

ELWOOD UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
January 16, 2025

A. CALL TO ORDER – 6:04 p.m.

B. EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. Mr. Edwards moved and Mr. Scarola seconded a motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of confidential discussions regarding the employment history of particular persons at 6:04 p.m.
Motion carried. Vote: 4-yes, 0-no.

Present at Executive Session were: James Tomeo, Deborah Weiss, Walter Edwards, Thomas Scarola, Dr. Gayle Steele, Dr. Sonia Hood, Lorraine Dunkel and Eileen Kelly Gorman.

2. Mrs. Weiss moved and Mr. Scarola seconded a motion to end Executive Session at 7:29 p.m.
Motion carried. Vote: 4-yes, 0-no.

C. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION – 7:35 p.m.

1. Mr. Edwards moved and Mrs. Weiss seconded a motion to reconvene in to Open Session in the Elwood Middle School at 7:35 p.m.
Motion carried. Vote: 4-yes, 0-no.

Present: James Tomeo	President
Deborah Weiss	Vice President
Walter Edwards	Member
Thomas Scarola	Member

Absent: Dr. Sara Siddiqui	Member
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Staff: Dr. Gayle Steele	Superintendent of Schools
Lorraine Dunkel	Assistant Superintendent/Business
Dr. Sonia Hood	Assistant Superintendent/Curriculum
Eileen Kelly Gorman	Assistant Superintendent/Special Education
Mary Lou Marx	District Clerk

Absent: None

D. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE– Board President

E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S)

1. December 12, 2024 Regular Business Meeting
Mr. Edwards moved and Mr. Scarola seconded a motion to approve the minutes Regular Business Meeting of December 12, 2024.
Motion carried. Vote: 4-yes, 0-no.

F. STUDENT LIAISON REPORT – Caroline Weiss, Student Liaison to the Board

G. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT – Dr. Gayle Steele

H. COMMENDATIONS

We honored the following for their opportunity to publicly recognize and commend individuals for outstanding accomplishments or contributions made to Elwood Schools. We honored the following:

1. Reflections Winners in 2024:

Harley Avenue:

Literature Winner - Mia Mueller

Photography Winners - Cornelius Driscoll and Robert Romano Teschmacher

Photography Honorable Mention - Sean Clancy

Boyd:

Visual Arts Winners - Kaia Abdulkhalek and Tyler Brown

Visual Arts Honorable Mention - Jason Cabasso

Photography Winner - Kyle Clancy

Photography Honorable Mention - Anna Scarola

Dance Choreography Winner - Mariah Fardette

Literature Winner - Yonatan Adaki

Literature Honorable Mention - Nolan Moreno

EMS:

Visual Arts Winner - Mia Giacalone

Visual Arts Honorable Mention - Syra Zaman and Emily Meringola

Literature Winner - Joseph Febbraro

Literature Honorable Mention - Erika Assimilalo

Photography Winner - Kaitlyn Fazal

Photography Honorable Mention - Makayla Shek

JGHS:

Visual Arts Winner - Jia Chung

Visual Arts Honorable Mention - Sophia Vitevitch

2. Grand Prize Winner in the National Hispanic Heritage Essay Contest - Camila Avila

I. RESIDENTS' REMARKS REGARDING THE AGENDA

The Board encourages all residents to attend its meetings, and this section of the agenda affords them the opportunity to speak. Persons wishing to speak should identify themselves, state whether they are a resident of the Elwood School District and any organization they represent at the meeting. Comments related to district business or any agenda item should be kept as brief as possible and may not exceed three minutes (Board Policy 1230). Questions or comments concerning matters which are not on the agenda will be taken under consideration and may be discontinued by the

President. Public discussion of matters relating to staff, students, or others at which their reputations, privacy or right to due process could be in some way be violated, is prohibited.

J. PRESENTATIONS

1. JGHS Office of Student Support Services - Carolyn Goudreau, JGHS Lead Counselor, Eileen Kelly-Gorman, Assistant Superintendent for Special Education and PPS
2. New Career Initiatives at JGHS - Corey McNamara, Principal of John H. Glenn High School and Ilene Fucci, FACS Teacher
3. Budget Workshop #2 - Lorraine Dunkel, Assistant Superintendent of Business

K. BOARD RECOGNITION OF DONATION

1. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby accepts the following donation with gratitude:
 - 1) \$500 from James H. Boyd School PTA to support the STEAM event.

