

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
Ellicottville Central School**

**Regular Meeting
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**Sht. No. 1998
February 6, 2024**

OFFICIAL MINUTES

Members Present: Debra Golley, Kristen Pearl, William Murphy, Karl Northrup, Jenna O’Connell

Members Absent: Shana Chudy

Staff Present: Robert Miller, Aimee Kilby, Katie Mendell

Staff Absent: Erich Ploetz, Melissa Sawicki

Others Present: Matt Finn, Teaghan Finn, Schavon Byroads, Karin Hager

Call to order of meeting
President Golley called the regular meeting of February 6, 2024, of the Ellicottville Central School Board of Education to order at 6:00 p.m. The Pledge to the Flag of the United States of America was recited.

Roll Call
Shana Chudy

Changes, Additions and Deletions to the Agenda
None

Approve Agenda
Moved by Pearl, seconded by O’Connell, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, to adopt the agenda of February 6, 2024, Board of Education Meeting.

**Yes – 5
No – 0
Carried**

Public Comment

- The Public Comment section is a time set aside for the community to speak directly to the Board of Education.
- Please refer to Policy # 3220 – Public Expression at Meetings.
- Any person may make a public comment by placing their name, address, and topic on the sign-in sheet.
- When called, please stand up and state your name and address.
- Please be respectful in your comments and do not divulge any personal or confidential information. The speaker will be stopped if any Board member or district employee is mentioned by name.
- Please demonstrate respect by speaking to the issues, sharing ideas and opinions, but not engaging in personal attacks. At a public Board meeting, no person may orally initiate charges or complaints against individual District employees or Board members.
- Board members, the superintendent and administrators will not answer specific questions or engage in dialogue.
- The information shared will be carefully considered and the appropriate person may contact you.
- Rest assured, we are listening carefully, and take seriously what you have to say.
- The Board appreciates your willingness to share your concerns/celebrations.

Public Comment:
-Karin Hager, school nurse addressed the Board concerning the retirement incentive for the nurse in the ETA contract. Mrs. Hager presented the Board members with a letter expressing her concerns.

Presentations & Reports
ECS Softball – Spring Trip to Myrtle Beach for the Grand Strand Softball Classic – Matt Finn (Varsity Softball Coach) addressed the board regarding approval for the ECS Softball team to travel to Myrtle Beach April 1-5, 2024 for a three-day tournament. The team is not asking for any funding or transportation from the District. Parents will be transporting the students.

Communications, Commendations
None

Informational Items
None

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Superintendent’s Report – Robert Miller

- 1. BCS (Building Condition Survey) is done. SEI is filing with New York State.
- 2. Water supply tank repair is on hold, need special certificate with Health Department sign off (for approval process).
- 3. Capital Outlay kickoff meeting scheduled for February 28, 2024.
- 4. Bus Driver shortage
- 5. Various reports due
- 6. Social Media Awareness presentation – trying to reschedule and find a good date.

Principals Reports:

Katie Mendell – Elementary Principal/Director of Curriculum

- 1. Resilience training on rating day went very well.
- 2. 100th day of school celebration
- 3. Winter Carnival (Special Education – BOCES) 2/6/2024 was a success
- 4. Prek grant was submitted (again)
- 5. PTO talent show (next week)
- 6. Cattaraugus County Health Department will be presenting to various classes

Erich Ploetz - MS/HS Principal - Absent

Consent Items:

Moved by Murphy, seconded by Pearl, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval to adopt the following Consent Agenda items:

- a. That the board approve the minutes of the meeting of January 9, 2024
- b. Acknowledgement of the January 8, 2024, January 16, 2024 and January 30, 2024 Claims Auditor Reports
- c. Approval of the November 2023 and December 2023 Treasurer’s Reports

**Yes – 5
No – 0
Carried**

Committee Reports:

Technology - The technology committee met on 1/22/24. The committee was not in favor of purchasing additional WOZ Ed. kits; just re-stocking the ones we have on our own. Possible purchases / needs for 2024-25 were discussed: ladibugs, copiers, Cleartouch boards and the usual rotation of laptops/iPads. The majority of the meeting focused on the Digital Fluency Standards and aligning with our curriculum. Time will be set aside on the March 15th Staff Development Day to work on this curriculum.

Health & Safety - The Committee met on 1/29/24 and focused on the Workplace Violence Prevention Program requirements. The Committee reviewed the policy statement that is on the agenda for approval tonight. The rest of the time was spent completing the required risk assessment.

PDP - The Committee met on 2/5/24 and reviewed the plans for March 15th. Topics for 3/15 include: Law Enforcement presentation on Emergency Preparedness, Digital Fluency Standards, The Science of Reading, focused meetings on select policies, and general work on curriculum updates.

