

**Minutes of the Regular Board of Education Meeting held on  
November 16, 2021 at 5:45 p.m. in Board Rooms 215, 216, & 217  
at 126 S. York Street, Elmhurst, IL, DuPage County**

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**Call to Order:** President Caforio called the meeting to order at 5:46 p.m.

<b>Board of Education</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Mrs. Kara Caforio - President	x	
Mr. Chris Kocinski – Vice- President		x
Mrs. Courtenae Trautmann – Secretary	x	
Mrs. Athena Arvanitis	x	
Mr. James Collins	x	
Mrs. Elizabeth Hosler		x
Mrs. Karen Stuefen	x	

President Caforio stated there are 5 board members present and 2 absent, we have a quorum present.

<b>Administration</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Dr. Keisha Campbell - Superintendent	x	
Mr. Rudy Gomez	x	
Mr. Scott Grens	x	
Mr. Luke Pavone	x	
Mr. Kevin Rubenstein	x	
Mr. Chris Whelton	x	

### **Closed Session**

President Caforio asked for a motion to adjourn to closed session at 5:50 p.m to discuss matters relating to The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity; AND The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired;

AND The placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students;

AND Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent;

AND Discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under the Open Meetings Act, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06.

Mrs. Trautmann moved and Mrs. Arvanitis seconded the motion. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Mrs. Trautmann, Mrs. Arvanitis, Mrs. Stuefen, Mr. Collins, and Mrs. Caforio voted aye. Motion carried. Mr. Kocinski, and Mrs. Hosler were absent.

### **Reconvene to Open Session**

President Caforio asked for a motion to reconvene to Open Session at 7:02 p.m. Mrs. Trautmann moved and Mrs. Arvanitis seconded the motion session. Voice Vote - the motion was declared and carried.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Board members led those present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Spotlight/Recognition**

#### Hawthorne Make a Wish Fundraiser

In celebrating the strength and demonstrating pride in D205 students, Principal Riordan introduces 2 students being recognized for their fundraising efforts for the Make-A-Wish foundation, Cavan Fazzini, 5th Grade and Emma Barz, 3rd Grade. They wanted to give back because they were each a recipient of a wish from the Make-A-Wish foundation. The fundraiser goal of \$1500 was exceeded to \$1800. The Board gave them a round of applause.

### York HS Boys Soccer Team - State Champions

The Board recognized the York boys' soccer team for winning the 2021 class 4A Illinois High School Athletic Association state championship. Mr. Collins read a proclamation honoring the athletes and coaches for their hard work, dedication, sportsmanship, talent, and exceptional chemistry. The Board gave them a round of applause.

### York HS Girls Cross Country - State Champions

The Board recognized the York girls' cross country team for winning the 2021 class 3A Illinois High School Athletic Association state championship. Mrs. Stuefen read a proclamation honoring the athletes and coaches for their hard work, dedication, sportsmanship, talent, and exceptional chemistry. The Board gave them a round of applause.

Before moving on to the next agenda item, President Caforio read a board statement about the increase of inquiries in recent months regarding curriculum and political bias in schools. The full statement can be found by clicking [HERE](#).

### **Public Comments**

Public comments included thanks to the board, how children are thriving this year, support for York faculty, staying focused on standards, thanks to the many staff in D205, the importance of SEL and critical thinking, and the importance of student health, safety, and diversity.

### **Approval of Board Meeting Minutes**

Approval of Regular Board Minutes: October 26, 2021

Approval of Closed Session Minutes: October 26, 2021

President Caforio asked if there were any changes to minutes and hearing no changes, the minutes were declared to stand as presented.

### **Reports and Presentations**

#### Student Growth and Achievement Highlights- Part 3

Dr. Rubenstein introduced the final presentation of a three-part series focused on Elmhurst District 205 Key Performance Indicators, which included an overview of the performance of District 205 students in comparison to other neighboring school districts, along with key takeaways from the following areas of data, 1) 8th Grade Passing Algebra; 2) 9th Grade on Track, 3) Early College Coursework (Advanced Placement -AP, Dual Credit, Advanced College Project - ACP); 4) Graduation Rate; and 5) Postsecondary Enrollment.

Dr. Grens continued with the School Improvement Plan (SIP) with a prospective of what has occurred in the past, along with moving forward to focus on the District-wide priorities such as SMART goals for each priority, alignment to key performance indicators (KPI), and school developed action plans for each goal. The Board wondered about the algebra data, additional cohort data, identification of 8<sup>th</sup> graders placement for algebra, math pathways, and comparable school information.

#### Facilities Update

Mr. Schmidt provided updates on the York field turf installation to be completed in a couple weeks and the new transition center ribbon cutting scheduled for November 15<sup>th</sup>. The Lincoln school construction project is moving along, no construction delays and is in-line with the projected schedule opening of August 2022. Bids for Jackson, Field, Jefferson, and Fischer are due December 1 and will be reviewed at the upcoming Finance and Operations meeting to be held on December 7<sup>th</sup>. Awarding of the bids are scheduled for the next regular board of education meeting on December 14<sup>th</sup>.

### **Consent Agenda Items**

- A. Personnel Report
- B. Financial Reports
- C. ALC Schools, LLC, Alternative Transportation Solutions Agreement
- D. 2021-22 PTA Fundraising Plans
- E. Approve Posting 2020-21 School Report Card
- F. Authorize the Board Secretary to make available for public inspection the closed session minutes and verbatim recording of the Board of Education's April 23, 2019, except for those portions of such

minutes and recording pertaining to the employment of employees and the sale price and acquisition of real estate for which the need for confidentiality treatment still exists.

