

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
Ellicottville Central School**

**Regular Meeting
Page 1**

**Sht. No. 2000
March 26, 2024**

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES

Members Present:	Debra Golley, Kristen Pearl, Shana Chudy, William Murphy, Karl Northrup, Jenna O’Connell
Members Absent:	None
Staff Present:	Robert Miller, Melissa Sawicki, Aimee Kilby, Erich Ploetz
Staff Absent:	Katie Mendell
Others Present:	Eileen Finn, Joel Burlingame, Schavon Byroads, Jennifer Myers, Jon Wilder, Jordan O’Connell, Delaney Myers, Emma Lafferty, Doug Bush, Jill Northrup, Amanda Bishop Nazareth, Eddie Nazareth, Keelin Finn, Teaghan Finn, Drew Ficek, Tracy Rozler, Andrew Rozler, Cheryl Folts, Andrew Freedman, Esq.

Call to order of meeting
President Golley called the regular meeting of March 26, 2024, of the Ellicottville Central School Board of Education to order at 6:02 p.m. The Pledge to the Flag of the United States of America was recited.

Roll Call
All present

Changes, Additions and Deletions to the Agenda
None

Approve Agenda
Moved by Pearl, seconded by Murphy, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, to adopt the agenda of March 26, 2024, Board of Education Meeting.

**Yes – 6
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: Amanda Bishop Nazareth, 7328 Route 219N, Ellicottville, New York, 14731. Mrs. Bishop-Nazareth stated that she was at the meeting to speak regarding the executive session planned by the Board, regarding her son’s suspension appeal. Mrs. Bishop-Nazareth began to discuss her son and the events surrounding his suspension. President Golley stated that she would have to stop Mrs. Bishop-Nazareth from sharing any further information in open session. Mrs. Bishop-Nazareth handed President Golley 7 copies of the information she was presenting/discussing. President Golley stated that the Board would review the information in executive session.

Presentations & Reports
None

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
Ellicottville Central School**

**Regular Meeting
Page 2**

**Sht. No. 2000
March 26, 2024**

Communications, Commendations
None

Informational Items
CA BOCES Election Info (April 16, 2024)

Superintendent's Report – Robert Miller

1. Work is still being done on the elementary elevator.
2. HS Restrooms – were plugged two weekends in a row. The County Health Department called and checked on what was going on. Repairs were done on Friday, March 15th (Staff Development Day – no students were in attendance).
3. Water Supply Tank – looking for a temporary solution. Possibly renting a holding tank. Would basically be a tanker truck. We need a contingency plan if something happens before we can get it into a Capital Project.
4. HS Gym Lights – we were advised to replace the lights as it would be cheaper than just replacing the bulbs. The new fixtures will be covered in a Capital Outlay Project in the 2024-2025 budget.
5. NYS Aid – no changes yet. The New York State budget probably won't be on time, because of the Easter holiday. The NYS Senate and Assembly want school aid fully restored. I encourage everyone to contact your representatives and encourage them to fully restore school aid.
6. Help Wanted – several positions available. We have advertised in the newspapers, online, BOCES site, Facebook, etc. We need people to help run the district.
7. Final agreement with Franklinville for football and cheerleading. Asking for approval later in the meeting.
8. Workplace Violence Prevention Plan – still working on the plan.
9. Digital Media/Social Awareness – the first meeting was scheduled and canceled because of a snowstorm. Attempts were made for March 25th, but 2 presenters were not available, and another was only available during the day. Hoping to set-up sooner than later.

