

**Board of Education  
Regular Meeting**

**Minutes November 2, 2022**

**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 November 2, 2022 by Board President Joseph Sullivan followed by the pledge of allegiance.

**Members Present:** Jody Buckley, Christopher Callas, John Cole, Terry Day, Michael Lepak, Joseph Sullivan, Andrew Willard

**Member Absent:**

**Others Present:** Michael Gill, Martha Clark, Brandon Foley, John Hourihan (student)

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES**

**Agenda -**

A motion was made by Andrew Willard, seconded by Christopher Callas and carried 7-0 to approve the agenda **with additions** of the November 2, 2022 Board of Education Regular meeting.

**Minutes –**

A motion was made by Terrance Day, seconded John Cole and carried 7-0 to approve the minutes of the following Board of Education Meetings: October 5, 2022 Board of Education Regular Meeting

**Order of Business:**

A motion was made by Christopher Callas, 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.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC AND STAFF**

Michael Gill - Superintendent ♦ Annual NYSSBA Convention in Syracuse – had Keynote speaker Marlee Matlin discuss DEI-A (Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility), very inspiring. Next year’s is in Buffalo ♦ Budget process and procedures are underway ♦ Cash Project, approximately \$40,000 leftover from previous work looking at adding security to doors ♦ Discussion topics for next meeting will include busing quotes on transportation survey, DEI advisory policies, cheerleading competition, and athletic policy. ♦ FAFSA reps were here for Financial Aid night and the counselors have gone to TC3 for college visit.

Brandon Foley – Middle School Principal ♦ Returned from Louisville, KY for the RTI/MTSS SolutionTree conference with lots of ideas to incorporate some new support systems for students. ♦ Halloween dance was a great success; half of the student body was in attendance.

♦ *PowerPoint Presentation* on “Cohen Agricultural Center” (working title). The presentation gave a brief description of location for the building at Cohen, supplies needed, and a breakdown a prices. The Technology teacher, Stephen Edgerton, applied to Corning Incorporated Foundation and the district received a \$6,000 grant in support of an outdoor agricultural space that includes a greenhouse, compost area, and raised garden beds. The ongoing plan is to have the 7<sup>th</sup> grade classes maintain the “outdoor classroom” space.

Martha Clark – Business Manager ♦ Starting budget process, meeting with BOCES directors. ♦ Working through Federal Stimulus CARES Act final expenditure reporting ♦ Looking into digitizing more district records through OnBase provided by BOCES. ♦ Tech Dept is doing a website audit and taking inventory on technology in the district.

**Public Comments -** Board Member Christopher Callas gave praise for Cohen Elementary’s Halloween Parade last week as it was his first time attending. It was an awesome experience!

**PERSONNEL:**

A motion was made by John Cole, seconded by Terrance Day and carried 7-0 to approve the following recommended personnel items F-1a thru F-2a, 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**

The Board approved the following personnel. 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.

- a. The Board approved the following substitute(s) for the 2022-2023 school year:
 

Substitute Teacher:	Julia Balance	Heather Smith	
Substitute Support Staff:	Julia Balance	Heather Smith	Robert Champluvier

b. Coaches

The Board approved the following list of coaches for the 2022-23 school year pending all certification requirements.

<u>Coach</u>	<u>Sport</u>	<u>Level</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
Katelyn Warren	7th Grade Volleyball	1	1	\$ 2,285.50
Alyssa Covas	8th Grade Volleyball	1	1	\$ 2,285.50

c. The Board to approved the probationary appointment pending proof of physical:

Francesca Chappius

Teacher Aide (assigned to cafe)

Effective: November 3, 2022

Probationary Period: One (1) year effective November 3, 2022, thru November 2, 2023.

Total Compensation per EHESSA Contract: \$14.90/hour (Step 1)

**F-2 Resignations / Terminations / Retirements**

**Resignation**

a. Barbara Adam, Cleaner

The Board accepted the resignation of Barbara Adam as cleaner effective immediately. Ms. Adam's last day with the district was October 27, 2022.

