

ELIDA BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

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

January 11, 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.

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. STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT LIAISON REPORT

Mrs. Agozzino reported on the following:

1. The students in Mrs. Kroeger's 2nd grade class had a fun project to start the new year- they created classroom "expectation posters" with many great ideas and designs!
2. The following 35 students are participating in the Elida Middle School Spelling Bee on January 18. The winner will move on to represent Elida Middle School at the Allen County Spelling Bee on Saturday, Feb. 24 at 10:00 a.m. at The Ohio State University Lima. Good luck to all our Elida Bulldogs!
3. Winter Sports are approaching mid-way through their seasons. Keeping making us proud Bulldogs.
4. Congratulations to this year's Elida Athletic HOF Inductees! Tickets for the banquet and ceremony are available in the Activities Office at the high school for \$20. Contact the athletic office for more information.
5. Elida Middle school students are enjoying more fun options during gym class thanks to a grant from the Activated School Challenge through Activate Allen County, Mercy Health, The Mental Health Recovery Services Board of Allen, Auglaize and Hardin Counties & The Mental Health, Drug, Alcohol and Addiction Recovery Board of Putnam County. Students have options to be active playing table-tennis, corn-hole and ladder-ball! The students are really enjoying the variety with these new activities.
6. The Elementary PTO is hosting student/parent dances again this year! The Elida Elementary Girls VIG Glow Dance is Saturday, Jan. 27. Forms were sent home and ticket sales end Jan. 19. The boy's VIG Dance will be held on Sat., Feb. 24.
7. Class of 2026 Shoe Drive Fundraiser- YOU CAN HELP! Anyone can help by donating gently worn, used and new shoes at either high school office, now through February 1. Funds will be used towards next year's prom. All donated shoes will be redistributed by our fundraising partner, Funds2Orgs to a network of small microbusinesses.
8. Students of the Month:
 - a. Elementary
 - Norah Jones
 - Kody Cox
 - Ade Brenner
 - Dylan Fadley
 - Aryesu Seay
 - b. Middle
 - Emma Coppler
 - Jesselin Maynhart
 - Savannah Swickrath
 - c. High
 - Lexi Drider
 - Brooklie Corwin
 - Rylan Kent
 - Tyler Newland

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9. Woodworking Projects

- a. Ava Lang, a senior in Construction Tech Design-Build II had a need and chose to build a Coffee Table for her family. She found a plan, then customized the design to fit their needs. She built it out of Red Oak, stained it with Minwax Espresso, and then applied three coats of lacquer.
- b. Bryce "Chillidog" Chiles, a senior in Construction Tech Design-Build II at the request of his mom, built a dining room table for their home. Bryce found this design, adjusted the size, and built it out of Red Oak. He applied a two-toned color with the stain, doing a Black base, with Minwax Espresso on the top. He then applied three coats of lacquer for the finish.
- c. Cody Bryan, a senior in Construction Tech Design-Build II recently completed one of his 1st semester projects. He built an Adirondack Chair out of Red Oak, stained is Minwax Honey, and then applied three coats of lacquer. This was a trial run, as he is in process of building a few more Adirondack chairs for the American Township Fire Department as a Boy Scout Thank-you Project.

IV. LEGISLATIVE LIAISON

Mr. Christoff reported on the following:

Ohio General Assembly

HB 33 (Budget bill) included Social Media Operators Act

- planned to take effect Jan 15th, require social media platforms to obtain parent consent before creating accounts for children under 16
- US District Court for the Southern District of Ohio – emergency order blocking law (First Amendment)

Bills sent to the Governor in December

- SB 91 (Regards fraud, waste, and abuse of public funds) – signed by Governor DeWine
- 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 = ?
 - Judiciary = ? (Federal judge in Idaho blocked the ban, Alabama judge denied request to pause ban)

US Congress

- bipartisan leadership announced a tentative agreement on \$1.6T funding bill to avoid a government shutdown
- Affordable Connectivity Program bill introduced for temporary extension funding (many Ohio households)

V. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION RELATED TO ACTION ITEMS

- No Participants Registered

VI. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Mr. Mengerink reported on the following:

- Apollo All-Boards Meeting is February 1. You should have received an email from Karen regarding this. Reservations are needed by January 19.
- We are looking into being able to provide students with a tech internship that is being established by the state. This would run over the summer and could then possibly carry into the school year.
- It is Board Recognition Month, so I have certificate honoring the work that some of you have done, and the work that all of you will be doing going forward.
- The School Bus Safety Working Group has had their final meeting and are working on their final report that should be released sometime later this month.
- The first semester of school comes to end tomorrow.
- Athletic Hall of Fame banquet is next weekend as we welcome 3 new members.

