ELWOOD UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT **BOARD OF EDUCATION** REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

June 12, 2025

A. CALL TO ORDER – 6:40 p.m.

B. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Edwards moved and Dr. Siddiqui seconded a motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of confidential discussions related to a particular employee at 6:40 p.m. Motion carried. Vote: 4-yes, 0-no.

Present at Executive Session were: James Tomeo (arrived at 6:57 p.m.), Deborah Weiss, Walter Edwards, Thomas Scarola, Dr. Sara Siddiqui, Dr. Gayle Steele, Dr. Sonia Hood, Lorraine Dunkel and Eileen Kelly Gorman.

Dr. Siddiqui moved and Mrs. Weiss seconded a motion to end Executive Session at 7:34 p.m. 2. Motion carried. Vote: 5-yes, 0-no.

C. <u>RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION</u> – 7:39 p.m.

Dr. Siddiqui moved and Mrs. Weiss seconded a motion to reconvene in to Open Session in the Elwood Middle School Auditorium at 7:39 p.m.

Motion carried. Vote: 5-yes, 0-no.

Present: James Tomeo President

> Deborah Weiss Vice President

Walter Edwards Member Thomas Scarola Member Dr. Sara Siddiqui Member

Absent: None

Dr. Gayle Steele Superintendent of Schools Staff:

> Lorraine Dunkel Assistant Superintendent/Business Assistant Superintendent/Curriculum Dr. Sonia Hood

Eileen Kelly Gorman Assistant Superintendent/Special Education

District Clerk Mary Lou Marx

Absent: None

D. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE FOLLOWED BY A MOMENT OF SILENCE – Board President

E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S)

May 8, 2025 Budget Hearing and Regular Meeting, May 20, 2025 Regular Meeting and May 22, 2025 Special Meeting and Regular Business Meeting

Mrs. Weiss moved and Mr. Edwards seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the meetings of May 8, 2025, May 20, 2025 and May 22, 2025 as presented..

Motion carried. Vote: 5-yes, 0-no.

F. STUDENT LIAISON REPORT – Caroline Weiss

G. COMMENDATIONS

This section of the agenda gives the Board of Education an opportunity to publicly recognize and commend individuals for outstanding accomplishments or contributions made to Elwood Schools. We honored the following:

- 1. NYSSBA's Board Excellence Recognition Program to Dr. Sara Siddiqui Level 3 Board Mastery Award
- 2. Tenured Staff, Retirees & 25 Year Employees

Tenure Admin	Tenure Teachers	Tenure TA	Staff Retirees	Teacher Retirees	25 Years
Julie Bilello	Lauren Baker	Delia Donohue	Sonia Hood	Nicole Biscari	Joseph Lynch-Loscalzo
Corey McNamara	Catherine Carbone	Susan Triolo	Virginia Rouse	Solomon Buchman	Scott Mikelbank
	Matthew Carrino		David Shanahan	Christopher Lafferty	Keriann Thomas
	William Cordts		Denise Toscano	John Ledda	Regina White
	Amanda Culbertson		Karen Wenda	Karen Maggio	
	Meagan Dolan		Jason Winters	Lisa Magrino (+25 years)	
	Loren Levine			Denise Michelle Ottley	
	Joanna Maricondo			Linda Scotto (+25 years)	
	Jesse Marroquin			Christina Tellekamp	
	Domenica Piccoli			Beth Theodorellis	
	Amelia Profaci				
	Jon Rowland				

- **H.** <u>BRIEF RECESS FOR REFRESHMENTS</u> Recess started at 9:01 p.m. and the meeting returned at 9:25 p.m.
- I. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT Dr. Gayle Steele

J. RESIDENTS' REMARKS REGARDING THE AGENDA

The Board encourages all residents to attend its meetings, and this section of the agenda affords them the opportunity to speak. Persons wishing to speak should identify themselves, state whether they are a resident of the Elwood School District and any organization they represent at the meeting. Comments related to district business or any agenda item should be kept as brief as possible and may not exceed three minutes (Board Policy 1230). Questions or comments concerning matters which are not on the agenda will be taken under consideration and may be discontinued by the President. Public discussion of matters relating to staff, students, or others at which their reputations, privacy or right to due process could be in some way be violated, is prohibited.