Mrs. Weiss moved and Mr. Edwards seconded a motion to approved Item K.1, as presented to the Board at this meeting.

Motion carried. Vote: 4-yes, 0-no.

L. CONSENT AGENDA VOTE

1. Mrs. Weiss moved and Mr. Scarola seconded a motion to approve the consent agenda (Items M.1-M.2, N.1-N.10, O.1-O.7, P.1), as presented to the Board at this meeting.
Motion carried. Vote: 4-yes, 0-no.

M. FINANCIAL MATTERS

1. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby acknowledges receipt for audit of the following reports:
 - a) Treasurer's Report for November, 2024
 - b) Revenue Status Report through November, 2024
 - c) Cash Flow Report for November, 2024
 - d) Budget Status Report through November, 2024
 - e) Trial Balance Report through November, 2024
 - f) Executive Summary for November, 2024
 - g) Budget Transfer Report through November,, 2024
 - h) School Lunch Fund Report through November, 2024
 - i) Claims Report for November, 2024
2. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves the budget transfers as presented to the Board at this meeting.

N. ACTION ITEMS PERSONNEL

1. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby accept the resignation of John Patch, from his position as an Assistant Cook, effective January 1, 2025.
2. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby accepts the resignation of Kelly Hughes from her position as

Permanent Substitute, contingent on her subsequent appointment as an AIS Math Tutor position, effective January 16, 2025.

3. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints the following as an AIS Tutor at Elwood-John H. Glenn High School, to serve at the pleasure of the Board for the 2024-2025 school year, at a rate of \$41.67 per class period, effective January 17, 2025:
Kelly Hughes - AIS Math
4. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints Kathryn Lombardi as a 1.0FTE School Nurse, in the non-competitive class of the civil service, to serve a twenty-six week probationary period effective February 24, 2025, at a salary of \$58,693, prorated.
5. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby amends the August 29, 2024 appointment of Sarah Daly, who possesses a Childhood Education Gr. 1-6 Certificate, from a 0.5 FTE part-time Family and Consumer Science position to a 0.6 FTE part-time Family and Consumer Science position, at an annual salary of \$33,759.60 (0.6 of BA Step 2), to serve at the pleasure of the Board, effective January 27, 2025 through June 30, 2025; and, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board hereby amends the August 29, 2024 appointment of Sarah Daly from a 0.5 FTE Permanent Substitute to a 0.4 FTE Permanent Substitute for the 2024-2025 school year, effective January 27, 2025 through June 6, 2025.
6. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints the following as the advisors to the corresponding after-school Booster Club sessions:

Advisor	Club	# of Sessions	Rate per Session	Period
Leslie Seilback	Harley Sweets & Treats	5	\$80	January-February, 2025
Cheri Murcott	Harley Coding Club	4	\$80	January-February, 2025
Nicole Franz	Harley Art	12	\$80	January-February, 2025
Devon Dickens	Boyd Sweets & Treats	5	\$80	January-February, 2025
Lauren Baker	Boyd Coding Club	5	\$80	January-February, 2025
Adam Goudreau	Boyd Video Gaming Club	3	\$80	January, 2025
Jesse Marroquin	Boyd Video Gaming Club	3	\$80	January-February, 2025

7. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints the following co-curricular appointment, for the 2024-2025 school year, as presented to the Board at this meeting:

Club	Building	Appointed Advisor(s)	Appointment Date	Stipend
Yearbook Photographer	JGHS	Lori Fornaro	January 17, 2025	\$1,198.45 (prorated)

8. BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board hereby amends the following previously approved co-curricular appointment, for the 2024-2025 school year, as presented to the Board at this meeting:

Club	Building	Advisor(s)	Previous Appointment Date	New Appointment
Fashion Club	JGHS	Samantha Heuer	October 17, 2024	This club will not be running during the 24-25 school year due to very low enrollment.

9. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby amends the following previously approved coach appointment, for the 2024-2025 school year, as presented to the Board at this meeting:

Coaching Appointment	Building	Previously Appointed Advisor/Coach	Previous Appointment Date	Resignation	New Appointment	Effective Date	Stipend
Assistant Wrestling Coach	EMS	Nicholas Terdick	October 17, 2024	December 17, 2024	John Ledda	December 17, 2024	\$3,871.00

10. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves the additional Substitutes for the 2024-2025 school year, as presented to the Board at this meeting.

P. ACTION ITEMS - BUSINESS

1. WHEREAS, the ELWOOD UFSD (“Participant”) is a municipal or educational corporation participating in the Board of Cooperative Education Services, First Supervisory District of Suffolk County (“Eastern Suffolk BOCES”) Cooperative Bidding Program (“Program”); and WHEREAS, the Participant is required to execute an Insurance and Indemnification Agreement as a condition of participation in any bid/request for proposal contract awarded through the Program.
BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Participant’s Assistant Superintendent for Business or designee is hereby authorized to execute any Participant Insurance and Indemnification Agreement required to enter into any contract awarded through the Program.
2. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby authorizes the Board of Education President to sign and execute an Agreement with the Martin De Porres School, to provide for the instruction of handicapped children, effective July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025, and said Agreement will be incorporated by reference within the minutes of this meeting.
3. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby authorizes the Board of Education President to sign and execute an Agreement with the South Huntington Union Free School District to provide special education services for student(s) who reside in the Elwood Union Free School District, at a cost pursuant to this Agreement and in accordance with the Education Law and the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education, effective July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025 inclusive, and said Agreement will be incorporated by reference within the minutes of this meeting.
4. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education President is hereby authorized to sign and execute a Consultant Service Contract with Curriculum Associates, LLC and the District, setting forth the terms and conditions for providing professional learning services to the District, effective January 17, 2025 through June 30, 2025, and said Contract will be incorporated by reference within the minutes of this meeting.
5. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby declares the following item located in Harley Avenue Primary School as surplus and obsolete as it is beyond repair or outdated and allow for its

appropriate removal:

(1) Baldwin Piano

6. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education President is hereby authorized to sign and execute the Special Education Data Collection, Analysis, and Reporting (SEDCAR) Agreement for the 2024-2025 school year, as presented to the Board at this meeting, and said Agreement will be incorporated by reference within the minutes of this meeting:
Liberty Resources, PLLC

7. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, a motion to approve the following resolution:
WHEREAS, the Elwood Union Free School District solicited proposals for universal pre-kindergarten services for four-year-old students residing in the Elwood Union Free School District pursuant to a request for proposals ("RFP");
WHEREAS, on or about January 8, 2025, the School District received four sealed proposals in response to the RFP;
WHEREAS, said proposals were reviewed and evaluated by the School District in accordance with the RFP;
WHEREAS, upon said review, the Administration recommends that the following eligible agencies/community-based organizations be awarded contracts for the provision of universal pre-kindergarten services as the proposals best meeting the criteria in the RFP:
Elwood Care, Inc.
Kiddie Care Early Learning Center
The Learning Experience
Suffolk Y JCC
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby awards the contracts for the 2025-2026 universal pre-kindergarten services to Elwood Care, Inc., Kiddie Care Early Learning Center, The Learning Experience and Suffolk Y JCC at a cost of \$5,400.00 per student; and,
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the Board President to execute the necessary documents on behalf of the Board of Education.

P. ACTION ITEMS – OTHER

1. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves the Committee and Subcommittee on Special Education's recommendations for meetings held on 9/4/23, 9/18/23, 11/20/24, 11/21/24, 11/27/24, 12/3/24, 12/5/24, 12/10/24, 12/11/24, 12/13/24, 1/2/25 and 1/7/25 and the Committee on Preschool Special Education's recommendations for meetings held on 1/6/24, 11/22/24, 12/4/24, 12/6/24, 12/11/24, 12/12/24, 12/13/24 and 1/3/25 for students' classifications/placements and/or discontinuance of services.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education authorizes and appropriates the use of District funds necessary to implement the special education programs and services consistent with said recommendations.

Q. RESIDENTS' REMARKS REGARDING MATTERS PERTAINING TO THE DISTRICT

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R. ADJOURNMENT – 9:25 p.m.

Mrs. Weiss moved and Mr. Edwards seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 p.m.
Motion carried. Vote: 4-yes, 0-no.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Lou Marx
District Clerk