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VII. TREASURER REPORT

Mr. Parker reported on the following:

General Fund 12/31/23

- Revenue \$11,165,101
- Expenses \$11,625,487
- Net Loss \$460,386
- Ending Balance \$5,286,118

Revenue 12/31/23

- Real Estate - \$4,408,940
- Personal Property \$276,557
- State Aide \$5,201,659
- Homestead/Rollback \$637,815
- Other \$640,131
- Total: \$11,165,101

Cash/Investments – 12/31/23

- Star Ohio \$1,785,233.76
- Premier Bank \$1,406,983.82
- Premier Money Market \$1,723,844.41
- State Bank Money Market \$14,945.12
- Caldwell Sutter \$569,021.45
- Caldwell Sutter - \$2,915,505.69
- Caldwell Sutter – Escrow \$105,921.94
- State Bank CD \$250,000.00
- Financial Federal CD \$245,000.00
- Citizens Money Market \$54,714.71
- Union Bank CD - \$250,000.00
- Union Bank CD - \$500,000.00
- Union Bank – Checking \$1,000.00

Athletic Fund 12/31/23

Revenue – Boys Basketball \$25,107
Revenue – Girls Basketball \$7,103
Revenue – Football \$74,083
Revenue – Other \$38,829
Expenses – Salaries (\$11,134)
Expenses – Benefits (\$741)
Expenses – Purch. Ser. (\$63,013)
Expenses – Supplies (\$22,057)
Expenses – Equipment (\$9,815)
Expenses – Other (\$9,764)
Gain (\$28,598)
Beginning Balance \$90,646
11/30/23 Balance \$119,244 (300 Fund)

- 001 P2P HS \$24,275
- 001 P2P MS \$6,540
- 001 Expenses (\$234,342)
- Total Loss (\$174,929)

Draft Report

- FY 23 Federal Expenditures (\$4,191,128)
- Food Service \$962,192
- Special Education 559,333
- Title I \$605,537
- ESSER \$1,910,547
- (96.3%)

001 – Cash Balance 12/31

- 2023 - \$5,286,118
- 2022 - \$5,128,383
- 2021 - \$4,511,907
- 202 - \$4,480,735
- 2019 - \$4,332,663

Expenses 12/31/23

- Personnel \$6,494,106
- Retire/Ins \$2,551,851
- Purchases Svc. \$1,837,140
- Supplies \$518,232
- Capital Outlay \$16,791
- Principal \$52,729
- Interest \$7,863
- Other \$146,775
- Total: \$11,625,118

Food Service 12/31/23

- Revenue – Federal \$280,119
- Revenue – State \$7,538
- Revenue – Local \$226,305
- Expenses - \$569,123
- Loss - \$55,161
- 12/31/23 Balance \$824,514

Driver’s Education

- 12/31/23 Report
- Income \$69,250
- Expenses \$82,748
- Loss \$13,498
- Students Served 242

Report – Howard Fleeter

- Ohio School Voucher Update

Fair School Funding Plan, Inc.,
Group established for:

- Research
- Analysis
- Transparency
- Advocacy
- Interaction with education community

Wellness

Powerful ways to build new habits

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VIII. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA ACTION ITEMS

Mr. Birks moved and Mr. Peters seconded to add action items #9-Recind Resolution 4-23-1 & #10 – Bathroom and Locker Room Safety Policy

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

Mrs. Agozzino	<u>NO</u>	Mr. Peters	<u>Y</u>
Mr. Birks	<u>Y</u>	Mr. Point	<u>Y</u>
Mr. Christoff	<u>NO</u>		

IX. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ACTION ITEMS

Mr. Birks moved and Mr. Peters seconded that the Agenda for the January 11, 2024, regular meeting of the Elida Board of Education be adopted.

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

Mrs. Agozzino	<u>NO</u>	Mr. Peters	<u>Y</u>
Mr. Birks	<u>Y</u>	Mr. Point	<u>Y</u>
Mr. Christoff	<u>NO</u>		

X. CONSENT ITEMS

1. Approve Previous Minutes

Elida Board of Education regular meeting on December 19, 2023
(Exhibit A)

2. Students of the Month

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

Elida Elementary School

Norah Jones

Kody Cox

Ade Brenner

Dylan Fadley

Aryeus Seay

Elida Middle School

Emma Coppler

Jesselin Maynhart

Savannah Swickrath

Elida High School

Lexi Crider

Brooklie Corwin

Rylan Kent

Tyler Newland

3. Resolution of Appreciation of Elida School Counselors

It is recommended that the Elida Board of Education does hereby proclaim February 5 – 9, 2024 as National School Counseling Week and express their appreciation for the counselors of the district.

