

ELWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Elwood, New York

REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING -- BOARD OF EDUCATION

December 16, 2004
Elwood Middle School

CALL TO ORDER - Deputy District Clerk – 6:35 p.m.

Mr. Kaszubski moved and Mr. Ciccone seconded that the Board go into executive session. The motion carried unanimously.

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

At 6:35 p.m. Mr. Ciccone moved and Mrs. Badlato seconded that the Board go into executive session to discuss personnel matters. The motion carried unanimously (5-0).

Mr. Ciccone moved and Mrs. Badlato seconded that the Board end executive session and return to the regular meeting at 8:00 p.m. The motion carried unanimously (5-0).

A. CALL TO ORDER – District Clerk 8:06 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	Assistant Superintendent/Business
	Robert Annucci	Assistant Superintendent/Human Resources
	John Hogan	Assistant Superintendent/Curriculum
	David Cenerelli	Director/Special Education
	Carlene Granieri	District Clerk

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Board President

The High School Vocal Ensemble, conducted by Mrs. Cindy Corso, sang holiday songs.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S)

(TAB L)

Mr. Fusaro moved and Mr. Ciccone seconded that the Board approve the revised minutes (page 4) of the Regular Business Meeting of November 18, 2004. The motion carried unanimously.

D. REPORT FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS – Dr. William J. Swart

Dr. Swart requested that Student Liaison Brooke Kluepfel give a report. Brooke reported: The mike-a-thon event raised \$700 in 10 minutes and the proceeds went to the Helping Hands Mission located in Huntington.

On Saturday, December 18th the “Hope For A Cure” fundraiser benefiting research for Parkinson’s disease, will be held from 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. at the corner of Rockrose and Greenvale in East Northport. Alumnus Matthew DePace is the event planner.

The students are looking at sponsoring a correspondence program with the military serving in Iraq; it will be called “My Soldiers.”

Dr. Swart reported:

- * Two Work Sessions will be held, one on January 6 and the other on February 3 at 7:30 p.m. in the High School Library. This setting is listener friendly and the library is a more cordial setting. District personnel and non-instructional staff will attend.
- * On January 13 the Regular Business Meeting will be held.
- * At the February 10 Meeting the District's Strategic Plan for K-12 curriculum articulation will be presented. Dr. Swart hopes the Board will review and support his recommendations.
- * At the January Meeting Heather Adams will give an overview of the November Community Connect Survey. Over 850 Elwood residents responded. Hopefully, this data will provide vital information and help the Board establish long-range objectives and create a Strategic Planning Council.
- * In February, Dr. Swart will provide a vision statement.
- * Last week Dr. Swart met the members of the Elwood Tax Payers Association. He found them to be an energetic and sincere group. He thanked them for their help in learning the history and culture of this fine organization.
- * Dr. Swart met with Senator Carl Marcellino who gave him an overview on school funding. As a result of the C.F.E. decision, Senator Marcellino informed Dr. Swart that the state will have to find \$15 billion to maintain school funding.
- * It will be a difficult budget year. It is highly probable the best schools in Long Island will not see an increase in State Aid and quite possibly will see a reduction for the 2005-06 school year.
- * He wished all a Happy Chanukah, Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year. Next week his wife will be in the District. He thanked everyone for their wonderful and warm reception.

Mr. Kaszubski reminded all present that it is never too soon to contact our legislators re State Aid. He stated we have a tough fight ahead of us and the more voices heard, the more it will benefit the School District.

E. COMMENDATIONS – Tonight we honored participants from Elwood-John H. Glenn High School in the 2004 Young Professionals Chamber of Commerce Business Leadership Competition: Evan Gray, Gabriela Baiter (1st place winner), Christina Aegerter (1st place Winner), Jacqueline Volpicella, Mark Fazio (2nd place winner), Kellie Dougherty, Deirdre Kelleher, Whitney Blair, and Takiesha Meringola. Ms. Linda Mitchell from the Huntington Chamber of Commerce presented certificates to the above mentioned and also thanked Gary Ramonetti and Karen Craig. Dr. Swart thanked Ms. Mitchell and the Huntington Chamber of Commerce for their efforts and for hosting an award ceremony on Dec. 1.

