

**Board of Education  
Regular Meeting**

**Minutes August 26, 2020**

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

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

**MEMBERS PRESENT** Lisa Benedict, Harry Blish, Christopher Callas, John Cole, Michael Lepak, Joseph Sullivan, Andrew Willard,

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

**OTHERS PRESENT** Michael Gill, Martha Clark, Tom Boyanowski, Brandon Foley, Julie Lederman, Erin Furstoss

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES**

**Agenda:**

A motion was made by Lisa Benedict, seconded by Andrew Willard and carried 7-0 to approve the agenda for the August 26, 2020 Board of Education Meeting with additions under personnel.

**Minutes:**

August 12, 2020 Regular Meeting - A motion was made by Michael Lepak, seconded by Christopher Callas and carried 7-0 to approve the minutes of the August 12, 2020 Regular Meeting.

August 17, 2020 Special Meeting - A motion was made by Joseph Sullivan, seconded by Andrew Willard and carried 7-0 to approve the minutes of the August 17, 2020 Special Meeting.

August 21, 2020 Special Meeting - A motion was made by Michael Lepak, seconded by John Cole and carried 7-0 to approve the minutes of the August 21, 2020 Special Meeting.

**Order of Business:**

A motion was made by Lisa Benedict, seconded by Michael Lepak 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.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

At 7:02pm a motion was made by Christopher Callas, seconded by Andrew Willard and carried 7-0 to enter executive session to discuss personnel.

**ADJOURN EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

At 7:57pm a motion was made by Andrew Willard, seconded by Michael Lepak and carried 7-0 to adjourn executive session.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC AND STAFF**

Michael Gill - Superintendent ♦ Introduced new Middle School Principal, Brandon Foley ♦ Waiting for guidance on sports seasons, some sports can only practice. ♦ Mike Bennett, Athletic Director has been very active at meetings with NYSPHSAA ♦ Bill passed allowing reserve fund borrowing to pay for Covid19 expenses, must pay back 20%/year within 5 years ♦ Google classroom training began with teachers. ♦ CEP Program at Cohen, students will receive free meals, Edison does not qualify.

Principal Report – Tom Boyanowski, High School ♦ Continuing to get update on sports by Mike Bennett ♦ Students/Teachers/Parents will work harder this year than any other to make the year successful ♦ Summer School Graduation was held tonight, 2 students graduated..

Martha Clark – Business Manager ♦ Wrapping up Audit, field work was completed remotely last week ♦ Transparency report is a work in progress ♦ District office is busy registrations and boxes coming in from teacher's purchasing supplies

Other Staff

**PERSONNEL**

A motion was made by Joseph Sullivan, seconded by Christopher Callas and carried 7-0 to approve the following consent personnel item(s) with additions F-1a through F2f. 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 Resignations / Terminations / Retirements**

a. Custodian - resignation

Kevin Brown

The Board of Education accepted with thanks and appreciation for 15 years of service, the resignation for purposes of retirement of Kevin Brown as Custodian, effective September 18, 2020.

b. Teacher aide - resignation

Alison Capilli

The Board of Education accepted with thanks and appreciation for 2 years of service, the resignation of Alison Capilli as a Teacher Aide, effective September 2, 2020.

**F-2 Appointments**

- a&e. The Board of Education approved the following substitutes for the 2020-21 school year”
  - Substitute Teachers: Alison Capilli
  - Substitute Support Staff: Alison Capilli     Dusty Brooks     Brittany Hamilton\*     John Rader\*  
\*pending fingerprint clearance
  
- b. The Board approved the following probationary appointments:
  - Sheilia Silvernail
  - Tenure Area: Food Service Helper
  - Effective: September 1, 2020 (pending physical)
  - \*\*Probationary Period: September 1, 2020 thru August 31, 2021/Civil Service Regulations
  - Total Compensation per EHESSA Contract: \$12.60 per hour. (Step 1)
  
- c. The Board approved the following provisional appointment:
  - John Rader
  - Custodian – Provisional (due to non-binding eligible list)
  - Effective: September 18, 2020 (pending fingerprint clearance and physical)
  - Probationary Period: Future status of employment will be subject to civil service regulations and eligibility
  - Compensation per EHESSA Contract: \$22.11 per hour (off Step)
  
