

ELIDA BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Elida High School Community Room at 7:00 p.m. February 13, 2024

Tape recordings shall be made of each meeting of the board as an administrative aid and shall be preserved as public documents of the Board.

This meeting is a meeting of the Elida Board of Education in public for the purpose of conducting the School District’s business and is not to be considered a public community meeting. There is a time for public participation during the meeting as indicated in the agenda.

A G E N D A

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

Mrs. Agozzino	<u>P</u>	Mr. Peters	<u>P</u>
Mr. Birks	<u>P</u>	Mr. Point	<u>P</u>
Mr. Christoff	<u>P</u>		

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

IV. STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT LIAISON REPORT

Mr. Birks reported on the following:
Our recent sophomore visits to Apollo Career Center provided an invaluable opportunity for students to explore diverse career pathways firsthand. Through engaging tours, interactive activities, and insightful discussions with instructors, our students gained valuable insights about what the Center has to offer them. This experience not only broadened their understanding of what attending Apollo means but also hopefully ignited their passion for future career opportunities. We remain committed to supporting our students as they navigate their career journeys and confidently pursue other chances to learn.

Elida Elementary has begun its new Attendance Growth & Achievement Program, designed to combat chronic absenteeism by providing comprehensive support and engagement for students and families. This initiative rewards exemplary attendance while offering targeted assistance to those striving to improve. Through a tiered approach, we address barriers and celebrate every step towards better attendance. Underlining this program is the goal of supporting our students’ success by fostering a culture of consistent attendance and ensuring that each student receives the necessary support to thrive academically.

- Monday, students rolled out of bed and got to school on time with Pajama Day
- Tuesday, students celebrated their bright futures with Career Day
- Wednesday, students will fall in love with learning for Valentine's Day
- Thursday, students will recognize that good attendance is Tied to reaching your learning goals with tie dye day
- Friday, students are invited to dress like their favorite hero.

Our students recently showcased their musical talents at the Ohio Music Education Association (OMEA) Solo & Ensemble Contest, representing our schools with their talent, skill, and dedication to their crafts. Their performance in several different categories not only demonstrates technical proficiency but also artistic expression, earning them praise, as well as notes, from judges. We're immensely proud of their achievements and the recognition they received at the OMEA contest, underscoring their commitment to musical excellence. Congratulations to all our students for their outstanding performances and for inspiring our community with their passion for music.

Our winter sports teams are currently midway through their seasons, and they're showcasing exceptional talent and determination, making us incredibly proud. From the basketball court to the swimming pool and beyond, our student-athletes are learning to demonstrate outstanding skill, sportsmanship, and teamwork.

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We're thrilled to recognize our outstanding Students of the Month, who exemplify excellence in academics, leadership, and character. These exceptional students have demonstrated a commitment to their studies, shown exceptional leadership qualities, and consistently displayed kindness and respect towards their peers and teachers. Pictured are

- 1st grade: Willow Cook
- 2nd grade: Harlan Clay
- 3rd grade: Arias Haley
- 4th grade: Dominic Bates
- 5th grade: Joshad Bundleuy

Elida Senior Connor Smith completed his Eagle Scout Board of Review in January and has become Old Sycamore's first Eagle Scout of the year. Additionally, he was honored by the Lima Noon Optimist Club during Youth Appreciation Week for his outstanding leadership and service to both our school and community. Connor's involvement in various activities, including Eagle Scouts, National Honor Society, Student Council, Quiz Bowl, and Elida's music program, demonstrates his dedication to academic excellence and community engagement. We're proud to celebrate Connor's achievements and look forward to seeing him continue to shine as he pursues his engineering degree at Ohio Northern University.

Huge congratulations to Elida Senior Landen Crates for reaching a remarkable milestone by earning his 1,000th career strike in the recent match against Wapak! Landen's achievement is not only a testament to his incredible talent and dedication but also a historic moment as the first bowler for Elida to reach this milestone. In addition to Landen's outstanding performance, the entire team's victory over Wapak with a score of 2532-2522 is commendable. We extend our congratulations to Landen, the entire team, and their coaches for this impressive win and for representing Elida with excellence on the bowling lanes.

