

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
Ellicottville Central School**

**Regular Meeting
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**Sht. No. 1952
April 20, 2021**

OFFICIAL MINUTES

Members Present: Robert Van Wicklin, William Murphy, Shana Chudy, Debra Golley, Karl Northup, Roger Spell, Leonard Zlockie

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Robert Miller, Melissa Sawicki, Aimee Kilby, Maren Bush, Erich Ploetz

Staff Absent: None

Others Present: Schavon Byroads

Call to order of meeting

President Van Wicklin called the regular meeting of April 20, 2021 of the Ellicottville Central School Board of Education to order at 6:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call

Shana Chudy arrived at 6:02 pm

Changes, Additions and Deletions to the Agenda

Additions/Changes:

17. Personnel
- c. ~~substitute teacher aide list~~ should read substitute bus driver list.
 - h. Moved by _____, seconded by _____, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of Jennifer Van Dusen to the substitute teacher aide list, retroactive to April 19, 2021 at a rate of \$12.50 per hour.
 - i. Moved by _____, seconded by _____, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of James Henneman to the position of Grounds & Mechanic's Helper at a rate of \$14.00 per hour, effective tentatively April 26, 2021. This appointment carries a one-year probationary period effective tentatively from April 26, 2021 and end on tentatively April 26, 2022. This appointment is contingent upon a successful fingerprint clearance from New York State.

Approve Agenda

Moved by Zlockie, seconded by Northrup, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, to adopt the agenda of the April 20, 2021 Board of Education Meeting with additions/changes.

**Yes – 6
No – 0
Carried**

Public Comment

None

Presentations & Reports

None

Communications, Commendations

None

Informational Items

None

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Superintendent's Report – Robert Miller

1. Unused Snow Days – Hoping not to use one tomorrow. Town of Great Valley on standby and maintenance staff at ECS is ready.

Shana Chudy arrived at 6:02 pm

Teachers and students will not be in school on May 28th and June 25th, if no emergency/snow days are used between now and those days. 12 Month staff will have to report to work or use leave time.

Bob and Erich will be meeting soon about days for students at the end of June.

2. Budget – New York State did restore some aid in certain categories. Even though aid was restored the district needs to be responsible. Looking like Covid funding will be around \$1,000 per student. The money has to be used for something new. Districts cannot double dip. Looking at new computers or part-time help for students. Hats off to Maren & Aimee for working diligently on Stimulus grant. Still a lot of questions regarding funding. The May 2021 newsletter will have an article detailing the overall increase in the budget is \$240,000 which represents a 1.83% increase. The district has worked within the parameters of the Tax CAP. The Board was very careful not to go over the CAP in a year of unknowns. There is enough money in the budget to purchase iPads for all elementary students to have their own and we are maintaining the bus fleet.

Principals Reports:

Erich Ploetz: MS/HS Principal -

1. 98% of professional life these days has been spent on return to learning plans for MS/HS students.
2. Yesterday was the first day of the 4th quarter. Awesome to have a home football game and have some activities return to normal.
3. Thank you, Faculty and students, for your willingness to try new process of coming back to in person learning 4-5 days a week.

Maren Bush: Elementary Principal/Director of Curriculum -

1. Getting ready for grades 3-8 ELA tests tomorrow.
2. Remote learners update: 11 in the Elementary and 24 in the MS/HS
3. Staff Appreciation and Spirit Week – first week in May

School Business Executive Report: Aimee Kilby

No Report

Consent Items:

Moved by Zlockie, seconded by Northrup, 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 March 30, 2021
- b. Acknowledgement of the March 30, 2021 & April 13, 2021 Claims Auditor Reports
- c. Approval of the February 2021 Treasurers Report

**Yes – 7
No – 0
Carried**

Committee Reports:

None

Discussion Items:

Draft 2021-2022 School Year Calendar: Teachers have 184 days in their contract, and we build in 2 snow days so it's a 186-day calendar. Traditionally the calendar looks the same. June 20th will be the Juneteenth holiday and school has to be closed for students. Still working on negotiations for a few units it will affect. If the draft looks good, we will share with ETA and ECSRPA.

