

ELIDA BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Elida High School Community Room at 7:00 p.m. October 15, 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>Absent</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

Mr. Birks reminded the board he resigned from this position several months ago and he would not have reports in the future.

Mr. Point addressed that his resignation was not accepted and he was to remain as the liaison until the end of the year.

V. LEGISLATIVE LIAISON – Mr. Christoff

Mr. Christoff reported on the following:
SBA updates (Sep 24) from SB 168 - Education Deregulation bill

Competitive bidding threshold increases Oct. 24

In Ohio, boards of education are required to seek formal bids from potential vendors before they “build, repair, enlarge, improve or demolish a school building” if the cost of the work is over a certain threshold amount. Currently, state law sets the competitive bidding threshold amount at \$50,000 for school boards. However, starting Oct. 24, the threshold amount will increase to \$75,000, where it will remain for the rest of the year. Starting in January 2025 and for each calendar year thereafter, the threshold amount will be increased annually by three percent. This number will be determined and published by the Director of Commerce. (<https://www.ohioschoolboards.org/blogs/legal-ledger/competitive-bidding-threshold-increases-oct-24>)

District exemptions from certain requirements for a period of three years, with an opportunity for renewal.
From the most recent state report card; both qualifications apply:

- A district receives a performance rating of five stars on the Progress component.
- The district has a four-year adjusted cohort graduation rate of at least 93% and has a five-year adjusted cohort graduation rate of at least 95%.

Qualifying districts are excluded from (a) use of mentoring component of the Ohio teacher residency program, (b) minimum/maximum class sizes, (c) requiring teachers to be licensed specifically in the grade level in which they are teaching , and (d) employ an individual who is not licensed as required by RC 3319.22 to 3319.30 but who is otherwise qualified, based on experience, to teach classes.

VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION RELATED TO ACTION ITEMS

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VII. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – Mr. Mengerink

Mr. Mengerink reported on the following:

- Alison Sites gave a review of the district report card.
- The 2025-26 proposed school calendar will be released within the next month with public comment period open during the November BOE meeting.
- Reviewed changes to the National Weather Service cold weather alerts.
- Discussed working with the American Township Trustees and police chief in order to get additional SRO's in place for the district.
- Thanked American Township Police, Elida Village Police, the Allen Co. Sheriff's Department, and the FBI for their assistance in handling the threats that we have dealt with so far this year.
- Recognized the following Students of the Month:
Elida Elementary School
Cash Good
Asher Haley
Adelynn Siefker
Kali Brooks
Naomi Garcia

Elida Middle School
Zoey Clark
Mackenzie Lawrence
David Alexander Gaona

Elida High School
Arae'ya Allen
Kiersten Harsh
Lincoln Kent
Mason Troyer

VIII. TREASURER REPORT – Mr. Kaiser

Mr. Kaiser reported on the following:

- Closed at \$8,695,935.05 in the General Fund
 - \$654,698.29 more than this time last year
- **\$988,095** Expenses over Revenue for the month
 - **\$2,409,545** Revenue over Expenses FYTD
- \$16,383,355.44 across all funds
 - \$512,177.40 more than this time last year
 - **\$1,157,611.03** Expenses over Revenue for the month
 - **\$3,872,177.94** Revenue over Expenses FYTD.
- Interest for July- \$49,351.04
 - \$9,808.92 more than this time last year.
- SCview is up and running as of 10/14

Discussion from the board:

Mr. Birks questioned where the board was on having a community forum and believes it would be unwise to not have the forum before the board votes on whether or not to have the levy. He would like to use the community forum to get a read on the pulse of the community concerning the levy, and show the community we are listening and care what they think.

Mr. Christoff understands where Mr. Birks is coming from on the need for this forum.

IX. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA ACTION ITEMS

Mr. Christoff reviewed the school related organizations, and believes consent item #15, the Elida Track Parents, is incomplete and should be pulled until all information is received. No officers were listed and only coaches submitted forms.

