

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Ellicottville Central School**

**Regular Meeting  
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**Sht. No. 1980  
January 17, 2023**

**OFFICIAL MINUTES**

**Members Present:** William Murphy, Debra Golley, Erin Cornelius,  
Karl Northrup, Kristen Pearl, Robert Van Wicklin

**Members Absent:** Shana Chudy

**Staff Present:** Robert Miller, Melissa Sawicki, Aimee Kilby, Katie Mendell, Erich Ploetz

**Staff Absent:** None

**Others Present:** Schavon Byroads, Jayce Pearl

**Call to order of meeting**

President Murphy called the regular meeting of January 17, 2023, 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 – absent

**Changes, Additions and Deletions to the Agenda**

**Additions:**

16. Personnel
- m. Moved by \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of Anna Maria Cavallo to the position of Speech Language Pathologist effective January 18, 2023 – June 30, 2023, in accordance with the Waiver of Right to Probationary Appointment agreed to by the Superintendent, ETA President, and Anna Maria Cavallo. The Board further approves the Waiver of Right to Probationary Appointment, which includes terms and conditions of employment for Anna Maria Cavallo, as presented to the Board. Mrs. Cavallo will receive \$15,663.56 for this appointment (.4 – 2 days a week).

**Deletions:**

12. a. Health & Safety
12. b. Athletics & Performing Arts

**Approve Agenda**

Moved by Golley, seconded by Northrup, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, to adopt the agenda of the January 17, 2023, Board of Education Meeting with additions and deletions.

**Yes – 6  
No – 0  
Carried**

**Public Comment**

None

**Presentations & Reports**

None

**Communications, Commendations**

Senior Citizens Luncheon

**Informational Items**

None

**Superintendent's Report – Robert Miller**

1. Weight Room – We are in the process of trying to re-open for the public. There was some confusion with the advisor sign-ups and we are currently working on recruiting employees to oversee the weight room.

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**Principals Reports:**

**Erich Ploetz: MS/HS Principal**

1. End of 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Marking Period – next Friday, January 27. Regents Exams next week, very few scheduled to be administered. Several half-year courses coming to and end, including freshmen and sophomore English courses.
2. Advisory Goal Setting Program
3. Code of Conduct Review Committee – Recruitment Underway
4. Athletic Update – Men’s & Women’s Basketball beginning league play, Bowlers continue to improve and have won a few matches. Alpine skiing is underway with the first match held last week.
5. 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade Spanish classes made posters with goals for the year. Grab a tab available for all to take.

**Katie Mendell – Elementary Principal/Director of Curriculum**

1. Climate & Culture: Holiday assembly- incorporated musical performances by MS/HS band, problem solving team challenges, staff competition(s), Held first 5<sup>th</sup> grade Leadership Academy meeting- 9 students, monthly lunch meeting, ‘Thank You’ project to honor Hamlin’s medical team/support, Collaborative project for Jan/Feb - Tree of Hope, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade CTE visit
2. Curriculum and Instruction: Congrats to Leah Farnum on obtaining 1 of 10 nationwide grants from The American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics/The Boeing Company (mission of the grant to support ‘next generation’s success in STEM). Funding will be spent to purchase 2 I-Root Robots and extension kits. Continued assessment and adjustments of RTI model : growing percentage of students qualifying for service, monitoring tool, staff leadership and effectively utilizing interventionists: Held 2<sup>nd</sup> Data Team Meeting, Next year’s schedule model, Continuum of intervention. Tech integration- needs assessment & collaboration, Pyonkee (coding app focus on logic and math), GimKit, Lightbot (coding for 2<sup>nd</sup> and under); Review of current text series and grade level/content needs, shifting market (physical texts v. digital), consultation with curriculum coordinators and regional districts.  
Professional Development: Working on 3/17 PD Plan to be very responsive and include speakers/topics including: Tech Integration/21<sup>st</sup> century learning, Mosaic, CBT transition, NYS Science Investigations, Emergency Medical Response, RTI MTSS, Differentiation, Trauma & Resilience, Behavioral Intervention strategies. 1/17 Early Learning PD mini sessions: NYSED updates, play based learning, unpacking new standards, integration of computer science & digital fluency standards at early elementary level.
3. Parent & Family Engagement: Collaborative projects to include and encourage family engagement (Art, STEM, writing). Ongoing positive phone calls to families to ensure 80% of calls home are proactive, vs. responsive. Developing communication goals regarding tech intervention/enrichment tools to practice skills and support individualized student goals across each environment.
4. Upcoming Events: NHS Sponsored “Parents Night Out” movie night for grades 3-5. Reading Celebration on 2/3 with local authors/illustrators (with added focus on SEL, writing project and school wide gallery walk). Winter Carnival for special education students.

