

**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 7:02 p.m. on January 4, 2023 by Board President Joseph Sullivan followed by the pledge of allegiance.

**Members Present:** Jody Buckley, Christopher Callas (7:04), John Cole, Terry Day, Michael Lepak, Joseph Sullivan, Andrew Willard

**Member Absent:**

**Others Present:** Michael Gill, Martha Clark, Jessica Green, Tom Boyanowski

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES**

**Agenda -**

A motion was made by John Cole, seconded by Andrew Willard and carried 6-0 to approve the agenda of the January 4, 2023 Board of Education Regular meeting.

**Minutes –**

A motion was made by Jody Buckley, seconded Terrance Day and carried 6-0 to approve the minutes of the following Board of Education Meetings:

<u>December 7, 2022</u>	Board of Education Regular Meeting
<u>December 21, 2022</u>	Board of Education Regular Meeting

**Order of Business:**

A motion was made by Jody Buckley, seconded by Terrance Day 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.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC AND STAFF**

Michael Gill - Superintendent ♦ Happy New Year! ♦ Yates County Canine Group came in for training to run collaborative safety drills as a part of the ongoing work to ensure the safest environment for our students and staff. ♦ The Josh Palmer Fund Clarion Classic presented a \$1,000 check during the final day of the basketball tournament to 12-year-old Landan Marsh’s family. Landan is a Cohen Middle School student battling Hodgkin’s lymphoma. ♦ Next meeting, we’ll have Youth and Government presentation from the Middle School field trip attendees.

Tom Boyanowski – High School Principal ♦ Preparing for next year already. ♦ Seniors are going to see CAM “Awesome” at the “L” in Breesport today. This event was completely arranged and set up by New Visions students. ♦ Regents coming up at the end of the month and winter sports are in full swing.

Martha Clark – Business Manager ♦ Budget process, prepping for next year. Met with Perry & Carroll about insurance projections. Budget Labs with staff are coming up. ♦ State reporting are in full swing. ♦ Next meeting will be presenting a Request for Proposals (RFP) for audit services

Public Comments ♦ Congratulations to the Edison High School graduate, Hailey Fierro, who became the first female officer with Elmira Heights Police Department.

**PERSONNEL:**

A motion was made by Jody Buckley, seconded by Andrew Willard and carried 7-0 to approve the following recommended personnel items F-1a thru F-4c, 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 Change in Employment Status .**

- a. The Board approved the permanent appointment of the following Support Staff employees after having successfully completed their probationary periods in accordance with current Civil Service Regulations:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Amy McNeely	Cook – 7 hours	January 6, 2023
Kathryn Shilling	Food Service Helper	January 6, 2023
Cheryl Hall	Food Service Helper	February 3, 2023
Cecil Jayne	Cleaner	February 3, 2023
Courtney Grant	Food Service Helper	February 15, 2023

**F-2 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:	Kaili Evans
Substitute Support Staff:	Kaili Evans

- b. The Board approved the following probationary appointments:

Echo Beach (provisional now reachable)

Administrative Aide (Civil Service Commission established list December 27, 2022)

Effective: December 27, 2022

Probationary Period: December 27, 2022 through December 26, 2023/Civil Service Regulations

Compensation per Exempt Agreement: no change

Andrea Renshaw (provisional now reachable)

Secretary I (Civil Service Commission established list December 27, 2022)

Effective: December 27, 2022

Probationary Period: December 27, 2022 through December 26, 2023/Civil Service Regulations

Compensation per EHESSA Contract: no change

- c. Coaching Position

The Board approved the following coach for the 2022-23 school year:

<u>Coach</u>	<u>Sport</u>	<u>Level</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
Bobby Roe	Modified Wrestling	1	1	\$ 2,285.50

**ADDITIONS:**

**F-3 Resignations / Terminations / Retirements**

**Resignation**

- a. Joseph Fatta, Bus Driver

The Board accepted the resignation of Joseph Fatta as bus driver immediately due to medical reasons. Mr. Fatta's last day with the district was December 20, 2022.

- b. Julie Reese, Cleaner

The Board accepted the resignation of Julie Reese as cleaner pending appointment below as probationary bus driver effective January 5, 2023.

