EASTERN LEBANON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
180 ELCO DRIVE, MYERSTOWN, PA 17067

Regular Board of Education Voting Meeting

District Board Room
Hybrid (In-person and via Zoom)

August 17, 2026

6:00 p.m. Regular Board of Education Meeting

I. Call to Order

II. Moment of Silent Meditation

III. Pledge of Allegiance

IV. Roll Call

V. Board President Communications

VI. Public Comments – Items On the Agenda

A. Residents and taxpayers may make comments concerning items on the agenda pertaining to Board governance or the operation of the District's schools.
NOTE: Personnel matters are never discussed at public meetings.

B. Residents and taxpayers desiring consideration of School Board action on a topic not included on the agenda may make a written request to the Superintendent by Thursday, 12:00 noon, prior to the day of the meeting. This is in accordance with Policy 903 in the official policy manual of the School District.

VII. Board Committee and Rep Reports

- Policy Committee
- Curriculum Committee
- Personnel Committee
- General Services Committee
- Finance Committee
- IU13 Rep Report
- PSBA Report
- CTC Report
- Lebanon County Tax Collection Rep Report
- ELCO Education Foundation

VIII. Approval of Board Minutes from June 22, 2026

IX. Approval of Treasurer's Reports from June 30, 2026, and July 31, 2026

ACTION ITEMS FOR APPROVAL

X. Personnel Committee – Mr. Jack Kahl, Chairperson

A. Move to accept a "Letter of Retirement" from Elaine Mathias, Business Manager, effective June 30, 2027.

B. Move to accept a "Letter of Retirement" from Amy Shoemaker, Director of Pupil Services, effective June 30, 2027.

C. Move to accept a "Letter of Resignation" from Keith Kiebach, full-time 2nd Shift Custodian, effective and retroactive to July 30, 2026.

D. Move to accept a "Letter of Resignation" from Rebecca Arnold, full-time Specialized Paraprofessional, effective and retroactive to June 4, 2026.

E. Move to approve the employment of Kristopher Krioneris, full-time 2nd Shift Custodian, at an hourly rate of $14.89, 8.0 hours/day, (12-month position), effective and retroactive to June 16, 2026.

F. Move to accept a "Letter of Resignation" from Kristopher Krioneris, full-time 2nd Shift Custodian, effective and retroactive to July 21, 2026.

G. Move to approve the employment of Mindy Smith as Principal of ELCO Intermediate School, on a "Professional Administrative Contract", with an effective date of August 17, 2026, at a salary of $115,000 with applicable Act 93 benefits, pending receipt of all required documentation, clearances, and disclosures.
Background: This position is being filled due to a position transfer.

H. Move to approve the employment of Melissa Simon on a "Temporary Professional Contract" as an Autistic Support teacher at the Intermediate School, at a salary of Master's – Step 2 ($63,541.00), start date effective August 17, 2026, pending receipt of all required documentation, clearances, and disclosures.
Background: This position is being filled due to a resignation.

I. Move to approve the employment of Bethany Snyder on a "Professional Contract" as a Middle School Math teacher, at a salary of Master's – Step 7 ($70,600.00), start date effective August 17, 2026, pending receipt of all required documentation, clearances, and disclosures.
Background: This position is being filled due to a resignation.

J. Move to approve the employment of Amora Cook on a "Temporary Professional Contract" as a 1st Grade teacher at Fort Zeller Elementary, at a salary of Master's – Step 1 ($63,041.00), start date effective August 17, 2026, pending receipt of all required documentation, clearances, and disclosures.
Background: This position is being filled due to a resignation.

K. Move to approve the employment of Jodi Hill on a "Professional Contract" as a High School Special Education teacher, at a salary of Master's+30 – Step 10 ($79,586.00), start date TBD, pending receipt of all required documentation, clearances, and disclosures.
Background: This position is being filled due to a resignation.

L. Move to approve the employment of Anna Martin, as a full-time Specialized Paraprofessional, at an hourly rate of $17.31, 7.5 hours/day (10-month position), effective start date TBD, pending receipt of all required documentation, clearances, and disclosures.
Background: This position is being filled due to a resignation.

M. Move to approve the employment of Lori Strickler, as a full-time Specialized Paraprofessional, at an hourly rate of $16.88, 7.5 hours/day (10-month position), effective start date TBD, pending receipt of all required documentation, clearances, and disclosures.
Background: This position is being filled due to a resignation.

N. Move to approve the employment of Sarah Greene, as a part-time Food Service worker, at an hourly rate of $14.42, 5.0 hours/day (10-month position), effective start date TBD, pending receipt of all required documentation, clearances, and disclosures.
Background: This position is being filled due to a resignation.