4. Financial Reports

It is recommended that the Board acknowledge the financial reports submitted by the Treasurer.
(Exhibit B)

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5. Resignation

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

Supplementals:
Mikaela Mitchell, JV Girls Basketball Coach, effective January 2, 2024

6. Appropriation Modifications

FUND		MODIFIED		
CLASS/NAME	FUND #/SCC	APPROPRIATIONS	ADDITIONS	APPROPRIATIONS
SPECIAL REVENUE				
ARP Homeless				
	507-9824	-0-	\$8,810.36	\$8,810.36
CAPITAL PRJECTS				
Building	004-9011	\$100,000.00	\$75,000.00	\$175,000.00

7. Sales Project Potential

It is recommended that the Elida Board of Education approve the following sales project:
Organization: THOR Committee
Advisor: Jennifer Lichty
Project: Rochambeau
Date: January 1, 2024 through January 31, 2024

David Peters moved and Alisa Agozzino 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>		

XI. ACTION ITEMS

1. Early Graduation (1-24-1)

It is recommended by the Superintendent that the Elida Board of Education approve the early graduation for Jada Bryant and Savannah Emmons, recommended by Mr. Justin Firks, Elida High School Principal, for graduation on January 12, 2024, contingent upon satisfactorily completion of all of their minimum standard requirements for graduation.

Mr. Peters asked if this a normal occurrence.
Mr. Mengerink stated that this does not happen frequently.

Alisa Agozzino moved and Jeff Point 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>		

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2. OEPI Membership (1-24-2)

It is recommended by the Superintendent that the Elida Board of Education approve the 2024 Ohio Education Policy Institute membership at a cost of \$1,000.00.

*Mr. Peters feels this is a waste of money and he is against lobbying.
Mrs. Agozzino noted that we need to lobby for schools.*

Jeff Christoff moved and David Peters 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>NO</u>
Mr. Birks	<u>Y</u>	Mr. Point	<u>NO</u>
Mr. Christoff	<u>Y</u>		

3. Third Grade Ohio State Assessment Paper/Pencil Resolution (1-24-3)

Be it resolved by the Elida Board of Education of the Elida Local School District, a majority of its full membership therein concurring, with recommendation from the superintendent to administer the Third Grade Ohio State Assessments in English Language Arts and Math on paper for the 2024-2025 school year.

Mr. Birks asked why so he could get an understanding of the background on this.

Mr. Mengerink stated that it is harder for 3rd graders to complete this on computer versus on paper.

Mr. Christoff agreed with Mr. Mengerink, and stated these are high stakes tests.

Alisa Agozzino moved and David Peters 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>		

4. Driver Education (1-24-4)

It is recommended by the Superintendent that the Elida Board of Education approve the following Driver Education fees effective January 15, 2024:

Online Class & In-Car Phase \$360.00
Regular Class and In-Car Phase \$325.00

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>		

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5. Driver Education Pay Rates (1-24-5)

It is recommended by the Superintendent that the Elida Board of Education approve the following Driver Education pay rates:

\$16/hour – in car phase – effective 2/1/24

\$26/hour classroom instruction – effective 2/1/24 (max \$600 per class)

Administrative fee - \$34 per student – classroom, effective 2/1/24

Administrative fee - \$60 per student – online, effective 2/1/24

Alisa Agozzino moved and Jeff Christoff 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>		

6. Employment (1-24-6)

It is recommended by the Superintendent that the Elida Board of Education approve the following personnel for employment pending criminal investigation check, a 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:

Melissa Jaime, Long-Term Substitute English Learner Educational Assistant Aide and Family Liaison, Step 0, effective January 3, 2024, Paraprofessional Pay upon Successful Passage of Parapro Test

Supplemental:

Scott Graham, Assistant Varsity Baseball Coach

Mr. Point noted that he would like to have all criminal investigation checks, a negative drug test and certification on file prior to the board approving them for employment.

Mr. Mengerink noted that it would be hard to obtain quality employees this way due to many delays; example - some newly graduated college students don't actually graduate until early August.

It was determined that the Board would receive updates on the status of these pre-employment items.