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X. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ACTION ITEMS

Mr. Christoff moved and Mr. Peters seconded that the Agenda for the October 15, 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>Absent</u>	Mr. Peters	<u>Y</u>
Mr. Birks	<u>Y</u>	Mr. Point	<u>Y</u>
Mr. Christoff	<u>Y</u>		

XI. CONSENT ITEMS

1. Approve Previous Minutes

Elida Board of Education regular meeting on September 17, 2024.
(Exhibit A)

2. Financial Reports

(Exhibit B)

3. Students of the Month

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

Elida Elementary School

Cash Good
Asher Haley
Adelynn Siefker
Kali Brooks
Naomi Garcia

Elida Middle School

Zoey Clark
Mackenzie Lawrence
David Alexander Gaona

Elida High School

Arae’ya Allen
Kiersten Harsh
Lincoln Kent
Mason Troyer

4. School Bus Safety Week

Be it resolved that the Elida Board of Education does hereby join school districts throughout Ohio and across the nation in designating October 21 – 25, 2024 as NATIONAL SCHOOL BUS SAFETY WEEK, and officially recognizes the important contributions that the School Bus Drivers, Director, Mechanic, Secretary and other support staff in the Transportation Department make to the students, staff, and families served.

5. Childcare Leave of Absence

It is recommended that the Elida Board of Education approve a childcare leave of absence for Karen Kane, Gr. 8 ELA teacher, effective October 1, 2024 through the end of the 2024-2025 school year.

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6. Resignations/Retirements

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

Non-Certified:

Heather Dicke, Bus Driver, effective 9-5-24

Brittany Mowery, Custodian at Elida High School, effective 9-24-24

Mary Reiff, Elementary Lunchroom Aide, effective September 20, 2024

Beth Kendall, Middle School Lunchroom Aide, effective October 9, 2024

Certified:

Michele Huber, 4th Grade Teacher, effective 10-25-24

7. Employment

It is recommended that the Elida Board of Education approve the following personnel for employment for the 2024-2025 school year 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 & Workforce, per salary schedule in effect.

Certified:

Kylie Newland, Long-Term Substitute Teacher at Elida Middle School, effective October 16, 2024 through the end of the 2024-2025 school year. BA, Step 0

Non-Certified:

Julia DePaoli, Elementary Lunchroom Aide, step 0, effective October 1, 2024

Haili Comer, Paraprofessional Aide at Elida Elementary, Step 0, effective October 14, 2024

Riley Warwick, Paraprofessional Aide at Elida Elementary, Step 0, effective October 16, 2024

Dorothy Castle, Middle School Lunchroom Aide, step 5, effective October 21, 2024

Rosalind Edwards, Substitute Bus Driver

Floyd Upshaw, Substitute Bus Driver

Erika Espinoza, Substitute Aide

Travis Cummans, Substitute Custodian

Tylee Spurgeon, Substitute Aide

Supplemental:

Matt Dunahay, Gr. 7 Wrestling (50%), OH3123801

Keisha Larimore – Gr. 9 Class Advisor

Monique Bolden-Tubbs – Gr. 10 Class Advisor

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 guidelines.

Class II

Austin Selvaggio, Middle School Wrestling, OH3304493

Jimmy Bright, Middle School Boys Basketball, OH3336910

Brooke Reese, Middle School Girls Basketball, OH3527244

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9. Appropriation Modifications

FUND		MODIFIED		
CLASS/NAME	FUND #/SCC	APPROPRIATIONS	ADDITIONS	APPROPRIATIONS
Safety Grant	599-9223	--0--	\$9,632.96	\$9,632.96
ARP ESSER	507-9023	\$107,861.11	\$73,327.59	\$181,188.70

Mr. Peters questioned Appropriation Modifications concerning ARP ESSER and safety grant. These are necessary adjustments to stay in line with the auditor.

10. New Accounts

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

018-9815 – Elementary PTO Supply
018-9814 – Middle School PTO Supply

11. Transfer of Funds

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

\$2,000.00 from 001-0000 general fund to 018-9900 District Staff Fund

Mr. Peters questioned transfer of funds on the agenda. This was done to prevent accounts going negative.

