

ELWOOD UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
September 14, 2023

---

**A. CALL TO ORDER – 6:46 p.m.**

**B. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

1. Mrs. Weiss moved and Dr. Siddiqui seconded a motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussions related to the potential promotion of certificated employees at 6:46 p.m.

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

Present at Executive Session were: Heather Mammolito, Thomas Scarola, Dr. Sara Siddiqui, Deborah Weiss, Kelly Fallon, Dr. Sonia Hood and Eileen Kelly-Gorman.

2. Dr. Siddiqui moved and Mrs. Weiss seconded a motion to end Executive Session at 7:31 p.m.

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

**C. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION – 7:36 p.m.**

1. Dr. Siddiqui moved and Mr. Scarola seconded a motion to reconvene in to Open Session in the Elwood Middle School Library at 7:36 p.m.

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

Present:	Heather Mammolito	Vice President
	Thomas Scarola	Member
	Dr. Sara Siddiqui	Member
	Deborah Weiss	Member

Absent:	James Tomeo	President
---------	-------------	-----------

Staff:	Kelly Fallon	Interim Superintendent of Schools
	Dr. Sonia Hood	Assistant Superintendent/Curriculum
	Eileen Kelly-Gorman	Assistant Superintendent/Special Education
	Mary Lou Marx	District Clerk

Absent:	Lorraine Dunkel	Assistant Superintendent/Business
---------	-----------------	-----------------------------------

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

**E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF A PREVIOUS MEETING**

1. August 31 2023 Regular Business Meeting  
Mrs. Weiss moved and Dr. Siddiqui seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the August 31, 2023 Regular Business Meeting, as presented to the Board at this meeting.  
Motion carried. Vote: 4-yes, 0-no.

**F. PRESENTATION**

1. Superintendent Search – Mr. Michael Flynn, Chief Operating Officer of Western Suffolk BOCES and Ms. Paula Klingelhofer, Consultant, Western Suffolk BOCES

**G. STUDENT LIAISON REPORT – Anthony Bell, Student Liaison to the Board**

Anthony Bell was unable to attend this meeting so Caroline Weiss, All School Vice President, presented Anthony's report to the Board and the Community.

**H. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT** – Ms. Kelly Fallon

- 2023-2024 District Goals

**I. RESIDENTS' REMARKS**

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 violated, is prohibited.

**J. CONSENT AGENDA VOTE**

1. Dr. Siddiqui moved and Mrs. Weiss seconded a motion to approve the consent agenda (Items K.1-K.12, L.1-L.3, M.1-M.2), as presented to the Board at this meeting.  
Motion carried. Vote: 4-yes, 0-no.

**K. ACTION ITEMS -PERSONNEL**

1. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby confers tenure for the following:

Candidate's Name	Tenure Area	Effective Date
Julie Testa	Teaching Assistant	October 13, 2023
Karen Alibrandi	Teaching Assistant	October 15, 2023
Anita Plutner	Teaching Assistant	November 25, 2023

2. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints Ron Carritue as Director of Facilities, effective October 1, 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 Ron Carritue for the position of Director of Facilities III.
3. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education President is hereby authorized to sign and execute an Employment Agreement with John Marek and the District, setting forth the terms and conditions for providing part-time Mentor services to the District, effective September 15, 2023 through June 30, 2024, and said Agreement will be incorporated by reference within the minutes of this meeting.
4. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints Jennifer Hynds, who holds Special Education N-12 and Teacher of Speech and Hearing Handicapped N-12 Certificates, to a four-year probationary term as a Teaching Assistant, commencing on September 15, 2023 and terminating on September 14, 2027 in the tenure area of Teaching Assistant with compensation of \$25,718, prorated (Step 1).

5. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints Catherine Terranova, possessing a School Psychologist Certificate, to a four-year probationary term as a School Psychologist, in the School Psychologist tenure area, effective September 18, 2023 through September 17, 2027 at a salary of \$71,938, prorated (MA+30 Step 1). 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.

6. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints the following as mentors for the 2023-2024 school year, with compensation as presented.