- d. The Board approved the following conditional appointment\*:
  - Carolyn Valpey
  - Tenure Area: Secondary Science (Chemistry/Physics)
  - Effective: September 1, 2020 (pending physical)
  - \*\*Probationary Period: four (4) years effective Sept 1, 2020 thru August 31, 2024
  - Certification Area: pending Chemistry 7-12 COVID Emergency certificate
  - Total Compensation per EHTA Contract: \$45,248.00 (Step 1 with 36 graduate hours)
  - \*As a condition of her appointment, Ms. Valpey must obtain certification in Chemistry prior to September 1, 2020 and additional certification in Physics, prior to August 1, 2024.
  
- f. The Board approved the following probationary appointment\*:
  - Katie Nicholson
  - Tenure Area: Teaching Assistant
  - Effective: September 1, 2020
  - \*\*Probationary Period: four (4) years effective Sept 1, 2020 thru August 31, 2024
  - Certification Area: Teaching Assistant, Emergency COVID expires 8/31/21
  - Total Compensation per EHESSA Contract: \$16.26 per hour (Step 1)

\*\*To the extent required by the applicable provisions of Education law §§2509, 2573, 3212 and 3014, in order to be granted tenure the classroom teacher or building principal shall have received composite or overall annual professional performance review ratings pursuant to Education law §3012-c and/or 3012d of either effective or highly effective in at least three (3) of the four (4) preceding years. If the classroom teacher or building principal receives an ineffective composite or overall rating in the final year of the probationary period he or she shall not be eligible for tenure at that time. For purposed of this subdivision, classroom teacher and building principal mean a classroom teacher or building principal as such terms are defined in Sections 30-2.2 and 30-3.2 of this part.

**FINANCIAL**

**G-1 Reports - acknowledged**

A motion was made by Andrew Willard, seconded by Michael Lepak and carried 7-0 to acknowledge the following consent financial report:

- a. Treasurer’s Report for June 2020 (REVISED)

**FACILITIES**

no report

**OLD BUSINESS**

no items

**NEW BUSINESS**

**CONSENT**

A motion was made by John Cole, seconded by Andrew Willard and carried 7-0 to approve the following consent agenda items K-1 through K-2

- K-1 The Board approved the revised 2020-21 School Calendar

K-2 The Board approved the recommendation to recognize Elmira Heights Project Graduation as a school-related group for the 2020-21 school year.

**AWARDS/HONORS/ACHIEVEMENT**

No items

**COMMUNICATIONS**

No items

**DISCUSSION**

- N-1 Reopening Update: ♦ Problem solving procedures, creating “cheat sheet” for parents/students to get ready for school. ♦ Fine tuning personnel and scheduling, bussing, counselors – tracking down family requests. ♦ State and County Health Departments have different interpretations on whether to require a negative covid test or doctor’s note for student/staff to return to school if sent home. There is no free covid testing site in our area. ♦ Staff trainings/planning for conference days is underway. BOCES App will screen employees daily with temperature and covid screening questions. ♦ Backpacks are allowed again. ♦ Deploying chrome book devices to students.
- N-2 Substitute Teacher Policy – change rate of pay to Step 1 for long term positions
- N-3 2020-2021 Code of Conduct – Tom and deans reviewed code of conduct and mostly had minor cosmetic/grammatical corrections, except one section regarding the age of the child is under review with legal.
- N-4 Borrowing for the 2020-21 purchase of busses – Tolling. Will wait to until September 4<sup>th</sup> to see if tolling expires.
- N-5 Revenue Anticipated Note – borrow money for cashflow for November and December.

**NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday	September 9, 2020	Regular Board Meeting	7:00pm	Community Rm
Wednesday	September 23, 2020	Regular Board Meeting (if needed)	7:00pm	Community Rm
Wednesday	October 7, 2020	Audit Committee/Regular Board Meeting	6:30pm	Community Rm
Wednesday	October 21, 2020	Regular Board Meeting	7:00pm	Community Rm

**ADJOURNMENT** – At 8:56pm a motion was made by Michael Lepak, seconded by Christopher Callas and carried 7-0 to adjourn the meeting.

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Clerk