12. Substitute Teachers

It is recommended that the Elida Board of Education employ the following substitutes who have a bachelor’s degree, met Ohio Department of Education certification requirements and have on file a clear criminal background check:

Degree		
Victoria Rister	Kelly Kline	Barb Hawk
Lisa Ashafa	Victoria Weiss	
Ryan Cronin	Ruby Estes	
Phyllis Henderson	Yvonne Smith	
Non-Degree		
Chloei Barnett	Makaleigh Duncan	
Ernst (Mickey) Menchini	Jessica Butler	
Cynthia Kondas		

13. Sales Project Potential

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

Organization: Class of 2026
Advisor: Keisha Larimore
Project: Texas Roadhouse Rolls
Date: October 16, 2024 through October 31, 2024

14. Exchange of Services with Mike Campbell Photography

Reflector, 2024-2025 edition, requests Elida Board of Education approval for an exchange of services and goods with Mike Campbell Photography, 2970 N. Grubb Rd., Delphos, OH.

The Elida High School Yearbook will print a one-half page, full-color advertisement for Mike Campbell Photography, the ad being valued at \$180.00, in exchange for professional services and goods provided to Reflector. These services and considerations will be of at least equal value as the one-half page, full-color advertisement.

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15. School Related Organization

It is recommended that the Elida Board of Education approve the following organization as a School Related Organizations for the 2024-2025 school year:

Elida Track Parents

This item was removed from the agenda.

16. Declaring Transportation to be Impractical-2024-2025 School Year

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

WHEREAS, the student identified below has been determined to be a resident of this school district, and eligible for transportation services; and

WHEREAS, after a careful evaluation of all available options, it has been determined that it is impractical to provide transportation for this student to his/her selected school; and

WHEREAS, the following factors as identified in Revised Code 3327.02 have been considered:

1. The time and distance required to provide the transportation;
2. The number of pupils to be transported;
3. The cost of providing transportation in terms of equipment, maintenance, personnel, and administration;
4. Whether similar or equivalent service is provided to other pupils eligible for transportation;
5. Whether and to what extent the additional service unavoidably disrupts current transportation schedules;
6. Whether other reimbursable types of transportation are available

WHEREAS, the option of offering payment-in-lieu of transportation is provided in Ohio Revised Code.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Elida Board of Education hereby approves the declaration that it is impractical to transport the students identified herein and offers the parent(s)/guardian(s) of the following students payment-in-lieu of transportation: #28486.

(Exhibit C)

17. Allen County Educational Service Center Invoice

It is recommended that the Elida Board of Education authorize the Treasurer to pay \$225,844 to the Allen County Educational Service Center for the 2023-2024 2nd half reconciliation, January 2024 – June 2024. (Exhibit D)

18. Incentive Bonus for Substitute Bus Drivers

It is recommended that the Elida Board of Education approve an incentive for substitute bus drivers of \$125.00 for each 75 units of work for the 2024-25 school year. This does not include substitute retired drivers on the alternate substitute pay scale.

Mr. Point stated that action item #15-School Related Organization was removed and the Board would be voting on the remaining 17 items.

Mr. Point moved and Mr. Birks seconded that the above recommendations be approved with the exception of item #15-School Related Organization.

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

XII. Action Items:

1. Policy Change - #5223 (10-24-1)

It is recommended by the Superintendent that the Elida Board of Education approve the addition to policy #5223 – Released Time for Religious Instruction.
(Exhibit E)

Mr. Point reiterated that the line added was to make sure students who participate in Release Time would not miss out on lunch, as the school would still provide it.

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

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

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

2. Overnight Trip Request - FFA (10-24-2)

It is recommended by the Superintendent that the Elida Board of Education approve the request from Mr. Oen to take FFA students to the National FFA Convention & Expo Center in Indianapolis, Indiana from October 23 – 24, 2024.
(Exhibit F)

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

Mr. Christoff thought everything presented was explained very well as an educational trip and is in full support.

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

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

3. Resolution Approving Solar Field Edition, Company Selection, and Power Purchase Agreement (10-24-3)

Approve SolarConnect National Solar Services as the selected vendor to add a solar array to provide power to the elementary school, new roofing material to the field house, and a solar array on the fieldhouse. Furthermore, this resolution authorizes the superintendent and treasurer to negotiate specific terms and conditions for a power purchase agreement to be approved by the Board. (Exhibit G - SolarConnect Proposal)

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

SolarConnect National Solar Services and Entrust Renewable Energy Partners, LLC were present. There was discussion and questions on the solar project between board members and the two vendors.

Questions were asked on whether or not the Sunshine Law had been violated.