F. RESIDENTS' REMARKS – 8:42 p.m. – 8:59 p.m.

G. UNFINISHED BUSINESS -- (No Recommended Items)

H. FINANCIAL MATTERS **(TAB M)**

1. The Board acknowledged receipt for audit of the Treasurer's Report for the month ended October 31, 2004.
2. The Board acknowledged receipt for audit of the Revenue Report for the month ended November 30, 2004.

I. NEW BUSINESS (This has been moved to the early part of the Meeting)

1. DISCUSSION ITEMS

a. Boyd fire hydrant

The Capital Project indicated a fire hydrant be placed at the eastern exposure close to the front door. The Board asked why the hydrant was not installed.

Mr. Fraser gave the following history:

The fire hydrant was to be installed free of charge from the Greenlawn Water District (GWD), if an easement was built and a possible water line installed. The fire hydrant was pulled off of the Capital Plan in anticipation of it being free of charge. The GWD had the deal on the table 2½ years ago. The Board (2½ years ago) was not comfortable with how

the easement would affect the property rights and impact the neighboring areas. The offer with the GWD fell through.

The Board members asked the following:

If the Greenlawn Fire Department could help facilitate the installation.

Can we hold off to the January Meeting in the hopes of contacting the GWD to see if they will erect an easement.

When can it be installed, will the ground be frozen if we wait until after the January Meeting, or do we wait until March.

Will the driveway have to be torn up and will we lose parking spaces.

Mr. Fraser responded that the work can be done over the Christmas vacation, the ground will not be frozen, and it will not impact the driveway or parking spaces.

Dr. Swart cited that an easement takes time to approve. Dr. Swart and the Board agreed that the lack of a second fire hydrant is a safety issue. The cost (\$35,700) is part of the Capital Project and it will be reimbursed 73% from the state. He noted this is an Action Item on tonight's agenda.

b. Dates for January retreat

Dr. Saracino will return from East Meadow and will be available to moderate the retreat. The Board will meet with him on January 27 from 4:30 –10:00 p.m. If needed, they can possibly reconvene on Friday afternoon. The Board asked for clarification of what will be discussed at the retreat, will it be formal, or informal, what will the structure be. They wanted specificity, brainstorming sessions, better understanding of dialogue and finally, how can they accomplish all of this in 6 hours. Dr. Swart asked Mr. Kaszubski to prepare an agenda and to set District Objectives. Dr. Swart noted that Commissioner Mills wanted School Districts to communicate to the community what the Boards' objectives are, and what is their vision or goal. He was surprised at not having a set of objectives in place for the year. He stated the retreat will be a difficult process, and they may need to meet a second time to resolve what they intend to accomplish.

2. ACTION ITEMS

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

(TAB N)

<u>Resignation:</u>	<i>Matthew McKeever</i>	<i>Maintenance Mechanic II</i>
<u>Tenure:</u>	<i>Christopher Brown</i>	<i>Assistant Principal</i>
	<i>Anita Hall</i>	<i>Foreign Language Teacher</i>
	<i>Joseph Steimel</i>	<i>Assistant Principal</i>
<u>Appointments:</u>	<i>Erin Cassino</i>	<i>Reg. Sub. Spanish Teacher</i>
	<i>Linda Harris</i>	<i>Part-time Custodial Worker I</i>
	<i>Jean Palumbo</i>	<i>Part-time Paraprofessional</i>
	<i>Donald Rohrssen</i>	<i>Maintenance Mechanic II</i>
	<i>Denise Vigilo</i>	<i>Part-time Account Clerk</i>
<u>Addendum:</u>	<i>Patricia Buckley</i>	<i>Part-time Senior Clerk Typist</i>

Other:

- *Emergency appointments and reappointments*
- *Leave of absence for Foreign Language teacher*
- *Appointment of musical sets director for high school musical*
- *Appointments of part-time, temporary inventory clerks*
- *Addendum to Schedule of Substitute Teachers/Nurses*

The motion carried unanimously.

(Congratulations to Chris Brown, Anita Hall and Joseph Steimel on receiving tenure).

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 for meetings held on November 3, 9 and 17, 2004.

The motion carried unanimously.

