

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
Ellicottville Central School**

Regular Meeting
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Sht. No. 2018
February 25, 2025

OFFICIAL MINUTES

Members Present: Debra Golley, Karl Northrup, Carla Kruszynski
Tiffany Frentz, David Scotty McGee, Jenna O'Connell

Members Absent: Nate Dahlman

Staff Present: Mark J. Ward, Kristen Pearl, Erich Ploetz, Katie Mendell

Staff Absent:

Others Present: Schavon Byroads, Todd Palmatier, Jason Kosinski

Call to order of meeting

President Golley called the rescheduled, regular meeting of February 25, 2025, 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

Nate Dahlman - Absent

Changes, Additions and Deletions to the Agenda

Change: None

Additions:

1. Personnel:

v. Moved by O'Connell, seconded by Frentz upon the recommendation of Mark J. Ward, Interim Superintendent of Schools, approval to accept a letter of resignation from Hannah Frisina (School Nurse) effective March 12th, 2025.

**Yes-6
No-0
Carried**

w. Moved by McGee, seconded by Frentz, upon the recommendation of Mark J. Ward, Interim Superintendent of Schools, approval to add Rochelle Bish to the substitute (cafeteria worker) list at a rate of \$15.50 per hour, effective February 25, 2025.

**Yes-6
No-0
Carried**

x. Moved by O'Connell, seconded by Kruszynski, upon the recommendation of Mark J. Ward, Interim Superintendent of Schools, approval to appoint Jordan Pierce as a full time teacher aide at a rate of \$15.50 per hour, effective February 25, 2025.

**Yes-6
0-0
Carried**

y. Moved by Frentz, seconded by O'Connell upon the recommendation of Mark J. Ward, Interim Superintendent of Schools, approval to accept a letter of resignation from Larry Kent (Bus Driver) effective February 28th, 2025.

**Yes-6
No-0
Carried**

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z. Moved by O'Connell, seconded by Frentz, upon the recommendation of Mark J. Ward, Interim Superintendent of Schools, approval to appoint William Hasper to the full time, bus driver position at a rate of \$21-\$23, effective February 25, 2025. This position is pending upon successful completion of the 19A qualifications.

**Yes-6
No-0
Carried**

Al. Moved by O'Connell, seconded by Frentz, upon the recommendation of Mark J. Ward, Interim Superintendent to accept a letter of resignation from Mrs. Ellen Story (cafeteria worker) effective February 14, 2025.

**Yes-6
No-0
Carried**

Approve Agenda

Moved by O'Connell, seconded by Frentz, upon the recommendation of Mark J. Ward, Interim Superintendent of Schools, to adopt the agenda of February 25, 2025 Board of Education Meeting with additions and changes.

**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:

Todd Palmatier asked for the Umpire Association to hold (2) Sunday meetings at the school. They would be using the cafeteria and gym. Mr. Ward states he will get back to Todd as we do not open the building on Sundays due to lack of staff, etc.

Jason Kosinski expressed his opinion on the modified baseball coach and he believes that we should really find someone who is a better fit for the position. Mr. Kosinski states that the coach is unfair and the team is unsuccessful due to such. Mr. Ward will get back to Mr. Kosinski and thanked him for his comments.

Presentations & Reports

None

Communications, Commendations

Informational Items

Call for Nomination

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Interim Superintendent's Report - Mark J. Ward

1. The district is in need of (2) bus drivers right now and will need another driver for next school year when we have a retirement. Bill Hasper is returning to drive bus as soon as possible
2. We are willing to pay for experierctce and offer a possible sign-on bonus
3. Powerschool Breach- letters went out on 2/25/25
4. Gym Lights are in and BRIGHT! We are working on getting the lower level of the elementary new lights
5. Propose an additional capital project. The elementary entrance way is in need of an overhaul to have the most up to date security

Principals Reports:

Katie Mendell - Elementary Principal/Director of Curriculum

1. March Madness Reading Celebration: planning and introduction
2. District SEL assessment/Audit and planning to address needs
3. Monthly writing contest/awards- 500 Science Facts Challenge to win PTO Sponsored "Science on Wheels" visit from the Buffalo Museum of Science.
4. Pre-K/Kindergarten Registration is underway! Currently we have 4 out of district pre-k kids signed up and 18 total on the list
5. STEM program planning-looking into STEM Exhibition (previous STEM fair)
6. Adjustments to intervention programming & caseloads
Pre-K NYS Site Visit Final Report- action steps and alignment to PreK Curriculum Map
8. Continued implementation of "Too Good (For Drugs)". CASA Trinity is interested in continuing to grow partnership and become further integrated at ECS
9. The 12:1:3:1 Classroom celebrated with a Valentine's Dance/Meet the Teacher on 2/14/25
10. Pre-K specialist is working on helping to lead a draft of the Pre-K Handbook
11. Healthy Kids Summer Camp July 7-Aug 22 we can choose the hours, other districts are 6am-6pm

Erich Ploetz - MS/HS Principal

1. 3rd Quarter Academics are under way, we have a nice stretch of academic time.
- '1. Mrs. Eddy will begin meeting with students soon to discuss course requests for next year
3. Congratulations to Mrs. Cathie Nason on her "Grow Tower Grand" from the Ag In the Classroom Outreach program through Cornell University! ECS will receive three herb/greens grow towers to be places in Mrs. Nason's, Mrs. McGowan's, and Mrs. Famum's classrooms
4. It's a busy time for our music and drama department, with Guys & Dolls making headway, and a "Music In Our Schools Month" concert for grades 7-12 next Wednesday, March 5th. All-County is two weekends away at Salamanca, and Guys & Dolls is curtain up on March 28th & 29th
5. Thank you to Mr. Schadt for coordinating a unique experience for our HS students to learn rugby! Mr. Schadt is a long-term rugby player, and will be working with students after school in the near future to teach the fundamentals
6. Good Luck to our men's and women's basketball teams with home playoff games this week!
7. Congratulations to all of our skiers that participated at States!

Consent Items:

- Moved by McGee, seconded by Frentz, upon the recommendation of Mark J. Ward, Interim Superintendent of Schools, approval to adopt the following Consent Agenda items:
- a. That the board approves the minutes of the meeting for January 14, 2025
 - b. Aclmowledgement of the January 14th and January 28, 2025 Claims Auditor Reports
 - c. Approval of the December 2024 Treasurer's Report

**Yes-6
No-0
Carried**

Committee Reports: Nooe

Discussion Items: None

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Old Business:

None

New Business:

a. Moved by O'Connell, seconded by Northrup, upon the recommendation of Mark J. Ward, Interim 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 2025-2026 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-6
No-0
Carried**

b. Moved by Frentz, seconded by McGee, upon the recommendation of Mark J. Ward, Interim Superintendent of Schools, to approve the following resolution: WHEREAS, four (4) BOCES (Onondaga-Cortland-Madison BOCES, Albany-Schoharie-Schenectady-Saratoga BOCES, Madison-Oneida BOCES and Broome-Tioga BOCES) have collaborated and entered into an Article 5 General Municipal Law intermunicipal arrangement for the purpose of improving vendor management and data security and privacy practices for school districts and/or BOCES statewide known as the RIC ONE Risk Operations Center (the "ROC"); WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Ellicottville Central School District, through its affiliation with a locally based Regional Information Center, participates with the ROC and desires, for the 2024-2025 fiscal year, to authorize the ROC to enter into Data Privacy Agreements and related exhibits (DPAs) with vendors and third-party contractors that include the requirements of, and compliance with, New York State Education Law Section 2-d and Part 121 Regulations (collectively, "Ed Law 2d") related to student personally identifiable information (PU) and certain Teacher and Principal APPR data; WHEREAS, the ROC also partners with NYSED, the Access4Learning Student Data Privacy Consortium (SDPC) and The Education Cooperative (TEC), to negotiate and approved Ed Law 2-d compliant DPAs; WHEREAS, the DPAs are represented to school districts and/or BOCES for final execution and do not require the expenditure of funds beyond those budgeted; and BE IT RESOLVED, Board of Education of the Ellicottville Central School District authorizes the attorneys designated by the ROC to negotiate and approve of DPAs for software and/or technology resources; and, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Ellicottville Central School District Board of Education grants the ROC and its designated attorneys the authority to negotiate the terms and conditions of DPAs and take such actions so as to effectuate the purposes and intent of this resolution.