**FINANCIAL**

**G-1 Reports - acknowledged**

A motion was made by Andrew Willard, seconded by Jody Buckley, and carried 7-0 to acknowledge the following consent financial reports G1a through G1f.

- a. Budget Status Report as of October 26, 2022
- b. Revenue Status Report as of October 26, 2022
- c. Budget Transfer Reports as of October 26, 2022
- d. Treasurer's Report for September 2022
- e. Claims Auditor Report for September 2022
- f. Extra Classroom Report for September 2022

**FACILITIES**

H-1 2022 Capital Outlay / Annual Project Update – nothing new.

H-2 2023 Capital Outlay Project – scheduling the contractor.

H-3 Capital Project 2021 / Energy Performance Contract (EPC) Update – Day is ready, just waiting for green light from state.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**J-1 E-cigarettes and Vaping litigation – approved**

A motion was made by Andrew Willard, seconded by Terrance Day and carried 7-0 to approve the following resolution authorizing commencement of e-cigarettes and vaping litigation and appoint the law firms of Ferrara Fiorenza PC and the Frantz Law Group, APLC to provide legal services in connection with pursuing claims against Juul Labs, Inc.

WHEREAS, the use and abuse of e-cigarettes and vaping devices has increased dramatically among high school and middle school students in recent years, leading to significant risks of addiction, potentially life threatening respiratory ailments, and other health consequences; and

WHEREAS, the use of e-cigarettes and vapid devices by students has caused the Elmira Heights Central School District (the "School District") to incur costs in the form of staff time, disciplinary proceedings, and other costs, with the expectation that these costs will only increase unless and until student use of these devices decreases; and

WHEREAS, the School District's Board of Education (the "Board") has been invited to join a nation-wide lawsuit by school districts against Juul Labs, Inc. the largest seller of e- cigarettes in the United States and other parties responsible for the production, marketing, sale and distribution of e-cigarettes and vaping devices; and

WHEREAS, the Board wishes to join this lawsuit to discourage the proliferation of e- cigarettes, end the marketing of e-cigarettes to children, and seek compensation for harm caused to the District due to e-cigarette use.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby resolves:

- 1. To appoint the law firms of Ferrara Fiorenza PC, and the Frantz Law Group, APLC and approve the agreement to provide legal services in connection with pursuing claims for damages against Juul Labs, Inc. and others consistent with the recitals above;
- 2. To authorize the Superintendent to take all steps necessary for the District to become an active co-plaintiff to pending litigation filed on behalf of school districts Nationwide by the Frantz Law Group against Juul Labs, Inc. and others.

**CONSENT**

A motion was made by John Cole, seconded by Christopher Callas and carried 7-0 to approve the following consent agenda items K-1 through K-3

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

The Board of Education approved the recommendations and funds to support placements for determinations made at the October 3, 7, 11, 14, 17, 18, 19, 25, 26, and 31, 2022, CSE/504 meetings and the funds to support such recommendations.

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

The Board of Education approved the student placement determinations from the October 7, and 24, 2022 CPSE meeting(s) and the funds to support such recommendations.

**K-3 Donation – Corning Incorporated Foundation - accepted**

The Board accepted with thanks and appreciation, the grant donation of \$6,000 to Elmira Heights School District from the Corning Incorporated Foundation, in support of designing an outdoor agricultural space that includes a greenhouse, compost area, and raised garden beds.

**K-3 Budget Timetable – approved**

The Board approved the 2023-24 School Budget Timetable.

**NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday	November 16, 2022	Regular BOE Meeting (if needed)	7:00 pm	Community Room
Wednesday	December 7, 2022	Regular BOE Meeting	7:00 pm	Community Room

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

At 7:49pm a motion was made by Michael Lepak, seconded by Christopher Callas, and carried 7-0 to enter executive session to discuss personnel and litigation.

**ADJOURN EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

At 8:52pm a motion was made by Andrew Willard, seconded by Jody Buckley, and carried 7-0 to adjourn executive session.