President Caforio asked for a motion to approve the following consent agenda items: A. Personnel Report; B. Financial Reports; C. ALC Schools, LLC, Alternative Transportation Solutions Agreement; D. 2021-22 PTA Fundraising Plans; E. Approve Posting 2020-21 School Report Card; and F. Authorize the Board Secretary to make available for public inspection the closed session minutes and verbatim recording of the Board of Education's April 23, 2019, except for those portions of such minutes and recording pertaining to the employment of employees and the sale price and acquisition of real estate for which the need for confidentiality treatment still exists.

Mrs. Trautmann moved and Mrs. Arvanitis seconded the motion. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Mrs. Trautmann, Mrs. Arvanitis, Mrs. Stuefen, Mr. Collins, and Mrs. Caforio voted aye. Motion carries. Mr. Kocinski and Mrs. Hosler were absent.

### **Action Item**

#### Approve New Transition Center Name

Dr. Rubenstein explained how the transition students were involved in the naming of the new building and the process for bringing forth the name to the board. Therefore, the official name proposed for the new transition center building is, District 205 Bridges Transition Center.

President Caforio asked for a motion to approve the new Transition center name, District 205 Bridges Transition Center, as presented. Mrs. Arvanitis moved and Mrs. Stuefen seconded the motion. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Mrs. Arvanitis Mrs. Stuefen, Mrs. Trautmann, Mr. Collins, and Mrs. Caforio voted aye. Motion carries. Mr. Kocinski and Mrs. Hosler were absent.

#### Approve Updated School Calendar 2022-2023

Mr. Pavone explains that since the approval of the 2022-2023 school calendar by the board, Illinois made November 8, 2023 a state holiday known as General Election day. Therefore, calendar committee is recommending to change April 7 from a non-attendance day to an attendance day. The Board commented they would like to explore other options if Illinois continues to declare a general election day as a state holiday in the future.

President Caforio asked for a motion to approve the updated 2022-2023 School Calendar, as presented. Mrs. Arvanitis moved and Mrs. Trautmann seconded the motion. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Mrs. Arvanitis, Mrs. Trautmann, Mr. Collins, and Mrs. Stuefen voted aye. Mrs. Caforio voted nay. Motion carries. Mr. Kocinski and Mrs. Hosler were absent.

#### Action Regarding Proposed Settlement Re: Student FY22 #01

President Caforio asked for a motion to approve the settlement regarding Student FY22 #01 based on terms and conditions discussed in closed session. Mrs. Trautmann moved and Mrs. Arvanitis seconded the motion. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Mrs. Trautmann, Mrs. Arvanitis, Mr. Collins, Mrs. Stuefen, and Mrs. Caforio voted aye. Motion carries. Mr. Kocinski and Mrs. Hosler were absent.

### **Superintendent's Communication**

#### SY 21-22 Moving Forward Together Update and COVID Metrics

Dr. Campbell stated that as we approach the beginning of our fourth month of school, it is important that we continue to review and celebrate successes of the school district while we continue to move forward to the future. She provided information on the progress the district has made with regard to student instruction, quarantines, masks/face covering, community transmission rates, testing, vaccinations, locker/facilities use, and athletics. Additional detail can be found [HERE](#). The Board commented on the positive morale in the buildings, being grateful to the entire team, and not quarantining healthy kids.

FOIA - Freedom of Information Act Requests: Dr. Campbell report the following FOIA requests, 2 Curriculum FOIA requests, granted; 1 FOIA request about a parent, not in possession; 1 Transportation bid/vendor FOIA request, granted; 1 School bid FOIA request, not in possession; 1 School bid FOIA request, granted.

Before moving on to the next agenda item, Dr. Campbell highlights that tonight we are celebrating School Board appreciation day, which IASB (Illinois Association of School Boards) designates a day each year. She publicly acknowledged the District 205 Board of Education, known as "my board team". She highlighted that

most importantly the Board is supportive of all our students. Each board member will receive a certificate, which included IASB's theme of Inspiration and Leadership.

Social Media Highlights: Mr. Gomez presents the following social media highlights: York Girls Cross Country and Boys Soccer crowned state champions! And York Boys Cross Country finished 8th in the state; An exciting day in the York Business INCubator Lab with mentor volunteers from the community, who meet with students to hear their business pitches; Ms. Kyra Hollars First Grade Teacher at Field with students excited to send Veterans Day letters; and Churchville's very special and moving #VeteransDay ceremony.

**Board Communications:** There was no additional board communication provided.

**Upcoming Meetings (anticipating special BOE meeting in a few weeks)**

December 1, 2021 Board of Education Policy Committee Meeting at 6:30 p.m.-District 205 Center, Rm 216,& 217

December 14, 2021 Regular Board of Education Meeting at 7:00 p.m.-District 205 Center, Rooms 215, 216,& 217

Mr. Collins added that a Finance and Operations Committee meeting is being scheduled for December 7th.

**Adjournment - End of Meeting:** The meeting was adjourned at 10:23 p.m.

We certify this document as the correct minutes of the regularly scheduled meeting of the Elmhurst CUSD 205 Board of Education held on November 16, 2021.

  
Kara Caforio - President

  
Courtenae Trautmann - Secretary