**Yes-6
No-0
Carried**

Personnel:

a. Moved by Frentz, seconded by O'Connell, upon the recommendation of Mark J. Ward, Interim Superintendent of Schools, approval of the following Spring Sports Coaches for the 2024-2025 school year. These appointments are contingent upon sufficient student numbers in each sport.

Varsity Baseball-

Chris Mendell

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Baseball Assistant-	Rqbert Sawicki Sr.
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Varsity Track and Field-	Gwen Bush
Modified Track and Field-	Diana Olson
Varsity Softball-	Matt Finn
Softball Assistant-	Andrew Kruszka
Modified Softball (Co-Coaches)-	Courtney Sexton and Harley Ficek
Varsity Golf-	Dan LaCroix

**Yes-6
No-0
Carried**

b. Moved by Frentz, seconded by McGee, upon the recommendation of Mark J. Ward, Interim Superintendent of Schools, approval of the following Spring Sports volunteers for the 2024-2025 school year.

Volunteer Assistant-	Cale Benjamin
Volunteer Assistant-	Tracy Rozler
Volunteer Assistant-	Robert Sawicki, Jr.

**Yes-6
No-0
Carried**

c. Moved by Frentz, seconded by O'Connell, upon the recommendation of Mark J. Ward, Interim Superintendent of Schools, approval of Justin Ward to the position of part time teacher aide effective retroactive to January 14, 2025 at a rate of \$15.50 per hour. This position carries a one-year probationary period which will begin on January 14, 2025 and end on January 14, 2026.

**Yes-6
No-0
Carried**

d. Moved by Kruszynski, seconded by Northrup, upon the recommendation of Mark J. Ward, Interim Superintendent of Schools, approval to accept a letter of resignation, for retirement purposes, from Kathleen Moore (5th Grade Teacher) effective June 30, 2025.

**Yes-6
No-0
Carried**

e. Moved by O'Connell, seconded by Frentz, upon the recommendation of Mark J. Ward, Interim Superintendent of Schools, approval to accept a letter of resignation, for retirement purposes, from William Delity (4th Grade Teacher) effective June 30, 2025.

**Yes-6
No-0
Carried**

f. Moved by O'Connell seconded by Frentz upon the recommendation of Mark J. Ward, Interim Superintendent of Schools, approval to accept a letter of resignation from Melissa Howard (substitute caller) effective January 31, 2025.

**Yes-6
No-0
Carried**

g. Moved by Northrup, seconded by McGee, upon the recommendation of Mark J. Ward, Interim Superintendent of Schools, approval to accept a letter of resignation from Dana Chase (cleaner) effective February 14, 2025.

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Yes-6
No-0
Carried

h. Moved by Frentz seconded by O'Connell,...upon the recommendation of Mark J. Ward, Interim Superintendent of Schools, approval to accept a letter of resignation from Melissa Howard (teacher aide) effective February 27, 2025.

Yes-6
No-0
Carried

i. Moved by Frentz seconded by O'Connell, upon the recommendation of Mark J. Ward, Interim Superintendent of Schools, approval to add Melissa Howard to the substitute (teacher aide) list effective February 27, 2025.

