

**Board of Education  
Regular Meeting**

**Minutes January 17, 2018**

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

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

**MEMBERS PRESENT** Lisa Benedict, Harry Blish, Christopher Callas(7:07pm), Michael Lepak, Joseph Sullivan, Andrew Willard, Kristen Wolowitz

**MEMBERS ABSENT** all present

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Mary Beth Fiore, Martha Clark

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES**

**Agenda:**

A motion was made by Michael Lepak, seconded by Lisa Benedict and carried 6-0 to approve the agenda of the January 17, 2018 Board of Education Regular Meeting with additions of substitute and tutor appointments.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC AND STAFF**

Mary Beth Fiore - Superintendent ♦Governor's Budget reviewed and explained how the published run can be misunderstood

**PERSONNEL**

A motion was made Joseph Sullivan, seconded by Michael Lepak and carried 6-0 to approve the following consent personnel items F-1a and F-1c. Be it 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. Volunteers** -athletic – approved

The Board approved the following as a volunteer, to work with our athletic program for the 2017-18 school year:  
Wrestling: Mike Mawhir

**b. Substitutes** – approved

The Board approved the following substitute appointments for the 2017-18 school year

Substitute Teacher:

Alyssa Patchen

Substitute Support Staff:

Alyssa Patchen

**c. Detention Monitors, Tutors – home bound & before/after school at TAE** - approved

The Board approved the following as Before/Afterschool Tutors, Home Bound Tutors and Detention Monitors for the 2017-18 school year at Thomas Edison High School:

Brenda Baker	Tracey Hayes	Kirsten Southard-Twichell
Ellen Bankaitis	Kate Herzig	Chris Suwak
Pam Bement	Mike Larrabee	Jedidiah Twichell
Callie Black	Missy Lutz	Kevin Weber
Scott Cole	Bridgette Metzinger	Jennifer Woodworth
Randy Cornell	Allison Newkirk	Amy Williamson
Amber Dildine	James Nierstedt	Steven Winston
Tammy Farley	Shawn Nugent	
Katie Goetz	Patti Pautz	

**NEW BUSINESS**

**J-1 Resolution: Re: Engagement Letter – Costello, Cooney & Fearon, PLLC – NY44 - Litigation**

A motion was made by Andrew Willard, seconded by Christopher Callas and carried 7-0 to approve the following resolution relative to Costello, Cooney & Fearon, PLLC, and the NY44 Health Benefits Plan Trust:

*BOARD RESOLUTION*

*WHEREAS, The Elmira Heights Central School District is a member of the NY44 Health Benefits Plan Trust, having joined as of June 1, 2013; and*

*WHEREAS, Unfortunate disagreements have arisen between the District and the Trust; and*

*WHEREAS, The District has retained Costello, Cooney and Fearon, PLLC, to represent its interests regarding its membership in the Trust; and*

*WHEREAS, the Board recognizes that it may be necessary to commence litigation against the Trust to resolve the outstanding issues; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education:*

- (1) ratifies the Engagement Letter retaining Costello, Cooney & Fearon, PLLC, as counsel to the Elmira Heights Central School District for matters related to the its membership in the NY44 Health Benefits Plan Trust; and*
- (2) approves the commencement of litigation against the NY44 Health Benefits Plan Trust and any other parties necessary to such litigation; and*
- (3) authorizes Costello, Cooney & Fearon, PLLC, as counsel to the Board and District, to take all necessary action to protect the District's interests regarding its membership in the NY44 Health Benefits Plan Trust, including, but not limited to, the prosecution of litigation.*

DATED: January 17, 2018

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Clerk of the Board Elmira Heights Central School District

**CONSENT**

A motion was made by Lisa Benedict, seconded by Andrew Willard and carried 7-0 to approve the following consent agenda items K-1 through K3

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

The Board of Education approved the recommendations and funds to support placements for determinations made at the January 8, 9, 11, 12, 2018 CSE meetings.

**K-2 CPSE Recommendations and Funding - approved**

The Board of Education approved the recommendations and funds to support placements for determinations made at January 8, 2018 CPSE meetings.

**K-3 Donation – Box Tops for Education – \$63.20 – Middle School - materials & supplies- accepted**

The Board of Education accepted with thanks and appreciation a donation in the amount of \$63.20 from the Box Tops for Education Program, and any future donations received during the 2017-18 school year for the Cohen Middle School materials and supplies.

**NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday	February 7, 2018	7:00pm	Regular Board Meeting		Community Rm
Wednesday	February 21, 2018	7:00pm	Regular Board Meeting	(if needed)	Community Rm

**ADJOURNMENT** – At 7:17pm a motion was made by Joseph Sullivan, seconded by Michael Lepak and carried 7-0 to adjourn the meeting.

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Clerk