

**Board of Education
Regular Meeting**

Minutes March 24, 2021

**ELMIRA HEIGHTS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ELMIRA HEIGHTS, NEW YORK
Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and State executive order
this meeting was held in person and livestreamed for public view**

CALL TO ORDER: President Harry Blish called the Board of Education Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. to begin with executive session.

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

MEMBERS ABSENT Lisa Benedict

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES

Agenda:

A motion was made by Andrew Willard, seconded by John Cole, and carried 6-0 to approve the agenda **with addition** of the March 24, 2021 Board of Education Regular Meeting.

Minutes:

A motion was made by Joseph Sullivan, seconded by John Cole and carried 6-0 to approve the minutes of the following meetings:
March 3, 2021 Board of Education Regular Meeting

Order of Business:

A motion was made by Joseph Sullivan, seconded by Christopher Callas and carried 6-0 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 6:35pm a motion was made by Michael Lepak, seconded by Andrew Willard, and carried 6-0 to enter executive session to discuss personnel, negotiations and legal issue.

ADJOURN EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 7:21pm a motion was made by Andrew Willard, seconded by Michael Lepak, and carried 6-0 to adjourn executive session followed by the pledge of allegiance.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC AND STAFF

Michael Gill - Superintendent ♦ Showed picture of classroom set up in anticipation of the change from 6ft to 3ft rule for social distancing. No official guidance yet, but we will be ready ♦ \$2.1M from Albany will have strings attached, still no guidance on when to expect funds ♦ New Director of Student Services, Megan Zoerb spent the day with the District, meet & greet with staff, especially Special Education teachers ♦ Pursuing grants – “ConnectEd”, IT dept applied for 100 internet spaces. ♦ Demonstrated Electrostatic spray mister for outdoor cleaning of playgrounds and bleachers, plan to reopen playgrounds.

Principal Report – Tom Boyanowski/High School ♦ No update on reopening guidelines, trying to accommodate bringing students back four days a week ♦ Project Graduation is meeting to get ideas for end of the year. It's been a challenge on what to plan for. Meeting with County Exec. Chris Moss on what can be done.

Brandon Foley/Middle School ♦ Review of SCEP plan ♦ CMS participating in March Madness Spirit Weeks, winner gets pizza party. ♦ Trying to keep things fun with students, surprise cookie and drink cart.

Martha Clark – Business Manager ♦ Continue on Budget planning, grant writing, fund balance, and other school reporting.

Public/Staff – Betsy Hauptman/Physical Education Teacher at Cohen Middle School ♦ After 30 years, she plans to retire in June, wanted to thank the Board of Education for all that they do.

PERSONNEL

A motion was made by Andrew Willard, seconded by Joseph Sullivan, and carried 6-0 to approve consent personnel item(s) F-1a through F-2b with **corrections made on addition**. 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 Change in Employment Status - approved

- a. Thomas Davidson - permanent
Bus Driver

The Board approved the permanent appointment of Thomas Davidson as bus driver, effective April 14, 2021. Mr. Davidson has successfully completed his probationary period in accordance with current Civil Service Regulations.

F-2 Appointments**a. Probationary – approved**

Tina Todzia
Licensed Practical Nurse
Effective: April 12, 2021
Probationary Period: April 12, 2021 through April 11, 2022/Civil Service Regulations
Compensation per EHESSA Contract: \$15.85 per hour (Step 1)

b. Coaches – approved

The Board approved the following list of coaches for the 2020-21 school year pending all certification requirements:

<u>Sport</u>	<u>Coach</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
Modified Football	Jared Slaven	\$ 1,397.40
Modified Football	Eugene Barber	\$ 879.48
Modified Cross Country	Scott Becker	\$ 961.74

FINANCIAL**G-1 Reports – acknowledged**

A motion was made by Andrew Willard, seconded by John Cole and carried 6-0 to acknowledge the following consent financial reports:

- a. Treasurer's Report for January 2021 (REVISED)

FACILITIES**H-1 2021 Capital Outlay/Annual Project Update**

Mr. Gill showed a presentation with photos of targeted areas for the project.

H-2 Capital Project 2021

Mr. Gill showed presentation with photos of targeted areas for the project. Scope is due in July, vote in December 2021.

OLD BUSINESS

No items

NEW BUSINESS**J-1 Litigation against NY44 – tabled**

A motion was made by Andrew Willard, seconded by Joseph Sullivan, and discussion ensued. Andrew Willard withdrew his motion, Joseph Sullivan withdrew his second, and a motion was made by John Cole, seconded by Joseph Sullivan, and carried 6-0 to "table" the recommendation to authorize Costello, Cooney & Fearon, PLLC, to file a Notice of Appeal of each and every part of the Court's February 26, 2021 decision in the litigation against NY44 Health Benefits Plan Trust, until more information has been obtained.

J-2 Construction Manager Agreement – Welliver - approved

A motion was made by Michael Lepak, seconded by Andrew Willard, and carried 6-0 to approve the Standard Form of Agreement between Owner and Construction Manager as Advisor from Welliver for pre-referendum services not to exceed \$39,000.00.

J-3 Excellus Rates 2021-2022 – approved

A motion was made by John Cole, seconded by Michael Lepak, and carried 6-0 to approve the Excellus BC/BS rates for the (current) Signature Copay 1 plan and (new) Signature Deductible 3 plan options for the contract period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022.

CONSENT

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

K-1 New Policy - approved

The Board approved the following new policy as presented at the March 3, 2021 Board of Education meeting:
5633 Gender Neutral Single Occupancy Bathrooms

K-2 Donation – Elmira Heights PFO – accepted

The Board accepted the donation from Elmira Heights PFO of up to \$1200.00 for the purchase of laminate.

AWARDS/HONORS/ACHIEVEMENT

L-1 NYSIR Underwriting Survey – NYSIR came for safety walk-through inspection of both Cohen and TAE buildings, after review there were no recommendations/corrections needed. Thank you to Todd VanHouten and his maintenance staff for being so diligent.

COMMUNICATIONS

No items

DISCUSSION

N-1 Budget Development 2021-2022

Updates were presented with questions and answers

N-2 Proposed 2021-2022 School Calendar

Follows GSTBOCES calendar except for Superintendent Conference days scheduled before Labor Day, like we did this year.

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday	March 31, 2021	Regular Board Meeting	7:00pm	Community Rm
Wednesday	April 14, 2021	Regular Board Meeting	7:00pm	Community Rm

ADJOURNMENT – At 9:06pm a motion was made by Christopher Callas, seconded by Michael Lepak and carried 6-0 to adjourn the meeting.

Clerk