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Old Business:

Expanded in-person instruction for grades 7-12: Superintendent Miller stated that the Department of Health guidance didn't come until Friday night (over break) at 6:00 pm. In his last report at the March 30, 2021 board meeting, he reported that if New York State adopts CDC guidance it could be more restrictive, and it did end up being that way. Cattaraugus County is in the high transmission zone, and that being said we cannot use barriers and go to 3 feet. Superintendent Miller has a question into New York State regarding clarification on the use of barriers, but the return email said they would get back as soon as possible as there is a high volume of questions right now. Superintendent Miller said his hat off to Erich Ploetz, Tammy Eddy and Dan LaCroix for completely re-doing the student schedules. He stated that he knows it is not perfect and there are imbalances. He stated that most students schedules significantly increase their time with teachers, and with the study halls they can manage their time and get their homework done, have good internet access that they may not have at home and meet with teachers. It is a good trade off. The teachers and Tammy are working to balance the schedules. There is a new SUPPORT period for students. Teachers can look at their schedules and if they have room, they can go into a study hall and pull students out that need help. Seniors have an open campus and Juniors can leave early or come in late with a note from their parent. Superintendent Miller, Mr. Ploetz and Mr. Lovell will meet to review bus schedules. Superintendent Miller stated that he cannot thank the entire staff enough for what they are pulling off.

Mr. Ploetz stated that the A/B rotation went from 4 periods a day, 2 days a week to students having an entire schedule 4 days a week with 8 periods. He stated that the schedules are a work in progress and the goal over the course of the next few weeks is to go into study halls and pull students out. He added that one of the smartest things the District did was have this week as a transition week. There are 7 & 8 grade assessments tomorrow and students are getting their bearings straight on Monday/Tuesday and Thursday/Friday. The hardest part for the students is going to be social distancing. Some of these students have not seen each other in over a year. They are very excited to get back in the building. Mr. Ploetz thanked the Board for their support and the transition week. He stated that the next big discussion, which may begin at tomorrow's faculty meeting will be exams and grading.

Capital Project: Superintendent Miller stated that the meeting with the architects and engineers went well today. He stated that some areas of the project are ahead of schedule. The new auxiliary well has been installed and abatement in the cafeteria should be finished up this week. Work on the athletic fields will most likely begin next week. Elementary windows will be re-caulked once the school year is over. Mrs. Williams, Cafeteria Manager relayed to Superintendent Miller that the temporary kitchen is working out well. Superintendent Miller stated that he will need to talk to the buildings and grounds committee about new and other items in the project. The District is going to try and put in rubber millings on the elementary playground before the end of the school year. The sooner, the better, Superintendent Miller added. Looking at adding bleacher pads as well. 30 foot-lights will be installed in front of the school and in the high school parking lot. Parking is going to be a problem. Some will have to park on the front lawn. Superintendent Miller stated that the project is getting exciting and will really take off this summer. Maren Bush is working with Ellicottville BOCES to reserve a room for Marie Davis to use this summer for a reading program and the district may need another room for driver's ed. BOCES has some room for summer classes but only had a few small areas during the school year.

New Business:

Moved by Murphy, seconded by Zlockie, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of changes to the Ellicottville Central School Emergency Management Plan as presented at the Public Hearing on March 9, 2021 at 5:45 pm in the HS Cafeteria.

**Yes – 7
No – 0
Carried**

Moved by Golley, seconded by Northrup, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of the 2021-2022 School District budget notice to be mailed to district residents on May 12, 2021.

**Yes – 7
No – 0
Carried**

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Moved by Spell, seconded by Zlockie, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of transportation requests to non-public schools (New Life Christian School – Olean, NY) for the 2021-2022 school year.

**Yes – 7
No – 0
Carried**

Moved by Northrup, seconded by Zlockie, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval to adopt the 2021-2022 Cattaraugus-Allegany-Erie-Wyoming BOCES Administrative Budget.

**Yes – 7
No – 0
Carried**

Moved by Murphy, seconded by Zlockie, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval to cast a vote or votes in the annual election of members of the Board of Cooperative Educational Services for the person(s) indicated on the ballot below.

Area 1 – Vacancy – 2 year term

Leslie Buckley **X**
342 West State Street
Wellsville NY 14895

Area 2 – Vacancy – 3 year term

Charles Bessette **X**
2588 Harland Ames Road
Bolivar, NY 14715

Area 5 – Vacancy – 3 year term

Ira Katzenstein **X**
1830 Windfall Road
Olean, NY 14760

Area 6 – Vacancy – 3 year term

Michael Conroy **X**
6355 Stinson Road
Arcade, NY 14009

**Yes – 7
No – 0
Carried**

Moved by Spell, seconded by Northrup, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of the book Exploraciones (1-2), publisher Cengage Learning (National Geographic Learning) for use in ECS Spanish classes.