Yes-6
No-0
Carried

j. Moved by Frentz, seconded by Northrup, upon the recommendation of Mark J. Ward, Interim Superintendent of Schools, approval to appoint Cassandra Wilson to the substitute (teacher aide) list retroactive to January 27, 2025. This appointment is contingent upon a successful fingerprint clearance from New York State.

Yes-6
No-0
Carried

k. Moved by O'Connell seconded by Northrup, upon the recommendation of Mark J. Ward, Interim Superintendent of Schools, approval to appoint Victoria Manka as a full time teacher aide retroactive to February 3rd, 2025. This position carries a one-year probationary period which will begin on February 3rd, 2025 and end on February 3rd, 2026. This appointment is contingent upon a successful fingerprint clearance from New York State.

Yes 6
No-0
Carried

l. Moved by Frentz seconded by O'Connell, upon the recommendation of Mark J. Ward, Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Ellicottville Central School District Board of Education does hereby appoint Danielle Myers, who holds an Initial Certificate in English Language Arts 7-12, to the position of an FTE English Language Arts 7-12 effective January 21st, 2025. This position is in the tenure area of English Language Arts and is for a four-year probationary period commencing on January 21st, 2025 and ending on January 21st, 2029. Miss Myers will be placed on Step 1 of the ETA Salary schedule (25 step schedule), plus benefits outlined in the ETA contract. Eligibility for tenure at the end of the probationary period is dependent on Miss Myers receiving APPR ratings of Effective or Highly Effective in 3 of 4 preceding years and no Ineffective composite or overall rating in the final year.

Yes-6
No-0
Carried

m. Moved by _____ : s-e&f) EL, '7y 1:1pe&--
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**Yes-0
No-0
Carried**

n. Moved by O'Connell, seconded by Frenz, upon the recommendation of Mark J. Ward, Interim Superintendent of Schools, approval to appoint Becky Pierce to the position of part-time teacher aide retro active to January 23, 2025. This position carries a one-year probationary period which will begin on January 23, 2025 and end on January 23, 2026. This appointment is contingent upon a successful fingerprint clearance from New York State.

**Yes-6
No-0
Carried**

o. Moved by Frenz, seconded by O'Connell, upon the recommendation of Mark J. Ward, Interim Superintendent of Schools, approval to appoint Emily Hall to the substitute (teacher aide) list retro active to January 27, 2025. This appointment is contingent upon a successful fingerprint clearance from New York State.

**Yes-6
No-0
Carried**

p. Moved by Frenz, seconded by O'Connell, upon the recommendation of Mark J. Ward, Interim Superintendent of Schools, approval to accept the following contract with private consultant, Therese Pierce:

Agreement: This agreement made 27th of January 2025, by and between Ellicottville Central School District, hereafter referred to as "the District", and Mrs. Therese Pierce, hereinafter referred to as "the Consultant". Witnesseth: WHEREAS, the District is authorized by law to contract with institutions within the state of New York for the instruction of disabled children, and WHEREAS, the CONSULTANT is a non-public institution operating special services for disable children, NOW, THEREFORE, the parties mutually agree as follows:
FIRST: The CONSULTANT will provide curriculum and consultation services, approved by the DISTRICT, appropriate to the mental attainment and physical conditions of specific children, and in accordance with the provisions relating to eligibility of school contained in the Regulations of the Commissioner, for the period beginning January 29th, 2025 through July 1st, 2025, unless terminated by either party. The CONSULTANT will specifically guide the DISTRICT through the transition of a new classroom teacher (long-term substitute), Sarah Lafferty in the 12:1:3:1 Special Education Classroom. It is understood that administration will work with both parties to determine the necessary hours of weekly service. SECOND: For the services to be rendered by the CONSULTANT to the DISTRICT under the terms of this Agreement, the DISTRICT will pay CONSULTANT a rate of \$60.00 per hour, be it on-site or remote as approved by the building principal. Total payment provided by the DISTRICT will not exceed \$2,400.00 (40 hours at \$60 per hour). THIRD: Payment under this agreement shall be accomplished by the CONSULTANT or in such forms as the DISTRICT requests. The CONSULTANT will submit the invoice within 30 days from the end of each month, and the DISTRICT will submit payment to the CONSULTANT within 30 days of receipt of the invoice. FOURTH: The CONSULTANT shall be responsible for their work, email address, phone expenses, personal conduct, and compensations. FIFTH: The CONSULTANT will maintain and respect the confidentiality of the students and staff in the classroom that they provide consultation service, in order to inform curriculum map development.