O. Move to approve the administrative transfer of Kori Landis *from* Middle School Math teacher *to* Middle School Language Arts teacher, effective the start of the 2026-2027 school year, with no change in salary.

P. Move to approve the administrative transfer of Kristi Fields *from* Middle School Special Education teacher *to* Middle School Math teacher effective the start of the 2026-2027 school year, with no change in salary.

Q. Move to approve a $4,500.00 stipend to John Mentzer, as the District Virtual Academy Coordinator, effective the 2026-2027 school year.
Background: The District Virtual Academy Coordinator oversees the K-12 Virtual Program and is responsible for the record management and daily operations of the program during the school year and during the summer ELCO+ program for secondary students.

R. Move to approve a $1,750.00 stipend to Kaitlyn Strayer, as the Elementary Virtual Academy Coordinator, effective the 2026-2027 school year.
Background: The Elementary Virtual Academy Coordinator will oversee the elementary Virtual Academy students.

S. Move to approve the following ELCO faculty as Homebound teachers for the 2026-2027 school year, as listed:

Michele Angstadt
Addie Bird
Rebecca Boland
Kristi Gettle
Ruthanne Gray
Jennifer Greene
LauraBeth Kapp
Alanna Lebo
Chad Miller
Ashley Zink

T. Move to approve the Department Chairs, Grade Level Chairs, and Team Leaders for the 2026-2027 school year, as listed:
Background: This is an annual approval and costs have been budgeted.

DEPARTMENT/GRADE LEVEL	DEPARTMENT CHAIR
Art Chair	Taryn Showalter
Business Ed Chair	Holly Hartman
Family Consumer Science Chair	Rebecca Boland
Health, Physical Ed Chair	Matthew Babiarz
Language Arts Chair	John Leininger
Language Arts – Middle Level Curriculum Liaison	Michelle Whitmoyer
Library Chair	Amanda Templeton
Mathematics Chair	Michael Simmons
Math – Middle Level Curriculum Liaison	Megan Andress
Music Chair	David Fair
Reading Chair	Sara Faust
Science Chair	Janice Koontz

Science – Middle Level Curriculum Liaison	Angela Bicher
Social Studies Chair	Zachary Cook
Social Studies Middle Level Curriculum Liaison	TBD
Technology Ed Chair	Ken Miller
World Language Chair	Gina Hewitt
K-12 Counselor Dept. Chair	Katherine Brosius
5th Grade Dept. Chair	Gretchen Miller
4th Grade Dept. Chair	Andrew Risser
3rd Grade Dept. Chair	Erin Buffington
	TEAM LEADER
2nd Grade Team Leader	Beth Kane
2nd Grade Team Leader	Rebecca Kleinfelter
1st Grade Team Leader	Alanna Lebo
1st Grade Team Leader	Jessica Auman
Kindergarten Team Leader	Michelle Zurick
Kindergarten Team Leader	Ruthanne Gray
Special Ed 9 – 12 Grade Team Leader	Christina Ulrey
Special Ed 6 - 8 Grade Team Leader	Lindsey Hibshman
Special Ed 3 – 5 Grade Team Leader	Aleesa Groff
Special Ed K – 2 Grade Team Leader	Shanon Martin

U. Move to approve the following ELCO Virtual Academy Teachers for the 2026-2027 school year, as listed:
Background: This is an annual approval. The costs have been budgeted.

Sheree Beck	Jackie Bender	John Bickel
Rebecca Boland	Dennie Boltz	Krystal Boxer
Brad Connors	Paul Dissinger	Todd Dresch
Kelly Espenshade	David Fair	Josh Glant
Holly Hartman	Gina Hewitt	Amy Hicks
Kirk Keppley	Janice Koontz	Chris Longstaff
Elissa McCallum	Chad Miller	Sean Miller
Elizabeth Phillips	Pamela Rittle	Lucas Sandoe
Taryn Showalter	Michael Simmons	Wes Soto
Zach Stuart	Victoria Taylor	Amanda Templeton
James Thomas	Christina Ulrey	Michelle Whitmoyer
Emily Ziegler	Gretchen Miller	

V. Move to approve the following individuals for extra-curricular positions for the 2026-2027 school year, as listed:

STIPEND POSITION	ADVISOR
Class of 2030 Advisor	Chad Miller (50%) Diane Bidelspach (50%)
Class of 2029 Advisor	Pamela Rittle
Class of 2028 Advisor	Michael O’Neill
Class of 2027 Advisor	Michelle Angstadt
Envirothon Advisor	TBD
eSports Advisor	Michael O’Neill
FBLA Advisor	Holly Hartman (50%) Valerie Musser (50%)
FFA Advisor	Madison Balthaser