**Yes – 7
No – 0
Carried**

Personnel:

Moved by Chudy, seconded by Golley, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of Dave McCann, Joe Steger and Chris Edwards as sports videographers including volleyball for the 2020-2021 school year at a rate of \$32/event.

**Yes – 7
No – 0
Carried**

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Moved by Zlockie seconded by Spell, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of Kate Benatovich to the substitute teacher aide list, retroactive to April 12, 2021, at a rate of \$12.50 per hour.

**Yes – 7
No – 0
Carried**

Moved by Golley, seconded by Spell, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval to accept a letter of resignation from Leanne Pfeffer (teacher aide) effective May 1, 2021. Mrs. Pfeffer's last day of work in the district will be Friday, April 30, 2021. Mrs. Pfeffer will remain on the substitute bus driver list.

**Yes – 7
No – 0
Carried**

Moved by Murphy, seconded by Northrup, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of Ann Marie Fitzpatrick, Annie Fitzpatrick, Sandra Reed and Eileen Hostuttler as inspectors for the May 18, 2021 Budget Vote & Board Member Election. Mrs. Fitzpatrick, Ms. Fitzpatrick, Mrs. Reed and Ms. Hostuttler will each receive \$125 to serve as an inspector.

**Yes – 7
No – 0
Carried**

Moved by Chudy, seconded by Golley, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of Sandra Reed as Chairperson for the May 18, 2021 Budget Vote & Board Member Election.

**Yes – 7
No – 0
Carried**

Moved by Spell, seconded by Northrup, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of Nick Fedick to the substitute cleaner list effective April 21, 2021 at a rate of \$12.50 per hour.

**Yes – 7
No – 0
Carried**

Moved by Zlockie, seconded by Murphy, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of the following for Fall 2 sports (2020-2021 school year):

Football Timer: Dave McCann
Volleyball Scorers: Sandy Olson, Matt Finn, Dave McCann, Tracie Myers

**Yes – 7
No – 0
Carried**

Moved by Spell, seconded by Northrup, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of Jennifer Van Dusen to the substitute teacher aide list, retroactive to April 19, 2021 at a rate of \$12.50 per hour.

**Yes – 7
No – 0
Carried**

Moved by Chudy, seconded by Northrup, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of James Henneman to the position of Grounds & Mechanic's Helper at a rate of \$14.00 per hour, effective tentatively April 26, 2021. This appointment carries a one-year probationary period effective tentatively from April 26, 2021 and end on tentatively April 26, 2022. This appointment is contingent upon a successful fingerprint clearance from New York State.

**Yes – 7
No – 0
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Policy:

Moved by Spell, seconded by Murphy, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, 2nd reading and approval of proposed changes to policy #7131 Admission of Non-Resident Students.

**Yes – 7
No – 0
Carried**

Moved by Golley, seconded by Zlockie, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, 2nd reading and approval of proposed changes to policy #5633 Gender Neutral Single-Occupancy Bathrooms.

**Yes – 7
No – 0
Carried**

Moved by Spell, seconded by Northrup, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, 2nd reading and approval of proposed changes to policy #3421 Title IX and Sex Discrimination.

**Yes – 7
No – 0
Carried**

CSE/CPSE Recommendations:

Moved by Murphy, seconded by Chudy, 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 (#900501418, 900501043, 900501418, 900501397) at its meeting on April 20, 2021 and approves all necessary arrangements as the most reasonable and appropriate special service(s) and/or program(s) for the implementation of those recommendations March 25-30, 2021.

**Yes – 7
No – 0
Carried**

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Executive Session

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Moved by Northrup, seconded by Spell, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval to enter into executive session at 7:06 pm to discuss one contractual item (ETA), one specific personnel item (ETA) and 3 specific personnel items (ECSRPA).

Yes – 7

No – 0

Carried

Moved by Spell, seconded by Zlockie, to come out of executive session at 8:19 pm and return to the regular meeting.

Yes – 7

No – 0

Carried

Adjournment of Meeting

Moved by Northrup, seconded by Golley, to adjourn the regular meeting of April 20, 2021 at 8:20 p.m.

Yes – 7

No – 0

Carried

District Clerk

Deputy District Clerk