Budget - The committee met on 2/6/24 and discussed the Budget from 30,000 feet. The conversation revolved around the District’s reduction in Foundation Aide (\$316K) as well as a 10% increase in Insurance (\$145K) and employee wages (\$200k). The importance of reaching out to elected officials to get them to restore Foundation Aide was stressed.

Athletics – Discussed the following items: adding a modified track coach, selective classification for students moving up (develop a new process). Working on an agreement with Franklinville for combining sports. West Valley wants to combine for football and football cheerleading. Talked about summer camps and varsity club assistance. Team fundraising should go thru varsity club. Facility use form and process.

Discussion Items:

2024-2025 Budget – Superintendent Miller discussed rough numbers on state aid and various increases/decreases in expenses. Will continue to work on the budget and fine tuning of numbers.

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Old Business:
None

New Business:
Moved by Northrup, seconded by Pearl, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of the Cooperative Purchasing Annual Resolution with CA BOCES: WHEREAS, It is the plan of a number of public school districts in Cattaraugus County and Allegany County, New York, to bid jointly for various supplies, commodities, and/or services in the 2024-2025 fiscal year, and WHEREAS, The Ellicottville Central School District is desirous of participating with other school districts in Cattaraugus and Allegany Counties in the joint bidding of all or some of the supplies, commodities, and/or services as mentioned above, as authorized by General Municipal Law, Section 119-0, and as determined by district need, and WHEREAS, The Board of Cooperative Educational Services and Boards of Education wish to appoint a committee to assume the responsibility for drafting of specifications, advertising for bids, accepting and opening bids, tabulating bids, reporting of the results to the Board of Cooperative Educational Services and Boards of Education and making recommendations thereon; therefore, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Ellicottville Central School District Board of Education hereby appoints the Cattaraugus-Allegany-Erie-Wyoming Board of Cooperative Educational Services to represent it in all matters related above, and, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Ellicottville Central School District Board of Education authorizes the above mentioned committee to represent it in all matters leading up to the entering into a contract for the purchase of the above mentioned supplies, commodities, and/or services, and, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Ellicottville Central School District Board of Education agrees to assume its equitable share of the costs of the cooperative bidding, and, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Ellicottville Central School District Board of Education agrees (1) to abide by the majority decisions of the participating districts on quality standards; (2) that unless all bids are rejected, it will award contracts according to the recommendations of the committee; (3) that after award of contract(s) it will conduct all negotiations with the successful bidder(s).

**Yes – 5
No – 0
Carried**

Moved by Pearl seconded by O’Connell, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of a 6th grade Home School Student for 2023-2024 school year.

**Yes – 5
No – 0
Carried**

Moved by Murphy, seconded by Northrup, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of the revised CAP (Corrective Action Plan) Letters for the 2022-2023 Student Activities Audit & General Audit.

**Yes – 5
No – 0
Carried**

Moved by Pearl, seconded by O’Connell, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of authorizing Aimee Kilby, School Business Executive, to move funds from the Unassigned Fund Balance to various reserves in an amount not to exceed \$115,000.

**Yes – 5
No – 0
Carried**

Moved by Northrup, seconded by Murphy, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of a Spring Trip for the ECS Softball team to Myrtle Beach from April 1-5, 2024 as a school sponsored trip.

**Yes – 5
No – 0
Carried**

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Moved by O’Connell, seconded by Murphy, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of the nomination of Dale Colton to run for the Cattaraugus Allegany BOCES Board of Education as a representative from area 8 to continue the three (3) year term for the area (Ellicottville and Salamanca) to expire on June 30, 2025.

**Yes – 5
No – 0
Carried**

Moved by O’Connell, seconded by Murphy, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of the law firm of Bond, Schenck & King PLLC as legal counsel for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year, effective immediately.

**Yes – 5
No – 0
Carried**

Moved by Pearl, seconded by Northrup, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval for West Valley Central School to combine with the existing combined Franklinville-Ellicottville football team and for cheerleading also.

**Yes – 5
No – 0
Carried**

Personnel:

Moved by O’Connell, seconded by Murphy, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of the following Spring Sports Coaches for the 2023-2024 school year. These appointments are contingent upon sufficient student numbers in each sport.

Varsity Baseball	Chris Mendell
Assistant Varsity Baseball	Robert Sawicki Sr.
Modified Baseball	Rick DeKay
Varsity Softball	Matt Finn
Assistant Varsity Softball	Andrew Kruszka
JV Softball	Tracie Myers
Modified Softball	Tracy Rozler
Track and Field	Gwen Bush
Modified Track	TBD
Golf	Dan LaCroix

**Yes – 5
No – 0
Carried**

Moved by Pearl, seconded by Northrup, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of the following volunteers for baseball for the 2023-2024 school year: Jason Marsh, Cale Benjamin, Robert Sawicki Jr.