National Honor Society Advisor	Amanda Templeton
Quiz Bowl Advisor	Elisabeth Putt
Student Council Advisor	David Fair
Technology Student Assoc. Advisor	Michael O'Neill
Yearbook Advisor	Jonathan Bickel
Yearbook Photographer	Jonathan Bickel
Fall Play Director	Elisabeth Putt
Assistant Fall Play Director	David Fair
Show Choir Director	Morgan Petersen
Jazz Band Director	David Fair

W. Move to approve the following Mentors for the 2026-2027 school year, as listed:

MENTOR	**TEACHER**
McKenna Gardner	Megan Fitzpatrick **Prorated*
Diane Bidelspach	Gannon Ulrey **Prorated*
Heather Gery	Ty Erisman. **Prorated*
Andrew Risser	Devon Rosengrant. **Prorated*
Alanna Lebo	Amora Cook
Amanda VanOverbeke	Melissa Simon
Melanie Haas	Rebecca Mitchell
Kristi Fields	Bethany Snyder

X. Move to grant tenure to the following individuals, as listed:
Background: Per PA School Code 1949 Act 14 – Each board of school directors in all school districts shall hereafter enter into contracts in writing, with each professional employee initially employed by a school district, on or after June 30, 1996, who has satisfactorily completed (3) three years of service in any school district in the commonwealth.

Megan Andress	Jennifer Axarlis	Madison Breiner
Cathryn Carmello	Melynda Cochran	Amy Davis
Austin Kinney	John Leininger	Vanessa Rehrer
Kelly Smith	Jennifer Sorrick	Stephanie Tice
Amanda VanOverbeke	Abby Weiant	Maddyrae Winters
Zoe Zerman	Renee Zimmerman	

Y. Move to approve the following individuals as coaches for the 2026-2027 Fall Sports Season, (Pending receipt of all required documentation, clearances, and disclosures), as listed:

Football	Assistant Coach	James Campbell
Girls' Volleyball	Varsity Head Coach	Wes Harpold
Fall Weight Room Monitors		Chad Miller, Todd Dresch

Z. Move to approve the ELCO Substitute Listing (new/renewed professional and support staff) for the 2026-2027 school year. (Board Attachment).

AA. Move to approve the revision to the following job description, as listed: (Board Attachment)

Assistant Elementary Principal

BB. Move to approve the following individuals for the ELCO volunteer listing for the 2026-2027 school year, as listed: (noting all required documentation, clearances, and trainings are on file)

Kelsey Gruber	Ashley Huttsell	Katie Peters
Rebecca Rizzo	Laura Weaver	Wilbur Weaver
Emmily Longenecker	Cierra Steffe	

XI. Curriculum Committee – Mrs. Bonnie Kantner, Chairperson

A. Move to approve, retroactively, a trip and travel request from Jonathan Bickel, High School English teacher, and approximately two (2) students to travel and participate in the 25th Anniversary Veterans History Project Documentary Film that took place on July 17, 2026, at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C.
Background: The students and teacher will be interviewed as part of this documentary. The costs have been budgeted.

B. Move to approve a trip and travel request from Madison Balthaser, FFA Advisor, and approximately seven (7) students to travel and participate in the Eastern State Livestock Exposition to be held September 17-18, 2026, in West Springfield, MA.
Background: Our Parliamentary Procedure team placed 2nd in the state, which allows them to compete in the national contest. Costs have been budgeted.

C. Move to approve a trip and travel request from Madison Balthaser, FFA Advisor, and approximately 10 students to travel and participate in the National FFA Convention to be held October 20-23, 2026, in Indianapolis, IN.
Background: This is an annual trip providing students with the opportunity to attend leadership workshops, talk with FFA members from across the nation, and attend industry tours. Costs have been budgeted.

D. Move to approve a trip and travel request for approximately 175 fifth grade students and approximately 15 staff and 48 parent chaperones to travel and participate in the annual trip to Camp Swatara to be held May 12-13, 2027.
Background: This is an annual trip. Costs are covered by a combination of the Intermediate School field trip budget, Intermediate School PTO budget, and students.

E. Move to approve the change to the Middle School course name *from* "Computer Skills" *to* "Biz Tech" effective the start of the 2026-2027 school year.
Background: The new course name more accurately reflects the alignment with Pennsylvania Business, Computer Science, and Technology Education standards.

F. Move to approve the following handbooks for the 2026-2027 school year, as listed: (Board Attachments)

ELCO Coaches Athletic Handbook
ELCO Student Athlete Handbook
ELCO Booster Club Handbook.

XII. Policy Committee – Mrs. Rachel Moyer, Chairperson

A. Move to approve a motion to amend the agenda by suspending Policy 003 – Functions, to allow the board to conduct a first and second reading on Policy agenda Item B; Policy 253 – Student Physical Privacy in School Facilities.