We love to showcase the incredible Senior Woodworking Projects crafted by our talented Elida students, under the guidance of Mr. Matt Amstutz. These outstanding projects not only showcase the students' craftsmanship but also their creativity and dedication to excellence. Let's take a look at the latest masterpieces:

- Griffin Burton '24: Griffin, a senior in Construction Tech Design Build II, crafted a stunning sofa table with drawers, fulfilling a special request from his mom. He stained the top with Espresso and primed and painted the base white, creating a beautiful contrast. Fantastic work, Griffin!
- Matt Shellabarger '24: Matt, also a senior in Construction Tech Design Build II, took on the challenge of building a corner computer desk for his room at home. Combining various plan details into one, he meticulously stained it with Gunstock and applied three coats of lacquer, resulting in a remarkable piece. Terrific job, Matt!

Experience the magic of Rodgers and Hammerstein's "The Sound of Music" brought to life by the talented students of Elida High School! Our High School theater students will perform this beloved classic from March 7th to March 10th with tickets are on sale starting February 14th. Don't miss this enchanting production showcasing our students' incredible talent and dedication to the arts. We're really looking forward to it!

V. LEGISLATIVE LIAISON

Mr. Christoff reported on the following:

Ohio General Assembly

- HB 68 (Saving Adolescents from Experimentation (SAFE) Act); includes HB 6 (Save Women's Sports Act)
 - vetoed by Governor DeWine December 29th
 - House overrides veto (Jan 10th) 65-28 Senate = overrides veto (Jan 24th) 24-8
 - effective date = April 23rd; ACLU of Ohio has announced that will file suit prior to implementation
- HB 183 (Bathroom Bill - single-sex bathroom access in schools & universities) – 5th committee hearing

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- HB 402 – RE: freeze 2023 property taxes at 2022 levels (introduced 2/7/24, not assigned to committee)

Joint Committee on Property Tax Review and Reform – heard invitation only testimony from the County Auditor’s Association of Ohio and the Board of Tax Appeals. A large piece of the discussion centered on how more and more tax exemptions are causing a shift in who pays the local levies.

Other Related State Action

Governor’s School Bus Safety Working Group released 17 recommendations for improving bus safety in Ohio. For info, see [Governor’s School Bus Safety Working Group – recommendations](#) or OSBA’s Facts in a Flash

#10 - DEW should work with the Ohio General Assembly to develop and fund a grant program to help school districts invest in school bus safety features such as, but not limited to, seat belts. The grant program should be needs-based. The working group does not recommend that seat belts be mandated for all school buses in Ohio.

#14 - School districts should engage school bus drivers in critical incident response planning and include them in realistic, scenario-based critical incident exercises.

US Congress

3rd Continuing Resolution (Jan 19, 2024) defers decisions on the 2024 USDOE budget until March 8th, limiting available details regarding the future of federal funds appropriated for federal education programs.

Other Related Federal Action

On Friday, February 2, 2024 the Department of Education sent the revised Title IX Sexual Harassment regulations (a.k.a. Title: Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities Receiving Federal Financial Assistance) to the Office of Information Management and Regulatory Affairs (OIRMA) for review, one of the final steps that must take place before regulations are officially released.

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) is in the final review stages of significant revisions to sections of OMB Guidance for Grants and Agreements.

Each of these rule making processes may have a significant impact on district operations and will likely require changes to current district policies.

Other Related Judicial Action

USDC FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA (1/12/24) – ruled to dismiss Plaintiffs’ claim for failure to state a claim upon which relief can be granted, absent binding Supreme Court or Tenth Circuit precedent, regarding recently enacted Oklahoma SB 615, requiring each public and public charter school that serves students in pre-K through 12th grades require multiple occupancy restroom or changing areas be designated for (a) exclusive use of the male sex; or (b) exclusive use of the female sex.

SCOTUS (1/16/24) – declined PETITION FOR WRIT OF CERTIORARI without comment or dissent; leaves intact 7th Circuit Court of Appeals (IN, IL, WI) ruling that favored an Indiana transgender middle school students use of the boys’ facilities based on the student’s gender identification. (7th Circuit precedence on this matter)

VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION RELATED TO ACTION ITEMS

VII. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Mr. Mengerink reported on the following:

- Semi-Annual Bullying Report for the first half of the 2023-2024 school year.
Elida High School – 5; Elida Middle School – 2; Elida Elementary - 0
(Exhibit A)
- Semi-Annual Bullying Report is listed in the agenda for each of the buildings for you thru the first half of the year.

