

ELWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Elwood, New York

MINUTES

REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING -- BOARD OF EDUCATION
November 10, 2005

A. CALL TO ORDER 7:10 p.m.

Present	Michael Kaszubski	President
	Joseph Fusaro	Vice President
	Dina Annunziata	Member
	Julie Badlato	Member
	Dan Ciccone	Member
Staff	Dr. William J. Swart	Superintendent
	Carl Fraser	Superintendent/Business

B. Mr. Ciccone moved and Mr. Fusaro seconded that the Board go into Executive Session to discuss legal and personnel matters.
The motion carried unanimously.

C. At 8:11 p.m. Mr. Ciccone moved and Mr. Fusaro seconded to adjourn Executive Session and to continue the Regular Business Meeting.
The motion carried unanimously.

D. CALL TO ORDER – District Clerk 8:15 p.m.

Present	Michael Kaszubski	President
	Joseph Fusaro	Vice President
	Dina Annunziata	Member
	Julie Badlato	Member
	Dan Ciccone	Member
Staff	Dr. William J. Swart	Superintendent
	Carl Fraser	Superintendent/Business
	Robert Annucci	Assistant Superintendent/Human Resources
	John Hogan	Assistant Superintendent/Curriculum
	David Cenerelli	Director/Special Education
	Carlene Granieri	District Clerk

E. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Board President

F. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S) (TAB L)

Mr. Fusaro moved and Mr. Ciccone seconded that the Board approve the minutes of the Regular Business Meeting of October 20, 2005.
The motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Badlato moved and Mr. Kaszubski seconded that the Board approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of October 27, 2005.
The motion carried unanimously.

G. REPORT FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS – Dr. William J. Swart
Congratulations to the Girls' Varsity Volleyball Team on winning the Suffolk Championship and Good Luck in their future matches.

Last Tuesday, Nov. 8, was Superintendent's Conference Day for staff members. It was well received. Dr. Scott Howard from "Battelle for Children" gave a presentation on Value Added Assessment. The session included how we can better use data to help pinpoint student weaknesses and then modify instruction to improve teaching and learning.

There was also a session led by our teachers on curriculum articulation and the development of curriculum guides.

Director of Technology, Mr. Tranchino, provided additional information and training for the faculty on the use of the internet for instructional purposes.

He commented on the most recent addition of *Elwood Highlights*. The headlines read: "Technology Initiative Takes Off". As part of the Board's Three-Year Technology Plan on Instructional Technology, we were able to place 200 new computers in the classrooms this fall. Phase II of the Plan includes additional teacher training and the use of technology in the classroom. (He thanked the Board for approving and financially supporting the 3-Year Plan).

Dr. Swart also commented on the *Elwood Highlights* headline "Elwood Cited Among Best in the Nation". As published in Newsweek magazine, Elwood-John Glenn High School was ranked as one of the top performing high schools in the U.S. for Advanced Placement Exams.

Another article cited in *Highlights* was the "Enhanced Mentoring Program Announced by the District". The Board has provided funds to enhance our current Mentoring Program. More experienced teachers are shepherding, instructing and mentoring our newer teachers. It is an effective program, which will have a great impact and be productive for the District.

The Board will hold a Round Table discussion with the Council of Elwood Administrators on Nov. 17 in the High School Library at 7:30 p.m. He encouraged all to attend.

Happy Thanksgiving.

Student Liaison – Vicki Cangero gave the following report:

The Girls Varsity Volleyball Team won the Class II Suffolk County Championship. They play the team from Cold Spring Harbor this Friday at St. Joseph's at 3 p.m. for the Long Island Championship.

The Natural Helpers Weekend was a success. They had guest speakers, they learned a lot and most importantly they learned how to help their fellow students.

Competition Night has been changed to Nov. 15. She encouraged 8th Grade students and their parents to attend.

The Holiday Food Drive ends on Nov. 22. All food items will be sent to the Helping Hands Mission. The Penny Wars will begin on Nov. 14.

The party for the Head Start Program has been changed from Dec. 1 to Dec. 7.

The National Honor Society Induction has been changed to Jan. 19.

The Student Council Teacher of the Month Recognition Award went to 4 special teachers: Mr. Cusano, Mr. Maue, Mrs. Guttilla, and Ms. Valentine. The teachers helped the students with their class floats, helping with organization, and helped make Homecoming such a wonderful experience.

- H. **COMMENDATIONS** – The following students were honored and presented with Certificates of Achievement by Mr. Mulieri and Dr. Swart:

National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists: Michael Manas, David Sau and Ming-Jie Wang

AP Scholar with Distinction: Ming-Jie Wang

AP Scholars with Honor: Lynn Cohen, Erik Hyman, Michael Manas, Laura McDermott, David Sau, Shur Singh and Daniel Son

AP Scholars: Michael Carlucci, Emily Del Giorno, Lauren Del Giorno, Benjamin Fishman, Jason Isaacs, Monica Lee, Tara Linitz and Meagan McAdam

All State Musicians: Brian Cangemi, Lisa Derr, Erik Hymann and Stephanie Hyon.