- c. Andrew Kraeger, Drama Co-Advisor

The Board accepted the resignation of Andrew Kraeger as Drama Co-Advisor, stipend will be prorated to \$127.46 to reflect one (1) month worked.

**F-4 Additional Appointments**

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

Substitute Teacher: Connor Thorpe  
 Substitute Support Staff: Connor Thorpe

- b. The Board approved the following additional probationary appointments:

Julie Reese

Bus Driver

Effective: January 5, 2023

Probationary Period: January 5, 2023 through January 4, 2024/Civil Service Regulations

Compensation per EHESSA Contract: \$20.45 per hour (Step 6)

Robert French

Cleaner

Effective: January 5, 2023

Probationary Period: January 5, 2023 through January 4, 2024/Civil Service Regulations

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

- a. Extracurricular Position

Recommendation to approve the following extracurricular advisor for the 2022-23 school year:

<u>Advisor</u>	<u>Extracurricular</u>	<u>Level</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
Carolyn Valpey	Drama (co-advisor)	1	1	\$ 1,147.15

**FINANCIAL**

**G-1 Reports** - acknowledged

A motion was made by Terrance Day, seconded by John Cole, and carried 7-0 to acknowledge the following consent financial reports G1a through G1f.

- a. Budget Status Report as of December 28, 2022
- b. Revenue Status Report as of December 28, 2022
- c. Budget Transfer Report as of December 28, 2022 (no report)
- d. Treasurer's Reports for November 2022
- e. Claims Auditor Report for November 2022
- f. Extra Classroom Report for November 2022

#### **FACILITIES**

H-1 2022 Capital Outlay / Annual Project Update – waiting on storage area room doors. Still looking to add new security cameras to new areas with remaining contingency monies.

H-2 2023 Capital Outlay Project – New card reader installed at Elementary school. Basketball hoop arms were installed EARLY over winter break!

H-3 Capital Project 2021 / Energy Performance Contract (EPC) Update – Tentative schedule: Track work and boilers starting in the spring. Out to bid January 17 with Bid opening February 12. If SED approval is received, award contracts at March 1 meeting. EPC Financing through lease program for a period of 15 years at anticipated rate between 4-5%– RFP responses due January 12. Hope to award at February meeting.

#### **CONSENT**

A motion was made by John Cole, seconded by Michael Lepak and carried 7-0 to approve the following consent agenda items **K-1, K-2, K-4 through K7, with the removal of consent item K-3 for action taken separately.**

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

The Board of Education approved the student placement determinations from the December 13, 19, 20, and 21, 2022, CSE/504 meeting(s) 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 December 12 and 19, 2022, CPSE meeting(s) and the funds to support such recommendations.

##### **K-3 Policy – revised – approved, 6 aye – 1 nay (Terrance Day).**

A motion was made by John Cole, seconded by Michael Lepak and carried 6 aye – 1 nay (Day) to approve the following revised Board of Education Policies as presented at the December 7, 2022 Board of Education meeting:

7421 Athletic Placement Process revise/replace

##### **K-4 Donation – Community Foundation – accepted**

The Board of Education accepted, with thanks and appreciation, the grant donation of \$300.00 from the Community Foundation of Elmira-Corning and the Finger Lakes, Inc. to be used for transportation to STEM Day at Corning Community College.

##### **K-5 Donation – Tops in Education - accepted**

The Board of Education accepted with thanks and appreciation, donations from the Tops in Education Program, received during the 2022-23 school year to be used for materials and supplies as specified by each donation for Thomas Edison High School, or Cohen Middle School, or Cohen Elementary School.

##### **K-6 Donation – Todd Kerbien - accepted**

The Board of Education accepted with thanks and appreciation, from Todd Kerbien and the Elmira Heights Legion Post 154, a donation of one 10' American Flag valued at approximately \$60.00 to be on display year-round at Edison High School.

##### **K-7 Technology Plan 2022-2025 - approved**

The Board of Education approved the Technology Plan 2022-2025 as presented at the December 7, 2022 Board of Education meeting.

**COMMUNICATION**

**M-1 High School Schedule Survey Data Review**

High School Principal Tom Boyanowski introduced Jessica Green (BOCES), Staff Development Coordinator. He gave a brief history of the high school schedule before, during, after covid closures, and reviewed the results of the scheduling survey that was given to students, parents, and staff. The results were clear that continuing in block schedule (similar to Horseheads and Elmira City), was favored by all groups. After much discussion, the plan for 2023-24 school year is to continue with block schedule at the high school.