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- Our Business Advisory Council held a meeting in January. During the meeting, the Lima Building Trades made a presentation to talk about the program they offer to new hires. Apollo will host a college fair on March 26. Also, Ohio Means Jobs will be hosting a Job Fair on May 9 at the UNOH Event Center.
- Provided a handout to Board members that was created by Rhodes St. A couple College Credit Plus Agreements are on the agenda tonight – I have given this out in the past and just wanted to share this info with you that we received from Rhodes St for the last 2 years.
- As part of the large safety grant that we got last year for the high school and middle school, we have been working with the village and township to make some of our crossings a little safer for students. We are hoping to see some signage changes as a result of that a little later in the spring.
- I do need to clarify some misunderstandings that were brought up last month regarding the open enrollment policy. The language that is in there regarding race is taken from Ohio Revised Code – the wording may not be exactly what is in ORC, but the intent is the same. The intent of the wording is actually opposite of what was put forth last month, and is a requirement in order protect the racial balance of a district versus segregating and discriminating.
- SBOE – has stated that they currently have 10 positions unfilled (out of 70) due to the budget shortfall that is projected for them. The Board has made a \$10 million request from the state to help cover. Recall that the SBOE has a primary responsibility to the processing of licenses and professional discipline investigations.
- A new bill that was recently proposed could have a huge financial impact on the district and many other districts around the state. HB 411 was introduced to increase the base teacher salary to \$50,000. Our district base is currently at \$40,204. If that were to come to fruition, I assume that would bump our pay scales by \$10,000 – leading to an immediate increase of \$1.6 million per year... plus probably another \$200,000 cost for the increase in retirement costs. This is an example of one of the reasons that the district wants to keep a carryover from year to year.
- Lastly, I would like to congratulate Maddox Bell, who we found out today, has been named as a National Merit Scholarship Finalist. This is the most prestigious academic award a student can earn. Maddox was named a semi-finalist this past fall. Being named a semi-finalist represents less than 1% of graduating seniors across the country. So we certainly want to recognize him for this achievement.

VIII. TREASURER REPORT

Mr. Parker reported on the following:

General Fund 1/31/24

- Revenue \$12,145,490
- Expenses \$13,554,923
- Net Loss \$409,433
- Ending Balance \$4,337,071

001 – Cash Balance 1/31

- 2024 - \$4,337,071
- 2023 - \$4,356,454
- 2022 - \$4,413,507
- 2021 - \$3,623,080
- 2020 - \$3,499,539

Revenue 1/31/24

- Real Estate \$4,408,940
- Personal Property \$276,557
- State Aid \$6,133,729
- Homestead/Rollback \$637,815
- Other \$688,450
- Total: \$12,145,490

Expenses 1/31/24

- Personnel \$7,544,418
- Retire/Ins \$3,108,986
- Purchased Svc \$2,109,578
- Supplies \$561,750
- Capital Outlay \$16,792
- Principal \$52,729
- Interest \$7, 863
- Other \$152,807
- Total: \$13,554,923

Cash/Investments – 1/31/24

- Star Ohio \$1,793,628.89
- Premier Bank \$1,302,254.82
- Premier Money Market \$379,905.24
- State Bank Money Market \$17,585.67
- Caldwell Sutter \$571,191.72
- Caldwell Sutter - \$2,927,914.15
- Caldwell Sutter – Escrow - \$106,320.78
- State Bank CD \$250,000.00
- Financial Federal CD \$245,000.00
- Citizens Money Market \$54,484.29
- Union Bank CD - \$250,000.00
- Union Bank CD - \$500,000.00
- Union Bank – Checking - \$3,191.62

Food Service 1/31/24

- Revenue – Federal \$345,124
- Revenue – State \$7,538
- Revenue – Local \$264,588
- Expenses - \$670,687
- Loss - \$53,437
- 1/31/24 Balance \$826,238

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Athletic Fund 1/31/24

- Revenue – Boys Basketball \$38,009
- Revenue – Girls Basketball \$12,126
- Revenue –Football \$74,083
- Revenue – Other \$45,624
- Expenses – Salaries (\$11,134)
- Expenses – Benefits (\$741)
- Expenses –Purch. Ser. (\$74,669)
- Expenses – Supplies (\$23,646)
- Expenses – Equipment (\$9,815)
- Expenses – Other (\$10,614)
- Gain \$39,223
- Beginning Balance \$90,646
- 1/31/24 Balance \$129,869 (300 Fund)

001 P2P HS \$24.275

001 P2P MS \$6,540

001 Expenses (\$248,416)

Total Loss (\$178,378)