**Yes – 5
No – 0
Carried**

Moved by Pearl, seconded by O’Connell, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of the following scorekeepers for baseball for the 2023-2024 school year: Robert Sawicki, Jr., and Dave McCann.

**Yes – 5
No – 0
Carried**

Moved by O’Connell, seconded by Northrup, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of the following scorekeepers for softball for the 2023-2024 school year: Jason Marsh and Dave McCann.

**Yes – 5
No – 0
Carried**

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Moved by Murphy, seconded by Northrup, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of Robert Sawicki Jr. as a pitch count keeper for baseball for the 2023-2024 school year at a rate of \$38.00 per game.

**Yes – 5
No – 0
Carried**

Moved by Pearl, seconded by O’Connell, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of Savannah Gonsiorek as a Sports Clock, Scorekeeper & 30 Second clock for the 2023-2024 school year.

**Yes – 5
No – 0
Carried**

Moved by Murphy, seconded by Pearl, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of Caleb McMahon-Eagan to the substitute teacher list (non-certified) at a rate of \$125 per day retroactive to January 22, 2024. This appointment is contingent upon a successful fingerprint clearance from New York State.

**Yes – 5
No – 0
Carried**

Moved by O’Connell, seconded by Northrup, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of Mychelle McNeil to the substitute teacher list (certified) at a rate of \$135 per day retroactive to January 22, 2024. This appointment is contingent upon a successful fingerprint clearance from New York State.

**Yes – 5
No – 0
Carried**

Moved by Pearl, seconded by Northrup, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval to accept a letter of intent to retire from Karin Hager, School Nurse, effective at the end of the day on June 30, 2024.

**Yes – 5
No – 0
Carried**

Moved by Pearl, seconded by Murphy, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval to accept a letter of intent to retire from Karl Schwartz, effective at the end of the day on June 30, 2024.

**Yes – 5
No – 0
Carried**

Moved by Pearl, seconded by O’Connell, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval to accept a letter of intent to retire from Pam Illig, effective at the end of the day on June 30, 2024.

**Yes – 5
No – 0
Carried**

Moved by Murphy, seconded by Pearl, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of Madeline Gilbert to the substitute teacher list (non-certified) at a rate of \$115 per day. This appointment is contingent upon a successful fingerprint clearance from New York State.

**Yes – 5
No – 0
Carried**

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Policy

-First reading of proposed changes to policy #7131: Admission of Non-Resident Students

Moved by Pearl, seconded by Norhrup, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, to have the first reading, waive the second reading and approve policy #6190: Workplace Violence Prevention Policy Statement.

**Yes – 5
No – 0
Carried**

CSE/CPSE Recommendations

Moved by Northrup, seconded by Murphy, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, to approve the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the Ellicottville Central School District: That the Ellicottville Central School District has reviewed the recommendations of the District’s Committee on Special Education (#900501601, 900501537, 900500276, 900501530, 900500430, 900501149, 900501257, 900501147, 900501150, 900501301, 900501043, 900500578, 900500579, 900500758, 900501349, 900501026, 900501609) at its meeting on February 6, 2024, and approves all necessary arrangements as the most reasonable and appropriate special service(s) and/or program(s) for the implementation of those recommendations January 4, 2024 – January 31, 2024.

**Yes – 5
No – 0
Carried**

Executive Session

The New York Public Officers Law states a board may enter into executive session to discuss:

1. Matters which will imperil the public safety if disclosed.
2. Any matter which may disclose the identity of a law enforcement agent or informer.
3. Information relating to current or future investigation or prosecution of a criminal offense which would imperil effective law enforcement if disclosed.
4. Proposed, pending or current litigation.
5. Collective negotiations pursuant to Article 14 of the Civil Service Law (the Taylor Law).
6. The medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation.
7. The preparation, grading or administration of examinations.
8. The proposed acquisition, sale, or lease of real property or the proposed acquisition of securities, or sale or exchange of securities, but only when publicity would substantially affect the value of the property.

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Executive Session

Moved by Pearl, seconded by Murphy, to move into Executive Session at 7:05 p.m. for the purpose of:

- 3. Information relating to current or future investigation or prosecution of a criminal offense which would imperil effective law enforcement if disclosed.
- 5. Collective negotiations pursuant to Article 14 of the Civil Service Law (the Taylor Law).

**Yes – 5
No – 0
Carried**

Moved by Northrup, seconded by Pearl, to come out of Executive Session at 8:04 p.m. and return to the regular meeting.

**Yes – 5
No – 0
Carried**

Adjournment of Meeting

Moved by Murphy, seconded by O’Connell, to adjourn the regular meeting of February 6, 2024, at 8:05 p.m.

**Yes – 5
No – 0
Carried**

District Clerk

Deputy District Clerk