

**Minutes Annual Meeting**  
**ELMIRA HEIGHTS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**Tuesday, May 20, 2025**  
**Elmira Heights, New York**

**Call To Order**

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 am by Chairman Richard (Todd) VanHouten

**Legal Notice, Petitions Filed, Qualification of Voters**

District Clerk Erin Furstoss:

1. Reported that the legal notice for the annual meeting was published as required on:  
 April 4, April 24, May 4, May 13, 2025
2. Reported no petitions filed for one (1) Board of Education seats:  
 (1) one seat for 4 year term to commence July 1, 2025
3. Read qualifications of voters as follows:
  - must be a United States Citizen
  - must be 18 years old on or before May 20, 2025
  - must be a resident of the Elmira Heights Central School District for 30 days prior to May 20, 2025
  - must not otherwise be disqualified to vote by law

**Poll Workers**

Chairman Richard (Todd) VanHouten reported that the Board of Education on April 23, 2025 appointed the Chairman, Chief Inspector, Inspector and Clerks to work during voting hours.

**Voting**

A motion was made by Connie Warren, seconded by Kris Manns, passing unanimously to proceed with the voting from 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M.

At this point the Chairman directed the Inspectors to inspect the ballot box and declared the voting to begin.

**Polls Closed (8:00pm)**

At 8:00pm, Chairman Richard (Todd) VanHouten, declared voting closed, at which time the Inspectors were directed to tally the votes and file the certificate of tellers.

**Results Announced 227 Total Number of Voters**

**PROPOSITION NO. 1 [Budget 2025-2026 \$29,978,969] Passed**

RESOLVED, that the proposed budget of \$29,978,969 of the Elmira Heights Central School District for 2025-26 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 2.0% which does not exceed the statutory limit of 6.76% for this school fiscal year and therefore does not exceed the state tax cap and must be approved by a simple majority, more than fifty percent of the qualified voters present and voting.

<b>164</b>	Number of votes cast in favor	<b>Passed</b>
60	Number of votes cast against	
<u>3</u>	Blank/void votes	
227	Total	

**PROPOSITION NO. 2 [School Buses - 2] Passed**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Elmira Heights Central School District is hereby authorized to undertake the acquisition of two (2) 64-passenger diesel school buses, at an estimated maximum aggregate cost of \$333,367, less trade-in value, if any, and that such cost, or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be raised by the levy of a tax to be collected in annual installments; and, in anticipation of such tax, debt obligations of the school district as may be necessary not to exceed \$333,367 shall be issued, or the School District may enter into an installment purchase contract if the Board of Education determines that it is in the best interest of the School District to finance the purchase in that method.

<b>171</b>	Number of votes cast in favor	<b>Passed</b>
52	Number of votes cast against	
<u>4</u>	Blank/void votes	
227	Total	

**PROPOSITION NO. 3 [Supplemental Financing] Passed**

RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Elmira Heights Central School District is hereby authorized to undertake certain additional capital improvements consisting of the replacement of windows and doors at Cohen Elementary/Middle School and windows, doors and roof replacement and resurfacing of exterior insulation finish system at Thomas A. Edison High School, as an expansion to the capital

improvements previously authorized by the voters of the Elmira Heights Central School District on March 12, 2024, at an estimated maximum aggregate additional cost of \$4,210,100; and to appropriate and expend from the existing capital reserve fund \$520,000 for the overall project costs, and that the balance of such additional cost, or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be raised by the levy of a tax to be collected in annual installments, with such tax to be offset by state aid available therefor; and, in anticipation of such tax, debt obligations of the school district as may be necessary not to exceed \$3,690,100 shall be issued.

**162** Number of votes cast in favor **Passed**  
 62 Number of votes cast against  
3 Blank/void votes  
 227 Total

**PROPOSITION NO. 4 [Technology Reserve] Passed**

RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Elmira Heights Central School District is hereby authorized to establish a Capital Reserve Fund pursuant to Section 3651(1) of the Education Law (to be known as the "Technology Capital Reserve Fund") with the purpose of such fund being technology related purchases and initiatives that ensures the District to keep pace with technological advancements and support effective instruction; in a total amount not to exceed \$2,000,000, for a probable term of ten years, but such fund shall continue in existence until liquidated in accordance with the Education Law or until the funds are exhausted, and the sources from which the funds shall be obtained for such Reserve are (i) amounts from budgetary appropriations from time to time, and (ii) unappropriated fund balance made available by the Board of Education from time to time, with and initial transfer from unappropriated fund balance made during the 2024-2025 school year, and (iii) New York State Aid received and made available by the Board of Education from time to time, all as permitted by law.

**166** Number of votes cast in favor **Passed**  
 57 Number of votes cast against  
4 Blank/void votes  
 227 Total

**PROPOSITION NO. 5 [Transportation Reserve] Passed**

RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Elmira Heights Central School District is hereby authorized to establish a Capital Reserve Fund pursuant to Section 3651(1) of the Education Law (to be known as the "Transportation Capital Reserve Fund") with the purpose of such fund being the purchase of school buses, similar student transportation vehicles, and equipment needed for the use in the transportation program of the District, in a total amount not to exceed \$2,000,000, for a probable term of ten years, but such fund shall continue in existence until liquidated in accordance with the Education Law or until the funds are exhausted, and the sources from which the funds shall be obtained for such Reserve are (i) amounts from budgetary appropriations from time to time, and (ii) unappropriated fund balance made available by the Board of Education from time to time, with and initial transfer from unappropriated fund balance made during the 2024-2025 school year, and (iii) New York State Aid received and made available by the Board of Education from time to time, all as permitted by law.

**156** Number of votes cast in favor **Passed**  
 68 Number of votes cast against  
3 Blank/void votes  
 227 Total

**PROPOSITION NO. 6 [Maintenance Equipment Reserve] Passed**

RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Elmira Heights Central School District is hereby authorized to establish a Capital Reserve Fund pursuant to Section 3651(1) of the Education Law (to be known as the "Maintenance Equipment Capital Reserve Fund") with the purpose of such fund being for the purchase of maintenance vehicles and other equipment for the use in the operations and maintenance program of the District, in a total amount not to exceed \$1,000,000, for a probable term of ten years, but such fund shall continue in existence until liquidated in accordance with the Education Law or until the funds are exhausted, and the sources from which the funds shall be obtained for such Reserve are (i) amounts from budgetary appropriations from time to time, and (ii) unappropriated fund balance made available by the Board of Education from time to time, with and initial transfer from unappropriated fund balance made during the 2024-2025 school year, and (iii) New York State Aid received and made available by the Board of Education from time to time, all as permitted by law.

**131** Number of votes cast in favor **Passed**  
 93 Number of votes cast against  
3 Blank/void votes  
 227 Total

**ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBER** [(1) one seat for 4 year term to commence July 1, 2025]

53 Joseph Sullivan **Winner**  
 78 write-ins – (3 Zach Pugh), (2 Margaret Smith), (1 Lisa Rice), (1 Cassandra Simpson), (1 Terry Day), (1 Jason Brewster), (3 Chris Callas), (1 Damien Smith),(1 John Frisk), (1 Carol Sullivan), ( 1 Richard Weed), (2 Adam Kamas), (2 Patrick Parks), (1 Bobbi Pylkas), (1 Kathleen VonBevern), (1 Nicholas Defasi), (1 Mathew Harmer), (1 Michael Coghlan)  
 149 Blank or void votes

**Meeting Adjourned** by Chairman Richard (Todd) VanHouten at 9:29 p.m.

District Clerk \_\_\_\_\_