Tax Rates

Ag/Residential

- 2023 – 34.023
- 2022 – 34.789
- 2021 – 35.05
- 2020 – 36.568
- 2019 – 37.233
- 2018 – 37.527

Tax Valuations

- 2023 - \$465,877,830
- 2022 - \$463,603,860
- 2021 - \$458,846,910
- 2020 - \$409,874,060
- 2019 - \$405,619,970

Tax Valuations

- 2023
- Ag/Residential \$339,072,380
- Commercial/Industrial \$105,418,580
- Utility Real \$75,250
- Utility Personal \$21,311,620
- Total \$465,877,830
- Exempt \$65,904,110

Tax Rates

	Pers Prop	Ag/Residential
Inside	5.4	5.4
Current Exp 1976	16.1	11.695
Current Exp 1978	4.0	2.910

	25.5	20.00
Bond HS (7.99)	5.70	5.70
PI 2008	0.00	0.00
Emerg. 2010 (7.32)	5.806	5.806
Bond EE (3.10)	2.10	2.10
PI 2018	.50	.411
Total	39.606	34.023

Audit Report-Released

- 6/30/23
- \$15,000
- Clean Opinion
- General Fund Balance \$5,817,997
- All Funds \$11,674,291
- Federal Funds Spent \$4,191,128
- EHS/EE Bond \$44,566,261

IX. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA ACTION ITEMS

X. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ACTION ITEMS

Jeff Christoff moved and David Peters seconded that the Agenda for the February 13, 2024, meeting of the Elida Board of Education be adopted.

Upon the call of the roll, the vote was recorded as follows:

Mrs. Agozzino	<u>Y</u>	Mr. Peters	<u>Y</u>
Mr. Birks	<u>Y</u>	Mr. Point	<u>Y</u>
Mr. Christoff	Y		

XI. CONSENT ITEMS

1. Approve Previous Minutes

It is recommended that the Elida Board of Education approve the minutes for the January 11, 2024 organizational board meeting, January 11, 2024 regular board meeting, and the January 24, 2024 special board meeting.

(Exhibits B, C, D)

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2. Students of the Month

It is recommended that the following students be designated as Students of the Month for February, 2024, for the Elida Local School District:

Elida Elementary School

Willow Cook
Harlan Clay
Arias Haley
Dominic Bates
Joshad Bundley

Elida Middle School

Aiden Duff
Rainey-Jaye Holycross
Joe Garcia Mejia

Elida High School

Ashlyn Jolliff
Thristan Hernandez
Ryan McGue
Kaelynn Smith

3. National FFA Week

It is recommended that the Elida Board of Education does hereby recognize February 17 – 24, 2024 as National FFA Week

4. Financial Reports

It is recommended that the Board acknowledge the financial reports submitted by the Treasurer.

(Exhibit E)

5. Employment

It is recommended that the Elida Board of Education approve the following personnel for employment pending criminal investigation check, negative drug test and for teaching, aides, and coaching personnel meeting certification requirements as determined by the Ohio Department of Education, per salary schedule in effect.

Non-Certified:

Audrey Engberg, 2nd Shift Custodian at Elida High School, Step 10, effective 2-5-24
Jill Coppler, Substitute Custodian
James Coppler, Substitute Custodian
Irene Offenbacher, Substitute Cook, Effective February 1, 2024
Mary Reiff, Substitute Aide
Melissa Jaime, English Learner Educational Assistant Aide and Family Liaison, Step 0, Paraprofessional Pay, Effective February 14, 2024 (moving from Long-Term Sub to Full-Time)

6. Bulldog Academy

It is recommended that the Elida Board of Education approve the Bulldog Academy Program. This is an intensive reading intervention program for Elida 3rd grade students to increase their reading proficiency level.

The session runs from February 26, 2024 through March 21, 2024 on Monday's - Thursday's from 3:55 p.m. – 5:10 p.m. (teachers work from 3:55 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.). This is to be funded with ESSER funds.

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7. Substitute Teachers

It is recommended that the Elida Board of Education employ the following substitutes who have met the certification requirements and have on file a clear criminal record check.

Substitutes with Bachelors Degree
Svetlana Meier

General, Non-Degree Substitutes
Lauren Williams Ciara Johnson
Dillon Liles

8. Volunteers

It is recommended that the Elida Board of Education approve the following personnel as volunteers. Volunteering will be pending following the school volunteer policy guideline and proper certifications from ODE for Class II Volunteers.

