

ELWOOD UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES  
August 16, 2023

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**A. CALL TO ORDER – 5:04 p.m.**

**B. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

1. Mrs. Weiss moved and Dr. Siddiqui seconded a motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of confidential discussions related to the possible appointment of an administrator at 5:04 p.m.

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

Present at Executive Session were: James Tomeo, Thomas Scarola, Dr. Sara Siddiqui, Deborah Weiss, Kelly Fallon and Lorraine Dunkel.

2. Mrs. Weiss moved and Mr. Scarola seconded a motion to end Executive Session at 6:48 p.m.

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

**C. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION – 6:50 p.m.**

1. Mr. Scarola moved and Mrs. Weiss seconded a motion to reconvene in to Open Session in the District Office Conference Room at 6:50 p.m.

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

Present:	James Tomeo	President
	Thomas Scarola	Member
	Dr. Sara Siddiqui	Member
	Deborah Weiss	Member

Absent:	Heather Mammolito	Vice President
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Staff:	Kelly Fallon	Interim Superintendent of Schools
	Lorraine Dunkel	Assistant Superintendent/Business

Absent:	Dr. Sonia Hood	Assistant Superintendent/Curriculum
	Eileen Kelly-Gorman	Assistant Superintendent/Special Education
	Mary Lou Marx	District Clerk

**D. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Board President**

**E. RESIDENTS' REMARKS**

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## **F. CONSENT AGENDA VOTE**

1. Mrs. Weiss moved and Dr. Siddiqui seconded a motion to approve the consent agenda (Items G.1-G.20), as presented to the Board at this meeting.  
Motion carried. Vote: 4-yes, 0-no.

## **G. ACTION ITEMS-PERSONNEL**

1. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby accepts the resignation of Michelle Kretz, from her position as Secondary Special Education Coordinator, effective August 11, 2023.
2. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby accepts the resignation of Patrick Burke, from his position as Special Education teacher, effective August 8, 2023.
3. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby accepts the resignation of Frank Amato, from his position as a Custodial Worker, effective July 19, 2023.
4. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby accepts the resignation of Chelsea Wexler, from her position as a Teacher Assistant, effective July 27, 2023.
5. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby accepts the resignation of Lauryn DeMarco, from her position as a Assistant Cook, effective July 25, 2023.
6. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby accepts the resignation of Joann Hess, from her position as a Senior Account Clerk, effective August 25, 2023.
7. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints Moira Citko as a Secondary Special Education Coordinator, with an annual salary to remain at her current level of compensation, effective August 21, 2023.
8. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints Lindsey Merrow, possessing a Childhood Education 1-6 Certificate, to a four-year probationary term as an Instructional Technology and Enrichment Specialist, in the Elementary tenure area, effective September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2027 at a salary of \$55,434 (BA Step 2). In order to be eligible for appointment to tenure, said teacher must have at least three years of effective or highly effective APPR ratings pursuant to Education Law Section 3012-d during the four year period prior to the proposed effective date of tenure and may not receive a rating of ineffective during the final year of probation.
9. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints Jennifer Mansi as a full-time Paraprofessional (6.5 hours/day), in the non-competitive class of the civil service, to serve a thirty month probationary term, effective September 5, 2023, with compensation of \$19,661.20, for the 2023-2024 school year.

10. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints Jacqueline Doerzbacher as a full-time Paraprofessional (6.5 hours/day), in the non-competitive class of the civil service, effective September 5, 2023, with compensation of \$21,847.15, for the 2023-2024 school year.
11. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints Lisa Cento, who possesses Students with Disabilities (all grades) and Childhood Education 1-6 Certificates, to a leave replacement regular substitute position for the duration of the leave of Employee #3113, with compensation of \$67,440 (MA Step 2).
12. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints Christina Godfrey, who holds a Teaching Assistant Level III Certificate, to a four-year probationary term as a Teaching Assistant, commencing on September 1, 2023 and terminating on August 31, 2027 in the tenure area of Teaching Assistant with compensation of \$25,718 (Step 1).
13. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints Theresa Williamson, who holds a Teaching Assistant Level III Certificate, to a four-year probationary term as a Teaching Assistant, commencing on September 1, 2023 and terminating on August 31, 2027 in the tenure area of Teaching Assistant with compensation of \$25,718 (Step 1).
14. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints Jennifer Richards-Foley as a Clerical Substitute, with compensation of \$38.59 per hour for the 2023-2024 school year, effective August 21, 2023.
15. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby rescinds the July 6, 2023 appointment of Teresa Portela as a provisional Account Clerk (12 month).

16. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby rescinds the following July 6, 2023 coaching appointments:

Name	Appointment to be Rescinded for 2023-2024
Patrick Burke	Varsity Girls' Cross Country Head Coach
Jonathan Guercio	Elwood Middle School Football Head Coach

17. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves the adjustment of hours for the following paraprofessional, for the 2023-2024 school year, with compensation at her 2023-2024 hourly rate, as presented:

Name	Previous Hours/Day	New Hours/Day	Effective Date
Fran Ross	2.5 Hours	5.00 Hours	September 6, 2023

18. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves additional 2023 summer hours for

the following Special Education Staff, for the purpose of reviewing and revising/finalizing 2023-2024 IEP's, participating in CSE meetings and conducting educational testing, with compensation at their hourly/daily rate:

Name	Position	2023 Additional Summer Hours
Moira Citko	Psychologist	30 Hours
Julian Gordon	Special Education Teacher	10 Hours
Keri Thomas	Special Education Teacher	20 Hours
Jessica Jantzen	Special Education Teacher	10 Hours

19. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints the following as Permanent Substitutes, to serve at the pleasure of the Board, at a rate of \$120.00 per day worked, effective September 5, 2023 through June 7, 2024:

Name	Initial School Assignment
Danielle Pineyro	Elwood Middle School
Donna Dorsam	Elwood Middle School
Peter Flanagan	Elwood Middle School
Kathleen Maguire	James H. Boyd Intermediate School
Zakiya Celestine	James H. Boyd Intermediate School
Victoria Feder	James H. Boyd Intermediate School

20. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints Samantha Mammolito as a volunteer Weight Training Coach, for the 2023-2024 school year.
21. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints Richard Rouse as Director of Facilities, effective October 2, 2023; and, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Education President is hereby authorized to execute an employment agreement between the Elwood Board of Education and Richard Rouse for the position of Director of Facilities III.

Dr. Siddiqui moved and Mr. Scarola seconded a motion to approve Item G.21, as presented to the Board at this meeting.  
Motion carried. Vote: 4-yes, 0-no.

#### **H. RESIDENTS' REMARKS**

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#### **I. PROPOSED BOARD OF EDUCATION RETREAT – 6:55 p.m.**

Mrs. Weiss moved and Dr. Siddiqui seconded a motion to enter into a Board Retreat at 6:55 p.m.

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

**J. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION – 10:53 p.m.**

Mr. Scarola moved and Mrs. Weiss seconded a motion to reconvene into Open Session at 10:53 p.m.

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

**K. ACTION ITEM – PERSONNEL**

1. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby rescinds the previous appointment of Item G.21, the Director of Facilities III, Richard Rouse.

Mr. Scarola moved and Dr. Siddiqui seconded the motion of Item K.1, as presented.

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

**L. ADJOURNMENT – 10:55 p.m.**

Mrs. Weiss moved and Dr. Siddiqui seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:55 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

James Tomeo  
Board President