**DISCUSSION**

**N-1 2023-24 Budget**

Superintendent Gill reviewed a slide discussing the priorities surrounding budget planning process for 23-24 school year.

**N-2 Transportation**

Superintendent Gill reviewed a slide discussing the future of electrifying pupil transportation, equity, and with the transportation arrangement with Horseheads sunsetting, the district is planning to have an aidable transportation study done to help plan necessary next steps.

**N-3 NYSDOH/NYSED communications; recent recommendations and other updates**

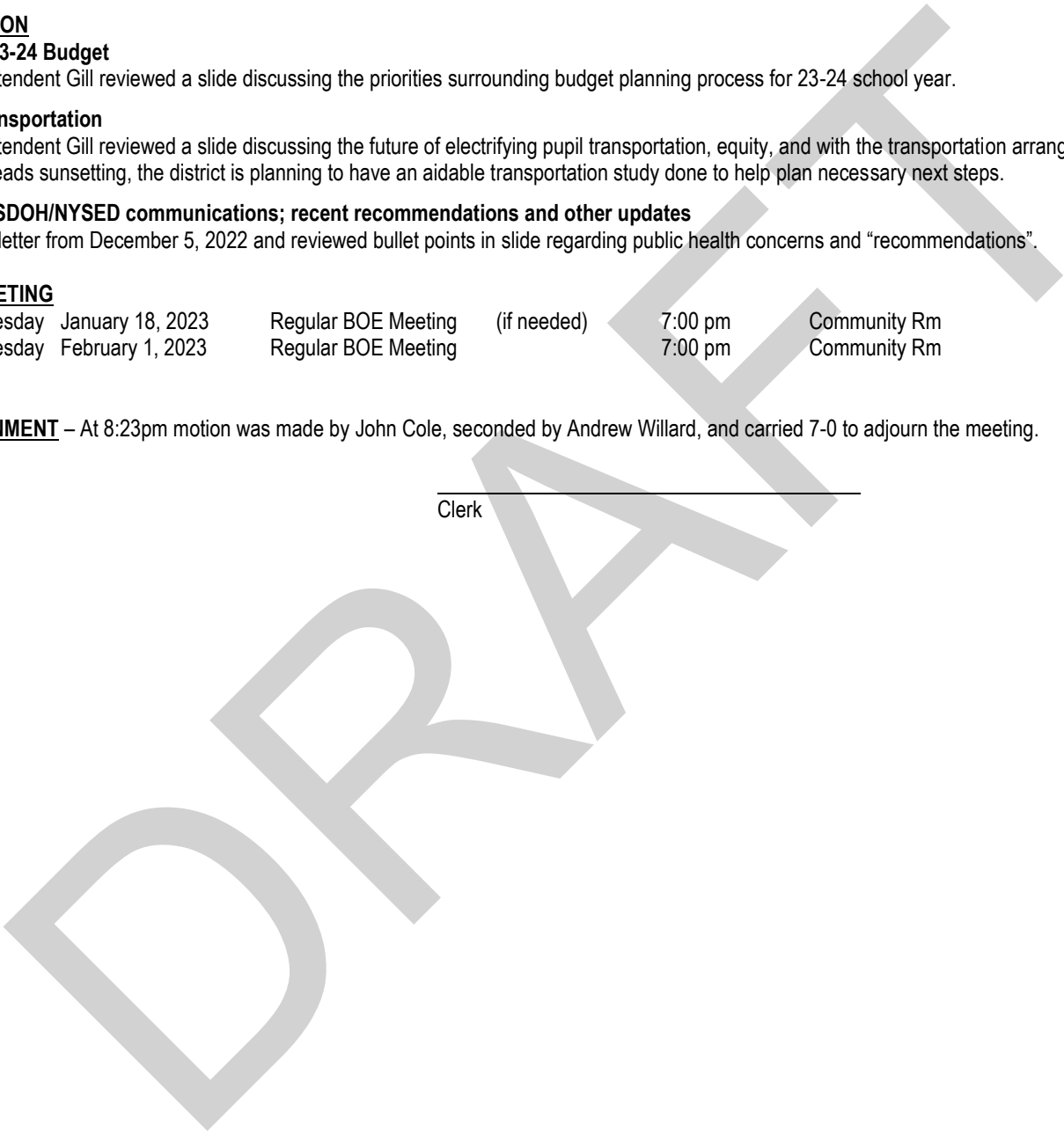
Shared letter from December 5, 2022 and reviewed bullet points in slide regarding public health concerns and "recommendations".

**NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday	January 18, 2023	Regular BOE Meeting	(if needed)	7:00 pm	Community Rm
Wednesday	February 1, 2023	Regular BOE Meeting		7:00 pm	Community Rm

**ADJOURNMENT** – At 8:23pm motion was made by John Cole, seconded by Andrew Willard, and carried 7-0 to adjourn the meeting.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk



## Staff Comments from Scheduling Survey Results

### Positives for Block

- Fewer classes to focus on and less homework
- More time in class to ask questions
- Fewer Regents exams at one time
- Ability to take more electives
- Ability to take more credits/ACE
- Repeat a class in the same year vs waiting until next year
- Graduating early is an option
- Advanced regents option for lower level students especially in math
- Fresh start halfway through the year
- Not having the stress of the change going to traditional
- Option for skinnyes (full year courses)
- MOST PARENTS & STUDENTS seem to prefer the way it is/ remain in block
- Can earn more credits
- A benefit for students: Opportunities to move ahead. Another positive is if they have a bad semester, they can redo it.

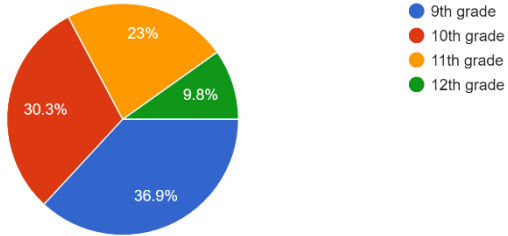
### Negatives for Block

- Longer periods to maintain focus
- A lot of material to process
- Missing time/attendance hurts more
- Harder on special ed students (focus, switching resource/support)
- Extended gap between core classes (math)
- Harder to get through the curriculum. (per teacher comments)
- Lack of training for teachers on how to use time
- Too many study halls & students are not utilizing study hall time when they have it
- Attendance concerns- when you miss a day or extended time periods it is difficult to make up work (Parent and teacher concern/ not student concern)
- Need more class options
- TEACHERS- way less seat time overall (not enough time to get through curriculum)- This is problematic/ especially for Regents classes.
- Change of schedules for Special Ed. providers leads to loss of continuity in caseload.
- Need to look at athletic requirements/ contract requirements
- Difference between first and second semesters regarding days in school and how 2nd semester is automatically shorter.

## Student Scheduling Survey Results

What grade level are you in?

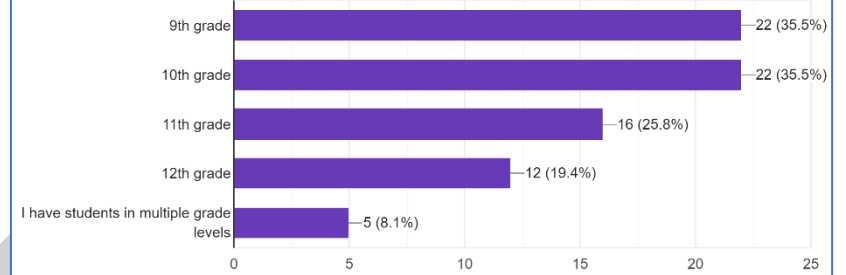
122 responses



## Parent Scheduling Survey Results

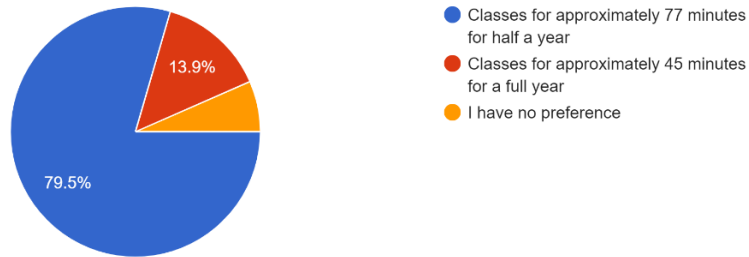
What grade level is your student(s)? Please check all that apply