K. BOARD RECOGNITION OF DONATION

- 1. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby accepts the following donations with gratitude:
 - 1) A Louisville Slugger Blue Devil Pitching Machine for John H. Glenn High School from an Elwood resident, Anthony Klinger-Cooley, with an approximate value of \$149.
 - 2) \$3,000 from the Elwood Booster Club to support the agricultural education initiative at John H. Glenn High School.
 - 3) \$3,740 from the Elwood Booster Club to support the following after school clubs for the 2025 Early Spring Season:

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****Boyd Sweets & Treats (6 weeks-1 session) $480

****Boyd Sweets & Treats (6 weeks-1 session TA) $120

****Boyd Coding (6 weeks-1 session) $480

****Boyd Video Gaming (6 weeks-1 session) $480

****Boyd Dance (6 weeks-1 session) $480

****Harley Sweets & Treats (5 weeks-2 sessions) $800

****Harley Sweets & Treats (5 weeks-1 session TA) $100

****Harley Computer Explorers (5 weeks-1 session) $400

****Harley Art Club (5 weeks-1 session) $400
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Dr. Siddiqui moved and Mrs. Weiss seconded a motion to approved Item K.1, as presented to the Board at this meeting.

Motion carried. Vote: 5-yes, 0-no.

L. CONSENT AGENDA VOTE

1. Mr. Edwards moved and Dr. Siddiqui seconded a motion to approve the consent agenda (Items M.1, N.1-N.18, O.1-O.4, P.1-P.4), as presented to the Board at this meeting. Motion carried. Vote: 5-yes, 0-no.

M. FINANCIAL MATTERS

- 1. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby acknowledges receipt for audit of the following reports:
 - a) Treasurer's Report for March & April, 2025
 - b) Revenue Status Report through March 31, 2025 and April 30, 2025
 - c) Cash Flow Report for March & April, 2025
 - d) Budget Status Report through March 31, 2025 and April 30, 2025
 - e) Trial Balance Report through March 31, 2025 and April 30, 2025
 - f) Executive Summary for March 31, 2025 and April 30, 2025
 - g) Budget Transfer Report for March 31, 2025 and April 30, 2025
 - h) School Lunch Fund Report for March 31, 2025 and April 30, 2025
 - i) JGHS & EMS Extraclassroom Activity Quarterly Reports through March 31, 2025
 - j) Claims Auditor Report for April, 2025

N. ACTION ITEMS PERSONNEL

- 1. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby accepts the resignation of Corey McNamara, from his position as Elwood-John H. Glenn High School Principal, effective June 30, 2025.
- **2.** BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby accepts the resignation of Gianna Tufano, from her position as a Math/Computer Science Teacher, effective June 30, 2025.
- 3. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints the following as a part-time Food Service Worker, effective June 13, 2025:

Name	Hours per day	Hourly Rate
Asma Rehman	6	\$18.00

4. BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints the following as Summer Grounds Custodians, to serve at the

pleasure of the Board, effective June 30, 2025 through September 2, 2025, with compensation of \$16.50/hour:

Justin Vega	Sean Faraci	Hayden Citko
Robert Sanelli	Peter Kenney	Salvatore Inga*
James Froh	Daniel Debruin*	Rowan Finnegan*
Mikayla Piersa	Rohan Halder*	Mark Antoniak*
Wesley Berenguer	Jack Feldman	John Quintanilla
Rob Carhart	Carlos Lizama-Rivera	Anthony Ortiz
Theodore Ballard	Doug Clark	Chase Abrams
		*pending fingerprint clearance

- 5. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints James McGinnis as a Custodial Worker II, in the non-competitive class of the civil service, at a rate of \$56,590 pro-rated (\$55,240 + \$1,350 night differential), for the 2024-2025 school year, effective June 13, 2025.
- 6. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves 2025 summer hours for the following employees, with compensation at their 2025-2026 hourly/daily rate of pay, for the purpose of cleaning and preparing the buildings for the first day of school:

Stacey Mortillaro	Florence Postorino	Regina White
Tara Browning	Ana Margarita Delcid	Lisa Fassberger
Asma Rehman	Maria Gransasso	Karen Kember
Melissa Ford	Ann Sellick	Gina Antoniak

7. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves 2025 summer hours to the following personnel at Harley Avenue Primary School for the purpose of completing welcome letters, bus tag summer mailings and other general clerical responsibilities, with compensation at their 2025-2026 hourly/daily rate of pay:

Maria Colarossi - 10 hours Kerri Baggetta - 10 hours Constance Testagrose - 10 hours Michelle Doherty - 36 hours

8. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves 2025 summer hours for the following Special Education Teachers, for the purpose of reviewing and revising/finalizing 2025-2026 IEP's, preparing prior written notices for parents, participating in CSE meetings and conducting educational testing, with compensation at their 2025-2026 hourly/daily rate:

Name	Summer Hours
Martine Pirolo	up to 10 hours
Jill Locascio	up to 10 hours
Jaime Lauth	up to 10 hours
Sima Lis	up to 10 hours
Keri Thomas	up to 20 hours
Jessica Jantzen	up to 20 hours
Kristen Saidler	up to 10 hours
Domenica Piccoli	up to 20 hours

Lisa Cento	up to 20 hours
Laura Ioviero	up to 20 hours

9. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves 2025 summer days for the following Special Education Staff Members, for the purpose of reviewing and revising/finalizing 2025-2026 IEP's, preparing prior written notices for parents, chair CPSE and CSE meetings, and planning with the administration for programs for students with disabilities for the 2025-2026 school year:

Name	Title	Summer Days	Compensation
Michelle	Elementary Special Education	up to	at her 2025-
Kretz	Coordinator	20 days	2026 daily/hourly rate
Moira Citko	Secondary Special Education	up to 20	at her 2025-
	Coordinator	days	2026 daily/hourly rate

10. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves 2025 summer days to the following members of the nursing staff, for the purpose of preparing documents and paperwork for the opening of the 2025-2026 school year, with compensation at their daily rate of pay:

Name	School	Summer Days
Linda Pellegrino	JGHS	up to 18 days
Lisa McNamara	EMS	up to 18 days
April Giardina	Boyd	up to 10 days
Elizabeth Schwartz	Harley	up to 18 days

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves 2025 summer hours for the following School Psychologists and Social Workers, for the purpose of reviewing and revising/finalizing 2025-2026 IEP's, participating in CPSE and CSE meetings, conducting psychological testing, providing social/emotional and behavioral support to students enrolled in the district, assist with bilingual registration and serve as a McKinney Vento summer liaison, with compensation at their 2025-2026 hourly/daily rate:

Name	Summer Hours
Alexandria Simone	up to 20 hours
Adam Goudreau	up to 20 hours
Bita Mir	up to 20 hours
Dylan Kilkenny	up to 10 hours
Kristen Romanchuk	up to 20 hours
Joanna Sepp	up to 20 hours
Jessica Shea	up to 20 hours
Jesse Marroquin	up to 20 hours
Sherine DeJesus	up to 20 hours

12. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves 2025 summer days for the following School Counselors, with compensation at their 2025-2026 hourly/daily rate:

Name	School	Summer Days
Carolyn Goudreau	JGHS	up to 13 days

Lisa Sallie	JGHS	up to 13 days
Christiana Dobra	JGHS	up to 13 days
Janine Ferrante	JGHS	up to 13 days
Todd Schwartz	EMS	up to 12.5 days
Laurie Oriolo	EMS	up to 12.5 days

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves the following individuals for the Special Education Extended School Year Program which will run for three hours per day for the period July 1, 2025 through August 11, 2025, with compensation as presented or at their 2025-2026 contractual rate in accordance with their respective collective bargaining agreements:

