

ELWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Elwood, New York

MINUTES

REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING -- BOARD OF EDUCATION

June 9, 2005

Elwood Middle School

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

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S) (TAB L)

Mrs. Annunziata moved and Mr. Fusaro seconded that the Board approve the minutes of the Regular Business Meeting of May 5, 2005.
The motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Annunziata moved and Mr. Fusaro seconded that the Board approve the amended minutes (Mrs. Badlato's 8:30 arrival and Adjournment 6/3/05) of the Special Business Meeting of June 2, 2005.
The motion carried unanimously.

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

Tonight and at future Board Meetings the Board will honor a student, staff member or resident to give them the recognition they deserve.

Dr. Swart said the District Strategic Planning Council (SPC) consists of teachers, parents, students, and administrators who came together and produced an excellent document in three months that normally takes between 6 to 12 months to produce. Their efforts are to be applauded. The SPC will meet on June 13 at the High School Library at 7:30 p.m. He will update the Board on 6/16 or 6/17.

On June 20th he intends to make the SPC recommendations public and will provide copies of the plan to every staff member. The Board will study and discuss the plan for 6 weeks. There will be a Work Session on August 18 to discuss the implementation of the plan.

He acknowledged the great effort of the teachers, staff, union members, students, parents and also the Board for their help in the 2004-05 school year. All of them helped to make his transition as new Superintendent a pleasure for the past 7 months.

Mr. Kaszubski added that he and his colleagues take great pride in representing the School District. He applauds the students' efforts both academically and athletically.

E. COMMENDATIONS

The Board honored Brooke Kluepfel, our first Student Liaison to the Board of Education, for her frank and concise presentations and her poise throughout the 2004-2005 school year.

Dr. Swart thanked Mr. Mulieri for his leadership at the High School.

Mr. Mulieri presented Certificates of Achievement to Elwood-John Glenn students from the Science Symposium, LI Science Congress-Senior Division, to Ming-Jie Wang (LI Science & Engineering Fair-Intel Division 2nd place), Tula Batanchiev, and Sarah Fazli (Merit Award Winners, Regional Envirothon Team Member 1st Place in Aquatics, Soils & Forestry) and Daniel Son (Honorable Mention and NYS Science & Engineering Fair Andromeda Division, 2nd place). Mr. Mulieri also thanked Mr. Gary Ramonetti for his leadership in the Science Symposium.

Also honored were the following students who participated in an engineering project as a result of a partnership between Elwood and BAE: Taylor Hirsch, Joe Salmonese, Ariele Wilner, Nicole Hellinger, Chris Albach and Mike Rizzuto. The students designed an outdoor stage for under-privileged children to use for their summer camp program at North Shore Holiday House. Mr. Mulieri thanked Mr. Dominick Abbate for his directorship with the BAE program.

Mr. Tuorto presented Certificates of Achievement to the student athletes who won the Class B Suffolk County track team championship: Heather Nielsen (Suffolk County Championship in the 100 m Hurdles and placed 4th in NYS), Gabriela Baiter (Triple Jump Winner and top 5 in NYS and one of 21 students in the USA to be invited to the Penn Relays), Carlton Wildman, William Miltenberg, Clifford Faulkner, and Emil Barnett (County Champs who placed 4th in NYS 4 x 400 Relay).

Mr. Annucci presented awards to:

25 Year Employees: Diletta Capobianchi, Teaching Assistant for Special Needs Students, Kathleen Marinelli, Speech Pathologist, Lorelei Stephens, Special Education Teacher at EMS and President of the Elwood Teachers Union, Laurie Younger, Special Education Teacher at EMS.

Retirees: Diletta Capobianchi, Food Service Worker, Chris Feustel, Chief Custodian at Glenn, Connie Fiorini, Food Service Worker, John Kelly, Custodial Staff at Glenn, Matthew McKeever, Maintenance Staff.

Community member Ellen Cooke was honored for her role in introducing and helping to facilitate the "Smart Cut" paper reduction program in our district. Her actions resulted in significant savings for the District.

Student Liaison Report -- Brooke Kluepfel:

Last day of classes is June 10. Varsity Awards Night was last night and Academic Awards Night was on May 24. The Senior Prom is June 23 and Graduation is June 26. Brooke was excited to report to the Board, and the Student Council members were thankful to have another outlet, other than Mr. Mulieri, to have their concerns aired.

Vicki Cangero will be the Student Liaison for the 2005-06 school year. She is looking forward to working with the Board next year and updating them regarding the students' concerns. She is a member of Natural Helpers.

F. **RESIDENTS' REMARKS** – 8:45-8:50 p.m.

G. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS** -- (No Recommended Items)

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

The Board acknowledged receipt for audit of the Treasurer's Report for the month ended April 30, 2005.

The Board acknowledged receipt for audit of the Revenue Report for the months ended April 30 and May 31, 2005.

