,356.93 for 33 days.

**Probation Complete**

**Cleaner/Sub Driver – Gary Dove**

The Board approved the recommendation to change the employment status of Mr. Gary Dove from probationary Cleaner/Sub-Driver to permanent Cleaner/Sub-Driver effective October 21, 2014. Mr. Dove has successfully completed his probationary period.

**FINANCIAL**

**G-1 Budget Status Report as of October 16 2014- acknowledged**

A motion was made by Christopher Callas, seconded by Andrew Willard and carried 6-0 to acknowledge the budget status report as of October 16, 2014.

**G-2 Treasurer's Report (August 2014) - acknowledged**

A motion was made by Joseph Sullivan, seconded by Andrew Willard and carried 6-0 to accept the Treasurer's report for August 2014.

**G-3 Investment Report**

No Report

**G-4 Claims Auditor Report (August 2014) - acknowledged**

A motion was made by Harvey Harris, seconded by Christopher Callas and carried 6-0 to accept the Claims Auditor Report for August 2014.

**G-5 Extra-Classroom Report (August 2014) - acknowledged**

A motion was made by Andrew Willard, seconded by Michael Lepak and carried 6-0 to accept the Extra-Classroom Report for August 2014.

**G-6 Corrective Action Plan – State Comptroller Financial Condition Report July 2012-Feb 2014**

A motion was made by Christopher Callas, seconded by Joseph Sullivan and carried 6-0 to accept the Corrective Action Plan for the Office of the State Comptroller Financial Condition Report for the period from July 1, 2010 – February 19, 20-14.

**G-7 Finalize Financial Statements and Audit Report 2013-2014**

A motion was made by Harvey Harris, seconded by Andrew Willard and carried 6-0 to accept the 2013-2014 The finalized financial statements and audit report as presented by Buffamante, Whipple, Buttafaro, P.C. at the September 25, 2014 Audit Committee meeting.

### G-8 Corrective Action Plan for Management Letter – Basic Financial Statement – year end 6/30/14

A motion was made by Michael Lepak, seconded by Joseph Sullivan and carried 6-0 to accept the Corrective Action Plan for the management letter dated September 25, 2014 concerning the basic financial statement for the year ended June 30, 2014.

### G-9 Corrective Action Plan for Management Letter – Extraclassroom Activity Funds – year end 6/30/14

A motion was made by Harvey Harris, seconded by Andrew Willard and carried 6-0 to accept the Corrective Action Plan for the management letter dated September 25, 2014 concerning the Extraclassroom Activity Funds statement for the year ended June 30, 2014.

### G-10 Gas & Electric Resolutions and Agreements - approved

A motion was made by Joseph Sullivan, seconded by Andrew Willard and carried 6-0 to approve the following gas and electric resolutions and agreements:

#### ► Electricity Cooperative Energy Purchasing Service Billing Schedule and Agreement

#### ► Resolution Authorizing Participation in Cooperative Energy Purchasing Service(NYSMEC) for Electricity.

*WHEREAS, Article 5-G of the New York State General Municipal Law authorizes municipal corporations to enter into cooperative agreements for the performance or exercise of services, functions, powers or activities on a cooperative or contract basis among themselves or one for the other, and*

*WHEREAS, Section 119-n of the General Municipal Law defines the term "municipal corporation" for the purposes of Article 5-G as a county outside the city of New York, a city, a town, a village, a board of cooperative educational services, a fire district or a school district; and*

*WHEREAS, Elmira Heights Central School District (hereinafter sometimes referred to as "Participant") is a "municipal corporation" as defined above; and*

*WHEREAS, this Board wishes for this municipal corporation to become or remain a Participant pursuant to the Municipal Cooperation Agreement For Energy Purchasing Services dated the 1st day of May 2005 (the "Agreement"), among municipal corporations collectively identified as the New York School and Municipal Energy Consortium ("NYSMEC") upon the terms of the Agreement and further wishes to authorize participation as an energy consumer as specified below.*

*NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this Board hereby determines that it is in the interests of the Elmira Heights Central School District to participate in the NYSMEC, and authorizes and directs Mary Beth Fiore, Superintendent to sign the Agreement/and or the Billing Schedule and Agreement for electricity on its behalf; and*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Board authorizes the Administrative Participant (as defined in the Agreement) to prepare, advertise, disseminate and open bids pursuant to the General Municipal Law and to award, execute and deliver binding contracts on behalf of this Board for the purchase of electricity for this Participant to the lowest responsible bidder as is determined by the Administrative Participant at a commodity price not to exceed \$.1126 cents per kWh for a term of at least one year and no more than three years commencing May 1, 2015, and other terms and conditions, all as may be determined by the Administrative Participant, or to reject any or all such bids; and*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Participant agrees to advertise said bid as may be directed by the Administrative Participant; and*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the officers and employees of this Participant are authorized to execute such other confirming agreements, certificates and other documents and take such other actions as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the intent of this resolution.*

*This Resolution shall take effect immediately.*

#### ► Natural Gas Cooperative Energy Purchasing Service Billing Schedule and Agreement

#### ► Resolution Authorizing Participation in Cooperative Energy Purchasing Service(NYSMEC) for Natural Gas.

*WHEREAS, Article 5-G of the New York State General Municipal Law authorizes municipal corporations to enter into cooperative agreements for the performance or exercise of services, functions, powers or activities on a cooperative or contract basis among themselves or one for the other, and*

*WHEREAS, Section 119-n of the General Municipal Law defines the term "municipal corporation" for the purposes of Article 5-G as a county outside the city of New York, a city, a town, a village, a board of cooperative educational services, a fire district or a school district; and*

*WHEREAS, Elmira Heights Central School District (hereinafter sometimes referred to as "Participant") is a "municipal corporation" as defined above; and*