Employee	Title	2023 Hours	Compensation
	Program Coordinator	Four hours per day, not to exceed 140 Hours total	\$66/Hour plus an additional 10% differential
Jessica	Substitute Program Coordinator	Four hours per day, not to exceed 140 Hours total	\$66/Hour plus an additional 10% differential
Kate Lombardi	School Nurse	Four hours per day, not to exceed 120 hours	Employee Hourly Rate
	Substitute School Nurse	Four hours per day, not to exceed 120 hours	Employee Hourly Rate
	Substitute School Nurse	Four hours per day, not to exceed 120 hours	Employee Hourly Rate
	Substitute School Nurse	Four hours per day, not to exceed 120 hours	Employee Hourly Rate
	Substitute School Nurse	Four hours per day, not to exceed 120 hours	Employee Hourly Rate
Laura	Special Education Teacher	Three hours per day, not to exceed 100 Hours	\$66/Hour
Lisa Cento	Special Education Teacher	Three hours per day, not to exceed 100 Hours	\$66/Hour
Riedel	Special Education Teacher	Three hours per day, not to exceed 100 Hours	\$66/Hour
Trimble	Special Education Teacher	Three hours per day, not to exceed 100 Hours	\$66/Hour
Susan Campo	Special Education Substitute Teacher	Three hours per day, not to exceed 100 Hours	\$66/Hour
Sima Lis	Special Education Substitute Teacher	Three hours per day, not to exceed 100 Hours	\$66/Hour
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Pirolo	Education Substitute Teacher	not to exceed 100 Hours	
Kristen Saidler	Special Education Substitute Teacher	Three hours per day, not to exceed 100 Hours	\$66/Hour
Liam Thompson	Special Education Substitute Teacher	Three hours per day, not to exceed 100 Hours	\$66/Hour
Domenica Piccoli	Special Education Substitute Teacher	Three hours per day, not to exceed 100 Hours	\$66/Hour
Joanna Maricondo	Speech Teacher	Three hours per day, not to exceed 100 Hours	\$66/Hour
Catherine Carbone	Speech Teacher	Three hours per day, not to exceed 100 Hours	\$66/Hour
Jessica Shea	Social Worker	Three hours per day, not to exceed 100 Hours	\$66/Hour
Jessiah Baylis	Teaching Assistant	Three hours per day, not to exceed 100 Hours	Employee Hourly Rate
Denise Crean	Teaching Assistant	Three hours per day, not to exceed 100 Hours	Employee Hourly Rate
Michael DelNegro	Teaching Assistant	Three hours per day, not to exceed 100 Hours	Employee Hourly Rate
Lisa Fusaro	Teaching Assistant	Three hours per day, not to exceed 100 Hours	\$21.24/Hr
Nicole Gualtieri	Teaching Assistant	Three hours per day, not to exceed 100 Hours	Employee Hourly Rate
Jeanne Kober	Teaching Assistant	Three hours per day, not to exceed 100 Hours	Employee Hourly Rate
Samantha Messina	Teaching Assistant	Three hours per day, not to exceed 100 Hours	Employee Hourly Rate
John O'Sullivan	Teaching Assistant	Three hours per day, not to exceed 100 Hours	Employee Hourly Rate
Diane Sargent	Teaching Assistant	Three hours per day, not to exceed 100 Hours	Employee Hourly Rate
Liam Thompson	Teaching Assistant	Three hours per day, not to exceed 100 Hours	Employee Hourly Rate
Peter Flanagan	Substitute Teaching Assistant	Three hours per day, not to exceed 100 Hours	\$21.24/Hr

Tammy Pagan	Paraprofessional	Three hours per day, not to exceed 100 Hours	Employee Hourly Rate
Melissa Nobile	Paraprofessional	Three hours per day, not to exceed 100 Hours	Employee Hourly Rate
Christine Cinnante	Paraprofessional	Three hours per day, not to exceed 100 Hours	Employee Hourly Rate
Kerri Bagetta	Toileting Paraprofessional	Three hours per day, not to exceed 100 Hours	Employee Hourly Rate

14. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints the following Election Officials for the 2025 Budget Re-Vote of the Elwood Union Free School District to be held on July 17, 2025; and, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board authorizes the District Clerk to make any changes to the appointments or employ substitutes as deemed necessary.

Chairperson/Election Inspector: Rate of pay - \$16.50/hour

Patricia Grasso

Election Inspectors: Rate of pay - \$16.50/hour

Veronica Bohrer, Hilda Schulkind, Sam Batanchiev, Audrey Boodie, David Rigo, Michelle Lavitt, Ira Anekstein, Nancy Dunn, Rita Anilionis, Reba Voyages, Loretta Wilson,

Margaret Ippolito

Election Inspectors: Rate of pay-Employee Hourly Rate

Nancy Mancini, Judith Tessitore, Medeline Palencia-Cordero, Maryanne Martello, Rosalia Seiter

- 15. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the President of the Board of Education is authorized to sign and execute a Sixth Amendment to the Salary and Benefits Agreement for Mara Pugh, School Lunch Manager, dated June 12, 2025, which Amendment has been reviewed by the Board of Education, and will be incorporated by reference within the minutes of this meeting.
- BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves up to seventy (70) hours of service for Virginia Rouse for transitional purposes in the curriculum and instruction office, effective July 1, 2025 through the remainder of the 2025-2026 school year, with compensation of \$40.15 per hour.
- 17. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints Mary Langon as a Permanent Clerical Substitute, with compensation of \$19.00 per hour for the 2025-2026 school year, effective July 1, 2025.
- 18. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves the additional Substitutes, for the 2024-2025 school year, as presented to the Board at this meeting.