**ADJOURNMENT** – At 8:53 pm motion was made by Terrance Day, seconded by Christopher Callas, and carried 7-0 to adjourn the meeting.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk

# Cohen Agriculture Center

## Let's Build It Together!



# How'd this idea come about?

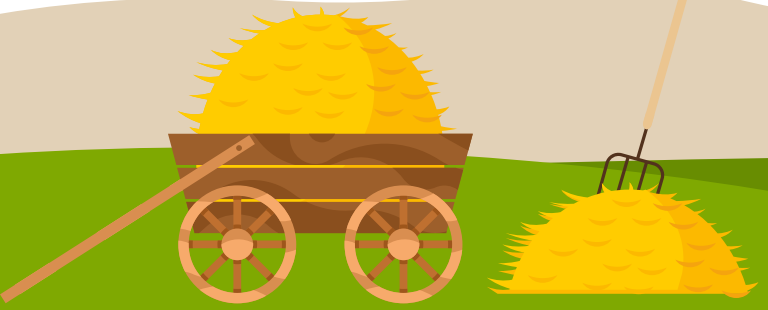
1. 3rd Year of SCEP
2. Student Voice
3. CMS Vision



# Where's the Money?!



\$6,000



# Where ?



# What? High Tunnel

\$4,000





# What else? (\$5,367.38)

- Garden Star Dual Wheelbarrow
- Deluxe Watering Cans
- Outdoor Deck Box Bench with Seat Cushion and Storage 60-Gallon
- Premium Heavy Duty Weed Barrier Fabric
- 12 Piece Aluminum Garden Tools Set
- Handicap accessible raised garden bed



The remaining \$600 of the requested \$6,000.00 will be used for seeds, vegetable plants, and other materials and supplies to get this high tunnel up and running for years to come.

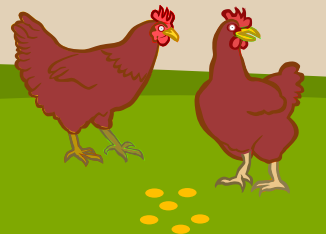
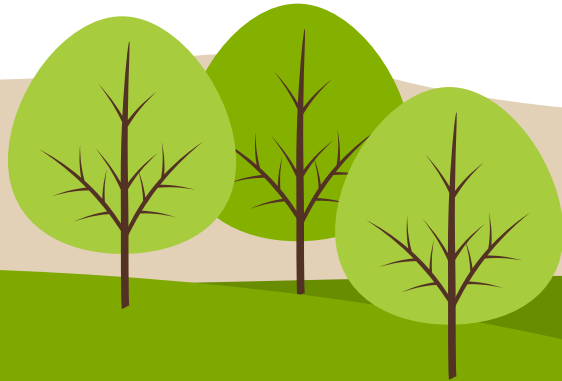
As a new 7th grade technology program, the district will put in place a budget for sustaining the high tunnel through the technology education budget.



# When?

## The work has already begun!

- Clearing of Agriculture Center
- Trails cleaned up
- Bigger branches kept to line trails
- Outdoor Classroom
- Green Team
- **Goal for Build: Spring of 2023.**



# Things Already In Place



## Raised Beds



## Bird & Bat Houses to come



## Plans for Security Cameras





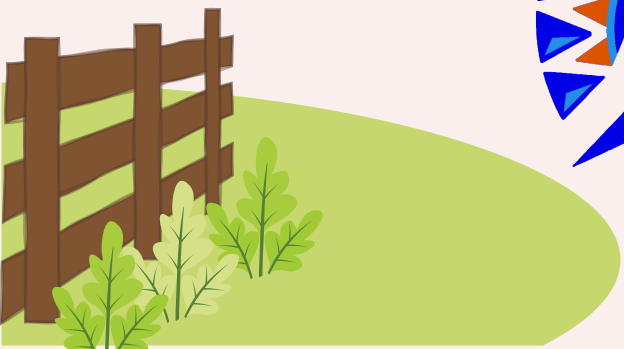








It will take a  
Community to  
Reach New  
Agricultural  
Heights!



# Thank You!

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