*WHEREAS, this Board wishes for this municipal corporation to become or remain a Participant pursuant to the Municipal Cooperation Agreement For Energy Purchasing Services dated the 1st day of May, 2005 (the "Agreement"), among municipal corporations collectively identified as the New York School and Municipal Energy Consortium ("NYSMEC") upon the terms of the Agreement and further wishes to authorize participation as an energy consumer as specified below.*

*NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this Board hereby determines that it is in the interests of the Elmira Heights Central School District to participate in the NYSMEC, and authorizes and directs Mary Beth Fiore, Superintendent to sign the Agreement/and or the Billing Schedule and Agreement for natural gas on its behalf; and*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Board authorizes the Administrative Participant (as defined in the Agreement) to prepare, advertise, disseminate and open bids pursuant to the General Municipal Law and to award, execute and deliver binding contracts on behalf of this Board for the purchase of natural gas for this Participant to the lowest responsible bidder as is determined by the Administrative Participant at a commodity price not to exceed \$1.141 cents per therm for a term of at least one year and no more than three years commencing May 1, 2015, and other terms and conditions, all as may be determined by the Administrative Participant, or to reject any or all such bids; and*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Participant agrees to advertise said bid as may be directed by the Administrative Participant; and*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the officers and employees of this Participant are authorized to execute such other confirming agreements, certificates and other documents and take such other actions as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the intent of this resolution.*

*This Resolution shall take effect immediately.*

**G11 Tax Refund - Map 073489 69.14-1-18 CAF USA, Inc. - approved**

A motion was made by Michael Lepak, seconded by Harry Blish and carried 6-0 to approve a tax refund in the amount of \$475.64 to CAF USA for overpayment of 2014 school taxes as a result of a reduction in assessment from \$161,500 to \$141,435 per the assessor certifying that the property assessed value included an increase in assessed value due to a PILOT agreement. According to the agreement, any increases of assessment due to the improvement is supposed to be taxed at 50%. In order to bill it, a sub-parcel should have been created for the increase of \$20,065. This was not done. Thereby, the assessed value on this parcel was decreased by \$20,065. An incorrect entry due to failure of the assessor to act on a partial exemption, constitutes a clerical error as defined by RPTL section 550(2)(c), and should be corrected for the 2014-15 tax rolls.

**G-12 Budget Increase 2014-15 \$1,728.75 - approved**

A motion was made by Joseph Sullivan, seconded by Harvey Harris and carried 6-0 to approve the attached resolution increasing the 2014-15 Budget by \$1,728.75.00 to purchase unanticipated special education equipment:

***Resolution for the 2014-15 Budget***

***BE IT RESOLVED, That special education equipment be purchased in 2014-15 due to the requirements of a handicapped student that was unanticipated when the budget was approved,***

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the following budget line, be increased for a total amount of \$1,728.75***

***A2250-200-0-00 Special Education Equipment***

***Such increase shall be supported by fund balance in the 2014-15 school year.***

**FACILITIES**

No Report

**OLD BUSINESS**

No Items

**NEW BUSINESS**

No Items

**CONSENT**

A motion was made by Harvey Harris seconded by Andrew Willard and carried 6-0 to approve the following consent agenda items K-1 through K-4.

**K-1 CSE Recommendations and Funding - approved**

Approved recommendations and funds to support placements for determinations made at the September 23, 29, October 2, 6, 7, 2014 CSE meetings.

**K-2 Donation up to \$350.00 – Class of 2014 - accepted**

Accepted with thanks and appreciation, a donation of up to \$350.00 from the Class of 2014 to support a field trip to Elmira College for English 12 and First Year Experience students.

**K-3 Donation \$560.00 – PFO - accepted**

Accepted with thanks and appreciation, a donation of \$560.00 from the Parent Faculty Organization. The funds will be used to support the Kindergarten field trip to the Clemens Center in February.

**K-4 Spartan Coffee Corner Club - approved**

Approved the start-up of “The Spartan Coffee Corner” Club at Edison High School as part of a program for students to develop career skills

**AWARDS / HONORS / ACHIEVEMENTS**

No Items

**COMMUNICATIONS**

No Items

**DISCUSSION**

◆ **NYSSBA**

Registration packets distributed to Board members attending the conference this weekend with transportation means confirmed.

◆ **SIEBA Plan Modification -**

Regulations have changed which would allow the option for employees to roll-over from year to year up to \$500 instead of losing it to the District. It can be configured to meet our plan but a decision will have to be made soon.

◆ MVP Medicare Advantage Rate Proposal

The Plan Year begins January 1. There are two options available to select from. Option I would remain the same as currently in effect with a rate increase and Option II would impact district a little less but would impact the retiree's out of pocket – perhaps significantly. The Board would like to proceed with Option I so it will be an item on the next agenda

◆ Cheerleading

Potential change in status – Competitive vs Traditional

Lifts & throws would fall under the competitive class and would require that the coach be certified. This class could also impact the district financially. A competitive class team must attend at least 2 and up to 12 competitions. However, there are two seasons which complicates matters.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

At 7:48pm a motion was made by Christopher Callas, seconded by Andrew Willard and carried 6-0 to enter executive session to discuss litigation, negotiations and student issue.

**ADJOURN EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

At 8:33pm a motion was made by Christopher Callas, seconded by Michael Lepak and carried 6-0 to adjourn executive session

**NEXT MEETING**

Thurs. November 20, 2014

7:00 pm -Regular Meeting

TAE Community Room

**ADJOURNMENT** – At 8:34pm a motion was made Joseph Sullivan, seconded by Andrew Willard and carried 6-0 to adjourn the meeting.

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Clerk