B. Move to approve Policy 253 – Student Physical Privacy in School Facilities for first reading. (Board Attachment)
Background: Language was revised/edited to prioritize student safety.

C. Move to approve the following policies (revised/reviewed/and/or new) for 2nd reading. (Board Attachment)

1. Policy 229 – Student Fundraising
2. Policy 915 – PTO and Booster Organizations

XIII. General Services Committee – Mr. JP Santos, Chairperson

A. Move to approve the annual software renewal with Brightly Software for the 2026-2027 school year at a cost of $17,559.51. (Board Attachment)
Background: The renewal includes Brightly's Event Manager and Asset Essentials Core Plus work order management software. This renewal reflects no increase in cost from the prior year. This is a budgeted expense.

B. Move to approve the annual renewal of five preventative maintenance proposals from McClure Company for boilers, chillers, and hot water heaters for the 2026-2027 school year in the amount of $21,568.00. (Board Attachment)
Background: This renewal reflects a price decrease of $1,474.00 from the prior year. This is a budgeted expense, and preventative maintenance proposals have been provided for each school building.

C. Move to approve a contract with CSM Consulting, Inc. for assistance in securing E-Rate funding for Category 1 and Category 2 services that include federal reimbursement for Internet Services and bid proposals for networking equipment for the Fund Year rate at a cost of $3,500.00 plus 3.5% of the committed amount for Category 2. (Board Attachment)
Background: This is a reoccurring service assisting the district in seeking federal E-Rate funding reimbursement for network equipment that results in federal reimbursement of up to 60% of the cost of equipment. CSM also serves as a consultant for the LLIU13 for E-Rate services of which ELCO is a member of the Category 1 WAN services. This is a budgeted expense.

XIV. Finance Committee – Mr. Ray Ondrusek, Chairperson

A. Move to approve payment of bills as found listed and attached to the August 17, 2026, Board Agenda for payments made June 2026, in the amounts indicated: (Board Attachment)

General Fund payments in the amount of	$3,109,348.41
Cafeteria Fund payments in the amount of	$266,648.36
Capital Reserve Fund payments in the amount of.	$14,440.00
Debt Service payments in the amount of	$0.00
Construction Fund payments in the amount of	$0.00
Flex Spending payments in the amount of	$916.19
Student Activity payments in the amount of	$30,546.64

B. Move to approve payment of bills as found listed and attached to the August 17, 2026, Board Agenda for payments made July 2026, in the amounts listed: (Board Attachment)

General Fund payments in the amount of	$3,051,785.81
Cafeteria Fund payments in the amount of	$11,109.37
Capital Reserve Fund payments in the amount of	$14,440.00
Debt Service payments in the amount of	$0.00
Construction Fund payments in the amount of	$660,161.00
Flex Spending payments in the amount of	$2,248.21
Student Activity payments in the amount of	$4,356.38

C. Move to approve an addendum to the agreement with Devopar Consulting, LLC to provide an Interim Special Education Director at a daily rate of $762.21 effective August 24, 2026. (Board Attachment)
Background: This agreement was originally approved by the Board on September 22, 2025, for Devopar to provide temporary administrative services, not to exceed three (3) days per week. The addendum reflects an increase in the daily rate for the 2026-2027 school year.

D. Move to approve Resolution #08-17-26-I for Dr. Nell's E-Signature of Pennsylvania Department of Education Grants. (Board Attachment) (Roll Call Vote)

XV. Superintendent's Report

- Principals' - Directors' Reports

<u>Upcoming Dates/Announcements</u>:
August 17, 2026 – Opening Day for All Staff K-12
August 18 - 19, 2026 – In-Service Day for all staff K-12
August 20, 2026 – 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm – 4th Annual Back to School Picnic
August 24, 2026 – First Day of School for students K-12
September 4, 2026 – NO SCHOOL
September 7, 2026– NO SCHOOL in observance of Labor Day
September 8, 2026 – 5:00 pm – Policy/Curriculum/Personnel Committee Meetings
September 9, 20256– 5:00 pm – General Services/Finance Committee Meetings
September 21, 2026 – 6:00 pm – Regular Board of Education Voting Meeting

XVI. Public Comments – Items On/Off the Agenda

A. Residents and taxpayers may make comments concerning items on the agenda pertaining to Board governance or the operation of the District's schools.
NOTE: Personnel matters are never discussed at public meetings.

B. Residents and taxpayers desiring consideration of School Board action on a topic not included on the agenda may make a written request to the Superintendent by Thursday, 12:00 noon, prior to the day of the meeting. This is in accordance with Policy 903 in the official policy manual of the School District.

XVII. Board Announcements/Comments

XVIII. Old Business

XIX. New Business

XX. Adjournment