Principals Reports:

Katie Mendell – Elementary Principal/Director of Curriculum - Absent

Erich Ploetz - MS/HS Principal

1. March 12th – 7th Grade Leadership Conference – CA BOCES Principal's Association: Mr. Gesing attended with 3 students (Marshall DeChane, Gabe DeChane and Carsten Kosinski).
2. March 13th – Winter Sports Awards: Congratulations to all teams for successful seasons, including Girls' Varsity basketball team, Coach Rozler & Coach Finn, who made the deepest run into the playoffs we've seen in over 20 years.
3. Parent/Teacher Conference were well attended on March 14th.
4. Thank you to the NYS Troopers for their safety update on Superintendent's Conference Day, March 15th in addition to support from Mark Carls CA BOCES & Gerry Daly wellness trainer, for teacher aides and assistants.
5. Student Council Blood Drive – Many thanks to Community Blood Bank who hosted the blood drive on February 29th, with a special thanks to ECS Junior Siying Sun, who took a special interest in organizing and bringing the event to ECS.
6. Musical - Freaky Friday: Congratulations to the cast and crew, including faculty support from Elizabeth Weber, Meghan Emborsky, Wendy Burch and Jamie Edwards.
7. 3-8 ELA Assessments: April 11th & 12th. Math Assessments: May 7th & 8th. Science Assessments: May 16th. All Grades 5 & 8 Assessments will be administered on computers.
8. Quarter 3 wraps up April 19th.
9. Many students participated in the All County #1 @ Allegany Limestone on March 1st & 2nd and All County #2 @ Olean on March 15th and 16th.

President Golley stated that she was so impressed with the girls' varsity basketball team. She stated that she knew the last game was hard and they never gave up – Kudo's for never quitting. She gave a shout out to the boys for cheering on the girls' team.

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
Ellicottville Central School**

**Regular Meeting
Page 3**

**Sht. No. 2000
March 26, 2024**

School Business Executive – Aimee Kilby

- 1. Currently working on: 2024-2025 Budget, Budget Newsletter, Preparing for Health Insurance and Flex Plan Open Enrollment, ARPA Funding Compliance Report, Preparing for year-end, Implementing safeguards for Student Activities and streamlining advisor and treasurer responsibilities, example excel spreadsheets and brief power point training.
- 2. Recently completed: MOE 2022-2023 Compliance Calculator, used to show the state that we are contributing district share to Special Education costs related to the 611/619 IDEA Grants. Quarterly Payroll Reports. Streamlined banking needs, example online statements and implemented some fraud prevention related to checks, ACH and wire transfer transactions.
- 3. Continue to work on everyday tasks, bank recs, payroll, accounts payable, benefits, student activities and staff questions.

Consent Items:

- Moved by O’Connell, 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 February 6, 2024 & March 12, 2024
 - b. Acknowledgement of February 13, 2024; February 27, 2024 and March 12, 2024 Claims Auditor Reports
 - c. Approval of the January 2024 & February 2024 Treasurer’s Reports

**Yes – 6
No – 0
Carried**

Committee Reports:

None

Discussion Items:

2024-2025 Budget – Superintendent Miller stated that not much has changed. Mrs. Kilby stated that she provided board members with two sheets highlighting what was discussed at the March 12th Budget Worksession, including the 24.52% increase in health insurance costs. She stated that ECS would make an extra payment in June of this year to help offset next year’s payments. This would be a 1.5% difference in the budget (\$139,421). Mrs. Kilby stated that 3 students have been accepted into the New Vision’s program for next year and the cost is reflected in the proposed budget. She stated that she did her best to make everything fit. She stated that the second sheet is the bottom-line budget. No increase in state aid would result in the tax levy going up 6.34%. Partial reinstatement of state aid (\$226,000) would result in a 3.8% increase and if we don’t make the extra health insurance payment in June the increase in the levy would be 7.68%. Mrs. Kilby stated that between now and April 16th (when the Board will approve the budget) some decisions need to be made. She asked Board members to reach out to her if they had any questions between now and April 16th. She added that we are at a standstill until we hear from New York State. Superintendent Miller stated that ECS was #2 in ELA in CA BOCES for state testing last year and #1 in Math. He stated that everyone works really hard to stay #1. He said that the only way to cut in the budget is staffing and the Board and administration does not want to do that.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Moved by Pearl, seconded by Northrup, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of the new dates of the Senior Class Trip (Class of 2024) June 15-18, 2024.