Class II
Zach Miller, High School Baseball
Jeff Engle, High School Baseball

9. Resolution of Acceptance of Rate

The Allen County Budget Commission met and examined the proposed Budget for the 2024-2025 fiscal year for the Elida Local School District. The budget presented was accepted. The motion is recommended:

WHEREAS, the Board of Education in accordance with the provisions of law has previously adopted a Tax Budget for the next succeeding fiscal year, commencing 7-1-24, and

WHEREAS, the Budget Commission of Allen County, Ohio, has certified its action thereon to this Board together with an estimate by the County Auditor of the rate of each tax necessary to be levied by the Board and what part thereon without, and what part within, the ten mill limitations;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Elida Board of Education of the Elida Local School District, Allen County, Ohio, that the amounts and rates, as determined by the Budget Commission in its certification, be and the same are hereby accepted; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that thereby and is hereby levied on the tax duplicate of said School District the rate of said tax necessary to be levied within and without the ten mill limitation as follows:

<u>FUND</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u> <u>OUTSIDE</u> <u>10 MILLS</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u> <u>INSIDE</u> <u>10 MILLS</u>	<u>INSIDE</u> <u>RATE</u>	<u>OUTSIDE</u> <u>RATE</u>
Gen.	\$10,081,583	\$2,515,740	5.40	25.906
Perm. Imp.	202,015			.500
Bond Ret.	\$3,633,847			7.800

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Treasurer of this Board be and is hereby directed to certify a copy of this Resolution to the County Auditor of said county.

10. Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) Membership

It is recommended that the Elida Board of Education approve the membership with Ohio High School Athletic Association for the school year 2024-2025.

(Exhibit F)

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11. Waiver of Use of Facilities

It is recommended that the Elida Board of Education approve the request from members of German Baptist Church to use the Middle School Commons and Gym on Sunday, April 7, 2024 from 8:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

12. College Credit Plus Partnership with University of Findlay for 2024-2025

It is recommended that the Elida Board of Education approve the College Credit Plus School Partnership Application with University of Findlay for 2024-2025 school year.

(Exhibit G)

13. College Credit Plus Partnership with Sinclair Community College for 2024-2025

It is recommended that the Elida Board of Education approve the payment rates for Sinclair Community College for the 2024-2025 school year.

(Exhibit H)

14. Title I Memorandum of Understanding with Lima City Schools for the 2023-2024 School Year

It is recommended that the Elida Board of Education approve the Title I Memorandum of Understanding with Lima City Schools to provide Title I services for the nonpublic schools for the 2023-2024 school year.

(Exhibit I)

15. Payment to Allen County Educational Service Center

It is recommended that the Elida Board of Education approve the payment to Allen County Educational Service Center for the 2022-2023 2nd half reconciliation January – June 2023 in the amount of \$96,423.94

(Exhibit J)

16. Sales Project

It is recommended that the Elida Board of Education approve the following sales project:

Organization: 8th Grade Washington D.C. Trip

Advisor: Ashley Edwards

Project: Re:Source, Mulch & Gift Cards, Candles from Elida Candle Company, Sara’s Sweets and Coffee Sales

Dates: January 18, 2024 – March 8, 2024

Organization: Spring for the Starts

Advisor: Nicole Oen

Project: Craft Show

Date: March 16, 2024

Mr. Peters stated that he feels the bill from Allen County Educational Service Center is too expensive. He would like to review this during a study session.

Alisa Agozzino moved and Jeff Christoff seconded that the above recommendations be approved.

Upon the call of the roll, the vote was recorded as follows:

Mrs. Agozzino	<u>Y</u>	Mr. Peters	<u>Y</u>
Mr. Birks	<u>Y</u>	Mr. Point	<u>Y</u>
Mr. Christoff	<u>Y</u>		

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XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

It is recommended that the Elida Board of Education enter into executive session pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G) at 7:35 p.m. for the following reason(s):

