

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
Ellicottville Central School**

Regular Meeting
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Sht. No. 2016
December 10, 2024

OFFICIAL MINUTES

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

Members Absent: None

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

Staff Absent: None

Others Present: Schavon Byroads, Mike Ebertz, Brad Moreland, Barry Church

Call to order of meeting

President Golley called the regular meeting of December 10, 2024, of the Ellicottville Central School Board of Education to order at 7:12 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

3. Changes to the Agenda

(Move from 16c)

- a. Moved by _____, seconded by _____, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, to accept a letter of resignation from Mrs. Kristen Pearl from the Ellicottville Central School Board of Education effective December 10, 2024.
- b. Moved by _____, seconded by _____, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that, David Scott “Scotty” McGee be and hereby is appointed as a member of the Board of Education of the Ellicottville Central School District to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Kristen Pearl, which appointment, pursuant to law, shall continue until the next regular school district election to be held on May 20, 2025.

Administer Oath of Office to Mr. David Scott McGee.

17. Personnel

- g. Moved by _____, seconded by _____, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of the following Mentors for first year teachers for the 2024-2025 school year (at a pro-rated stipend - per the ETA CBA): Matt Finn (Sara Caplan), Ann Chamberlain (Abigail Potts), Jamie Edwards (Danielle Myers).
- h. Moved by _____, seconded by _____, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of Madisyn Kilby to the substitute teacher list (non-certified) at a rate of \$130 per day. This appointment is contingent upon a successful fingerprint clearance from New York State.

Approve Agenda

Moved by O’Connell, seconded by Dahlman, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, to adopt the agenda of December 10, 2024, Board of Education Meeting with additions and changes.

**Yes – 6
No – 0
Carried**

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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:

None

Administer Oath to New Board Member

Moved by Dahlman, seconded by Northrup, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, to accept a letter of resignation from Mrs. Kristen Pearl from the Ellicottville Central School Board of Education effective December 10, 2024.

**Yes – 6
No – 0
Carried**

Moved by Dahlman, seconded by Kruszynski, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that, David Scott “Scotty” McGee be and hereby is appointed as a member of the Board of Education of the Ellicottville Central School District to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Kristen Pearl, which appointment, pursuant to law, shall continue until the next regular school district election to be held on May 20, 2025.

**Yes – 6
No – 0
Carried**

Administer Oath of Office to Mr. David Scott McGee.

Presentations & Reports

None

Communications, Commendations

None

Informational Items

None

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Superintendent's Report – Robert Miller

1. Capital Project – Vote taking place right now.
2. Capital Outlay – December 23rd Ahlstrom Schaffer Electric will be installing the new lights in the HS Gym. The elementary gym will be completed on a different day. Good news enough money is left after the two gyms that we may be able to do the lighting out back of the school or the lower level elementary.
3. Regionalization initiative 51 pages long for our district. There's a lot of interesting data. Received email from NYSED with opt out option. Supt. Miller doesn't think it is a good idea to opt out. President Golley agreed.
4. Delayed start of school – will let the district still conduct the school day and a two-hour delay will still count towards a day of instruction. Dave Pelton and the bus drivers are on board. A plan will be developed in the near future.
5. Rockefeller Commission on State Aid – received an email. No real surprises. Still continuing with safe harmless they won't take that away but we won't see an increase. They want to see New York State fully fund the electric buses. They talked about the unrestricted fund balance having an extra 6% with a max of 10%. They also talked about extra help for mental health initiatives.
6. NYSSBA – teaching reading. State is looking at emergency proposed regulation. ECS should be okay.
7. Executive session needed at end of meeting.
8. Shadow Boxes – Frank Pitillo will be a new one and Kristen Hintz's will be re-done. They will be displayed on the hallway walls.

Superintendent Miller stated that it is his last board meeting. He thanked everyone and said that it has been a blast. President Golley presented Superintendent Miller with a token of appreciation from the board members. She thanked him for his service to the district. President Golley also thanked Melissa Sawicki, for her time as District Clerk and stated that they appreciate her.

Principals Reports:

Katie Mendell – Elementary Principal/Director of Curriculum

1. Climate & Culture: Brag Tags, New Cohort 5th grade leadership, Project Christmas, PreK&5th grade collaboration and senior citizen luncheon, monthly FAM assemblies.
2. Curriculum & Instruction: Prek progress monitoring, new Prek family support worker, STEM, beginning work on curriculum & assessment expectations document.
3. Professional Development: new teacher professional learning group, ongoing curriculum, media and data review, tech integration.
4. Parent & Family Engagement: Prek home visits, Santa's Workshop, Bookfair, Family Fun Night.
5. Upcoming Events: Arbor Day, benchmark testing and monitoring, Healthy Kids Summer Program Proposal.

