

ELWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Elwood, New York

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING – BOARD OF EDUCATION

October 11, 2001
Elwood Middle School

- A. CALL TO ORDER and PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE 8:05 p.m.**
- | | | | |
|----------|-------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Present: | John Santomauro | President | |
| | Tracey Edwards | Vice President | 8:26 p.m. arrival |
| | William Cameron | Member | |
| | Michael Kaszubski | Member | |
| | Fred Leone | Member | |
| Staff: | Michael A. Maina | Superintendent | |
| | Daniel E. Laub | Assistant Superintendent | |
| | Robert Annucci | Assistant Superintendent | |
| | Nancy Raguzin | Treasurer | |
| | Carlene Granieri | District Clerk | |

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (TAB R)

After making 2 corrections Mr. Kaszubski moved and Mr. Leone seconded that the Board approve the minutes of the Regular Business Meeting – September 21, 2001. The motion carried 4 ayes and 0 nays.

C. COMMENDATIONS – Michael A. Maina

Honored Margaret Cooper and Joshua Ferguson for being our National Merit Scholarship Commendees. Over 1.2 million students participate; Margaret and Joshua are in the top 3%! Both students were given certificates.

Nicholas Gross was awarded in abstentia a certificate for being our semifinalist in the 2002 National Achievement Program Scholarship.

Also commended 4 students on being accepted to NYSSMA All-State:

Nikki Federman - viola, Krista Giannak - mixed chorus, Anthony Ledesma - violin, Ian O'Brien - bassoon.

D. REPORT FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS – Michael A. Maina

1. October 22-26 is School Board Recognition Week. The Town of Huntington sent certificates to all of our Board members. Mr. Maina Board presented paperweights to all Board members in appreciation of their dedication to the District.
2. Newsday will hold its Marching Band Festival at Hofstra. Our high school students will be marching on Tuesday, October 16th at 7:00 p.m. Contact Ms. Henson for tickets.
3. Official school enrollment up by 2%. Harley 583, Boyd 599, Middle School 570, Glenn 608. Last year enrollment was 2,316, this year enrollment is 2,360. Growth in K-5 is static. Middle Level is where growth increases. Current 6th grade class has 216 students. Our middle school and Glenn can accommodate 800-1,100 students. We will not run out of space. We rent out classroom space now and will adjust classrooms accordingly.
4. Introduced Laurie Sherrell.
Ms. Sherrell reported on her position as Teacher/Facilitator of Differentiated Instruction.

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Dr. Kathleen Semergieff, Director of Curriculum and Standards gave a lengthy report on Differentiation:

It is not new. Teachers use all levels of strategies to form a level of support for all students. Began in spring of 2000 at Harley and Boyd.

94-95% of staff took training.

Sought feedback, teachers wanted more flexibility.

With Ms. Sherrell's help looking to create new models.

Focus on math and consulting with 6th grade at E.M.S.

Students still clustered. New evaluation this spring.

Stressed Differentiation is complex and long term.

Spoke about Mars Link, the Jason Project, and the International Baccalaureate Program.

Andy Miller Independent auditor from the firm of Miller Lilly & Pearce, LLP, Certified Public Accountants presented the audit report for the year ended June 30, 2001 to our Board and Community. The District was given a fair grade which is the highest rating. Talked about new tax changes and what to expect in the future.

Mr. Leone reported on Citizens Construction Oversight Organization:

Will make available biographies of all members of Oversight members.

Will meet as a group on the first Thursday of every month.

Will attend every Friday construction meeting to oversee project, make certain the budget is on time, well executed, and the cost monitored.

Original bond project was listed and categorized in Phases, Priorities, and Packages.

\$12,000 over original \$25,175,000 however, packages fluctuate. Some costs change for the better some for the worse. Costs still on target.

Status of auditorium: New York State has approved drawings and has a different way to handle handicapped access, and portable wheelchair lift. State has not signed off on final plans.

State overwhelmed with bond projects 20-week back-load.

Next meeting will present status of capital projects.

E. RESIDENTS' REMARKS – 10:46 p.m. – 11:53 p.m.

F. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – Community Library Services

Mrs. Julie Badlato reported on the committee's meeting with Mr. Jerry Nichols from Suffolk Cooperative Library System. Due to recent events and state aid bare-bones budget Mr. Nichols reported a changed attitude concerning library services. Harborfields district has agreed to continue services to Elwood. Committee to seek long term goal and/or extend library services for more than one year. Plan to meet again.

G. FINANCIAL MATTERS

(TAB S)

1. The Board acknowledged receipt for audit of the Treasurer's Report for the month ended August 31, 2001.
2. The Board acknowledged receipt for audit of the Revenue Report for the month ended September 30, 2001.
3. The Board acknowledged receipt for audit of the Budget Status Report for the quarter ended September 30, 2001.

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H. NEW BUSINESS - ACTION ITEMS

1. Personnel

- a. Mrs. Edwards moved and Mr. Leone seconded that the Board approve all personnel items as contained in Tab T. **(TAB T)**
The motion carried unanimously.

- b. Mr. Kaszubski moved and Mr. Santomauro seconded that the Board approve the Committee on Special Education's recommendations for students' classifications/placements and/or discontinuance of services dated: *August 29; September 12 & 21.* **(TAB U)**
The motion carried unanimously.

2. Mr. Kaszubski moved and Mrs. Edwards seconded that the Board approve the following Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Elwood Board of Education accepts the audits of the General Fund and the Extraclassroom Activity Funds for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2001, as prepared by the firm of Miller Lilly & Pearce, LLP, Certified Public Accountants.

(previously sent)

The motion carried unanimously.

3. Mrs. Edwards moved and Mr. Kaszubski seconded that the Board approve rental of classroom space in the Middle and High Schools to Western Suffolk BOCES ALC Program for the 2001/02 school year. **(Tab V)**
The motion carried unanimously.

4. Mr. Kaszubski moved and Mrs. Edwards seconded that the Board approve the Tax Warrant establishing the tax levy for school purposes for the 2001/02 fiscal year in the amount of \$21,812,120. **(TAB W)**
The motion carried unanimously.

5. Mr. Kaszubski moved and Mr. Santomauro seconded that the Board approve the Tax Warrant establishing the tax levy for library services for the 2001/02 fiscal year in the amount of \$1,099,503.
The motion carried unanimously.

6. Mr. Kaszubski moved and Mrs. Edwards seconded that the Board award bid for the *TRANSPORTATION* of one student to the lowest responsible bidder meeting specifications. **(TAB X)**
The motion carried unanimously.

7. Mrs. Edwards moved and Mr. Leone seconded that the Board accept with gratitude the following donations:

Copy machine from Mr. & Mrs. Edward Baiter

Personal computer from Mr. Keith McDermott

Wheelchair from Mr. & Mrs. Gunther Prehn

The motion carried unanimously.

2. DISCUSSION ITEMS – (No Recommended Items)

I. ITEMS NOT LISTED ON AGENDA

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J. COMMUNICATIONS

(TAB YZ)

1. Letter of appreciation to Messrs. Laub and Rossi for their quick resolution to a transportation difficulty.
2. Letters of invitation to tonight's honorees.
3. Letter from Gov. Pataki thanking communities for their support during the WTC disaster.

K. EXECUTIVE SESSION – none

L. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Leone moved and Mr. Santomauro seconded that the Board adjourn at 11:59 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Carlene Granieri
District Clerk