**Yes – 6
No – 0
Carried**

Moved by O’Connell, seconded by Pearl, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of an MOA with the ETA (Ellicottville Teachers Association) regarding a modified track coach & unified bowling coach.

**Yes – 6
No – 0
Carried**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
Ellicottville Central School**

**Regular Meeting
Page 4**

**Sht. No. 2000
March 26, 2024**

Moved by Pearl, seconded by Murphy, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval to adopt the Rules For Use of Voting Machines and the Submission of Questions or Propositions to be Placed Thereon.

**Yes – 6
No – 0
Carried**

Moved by Chudy, seconded by Northrup, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of the following resolution to publish the Legal Notice for annual budget vote and trustee election, and institute all other procedures required for conduct of the vote and election, as submitted. WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 1708 of the Education Law, it is necessary to set the date of the District’s budget hearing: WHEREAS, pursuant to Sections 1708 and 2003 of the Education Law, it is necessary to provide for publication of the notice of the annual meeting and election of the District, as well as notice of the budget hearing of the District; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ellicottville Central School District: That the provisions of this resolution shall be effective regardless of anything to the contrary in the Board Policy Manual, or the previous minutes of this Board, or otherwise; That it is hereby determined, pursuant to Section 1708 of the Education Law, that a public hearing of this District, for presentation of the proposed school district budget, shall be conducted on May 14, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. prevailing time in the Ellicottville CS District High School Cafeteria; That, pursuant to Section 2003 of the Education Law, the annual meeting and election of the District shall be held on May 21 2024 from 1:00 p.m. prevailing time until 8:00 p.m. prevailing time, in the Elementary School Foyer, for the purpose of voting on the appropriation of the necessary funds to meet the District’s estimated expenditures for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025, for the purpose of electing one member of the Board of Education and for the transaction of such other business as may be authorized by law; That the District Clerk is hereby directed to publish a copy of the following notice in both the Olean Times Herald and the Salamanca Press, four times in each within the seven weeks next preceding such District meeting, the first publication in each newspaper to be at least 45 days before said annual meeting and election. That the District Clerk is hereby directed to arrange for the use of voting machines for said District meeting and election and for the printing of ballot labels to be used in said machines, which ballot labels shall be printed in the form required by the rules of the use of voting machines.

**Yes – 6
No – 0
Carried**

Moved by Murphy, seconded by Northrup, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of a revised CAP (Corrective Action Plan) letter (dated February 22, 2024) for the 2022-2023 General Audit.

**Yes – 6
No – 0
Carried**

Moved by O’Connell, seconded by Pearl, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of an agreement of partnership with Franklinville Central School regarding Varsity, JV and Modified Football and a cheerleading program beginning with the 2024-2025 school year. This partnership shall automatically renew on January 1st, at the start of each succeeding school year, unless modified in writing by mutual agreement prior to December 1st.

**Yes – 6
No – 0
Carried**

Moved by Chudy, seconded by Pearl, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of an MOA with the ETA changing the terms and conditions of the CBA regarding the donation of sick days to an association member.

**Yes – 6
No – 0
Carried**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
Ellicottville Central School**

**Regular Meeting
Page 5**

**Sht. No. 2000
March 26, 2024**

Moved by Northrup, seconded by O’Connell, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval by the ECS Board of Education to consolidate bus runs effective April 9, 2024, and therefore eliminate one full-time bus driver position.

Discussion: Superintendent Miller stated that because of a retirement the position of bus driver was posted and two months later no one has applied. Dave Pelton and Todd Lovell worked really hard so we can consolidate the runs. The consolidation affects 3 runs. A letter will be sent to parents tomorrow. The consolidation of runs helps save money as well.

**Yes – 6
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 Coach for the 2023-2024 school year. This appointment is contingent upon sufficient student numbers for Modified Track.