Erich Ploetz - MS/HS Principal

1. High School Outcome Discussion & Goals
2. National Honor Society
3. Eagle Pride Awards
4. New After School Club – Cattaraugus County Youth Court
5. Senior Citizen Luncheon – 58 attended
6. Holiday Concerts the next two weeks

Aimee Kilby – School Business Executive

1. Preparing for W-2 and 1099 reporting
2. Requisitions for 2025-2026
3. Budget Status Report
4. Soft freeze for purchases in late January

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Moved by O'Connell, seconded by Kruszynski, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of Patty Snyder as a volunteer in the elementary for the 2024-2025 school year.

**Yes – 7
No – 0
Carried**

Moved by O'Connell, seconded by Kruszynski, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of Courtney Sexton (Fredonia College) to be a student teacher at ECS March 17 – May 14, 2025 under the supervision of Melissa Reedy and Erich Ploetz.

**Yes – 7
No – 0
Carried**

Personnel:

Moved by Northrup, seconded by McGee, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of Michelle O'Donnell to the permanent position of Keyboard Specialist effective retroactive to November 27, 2024 after successfully completing one year of probation.

**Yes – 7
No – 0
Carried**

Moved by O'Connell, seconded by Kruszynski, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of Melissa Riehle to the permanent position of Teacher Aide effective retroactive to December 4, 2024 after successfully completing one year of probation.

**Yes – 7
No – 0
Carried**

Moved by Kruszynski, seconded by Northrup, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of Jennnifer Schunk to the substitute teacher aide list effective December 10, 2024 at a rate of \$15.00 per hour.

**Yes – 7
No – 0
Carried**

Moved by O'Connell, seconded by Dahlman, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval to appoint Kristen Pearl to the position of Superintendent's Secretary effective December 27, 2024 at a rate of \$23.00 per hour. This appointment carries a one-year probationary period which will begin on December 27, 2024 and end on December 27, 2025.

**Yes – 7
No – 0
Carried**

Moved by Kruszynski, seconded by Northrup, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of Kristen Pearl to the position of District Clerk effective December 27, 2024 with a pro-rated stipend of \$4,000.00 for the 2024-2025 school year.

**Yes – 7
No – 0
Carried**

Moved by O'Connell, seconded by Kruszynski, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of Kristen Pearl to the following positions for the 2024-2025 school year: Records Access Officer, Records Management Officer, Petty Cash (\$100) custodian, member of the School Safety Team. There will be no additional compensation for these positions.

**Yes – 7
No – 0
Carried**

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Moved by Kruszynski, seconded by Northrup, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of the following Mentors for first year teachers for the 2024-2025 school year (at a pro-rated stipend - per the ETA CBA): Matt Finn (Sara Caplan), Ann Chamberlain (Abigail Potts), Jamie Edwards (Danielle Myers).

**Yes – 7
No – 0
Carried**

Moved by Northrup, seconded by Dahlman, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, approval of Madisyn Kilby to the substitute teacher list (non-certified) at a rate of \$130 per day. This appointment is contingent upon a successful fingerprint clearance from New York State.

**Yes – 7
No – 0
Carried**

Policy

Moved by Northrup, seconded by McGee, upon the recommendation of Robert Miller, Superintendent of Schools, second reading and approval of the following policies:

- 3520 Extraordinary Circumstances
- 5413 Procurement: Uniform Grant Guidance for Federal Awards
- 5551 Allocation of Title I, Part A Funds in the District
- 6570 Determination of Employment Status: Employee or Independent Contractor
- 7133 Education of Students in Foster Care

**Yes – 7
No – 0
Carried**

CSE/CPSE Recommendations

Moved by Kruszynski, seconded by O’Connell, 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 (#900500348, 900501418, 900500433, 900501178, 900501651, 900501624, 900500810, 900500504, 900500954, 900500348, 900501412, 900501231, 900501369, 900501034, 900501404, 900501606, 900501508) at its meeting on December 10, 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 November 4 - December 4, 2024.

**Yes – 7
No – 0
Carried**

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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 Frentz, seconded by Northrup, to move into Executive Session at 8:22 p.m. for the purpose of:
5. Collective negotiations pursuant to Article 14 of the Civil Service Law (the Taylor Law).

**Yes – 7
No – 0
Carried**

Moved by Frentz, seconded by McGee to come out of Executive Session at 8:37 p.m. and return to the regular meeting.

**Yes – 7
No – 0
Carried**

Adjournment of Meeting

Moved by Kruszynski, seconded by Dahlman, to adjourn the regular meeting of December 10, 2024, at 8:37 p.m.

**Yes – 7
No – 0
Carried**

District Clerk

Deputy District Clerk