62 responses



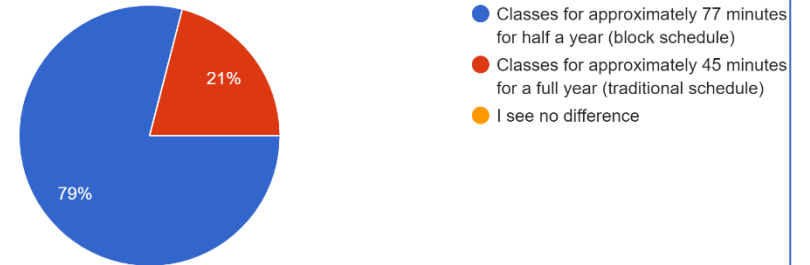
Which do you prefer?

122 responses



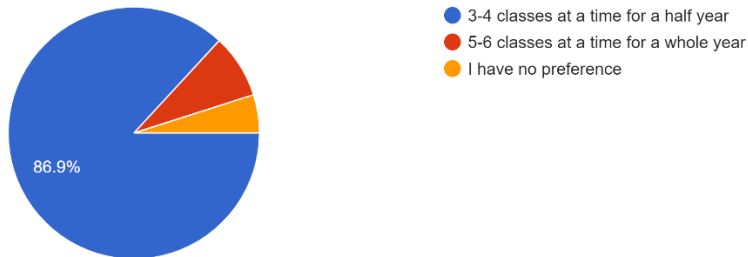
Which type of schedule do you feel best benefits your student?

62 responses



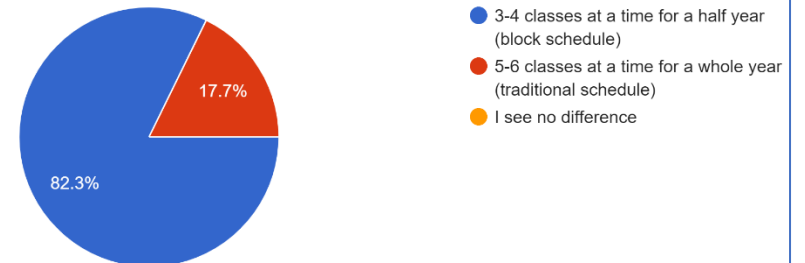
Which do you prefer?

122 responses

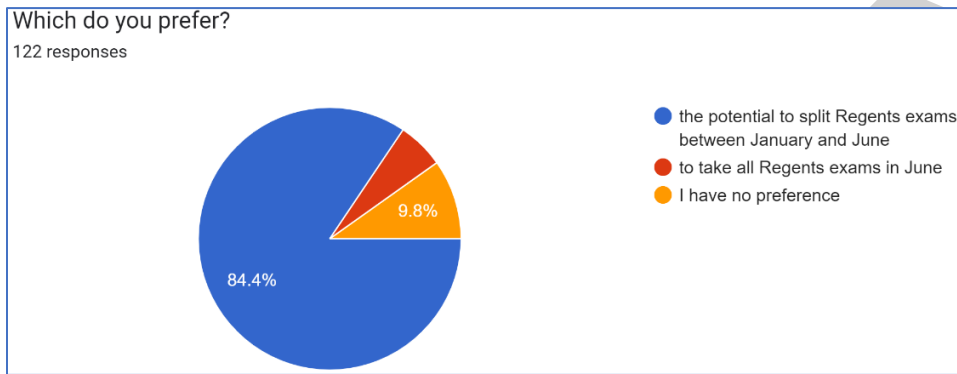
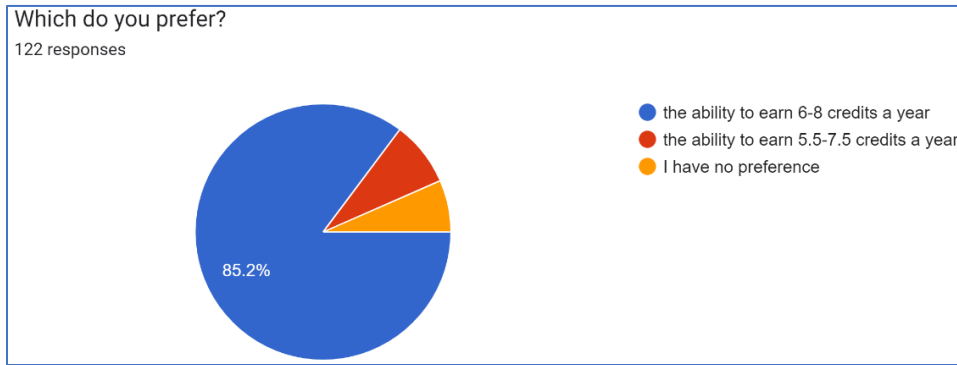