**Consent Items:**

Moved by Cornelius, 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 December 13, 2022
- b. Acknowledgement of the December 20, 2022 & January 3, 2023 Claims Auditor Reports
- c. Approval of the October 2022 & November 2022 Treasurers Reports

**Yes – 6  
No – 0  
Carried**

**Committee Reports:**

- a. ~~Health & Safety~~ Deleted from Agenda
- b. ~~Athletics & Performing Arts~~ Deleted from Agenda

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**Discussion Items:**

**2023-2024 Budget** – preliminary budget: a bit behind last year. At the Governors state of the state address stated that she will be dedicating a lot of money to Education. Superintendent Miller stated that he perceives some competitive process, which generally ECS does not qualify for. A lot of the money is usually attached to the district’s wealth ratio. They are pushing all day Prek. We have to do some research to see if we can get into this. Superintendent Miller stated if we get a zero increase in Foundation Aid we are in trouble (NYSCOSS projection). Rick Timbs (Financial Advisor) said it is most likely ECS will get something. He added that we have to see what happens on April 1<sup>st</sup> with the State budget. Health Insurance will be increasing by 10%. No major increases in TRS or ERS. Creatively using CERSA Funds to fix roof and other miscellaneous expenses. Looking at staffing needs for next year. Superintendent Miller stated that he is once again going to revisit the need for another Administrator, bringing back special education and students (we have to make sure we can provide the related services these students need). Shortage of qualified teachers is hurting. Lunch program/feed everyone – still don’t know how it will work. Will provide a more robust budget report in February. The Elementary Roof is still leaking. We are working on pushing the warranty. The company has been out about 6 times and it is still leaking. We need to discuss the Capital Outlay for this year or next. Voters have to approve on a separate proposition.

**Sports with Franklinville** – Superintendent Miller stated that a joint meeting was held in Franklinville. Franklinville has asked in the past if they can join ECS in some sports. Superintendent Miller stated that ECS has enjoyed, for many years, sharing sports with Franklinville. They are looking at girls volleyball and boys soccer. They were combined with Holland, but that is a long haul. At the meeting it was discussed about starting at the modified level and moving up to the varsity level. Perhaps having a transportation shuttle to help take students back and forth between schools. Discussed team names. Do we go to Titans or do we keep Eagles. Superintendent Miller stated that we need to continue conversations. Dave McCann is working on boys’ soccer numbers for 2023/24. Volleyball – only a few kids right now from Franklinville interested, but that can change. A positive would be we could have a true JV Boys Soccer Team. If you have too many juniors and seniors you may have to make cuts. Deb Golley stated that Franklinville said possibly bringing West Valley in....Mrs. Golley stated she is against that. They stated that the Code of Conduct at Franklinville is harder than ECS. She added that she thinks the discussion is moving too fast. Boys soccer needed an answer a few weeks ago. Erin Cornelius stated that there may be a hardship for some parents, going back and forth between schools. Deb Golley stated that there are pros and cons to jv. Nice to have a jv, but there are no close teams to play. Superintendent Miller stated that this has been something that has been coming for a few years. He stated that he thinks the two schools work well together and the relationship has gone well over the years. Erin Cornelius stated she felt this discussion needs to be open to the public and ask for their opinion. Deb Golley stated that maybe we should trend out a few years. Bob Miller stated he did not think we can do Fall 2023 and that there is no way to get public input that quickly. The Section is waiting on our answer. He stated that the deadline was January 1st. He stated that we will have to continue discussions.