- I. **RESIDENTS' REMARKS** – 8:31 – 8:45 p.m.

- J. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS** -- (No Recommended Items)

- K. **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

(TAB M)

1. The Board acknowledged receipt for audit of the Treasurer's Report for the month ended September 30, 2005.
2. The Board acknowledged receipt for audit of the Revenue Report for the month ended October 31, 2005.
3. The Board acknowledged receipt for audit of the Extra Classroom Fund Reports (High School and Middle School) for the quarter ended September 30, 2005.

- L. **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- a. RFP – Legal Services

(TAB N)

Mr. Fusaro stated for the record that he has had a business relationship With some of the firms listed in the RFP.

- b. Proposed 2006/2007 School Calendar

(TAB O)

The next school year will have 184 days (the same as our current year). The only proposed change is to add a district-wide Conference Day on March 16. Dr. Swart has had several requests (during his Open House with parents of Middle and High School students) to have a Meet the Teachers/Conference Day in late winter or early spring.

Dr. Swart will discuss the option of evening hours with the teachers.

November 7 will be the first Conference Day.

The Friday of the Memorial Day school holiday (May 25) was discussed. At present the calendar conforms to the BOCES schedule and is consistent with other districts. If the Board wants to change it to either the December or April break, it can be reviewed and discussed at the December 8 Regular Business Meeting.

The Board asked to be aware of scheduling any school events on religious holidays.

2. **ACTION ITEMS**

- a. Mr. Kaszubski moved and Mr. Fusaro seconded that the Board the approve personnel items:

(TAB P)

Resignations: Demitra Haji-Georgi

Food Service Worker

Appointments: Lori Raspler

Food Service Worker

Other:

-- Emergency appointments and reappointments

-- Co-Curricular appoints for Middle School musical

- Staff for After School Foreign Language Program
 - Stipend for mentors
 - Coaches: JV Girls Basketball and Girls Varsity Track
 - Addendum to Schedule of Substitute Teachers/Nurses for 2005/06 school year
- The motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Annunziata moved and Mr. Fusaro seconded that the Board approve the agreed-upon annual payment of \$10,500 (\$7,000 equity adjustment, \$3,500 doctoral stipend) to the Superintendent who is opting out of the health insurance program. (p-8 h.)
The motion carried unanimously.

- b. Mrs. Annunziata moved and Mr. Fusaro seconded that the Board approve the Committee on Special Education’s recommendations for students classifications/ placements and/or discontinuance of services meetings held on October 14, 29, 26 and November 2
- c. **and** that the Board approve the Committee on Preschool Special Education’s recommendations for students’ classifications/placements and/or discontinuance of services for meetings held on October 20.
The motion carried unanimously.
- d. Mr. Fusaro moved and Mrs. Badlato seconded that the Board approve the use of **(TAB Q)** four classrooms and supportive services by the Western Suffolk BOCES Alternate Learning Center Program for the period September 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006 as follows:

<u>Location of Classroom</u>	<u>Rental Fee</u>	<u>Supportive Services Fee</u>
Elwood Middle School	\$9,000	\$22,000
John Glenn High School	\$3,000	\$11,000

The motion carried unanimously.

- e. Mr. Ciccone moved and Mr. Kaszubski seconded that the Board approve **(TAB R)** transportation contracts for the 2005-2006 school year.
The motion carried unanimously.
- f. Mr. Fusaro moved and Mrs. Badlato seconded that the Board approve the **(TAB S)** School Budget Calendar for 2005/2006.
The motion carried unanimously.
- g. Mr. Ciccone moved and Mr. Kaszubski seconded that the Board approve the **(TAB T)** amended charge (page 2, bullet one – “Both individuals”) to the Citizens Finance /Budget Advisory Committee and the list of members for the 2005-2006 school year.
The motion carried unanimously.
- h. Mr. Kaszubski moved and Mr. Ciccone seconded that the Board accept the **(TAB U)** donation of approximately 100 yards of clean fill and two truckloads of compost from Mr. Joseph Fusaro.
The motion failed, 2 ayes (Mr. Ciccone and Mr. Kaszubski), 2 nays (Mrs. Annunziata and Mrs. Badlato), and 1 abstention (Mr. Fusaro).
- i. Mr. Fusaro moved and Mrs. Annunziata seconded that the Board approve the stipulation of settlement (\$130,000) with Acme Bus Corp.
The motion carried unanimously.

M. ITEMS NOT LISTED ON AGENDA

The Board requested that Mr. Fraser forward to them the results of a transportation meeting with a district resident.

N. COMMUNICATIONS -- (None)

O. RESIDENTS' REMARKS – 9:14 p.m.

P. EXECUTIVE SESSION -- held at 7:00 p.m. to discuss legal matters.

Q. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Fusaro moved and Mrs. Annunziata seconded that the Board adjourn the meeting at 9:16 p.m.

The motion carried unanimously.

Happy Thanksgiving to all!

Respectfully submitted,

Carlene Granieri
District Clerk