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>		

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7. **Substitute Teachers (1-24-7)**

It is recommended by the Superintendent that the Elida Board of Education employ the following substitute teachers pending Ohio Department of Education certification requirements and a clear criminal background check on file:

General, Non-Degree

Allison Jacobs

Isabella Wallace

Bachelors Degree

Andrea Scheckelhoff

Mr. Mengerink noted that these employees are approved by the Allen County Educational Service Center.

David Peters moved and Jeff Christoff seconded that the above recommendation be approved.

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

Mrs. Agozzino

Y

Mr. Birks

Y

Mr. Christoff

Y

Mr. Peters

Y

Mr. Point

Y

8. **Donation (1-24-8)**

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

- From Fraternal Order of Eagles, \$4,847.19 – to the Elida High School

David Peters moved and Jeff Point seconded that the above recommendation be approved.

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

Mrs. Agozzino

Y

Mr. Birks

Y

Mr. Christoff

Y

Mr. Peters

Y

Mr. Point

Y

9. **Rescind Resolution 4-23-1 (1-24-9)**

It is recommended that the Elida Board of Education rescind resolution 4-23-1.

Mr. Point moved and Mr. Birks seconded that the above recommendation be approved.

A brief discussion was held.

Mr. Christoff moved and Mrs. Agozzino seconded that the above recommendation be **tabled** until next month.

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

Mrs. Agozzino

Y

Mr. Birks

Y

Mr. Christoff

Y

Mr. Peters

NO

Mr. Point

NO

This item was tabled.

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10. Bathroom and Locker Room Safety Policy (1-24-10)

It is recommended that the Elida Board of Education approve the Bathroom and Locker Room Safety Policy.

(Exhibit C)

Mr. Birks moved and Mr. Peters seconded that the above recommendation be approved.

Mr. Birks commented that the public made it clear that they want this new policy and that the Board needs to act on it as quickly as possible.

Mr. Christoff commented that he was blindsided by this as there was not mention of this beforehand and that this is the first time he has seen this policy and he has not had time to review the policy.

Mr. Peters noted that current practices are to be considered woke ideology, this new policy is just common sense, and he can't believe we are even debating this.

Mr. Christoff commented that signage should be changed to male/female rather than boys/girls.

Mr. Point commented on Dave Yosts' opinion on transgender students and restroom use and noted having an alternate restroom is not discriminating.

Mr. Point and Mr. Birks stated that we need to protect our students.

Mrs. Agozzino agreed with Mr. Christoff and also felt blindsided.

Mr. Christoff questioned if this process is violating the board code of ethics.

Mr. Mengerink stated that the board has a right to do what it wants but that he has a duty to inform the board of the following information:

"I have not come across an educational legal counsel in Ohio that recommends anything contrary to past practice on this subject".

He passed out a copy of the exclusion statement in the insurance policy. This exclusion in our policy states that coverage is not provided for willful violations of the law for any member who consents. It further states that the exclusion does not apply to any member who did not participate in that matter, meaning that members are personally responsible if they vote for an item deemed to be a willful violation.

(Exhibit D)

Mr. Point and Mr. Peters noted that they disagree with Mr. Mengerink's statement listed above.

Mr. Christoff moved and Mrs. Agozzino seconded that the above recommendation be tabled for one month.

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

Mrs. Agozzino	<u>Y</u>	Mr. Peters	<u>NO</u>
Mr. Birks	<u>NO</u>	Mr. Point	<u>NO</u>
Mr. Christoff	<u>Y</u>		

David Peters moved to amend current signage and Jeff Point seconded.

Mrs. Agozzino	<u>NO</u>	Mr. Peters	<u>Y</u>
Mr. Birks	<u>Y</u>	Mr. Point	<u>Y</u>
Mr. Christoff	<u>NO</u>		

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The board then voted to pass this resolution which would adopt the new Bathroom and Locker Room Safety Policy.

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

Mrs. Agozzino	<u>NO</u>	Mr. Peters	<u>Y</u>
Mr. Birks	<u>Y</u>	Mr. Point	<u>Y</u>
Mr. Christoff	<u>NO</u>		

11. 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 8:45 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
- ☐ 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;
- ☒ X Matters required to be kept confidential by federal law or regulations or state statutes; (*Discipline of a student*)
- ☐ 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 9:22 p.m.

Jeff Christoff moved and Jeff Point 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>		

XII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – OTHER

- No Participants Registered

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XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Jeff Christoff moved and David Peters seconded that the January 11, 2024 meeting of the Elida Board of Education be adjourned at 9:22 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