- ___ To consider the:
 - ___ Appointment of a public employee or official
 - ___ Employment of a public employee or official
 - ___ Dismissal of a public employee or official
 - ___ Discipline of a public employee or official
 - ___ Promotion of a public employee or official
 - ___ Demotion of a public employee or official
 - ___ Compensation of a public employee or official
- X To consider the investigation of charges or complaints against a public employee, official, licensee or regulated individual, (unless the public employee, official, licensee or regulated individual requests a public hearing).
- ___ To consider the purchase of property for public purposes or the sale of property at competitive bidding;
- ___ Conference with the Board’s attorney concerning disputes involving the Board that are the subject of pending or imminent court action;
- ___ Preparing for, conducting, or reviewing negotiations or bargaining sessions with public employees concerning their compensation or other terms and conditions of their employment;
- ___ Matters required to be kept confidential by federal law or regulations or state statutes;
- ___ Details relative to the security arrangements and emergency response protocols for the District where disclosure of the matters discussed could reasonably be expected to jeopardize the security of the district

Executive Session ended at 7:45 p.m.

Alisa Agozzino moved and Jaired Birks seconded that the above recommendation be approved.

Upon the call of the roll, the vote was recorded as follows:

Mrs. Agozzino	<u>Y</u>	Mr. Peters	<u>Y</u>
Mr. Birks	<u>Y</u>	Mr. Point	<u>Y</u>
Mr. Christoff	<u>Y</u>		

XIII. ACTION ITEMS

1. Public Schools Week (2-24-1)

WHEREAS, traditional public school districts in Ohio serve more than 1.8 million students and employ more than 245,000 Ohioans full time; and

WHEREAS, all children in Elida, Ohio should have access to the highest quality education possible; and

WHEREAS, the community of Elida recognizes the important role that an effective education plays in preparing all students to be successful adults; and

WHEREAS, quality education is critically important to the economic vitality of Elida; and

WHEREAS, public education not only helps to diversity our economy, but also enhances the vibrancy of our community; and

WHEREAS, Elida, Ohio has many high-quality teaching professionals who are committed to educating our children; and

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WHEREAS, public education is celebrated across the country by millions of students, parents, educators, schools and organizations to raise awareness of the need for effective public schools;
THEREFORE, The Elida Board of Education does hereby recognize February 26, 2024 – March 1, 2024 as PUBLIC SCHOOLS WEEK in Elida Local Schools and we call this observance to the attention of all of our citizens.

Jeff Christoff moved and Alisa Agozzino seconded that the above recommendation be approved.

Upon the call of the roll, the vote was recorded as follows:

Mrs. Agozzino	<u>Y</u>	Mr. Peters	<u>Y</u>
Mr. Birks	<u>Y</u>	Mr. Point	<u>Y</u>
Mr. Christoff	<u>Y</u>		

2. Resolution Supporting Military Children and Families (2-24-2)

WHEREAS, our country owes the daily freedoms to the members of the Armed Forces, their family members and loved ones who share in their service and sacrifice; and

WHEREAS, we celebrate the exceptional service, strength and character of military-connected students and families in Elida Local Schools; and

WHEREAS, we acknowledge that military families face unique challenges due to deployment, reintegration, service in combat zones and frequent relocations based on duty assignments; and

WHEREAS, the School Board of Elida Local Schools affirms their commitment to providing the resources and programs to support military-connected students academically, socially and emotionally;

WHEREAS, the School Board of Elida Local Schools calls for the continued creation of opportunities for military families and community members to purposely partner with schools in supporting student achievement, aspirations and social-emotional development.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the School Board of Elida Local Schools officially supports all military children and families; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Elida Board of Education encourages all school staff and community members to initiate, support and participate in appreciation activities designed to recognize the exceptional role and unique sacrifices our military-connected youth make in our nation’s best interest.

Jaired Birks moved and David Peters seconded that the above recommendations be approved.

Upon the call of the roll, the vote was recorded as follows:

Mrs. Agozzino	<u>Y</u>	Mr. Peters	<u>Y</u>
Mr. Birks	<u>Y</u>	Mr. Point	<u>Y</u>
Mr. Christoff	<u>Y</u>		

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3. Donation (2-24-3)

It is recommended by the Superintendent that the Elida Board of Education accept, with gratitude, the following donation:

- Donation of coats and shoes from Cora, Annastyn, and Casen Scarberry and Shannon Nichols

Alisa Agozzino moved and Jeff Christoff seconded that the above recommendations be approved.

Upon the call of the roll, the vote was recorded as follows:

Mrs. Agozzino	<u>Y</u>	Mr. Peters	<u>Y</u>
Mr. Birks	<u>Y</u>	Mr. Point	<u>Y</u>
Mr. Christoff	<u>Y</u>		

4. Law Firm (2-24-4)

It is recommended that the Elida Board of Education approve the following law firm: (Regarding bleacher lawsuit)

Freeman Mathis & Gary, LLP

Jaired Birks moved and Jeff Christoff seconded that the above recommendations be approved.