Mentor	Period	Compensation
Amy Schombs	2 Semesters	\$1,000
Cheri Murcott	1 Semester	\$500
Laura Ioviero	2 Semesters	\$1,000
Jill Locascio	2 Semesters	\$1,000
JoAnna Sepp	2 Semesters	\$1,000

7. WHEREAS, Dana DeSousa will be devoting a substantial portion of time during the 2023-2024 school year providing instruction not only in the Special Education tenure area, but 40% of her time teaching general education Mathematics, and is qualified to provide Math and Special Education instruction based upon her Students with Disabilities 7-12, Math 7-12 and Childhood Education 1-6 Certificates; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby amends the August 31, 2023 probationary appointment resolution to reflect an interdisciplinary probationary appointment in both the Special Education and Mathematics tenure areas, effective September 1, 2023 and terminating on August 31, 2027. 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.

8. WHEREAS, Vincent Wilson will be devoting a substantial portion of time during the 2023-2024 school year providing instruction not only in the Physical Education tenure area, but 60% of his time teaching Health Education, and is qualified to provide Physical Education and Health Education instruction based upon his Physical Education and Health Education Certificates; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby amends the July 6, 2023 appointment to reflect a 1.0 FTE interdisciplinary probationary appointment to Vincent Wilson to a four-year probationary term as a Physical Education and Health Education teacher, in both the Physical Education and Health Education tenure areas, effective September 12, 2023 and terminating on September 11, 2027, at a salary of \$57,518, prorated (BA+15 Step 1). 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 approves curriculum writing for the following educators, for the purpose of revising reading curriculum to differentiate existing programs to meet the needs of students with disabilities, with a submission deadline to the Assistant Superintendent of Special Education and PPS of October 27, 2023, as presented to the Board at this meeting, with compensation of \$66 per hour.

Project	Building	Hours Per Teacher	Teacher(s)
Reading Curriculum	Elwood Middle School	4 Hours	Nicole Litterello, Karen Maggio

10. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby rescinds the August 31, 2023 appointment of Krysta Skura as a part-time Paraprofessional.
11. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby accepts the resignation of Mary Spilabotte, from her position as part-time Food Service Worker, effective September 22, 2023.
12. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves the additional Substitutes, for the 2023-2024 school year, as presented to the Board at this meeting.

**L. ACTION ITEMS - BUSINESS**

1. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Board President is hereby authorized to sign and execute the following change order for Bond Phase IV Building Improvements at Elwood-John H. Glenn High School:  
Change Order No. 1 : for Gatz Sitework & Landscape Construction, Inc. related to the installation of sod on all areas inside the High School track and credit back the lawn restoration required in the bid award in the amount of \$98,686.19.
2. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves the Educational Affiliation Agreement with Huntington Hospital, setting forth the terms and conditions for providing the John H. Glenn High School Career Exploration Program students with clinical education and training services, effective September 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024, and said Agreement will be incorporated by reference within the minutes of this meeting.
3. WHEREAS, the Elwood Union Free School District (the “School District”) requested sealed bid proposals for the Armed Security Guard Services contract pursuant to Bid No. 2324-1;  
WHEREAS, on or about August 16, 2023, the District received and opened bid proposals for the Armed Security Guard Services contract;  
WHEREAS, the School District reviewed and evaluated the bids submitted by the bidders;  
WHEREAS, the School District has determined that Covert Investigations & Security, Inc. is the lowest responsible bidder;  
WHEREAS, based upon said review and determination, the School District Administration recommends that the Board of Education of the Elwood Union Free

School District award the contract for Bid No. 2324: Armed Security Guard Services to Covert Investigations & Security, Inc. in the amount of \$288,000.00 for Base Bid I. NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Elwood Union Free School District hereby awards the contract for Bid No. 2324: Armed Security Guard Services to Covert Investigations & Security, Inc. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the Board President to execute the contract and any other documents necessary to effectuate said contract award, and said Contract will be incorporated by reference within the minutes of this meeting.

**M. ACTION ITEMS – OTHER**

1. BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby appoints Deborah Weiss as the Voting Delegate at the NYSSBA Annual Business Meeting to be held virtually on October 16, 2023.
  
2. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves the Committee and Subcommittee on Special Education's recommendations for meetings held on 6/5/23, 6/16/23, 6/21/23 and 8/16/23 and the Committee on Preschool Special Education's recommendations for meetings held on 7/17/23, 8/28/23 and 8/29/23, 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.

**N. ITEMS NOT LISTED ON AGENDA** - None

**O. COMMUNICATIONS** - None

**P. RESIDENTS' REMARKS**

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 violated, is prohibited.

**Q. ADJOURNMENT – 8:51 p.m.**

Dr. Siddiqui moved and Mrs. Weiss seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:51 p.m. Motion carried. Vote: 4-yes, 0-no.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Lou Marx  
District Clerk