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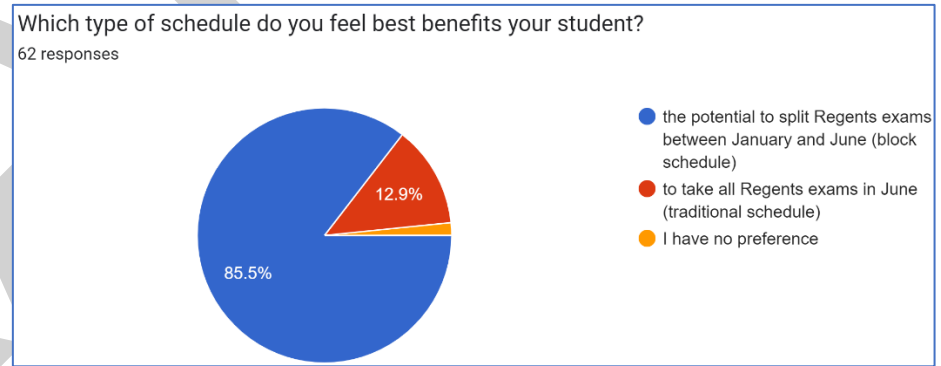
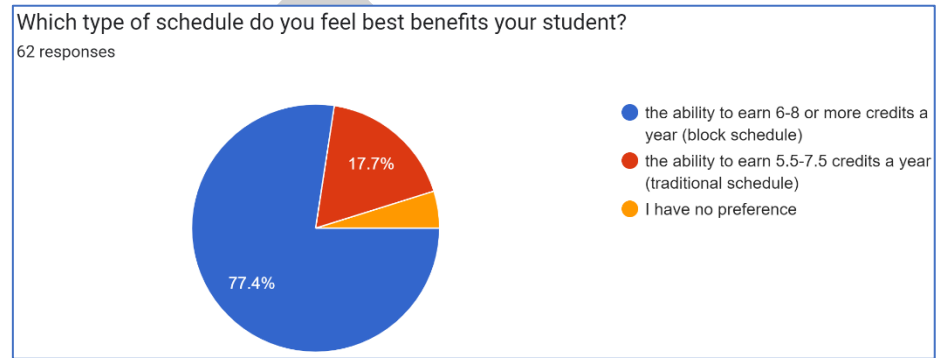
62 responses



### Student Scheduling Survey Results



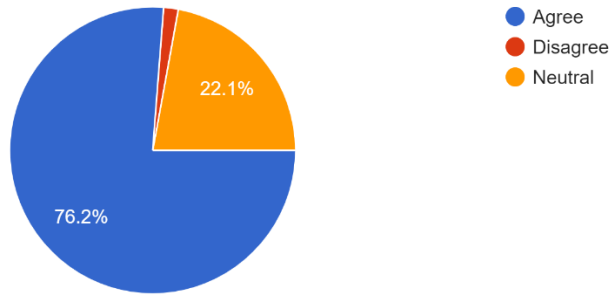
### Parent Scheduling Survey Results



## Student Scheduling Survey Results

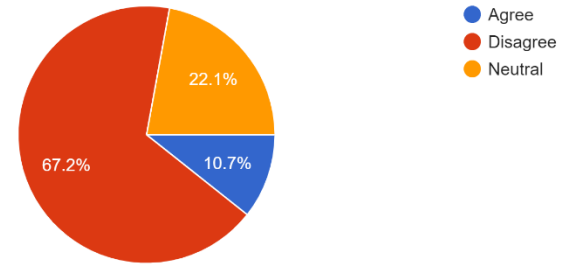
Having the ability to earn more credits is important to me.