O. ACTION ITEMS - BUSINESS

1. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education President is hereby authorized to sign and execute a Consultant Service

Contract with Brielle Ross Richards and the District, setting forth the terms and conditions for providing vision services to the District, for the period July 1, 2025 through August 30, 2025, and said Contract will be incorporated by reference within the minutes of this meeting.

- 2. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves the Affiliation Agreement with Touro University, setting forth the terms and conditions for providing the John H. Glenn High School Career Exploration Program students with educating and coordinating training services, effective January 1, 2025 through June 30, 2025, and said Agreement will be incorporated by reference within the minutes of this meeting.
- 3. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education President is hereby authorized to sign and execute an Agreement with Western Suffolk BOCES and the District, setting forth the terms and conditions for providing various services to the District as presented to the Board at this meeting, effective July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026, and said Agreement will be incorporated by reference within the minutes of this meeting.
- 4. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education President is hereby authorized to sign and execute an Agreement with the Harborfields Central School District and the District, setting forth the terms and conditions for providing special education programs and services during the summer for students residing within the Harborfields Central School District, effective July 1, 2025 through August 31, 2025 inclusive, and said agreement will be incorporated by reference within the minutes of this meeting.

P. ACTION ITEMS – OTHER

- 1. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby declares the following items as surplus and obsolete as they are beyond repair, duplicate copies or outdated and allow for their appropriate removal: 1-Library Books (EMS), as presented
- 2. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, a motion to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Elwood Union Free School District solicited proposals for Architect/Engineering services pursuant to a request for proposals ("RFP"); WHEREAS, on or about February 6, 2025, the School District received three sealed proposals in response to the RFP;

WHEREAS, said proposals were reviewed and evaluated by the School District in accordance with the RFP;

WHEREAS, upon said review, the Administration recommends that BBS Architects be awarded a contract for the provision of Architect/Engineering services as the proposal was best meeting the criteria in the RFP:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby awards the contract for the 2025-2026 Architect/Engineering services to BBS Architects.

3. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, and in accordance with NY Education Law 2034(6), the Board of Education hereby authorizes the

District Clerk to unseal and open the ballot box used in the school district vote held on May 21, 2024 and destroy all ballots found therein.

4. BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves the Committee and Subcommittee on Special Education's recommendations for meetings held on 12/6/23, 3/18/24, 12/11/24, 1/9/25, 2/12/25, 2/27/25, 3/3/25, 3/6/25, 3/11/25, 3/18/25, 3/19/25, 3/20/25, 3/25/25, 3/26/25, 3/27/25, 4/1/25, 4/7/25, 4/8/25, 4/9/25, 4/10/25, 4/22/25, 4/23/25, 4/24/25, 4/25/25, 4/29/25, 4/30/25, 5/13/25, 5/16/25, 5/22/25, 6/2/25 and 6/5/25 and the Committee on Preschool Special Education's recommendations for meetings held on 4/16/24, 7/12/24, 10/15/24, 3/10/25, 3/12/25, 3/17/25, 3/21/25, 3/26/25, 4/2/25, 4/4/25, 4/9/25, 4/11/25, 4/21/25, 4/23/25, 4/25/25, 4/30/25, 5/7/25, 5/9/25, 5/14/25, 5/21/25 and 5/28/25 for students' classifications/placements and/or discontinuance of services.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education authorizes and appropriates the use of District funds necessary to implement the special education programs and services consistent with said recommendations.

Q. RESIDENTS' REMARKS REGARDING MATTERS PERTAINING TO THE DISTRICT

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R. ADJOURNMENT – 9:42 p.m.

Dr. Siddiqui moved and Mr. Edwards seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:42 p.m. Motion carried. Vote: 5-yes, 0-no.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Lou Marx District Clerk