

**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 Lisa Benedict, Harry Blish, William Brewer, Christopher Callas(arrived 7:07), Joseph Sullivan, Andrew Willard

MEMBERS ABSENT Harvey Harris

OTHERS PRESENT Mary Beth Fiore, Debra Palmer, Dawn Hanrahan, Andy Lutz, Carol Cady, Barb Day, Carol Sullivan, Alison Capilli, Christian Pelcher, YNN reporter, Colleen Dengler

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES

Agenda:

A motion was made by Lisa Benedict seconded by Andrew Willard and carried 5-0 to approve the agenda of the April 8, 2013 Board of Education Meeting.

Minutes:

March 25, 2013 Regular Meeting- A motion was made by William Brewer seconded by Joseph Sullivan and carried 5-0 to approve the minutes of the March 25, 2013 Board of Education Regular Meeting.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC AND STAFF

Mary Beth Fiore - Superintendent ♦Everyone is energized after a well-deserved break ♦Entering testing mode – there is no opt out option ♦Common Core - moving in right direction – getting plans in place

Andy Lutz –Elementary School Principal ♦New York State testing starts next week ♦Thursday Mr Lutz will attend a reducing school violence seminar ♦Vitamin L Assembly – thanks to Lori Andreine this program promotes doing the right thing and feeling good about yourself

Dawn Hanrahan - Middle School Principal/CSE/CPSE Chair ♦Finished Marzano March Madness - time consuming process but conversations were very worthwhile - learned a great deal about the teachers and where they feel they are at professionally ♦NYS testing – planning a test pep rally and assembly to motivate students ♦CSE meetings all this week

Debra Palmer – Business Manager ♦Risk Management Report – 1 open claim ♦Health Insurance- enrollment going well - lots of questions –meeting on 4/29 with representative for active employees and retirees to present the NY44 ♦Audit Firms –have had discussions with some firms that have called in response to RFP ♦Internal Audit - function not necessary if under 1500 students - will have more information at the audit committee meeting

PERSONNEL

A motion was made by Lisa Benedict seconded by William Brewer and carried 6-0 to approve the following recommended personnel item F-1a 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 2012-13 school - approved

Substitute Teachers

Christos Argyriou

Frank Ellis

Charlene Kociuba

Substitute Support Staff

Frank Ellis

Charlene Kociuba

FINANCIAL

No Items

FACILITIES

No Report

NEW BUSINESS

MVP Medicare Advantage Plans - approved

A motion was made by Joseph Sullivan, seconded by Andrew Willard and carried 6-0 to approve the health insurance plan design and rates for the Retirees MVP Medicare Advantage Plans (GoldAnywhere-Upstate NY & VT) and (USA Care - all other regions)

Poll Workers

A motion was made by William Brewer, seconded by Lisa Benedict and carried 6-0 to approve the following poll workers for the May 21, 2013 Annual Meeting/Budget Vote:

Chairman: Kenneth Erickson **Chief Inspectors –** Jan Clemens **Inspectors / Clerks-** Susan Blish, Linda Buice, Bonnie Campbell, , Millie Cheplick, Gail Legge, Kathy Meriwether, Mary Moore, Liz O'Brien, Marian Oldroyd, Barbara Shaw , Lola Sherman, Maria Turic,

CONSENT

A motion was made by Andrew Willard, seconded by Joseph Sullivan and carried 6-0 to approve the following consent agenda items K-1 through K-2.

K-1 Donation up to \$450.00 - PFO - accepted

Accepted with thanks and appreciation, a donation of up to \$450.00 from Elmira Heights PFO for the purpose of providing transportation for the third grade to take a field trip to the Rockwell Museum

K-2 Donation up to \$150.00 - PFO - accepted

Accepted with thanks and appreciation, a donation of up to \$150.00 from Elmira Heights PFO for the purpose of providing transportation for the fifth grade to go on a Mark Twain field trip.

COMMUNICATIONS

- ♦ No Items

DISCUSSION

- ♦ **Budget Development** - presentation by Superintendent Fiore & Business Manager Deb Palmer

Some hard decisions must be made tonight –the final budget will be presented at the April 17 meeting, with adoption at the April 22 meeting. TRS and ERS (retirement systems) Leveling - Downfall of this option to reduce expenses for 2013-14 is that the District is only pushing off the debt and having to pay later with a locked-in high interest rate. Presentation represented a 7 % increase on the tax levy, which leaves a \$466,047 gap. Board feels that all positions and programs on the cut list are crucial to the education of our students. They requested that a budget be prepared with a 9% increase on the tax levy, not considering the Retirement Leveling option, and use reserves for the balance.

- ♦ **BOCES Administrative Budget**

BOCES Annual Meeting is tomorrow – Superintendent Fiore will attend as the Board's representative

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 8:29pm a motion was made by Christopher Callas, seconded by Andrew Willard and carried 6-0 to enter executive session to discuss personnel.

ADJOURN EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 9:05pm a motion was made by Andrew Willard, seconded by Christopher Callas and carried 6-0 to adjourn executive session

NEXT MEETING

Tue	April 9, 2013	7:00 pm	-BOCES Annual Meeting	Coopers Plains
Wed	April 17, 2013	7:00 pm	-BOCES Administrative Vote & Final Budget Review	TAE Community Rm
Mon	April 22, 2013	6:30 pm	-Audit Committee Meeting	TAE Community Rm
Mon	April 22, 2013	7:00 pm	-Regular Meeting – Budget Adoption	TAE Community Rm

ADJOURNMENT – At 9:07pm a motion was made Joseph Sullivan, seconded by William Brewer and carried 6-0 to adjourn the meeting.

Clerk