Modified Track Diana Olson

**Yes – 6
No – 0
Carried**

Moved by Pearl, seconded by Chudy, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of Kaitlin Jensen to the substitute teacher aide list @ a rate of \$15.00 an hour effective retroactive to February 2, 2024.

**Yes – 6
No – 0
Carried**

Moved by O’Connell, seconded by Murphy, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of Ellen Story to the substitute cleaner list @ a rate of \$15.00 an hour. This appointment is contingent upon a successful fingerprint clearance from New York State.

**Yes – 6
No – 0
Carried**

Moved by Pearl, seconded by Northrup, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of John Dry and Steve Grabowski as pitch count keepers for baseball @ \$38 per game and as scorekeepers for baseball (salary as per ETA contract) for the 2023/2024 school year. These appointments are contingent upon a successful fingerprint clearance from New York State.

**Yes – 6
No – 0
Carried**

Moved by Chudy, seconded by O’Connell, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of Blair Wood to the substitute teacher list (certified) at a rate of \$160 per day. This appointment is retroactive to March 1, 2024.

**Yes – 6
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 resignation from Lorraine Mitchum (cafeteria worker) effective at the end of the day on March 20, 2024.

**Yes – 6
No – 0
Carried**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
Ellicottville Central School**

**Regular Meeting
Page 6**

**Sht. No. 2000
March 26, 2024**

Moved by Chudy, seconded by Pearl, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval to accept a letter of resignation for retirement purposes from Melanie Van Wicklin effective at the end of the day on June 28, 2024.

**Yes – 6
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 resignation from Lisa Pawlowski effective at the end of the day on June 30, 2024.

**Yes – 6
No – 0
Carried**

Policy

Moved by O’Connell, seconded by Northrup, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of the second reading and adoption of policy #7131: Admission of Non-Resident Students.

**Yes – 6
No – 0
Carried**

CSE/CPSE Recommendations

Moved by Northrup, seconded by Pearl, 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 (#900501031, 900500260, 900501448, 900501222, 900500822, 900501362, 900501424, 900500555, 900501029, 900501031, 900501281, 900500080, 900501259, 900500333, 900501173, 900501513, 900501043, 900501376, 900501464, 900423395, 900501132, 900423395, 900501148, 900501503, 900501617, 900501395, 900501470, 900501137, 900501386, 900501043, 900500080, 900501301, 900500473, 900501489, 900501036, 900501606, 900500324, 900500550, 900501508) at its meeting on March 26, 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 February 1 – March 20, 2024.

**Yes – 6
No – 0
Carried**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
Ellicottville Central School**

**Regular Meeting
Page 7**

**Sht. No. 2000
March 26, 2024**

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.

Executive Session

Moved by O’Connell, seconded by Pearl, to move into Executive Session at 6:32 p.m.
for the purpose of:

- 4. Proposed, pending or current litigation – **Review of a student discipline appeal.**
- 5. Collective negotiations pursuant to Article 14 of the Civil Service Law (the Taylor Law)

**Yes – 6
No – 0
Carried**

Melissa Sawicki and Aimee Kilby exited Executive Session at 6:48 pm.

Moved by Chudy, seconded by Murphy, to come out of Executive Session at 8:30 p.m. and return to the regular meeting.

**Yes – 6
No – 0
Carried**

Student Discipline Appeal

Moved by Chudy, seconded by Pearl, BE IT RESOLVED that the appeal of a parent dated, January 18, 2024, from a decision of the Superintendent of Schools dated December 20, 2023, is hereby modified to suspend the student until December 2, 2024.

<u>Roll Call:</u>	Pearl	Yes
	Murphy	Yes
	Chudy	Yes
	Northrup	Abstain
	O’Connell	Abstain
	Golley	Yes

**Yes – 4
No – 0
Abstain - 2
Carried**

Adjournment of Meeting

Moved by Chudy, seconded by Murphy, to adjourn the regular meeting of March 26, 2024, at 8:34 p.m.

**Yes – 6
No – 0
Carried**

District Clerk

Deputy District Clerk