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Yes-6
No-0
Carried

q. Moved by Frentz, seconded by Northrup, upon the recommendation of Mark J. Ward, Interim Superintendent of Schools, approval to accept the following contract with Science Teaching Consultant, Sherry Olrogg:
This agreement made the 11th of February 2025, by and between the Ellicottville Central School District, and Mrs. Sherry Olrogg, for the period beginning February 12th, 2025 through June 27th, 2025, unless terminated by either party. The frequency for Mrs. Olrogg will be determined by the Ellicottville Central School Administration (Dr. Erich Ploetz will be Mrs. Olrogg's direct supervisor). The total number of days not to exceed 25 throughout the duration of this agreement. Mrs. Olrogg will assist with instructional support, NYS required performance-based science investigations, lab assistance, curriculum and assessment development, coaching and collaboration at a rate not to exceed \$325 per day as outlined in the agreement.

Yes-6
No-0
Carried

r. Moved by Northrup, seconded by O'Connell, upon the recommendation of Mark J. Ward, Interim Superintendent to rescind (January 14, 2025 meeting) the following: accept a letter of resignation from Mrs. Jeanne Brown (bus driver) from the Ellicottville Central School District effective June 26, 2025.

Yes-6
No-0
Carried

s. Moved by O'Connell, seconded by Northrup, upon the recommendation of Mark J. Ward, Interim Superintendent to accept a letter of resignation from Mrs. Jeanne Brown (bus driver) from the Ellicottville Central School District effective July 3, 2025.

Yes-6
No-0
Carried

t. Moved by Frentz, seconded by McGee, upon the recommendation of Mark J. Ward, Interim Superintendent of Schools, approval to appoint Jennie Caruso as a 9-12 musical (drama club) advisor - assistant director (choreographer) for the 2024-2025 school year. This appointment is contingent upon a successful fingerprint clearance from New York State.

Yes-6
No-0
Carried

u. Moved by Frentz, seconded by O'Connell, upon the recommendation of Mark J. Ward, Interim Superintendent of Schools, approval to accept Kylynn Herrick & Abby Chudy (JCC Students) as volunteer interns in the elementary only for the remainder of the school year.

Yes-6
No-0
Carried

CSE/CPSE Recommendations

Moved by O'Connell, seconded by Frentz, upon the recommendation of Mark J. Ward, Interim Superintendent of Schools, to approve the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the Ellicottville

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Central School District: That the Ellicottville Central School District has reviewed the recommendations of the District's Committee on Special Education (#900501537,900501222,900500878,900501440,900500578,900500579,900501570,900501386,900501314,900501424,900501149,900501232,900501530,900501132,900501497,900501029,900501147,900501301) at its meeting on February 25, 2025, 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 6th thru February 3rd, 2025.

**Yes-6
No-0
Carried**

Executive Session

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

1. Matters which will imperil 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 Frentz, seconded by McGee, to move into Executive Session at 8:16 p.m. for the purpose of: # 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.

**Yes-6
No-0
Carried**

Moved by Frentz, seconded by McGee to come out of Executive Session at 9:30 p.m. and return to the regular meeting.

**Yes-6
No-0
Carried**

Adjournment of Meeting

Moved by Kruszynski, seconded by O'Connell, to adjourn the regular meeting of February 25, 2025, at 9:30 p.m.

**Yes-6
No-0
Carried**

=Mb

Deputy District Clerk