Upon the call of the roll, the vote was recorded as follows:

Mrs. Agozzino	<u>Y</u>	Mr. Peters	<u>Y</u>
Mr. Birks	<u>Y</u>	Mr. Point	<u>Y</u>
Mr. Christoff	<u>Y</u>		

5. Resolution Regarding Formal Complaint (2-24-5)

It is recommended that the Elida Board of Education approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, a parent in the Elida Local School District filed a formal complaint under Board of Education Policy 9130 concerning a matter regarding the Superintendent; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education met with the parent in Executive Session on January 24, 2024, to hear her complaint; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education, having fully considered the matter, finds that the complainant failed to provide adequate evidence to support her complaint.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby dismisses the complaint due to a lack of adequate evidence and determines that no further action regarding this matter is necessary.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Treasurer of the Board of Education will notify the complainant of the Board of Education’s decision by certified mail, to be post-marked February 14, 2024.

Jeff Christoff moved and Alisa Agozzino seconded that the above recommendations be approved.

ELIDA BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Elida High School Community Room at 7:00 p.m.

February 13, 2024

Mr. Birks abstained because he was not present at the hearing on January 24, 2024.

Upon the call of the roll, the vote was recorded as follows:

Mrs. Agozzino	<u>Y</u>	Mr. Peters	<u>Y</u>
Mr. Birks	<u>Abstain</u>	Mr. Point	<u>Y</u>
Mr. Christoff	<u>Y</u>		

XIV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – OTHER

The following people spoke:

Brenda Stocker

Mrs. Stocker addressed the Board and spoke on the following four items:

- The past year being difficult and people using the Bible to spread fear and hate.*
- There is nothing bad happening in Elida Local Schools*
- She expressed concerns of students getting treated badly and students being bullied by adults.*
- She noted the Board needs to mend fences and get involved in the district.*

Bill Kellermeyer

Mr. Kellermeyer addressed the Board and expressed concerns of the Board calling the Board's attorney "woke". He noted attorneys have a Code of Ethics and must give sound legal advice. Mr. Kellermeyer noted the Board must follow all laws (including case and common law). Mr. Kellermeyer commented on various cases that ruled in favor of transgender students. He noted the make-up of the Supreme Court and how many justices were appointed by Donald Trump. Mr. Kellermeyer noted it only takes 4 justices to take up a case at the Supreme Court.

Claude Paxton

Mr. Paxton addressed the Board and noted that he agreed with Mr. Kellermeyer. He stated that he appreciated the past Board and is hoping for friendly relations moving forward. He urged the Board to work together and be kind, patient, and to learn. He also stated that he feels Mr. Mengerink is a good person.

XV. OPEN BOARD FORUM - DISCUSSION

Mrs. Agozzino asked about committee assignments.

Mr. Mengerink noted that committee assignments have not been assigned yet.

Mr. Birks expressed concerns on having Superintendent committees. Mr. Birks was in favor of a study session to discuss legal representation, committees, Allen County Educational Service Center, district goals and graduation rate.

Mr. Christoff would like a work session to discuss short term and long term goals. He would like ESSER dollars be used to digitize the district.

A date for a work/study session was selected for February 27, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the high school community room.

The Board will send Mr. Mengerink three items to consider (to be discussed at the work session).

Mr. Peters asked about how the new bathroom policy is coming.

Mr. Mengerink noted that everyone is informed of the new policy.

ELIDA BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Elida High School Community Room at 7:00 p.m. February 13, 2024

XVI. INFORMATION/REMINDER

- Graduation ceremonies are scheduled for Friday, May 24, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. at the Fieldhouse

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

Jeff Christoff moved and David Peters seconded that the February 13, 2024 meeting of the Elida Board of Education be adjourned at 8:15 P.M.

Upon the call of the roll, the vote was recorded as follows:

Mrs. Agozzino	<u>Y</u>	Mr. Peters	<u>Y</u>
Mr. Birks	<u>Y</u>	Mr. Point	<u>Y</u>
Mr. Christoff	<u>Y</u>		

Note: Exhibits will be available online when the minutes are posted. For further documentation on agenda items, please contact the Treasurer

President

Treasurer