**Old Business:**

None

**New Business:**

Moved by Golley, seconded by Northrup, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of an RFP for External Auditing Services from Buffamante, Whipple, Buttafaro PC for five years (June 2023 – June 2027), at a rate of June 2023 @\$28,000; June 2024 @ \$29,000; June 2025 @ \$30,000; June 2026 @ \$31,000 and June 2027 @ \$32,500 per year.

**Yes – 6  
No – 0  
Carried**

Moved by Cornelius, seconded by Van Wicklin, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of a SAT Prep Course at ECS for ECS students from January - March 2023.

**Yes – 6  
No – 0  
Carried**

Moved by Golley, seconded by Pearl, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of the 2023-2024 Budget Preparation Calendar.

**Yes – 6  
No – 0  
Carried**

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Moved by Pearl, seconded by Northrup, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of the September thru December 2022 fire drills and lock down drills at ECS.

**Yes – 6  
No – 0  
Carried**

Moved by Cornelius, seconded by Northrup, approval for Superintendent Robert Miller to attend the Allegany Cattaraugus Superintendents' Association (ACSA) Winter Retreat/Conference at Beaver Hollow on January 26 & 27, 2023.

**Yes – 6  
No – 0  
Carried**

Moved by Golley, seconded by Pearl, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of the following substitute teacher and substitute support staff pay rates effective retroactive to January 3, 2023:

- Substitute Teacher (Certified Retired ECS Teachers) \$150 per day
- Long Term Substitute Certified Teacher \$180 per day  
(More than 10 consecutive days certified retired ECS teacher in any area)
- Long Term Certified Teacher/Related Service Provider \$200 per day  
(More than 10 consecutive days provided the teacher is directly certified in the subject/related service area)
- Long Term Certified Teacher/Related Service Provider \$250 per day  
(More than 10 consecutive days provided the teacher is directly certified in the subject area and is a retired ECS teacher/related service provider)
- \*\*\*Long Term substitute rates do not start until day 11 unless approved to begin earlier upon appointment or recommendation of the Superintendent to the Board of Education.\*\*\*
- Retired ECS Support Staff Rate upon retirement

**Yes – 6  
No – 0  
Carried**

Moved by Golley, seconded by Van Wicklin, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval to adopt the following Resolution: WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Ellicottville Central School District will be considering acceptance of a donation that consists of replacing existing outdoor athletic field lighting ("Project"); and WHEREAS, the proposed elements of the Project are routine activities of an educational institution for the purpose of maintenance or repair of existing structures and facilities replacement, rehabilitation or reconstruction of a structure or facility, in kind; and/or routine activities of educational institutions including expansion of existing facilities by less than 10,000 feet of gross floor area; and WHEREAS, such actions are deemed, pursuant to the regulations adopted by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, to be "Type II" actions and are not subject to the requirements of the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act; NOW THEREFORE IT IS RESOLVED, that the proposed Project is a Type II action pursuant to 6 NYCRR § 617.5(c) and that review pursuant to the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act is not necessary. The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote on roll call, which resulted as follows:

Debra Golley	Voting <b>yes</b>
Shana Chudy	Voting <b>absent</b>
Erin Schweers Cornelius	Voting <b>yes</b>
Karl Northrup	Voting <b>yes</b>
Kristen Pearl	Voting <b>yes</b>
Robert Van Wicklin	Voting <b>yes</b>
William Murphy	Voting <b>yes</b>

**Yes – 6  
No – 0  
Carried**

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**Personnel:**

Moved by Cornelius, seconded by Northrup, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of Gwen Bush and Ann Chamberlain to teach an SAT Prep Class retroactive from January – March 2023 at a stipend of \$1,036 per teacher. Mrs. Bush and Mrs. Chamberlain will alternate teaching days (English and Math).

**Yes – 6  
No – 0  
Carried**

Moved by Pearl, seconded by Van Wicklin, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, to approve the tenure appointment of Meghan Emborsky in Foreign Language. Mrs. Emborsky has her Permanent Certificate in Spanish 7-12. Tenure is effective February 1, 2023.

**Yes – 6  
No – 0  
Carried**

Moved by Pearl, seconded by Northrup, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, to approve Dana Story to the permanent position of bus driver effective January 18, 2023 after successfully completing one year of probation.