122 responses



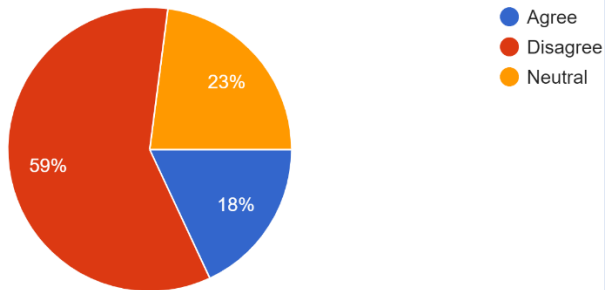
The current block makes it difficult for me to understand large quantities of content in one class period

122 responses



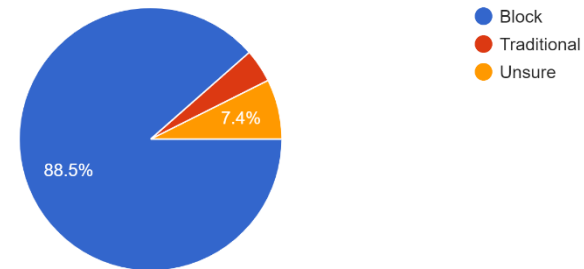
I have too many study halls in my schedule

122 responses



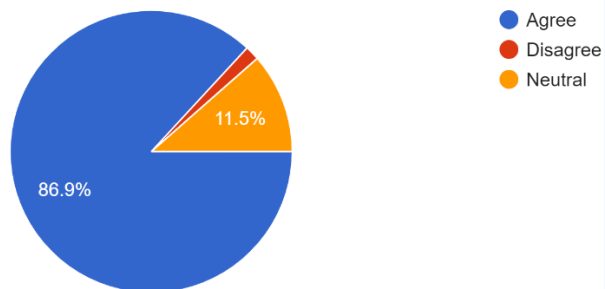
Do you think you would keep up with homework better in a block (3-4 classes at a time) or a traditional (5-6 classes at a time) schedule?

122 responses



I am able to keep up with my assignments in a block schedule.

122 responses





# Elmira Heights Central School District

## Board of Education Meeting

### January 4, 2023



# BOE Discussion Topics - N

January 4, 2023

# N-1 Budget

This will be a standing discussion topic from here on out through the Budget Vote in May.

- This is just the start of our presentations and discussions on Budget Prep
  - We are awaiting... State of the State 1/10... Jan 17th Aid Runs (tbd)
- Last Budget process Priority:
  - reduction of reliance on Appropriated Fund Balance was one of our priorities.
- Other Priorities:
  - Maintaining current academic and extra-curricular programming, incl. Staffing levels.
    - Addressing academic challenges - COVID impact continues.
  - Addressing communications for security and safety: radios
  - Equipment replacement cycle.
  - Vehicle replacement cycle.



# N-2 Transportation

- NYS Governor's march towards the electrification of pupil transportation.
  - This is moving forward - pragmatic assessment, how would we do it?
    - Buses - Charging - Finances
    - Hurdle for Elmira Heights CSD: Storage and Maintenance.
- EHCSD Transportation Arrangement w/Horseheads - *Sunsetting*.
  - Our status:
    - We own the buses
    - Drivers are our employees
    - Contract maintenance, parts, storage, as well as office and training space with Horseheads CSD.
- Transportation Study - Proposal anticipated by week's end.
  - A light of sunshine - aidable transportation assessment for safety??

# N-3 NYSED/NYSDOH Updates

- Joint Letter Dec. 5, 2022. This was a joint message encouraging good healthy practices like we do in any other year around the flu, but also state masks are “recommended” when in public indoor situations.
    - Recommendation vs. Requirements: Standard Position - *we do what is required.*
  - Recent Concern over Public Health and Health Planning Council Agenda(DEC)
    - This meeting is a regular monthly meeting.
    - Regulations have been continuously in place since the end of the emergency in 2021.
    - Per attorneys, “This is just a standard renewal of an authority of the Commissioner.”
    - Though not “NEW”, is seen as a concern for members of our community. We will monitor closely.
    - *Vaccine Mandate Concern NOTE: No traction + not looking like it will get it.*
    - Best advocacy on that issue is through local reps in Albany.
- 