- c. Mr. Fusaro moved and Mrs. Annunziata seconded 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 November 9 and 23, 2004.
The motion carried unanimously.
- d. Mr. Ciccone moved and Mrs. Badlato seconded that the Board approve the corrected December edition of *Elwood Education Highlights*. **(TAB O)**
The motion carried unanimously.
- e. Mrs. Annunziata moved and Mrs. Badlato seconded that the Board approve tuition agreement with Variety Child Learning Center for two Special Education students for the period September 8, 2004 through June 24, 2005. **(TAB P)**
The motion carried unanimously.
- f. Mr. Ciccone moved and Mrs. Badlato seconded that the Board approve a health service contract for a student attending private/parochial school:
Deer Park UFSD *1 student* *\$541.24*
The motion carried unanimously.
- g. Mr. Ciccone moved and Mr. Fusaro seconded that the Board approve the following change orders for Heating and Piping Specialties: **(TAB Q)**
MECH-1 for work at the Middle School in the debit amount of \$8,562.93
MECH-2 for work at Harley Avenue School in the credit amount of \$7,500.00
- h. **table** the following change orders for M.H. Kane: **(TAB R)**
GC-8 for work at Boyd Intermediate School in the debit amount of \$5,766.61
GC-9 for work at Boyd Intermediate School in the debit amount of \$9,317.18
- i. **and** that the Board approve the following change orders for Ultimate Power: **(TAB S)**
MECH-1 for work at Harley Avenue School in the credit amount of \$12,297.64
MECH-2 for work at the Middle School in the credit amount of \$7,992.83
MECH-3 for work at the Middle School in the credit amount of \$5,764.52

and **table** the following change orders for Ultimate Power:
MECH-2 for work at the Middle School in the debt amount of \$3,624.00
MECH-3 for work at the High School in the debt amounts of \$5,925.93
MECH-3 for work at the High School in the debt amount of \$5,382.00
The motion carried unanimously.
- j. Mr. Fusaro moved and Mr. Ciccone seconded that the Board approve the agreement with the Greenlawn Fire Department to install a satellite receiver and antenna on the roof of the Elwood Middle School. **(TAB T)**
The motion carried unanimously.
- k. Mr. Fusaro moved and Mr. Kaszubski seconded that the Board approve the **amended** School Facility Report Card (adding a fire hydrant at Boyd). **(TAB U)**
The motion carried unanimously.
- l. Mr. Fusaro moved and Mrs. Badlato seconded that the Board approve the district calendar for the 2005/2006 school year. **(TAB V)**
The motion carried unanimously.
- m. Mrs. Annunziata moved and Mrs. Badlato seconded that the Board approve the School Budget Calendar for 2004/2005 (has not been done in the past). **(TAB W)**
The motion carried unanimously.

- n. Mr. Fusaro moved and Mrs. Annunziata seconded that the Board approve the addition of Toby Phillips as a parent member of the Committees on Special Education and Preschool Special Education for the 2004/2005 school year. The motion carried unanimously.

J. ITEMS NOT LISTED ON AGENDA

Mr. Fusaro wants to address changing the venue of the Business Meetings to the Library and would like it put on the agenda. Dr. Swart wants to hold the work sessions in the Library. Mr. Kaszubski would like to talk about this at the January Work Session.

Mr. Fusaro commended Mr. Hogan, faculty, and staff for their hard work with the Lead Teaching/Articulation Committee (LTAC) and District Director of Technology, Gene Tranchino, for his help with implementing School Center.

Mr. Hogan's notes based on his meeting with the LTAC will be a Discussion Item on the February agenda and will be discussed in the January Work Session.

Mr. Fusaro also wanted to address Mr. Hannon's letter re State Comptroller Hevesi's Audit Committee Recommendations. Mr. Hannon's letter will be discussed at the January Work Session.

Mr. Ciccone would like to revise the 1971 JBFA closed campus policy and revisit senior privilege. He would like input from student council, administrators and staff. Mr. Kaszubski noted that the Board will review all policies. Dr. Swart will have this policy as a Discussion Item on the February agenda.

K. COMMUNICATIONS

(TAB X)

- a. Letter from Mr. Gerard Hannon dated November 21, 2004

L. RESIDENTS' REMARKS – 10:27 p.m. – 10:30 p.m.

M. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Fusaro moved and Mr. Ciccone seconded that the Board go into Executive Session at 10:50 p.m. to discuss real estate negotiations. The motion carried unanimously.

A Happy and Healthy Holiday Season to All.

N. ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Badlato moved and Mr. Fusaro seconded that the Board end Executive Session and adjourn the meeting at 10:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carlene Granieri
District Clerk