**Yes – 6  
No – 0  
Carried**

Moved by Golley, seconded by Van Wicklin, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, to approve Abigail Ploetz to the substitute teacher aide list retroactive to December 15, 2022 at a rate of \$15.00 per hour. This appointment is contingent upon a successful fingerprint clearance from New York State.

**Yes – 6  
No – 0  
Carried**

Moved by Cornelius, seconded by Van Wicklin, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval to move Kathie Dudley from the position of part-time teacher aide to full-time teacher aide retroactive to January 3, 2023.

**Yes – 6  
No – 0  
Carried**

Moved by Golley, seconded by Northrup, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of Elizabeth Weber to the position of Drama Club – Assistant Director: Choreographer for the 2022-2023 school year.

**Yes – 6  
No – 0  
Carried**

Moved by Pearl, seconded by Cornelius, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of Elizabeth Weber and Wendy Burch to the position of Co - Drama Club Directors (Stage) for the 2022-2023 school year. Mrs. Weber & Mrs. Burch will split the stipend for this position.

**Yes – 6  
No – 0  
Carried**

Moved by Northrup, seconded by Pearl, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, to approve Clayton Rowland to the substitute teacher aide list retroactive to January 3, 2023 at a rate of \$15.00 per hour. This appointment is contingent upon a successful fingerprint clearance from New York State.

**Yes – 6  
No – 0  
Carried**

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Moved by Northrup, seconded by Van Wicklin, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, to approve Helena Brierton to the substitute teacher list (certified) retroactive to January 3, 2023 at a rate of \$150.00 per day.

**Yes – 6  
No – 0  
Carried**

Moved by Pearl, seconded by Northrup, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, to approve Griffin Chudy as a long-term substitute (non-certified) @ a rate of \$130 per day effective retroactive to January 3, 2023.

**Yes – 6  
No – 0  
Carried**

Moved by Golley, seconded by Cornelius, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of an intermittent Family Medical Leave (FMLA) request from April Donoghue from tentatively January 17, 2023 to June 23, 2023.

**Yes – 6  
No – 0  
Carried**

Moved by Golley, seconded by Northrup, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of a Family Medical Leave (FMLA) request from Tina Barrett from January 10, 2023 to February 21, 2023.

**Yes – 6  
No – 0  
Carried**

Moved by Golley, seconded by Cornelius, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of Anna Maria Cavallo to the position of Speech Language Pathologist effective January 18, 2023 – June 30, 2023, in accordance with the Waiver of Right to Probationary Appointment agreed to by the Superintendent, ETA President, and Anna Maria Cavallo. The Board further approves the Waiver of Right to Probationary Appointment, which includes terms and conditions of employment for Anna Maria Cavallo, as presented to the Board. Mrs. Cavallo will receive \$15,663.56 for this appointment (.4 – 2 days a week).

**Yes – 6  
No – 0  
Carried**

**Policy**

None

**CSE/CPSE Recommendations**

Moved by Cornelius, seconded by Van Wicklin, 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 (#900500354, 900500822, 900501412, 900501047, 900501517, 900500354, 900501504, 900501515, 900501513, 900500969, 900501232) at its meeting on January 17, 2023, and approves all necessary arrangements as the most reasonable and appropriate special service(s) and/or program(s) for the implementation of those recommendations December 9, 2022 – January 12, 2023.

**Yes – 6  
No – 0  
Carried**

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**Executive Session**

Moved by Van Wicklin, seconded by Golley, to move into Executive Session at 7:33 pm to discuss:

- 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.
- collective bargaining pursuant to Article 14 of the Civil Service Law.

**Yes – 6  
No – 0  
Carried**

Moved by Golley, seconded by Cornelius, to come out of Executive Session at 8:59 pm and return to the regular meeting.

**Yes – 6  
No – 0  
Carried**

**Adjournment of Meeting**

Moved by Golley, seconded by Van Wicklin, to adjourn the regular meeting of January 17, 2023, at 8:59 p.m.

**Yes – 6  
No – 0  
Carried**

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District Clerk

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Deputy District Clerk