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

4. **Resolution Approving Solar Field Edition, Company Selection, and Power Purchase Agreement (10-24-4)**

It is recommended by the Superintendent to Approve Entrust Renewable Energy Partners LLC as the selected vendor to add a solar array to provide power to the elementary school, new roofing material to the field house, and a solar array on the fieldhouse. Furthermore, this resolution authorizes the superintendent and treasurer to negotiate specific terms and conditions for a power purchase agreement to be approved by the Board. (Exhibit H - Entrust Proposal)

_____ moved and _____ seconded that the above recommendation be approved.

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

Mrs. Agozzino	___	Mr. Peters	___
Mr. Birks	___	Mr. Point	___
Mr. Christoff	___		

Mr. Point stated that action item #4 is null and void since action item #3 passed.

5. **UberData Networks (10-24-5)**

It is recommended by the Superintendent to approve the 3-year contract renewal with UberData Networks for support and software subscription of the network hubs in the elementary at a total cost of \$30,145.44. (Exhibit I)

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

Mr. Christoff asked why the procurement process was not done in this quote, even though it was under the threshold requiring a bid.

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

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

6. **Employment of Bob Jones (10-24-6)**

It is recommended by the Superintendent that the Elida Board of Education approve the following items for Bob Jones, ID # OH3287437:

Resignation:

Girls JV Basketball Coach, effective 10-1-24, Contingent upon being hired as 7th Grade Girls Basketball Coach

Employment:

7th Grade Girls Basketball Coach, effective 1-2-25, pro-rated contract

Class II Volunteer:

Basketball Volunteer for the months of November & December 2024

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

Mr. Christoff asked to have this moved from the consent agenda. He could not vote on the hiring last month as girl’s JV basketball coach because Mr. Jones was coaching his daughter in soccer. He does not support him in a coaching position with girls at the high school or middle school level for mental health considerations based on his observations over the years.

Mr. Christoff believes Mr. Jones has retaliated against his daughter due to issues with Pupil Activity Permits in girls soccer for the past two years.

During the discussion, Mr. Birks motioned to table Action item # 6 to next month. There was no second, that motion dies.

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

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

This item did not pass.

7. Employment (10-24-7)

It is recommended that the Elida Board of Education approve the following personnel for employment for the 2024-2025 school year 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 & Workforce, per salary schedule in effect.

Supplemental:
Randy Pitson, Girls JV Basketball Coach, OH3138042

_____ moved and _____ seconded that the above recommendation be approved.

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

Mrs. Agozzino	___	Mr. Peters	___
Mr. Birks	___	Mr. Point	___
Mr. Christoff	___		

The vote on action item #7 is not necessary due to the vote from #6. Mr. Point stated that they will strike action item #7 from the agenda.

8. Club Sport – Girls Wrestling (10-24-8)

It is recommended that the Elida Board of Education approve the Club Sport Activity application for Girls Wrestling submitted by Mrs. Angela Woolbright.
(Exhibit J)

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

Mr. Christoff asked this to be moved from the consent agenda. He is in full support of this, but questioned why it was just now being board approved. Mr. Mengerink explained it was to make sure they had the participation numbers.

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

XIII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – OTHER
--None--

XIV. OPEN BOARD FORUM
Mr. Point encouraged board members to attend OSBA’s fall conference for Northwest district at Lima Senior.

Mr. Birks brought up the need for a community forum for the emergency levy. Tuesday, October 29th was tentatively selected for this forum.

Mr. Christoff mentioned the Historical Society not being approved for the homecoming parade. Mr. Peters mentioned they were refused being allowed in the parade. Mr. Sharp had reached out to Mr. Kaiser about the need for liability coverage for those participating in the parade since the Historical Society is not a school group.

Mr. Christoff brought up that some sporting events had more games and opportunities than others, so when parents had to do the Pay to Participate, not all sports were treated equally in that.

He also mentioned the online ticket price for sporting events, excluding the fee, must be the same at the gate and we need to be in compliance with that.

Mr. Peters read an email thread between himself and Mr. Point concerning the community meeting for the levy.

Mr. Point asked if it was Mr. Peters desire for him to step off the board and resign.
Mr. Peters acknowledged that it is what he wants.

XV. ADJOURNMENT
Mr. Christoff moved and Mr. Peters seconded that the October 15, 2024 meeting of the Elida Board of Education be adjourned at 9:43 P.M.

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

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

President

Treasurer