I. **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **DISCUSSION ITEMS** -- (No Recommended Items)

2. **ACTION ITEMS**

a. Mr. Fusaro moved and Mrs. Annunziata seconded that the Board approve personnel items: (TAB N)

<u>Resignations:</u>	Jean Cipolla	Mathematics Teacher
	Nancy Gaiman	Reading Teacher
	Marguerite Greene	Elementary Teacher
	Bruce Lepanto	Social Studies Teacher
<u>Child Care Leave:</u>	Elizabeth Held	Elementary Teacher
<u>Tenure:</u>	Carl Fraser	Assistant Superintendent for Business
<u>Appointments:</u>	Alison Adelman	Family & Consumer Science Teacher
	Edward Albinski	Music Teacher
	Gerielen Bodenburg	Physical Education Teacher
	Thomas J. Brocking	Physical Education Teacher
	Elizabeth Bromley	School Media Specialist (Library)
	Jean Cipolla	Mathematics Teacher (PT)
	Nancy Gaiman	Assistant to the Principal
	Karen Gellert	Music Teacher
	Marguerite Greene	Assistant to the Principal
	Carole Khatir	French Teacher
	Mark Jennings	Science Teacher
	Donna Lynt	Speech Teacher
	Graceanna Maiello	Italian Teacher
	Tracy Ott	Physical Education & Health Teacher
	Rosemarie Petruzellis	Art Teacher
	Kristen Seidler	Special Education Teacher
	Joanna Sepp	Social Worker
	Susan Sullivan	Reading Teacher
	Christopher Verdone	Social Studies Teacher
	Chris Warren	Art Teacher
	Christina Young	Music Teacher

Other: -- Emergency appointments and reappointments
-- Dana Herz as Special Ed. Teacher for Summer Skills Program
-- Candidates for Curriculum Writing Projects
-- Lead Teachers for 2005/2006 school year
-- 2005/06 Compensation for Assistant Superintendents, confidential/managerial employees, confidential secretaries

-- College/summer custodial help

-- Addendum to the Schedule of Approved Substitute Teachers/Nurses

The motion carried unanimously.

- b. Mr. Fusaro moved and Mr. Ciccone 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 March 31, April 5, 7, 8, 12, 13, 14, 15, 18, 19, 27, 28, 29, May 3, 6, 11, 12, 16, and 18.
- c. **and** 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 March 4, April 15, 21, 22, May 9.
The motion carried unanimously.
- d. Mrs. Annunziata moved and Mr. Ciccone seconded that the Board accept the **(TAB O)**
Official Vote Tallies for the School Board Election and Budget Vote held on
May 17, 2005.
The motion carried unanimously.
- e. Mr. Ciccone moved and Mr. Fusaro seconded that the Board approve the **(TAB P)**
resolution for joint bidding by Elwood UFSD and Long Island Food Service
Directors' Association for cafeteria supplies for 2005-2006.
The motion carried unanimously.
- f. Mr. Fusaro moved and Mr. Ciccone seconded that the Board approve the following
health service contracts
- | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| <i>Uniondale UFSD</i> | <i>1 student</i> | <i>\$ 391.00</i> |
| <i>Commack UFSD</i> | <i>12 students</i> | <i>4,217.64</i> |
| <i>Smithtown CSD</i> | <i>3 students</i> | <i>1,513.41</i> |
- The motion carried unanimously.
- g. Mr. Fusaro moved and Mrs. Annunziata seconded that the Board approve the **(TAB Q)**
Joint Municipal Cooperative Bidding Program Resolution "A" with Eastern Suffolk
BOCES the 2005-2006 school year.
The motion carried unanimously.
- h. Mr. Fusaro moved and Mr. Ciccone seconded that the Board approve the disposal **(TAB R)**
of obsolete computer equipment.
The motion carried unanimously.
- i. Mr. Fusaro moved and Mr. Kaszubski seconded that the Board approve the **(TAB S)**
proposed high school music trip to the North American Music Festival in Virginia
Beach, Virginia from April 20 to April 22, 2006.
The motion carried unanimously.
- j. Mrs. Annunziata moved and Mr. Kaszubski seconded that the Board approve the
following textbook for the 2005/2006 school year for Elwood-John Glenn High School:
Economics: Principles in Action by Arthur O'Sullivan and Steven M. Sheffrin, Pearson
Prentice Hall, 2005.
The motion carried unanimously.
- k. Mr. Fusaro moved and Mr. Ciccone seconded that the Board approve the **(TAB T)**
technology plan recommendation and authorize the supplemental appropriation
of \$145,000 from the unemployment reserve fund to complete this technology
project through Western Suffolk BOCES. This supplemental appropriation is

being made because of a need that exists which was not determined at the time the 2004-2005 budget was adopted.

The motion carried unanimously.

- i. Mr. Ciccone moved and Mr. Fusaro seconded that the Board approve the varsity **(TAB U)** and junior varsity football camp at the Fresh Air Camp Sharpe Reservation in Fishkill, New York, from August 22 through August 27, 2005.
The motion carried unanimously.

- m. Mr. Fusaro moved and Mr. Ciccone seconded that the Board approve the appointment of R.S. Abrams & Company as Internal Auditors for the District beginning July 1, 2005.
The motion carried unanimously.
(Dr. Swart thanked the members of the District Financial Oversight Committee)

- n. Mr. Fusaro moved and Mrs. Annunziata seconded that the Board approve the **(TAB V)** adoption of the proposed Athletic Philosophy and Policy Guidelines.
The motion carried unanimously.

J. ITEMS NOT LISTED ON AGENDA

Mr. Kaszubski stated for the record that: I would like to thank everyone for their support of the Budget. We now need to focus on keeping our costs down for next year's Budget. I would also like to thank those who helped Dina and me with our letter to the community with respect to our re-election to this Board, including Julie Badlato, Patty Matos, Joanne Bates and anyone else that helped them or Dina with distribution. I want to thank my wife for traveling to Patchogue to get the ribbons and my daughters for riding shotgun while I drove to distribute our letter.

We worked very hard to keep this Board exactly as you see it here and to allow our new Superintendent to have some continuity through his first year.

Furthermore, Mr. Kaszubski stated: We also need to move forward with our District and avoid any divisiveness. On Election Day, there were some people telling others to bullet vote for Dina. I would not countenance anyone doing that for me in an uncontested election and I am sure Dina did not encourage that divisive action as it would also be selfish. We also need to put to rest the rumors that this Board is divided boys against girls. This is not the case. I have been on this Board for nearly six years and there has always been a woman on the Board during this time. This is the first year that false rumors have surfaced.

I asked Dr. Swart to confirm the votes taken by this Board in the last year to determine the number of "No" votes to prove this point. At our first meeting there was such a split with the vote for Vice President. This was caused by a communication problem among the Board members and nothing more. There was also a similar split with respect to the vote for a Financial Oversight Committee. However, even though Mrs. Badlato voted no, she indicated that she was not opposed but that felt that we should wait until the Comptroller or Legislators gave more direction.

We may not always agree, but most of the time we do.

To claim there is a split is divisive and not good for this District.

I have also heard a rumor that this divisive and false claim may be taking place at least at one of our schools. We cannot continue this. To be so divisive will hurt next year's Budget. If the Budget goes down it will hurt our children. It can also cause many teachers to lose their jobs. Please think about what you are doing when you spread false information. Let us all work together.

We need to move forward not backward.

The Board announced the formation of a Board Committee on Volunteer Assistants. The committee will seek out individuals to benefit the Athletic Program. The committee is composed of Mr. Fusaro, Mr. Ciccone, Mr. Annucci, and varsity coaches Dave Shanahan and Tracy Ott. The first meeting will take place next Tuesday, June 14. If anyone is interested in assisting our athletic program, please call the office of Human Resources.

Dr. Swart added that in terms of the selection criteria, the Board has not discussed it in a public forum and will do so at the August Work Session.

Mrs. Annunziata stated for the record that she echoed and appreciated Mr. Kaszubski's sentiments and comments thanking those who played a role in supporting and distributing the Budget flyer and ribbons. She and Mr. Kaszubski worked together on this activity to promote a spirit and positive attitude in Board service while pursuing two goals: quality education and responsible fiscal management.

She thanked the community for supporting her re-election and for passing the Budget.

Mrs. Annunziata said additional inspiration comes from words Mr. Tuorto wrote in the Athletic Awards program: "Most impressive is the District's strong commitment to academic and athletic experience in Elwood. Your ability to work cooperatively and fairly, demonstrate good sportsmanship, and support each other to reach a common goal is the ultimate work ethic." Mrs. Annunziata will continue to pursue that ultimate work ethic in her service on the Board and encourages her fellow Board members and each and every member of the community to join in that pursuit, by working cooperatively and fairly, and demonstrating good sportsmanship and supporting each other to reach the common goal, that is the best education for every one of our children, which they are entitled to and deserve.

K. COMMUNICATIONS

(TAB W)

1. Correspondence from Town of Huntington re: Orchard Park
2. Correspondence from Gerard Hannon 5/4/05

Another communication was received and Dr. Swart sent the writer a thank you on June 6.

L. RESIDENTS' REMARKS – 9:07 p.m. – 9:20 p.m.

M. EXECUTIVE SESSION -- No Recommended Items

N. ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Annunziata moved and Mr. Ciccone seconded that the Board adjourn the meeting at 9:23 p.m.

The motion carried unanimously.

(Mr. Kaszubski thanked the audience for their support in passing the Budget Vote and announced that tickets are still available for the Elwood Educational Endowment "Auction For Education" on Friday, June 10).

Respectfully submitted,

Carlene Granieri