

APPROVED MINUTES of the Elmont Board of Education

REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 17, 2009

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ELMONT, NEW YORK

BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Elmont Union Free School District, Town of Hempstead, Nassau County, New York, held at the Gotham Avenue School on Tuesday, March 17, 2009.

ROLL CALL

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Frank Ragona, President
Lorraine Ferrigno, Vice President
Michael A. Jaime
Anthony S. Maffea Sr.
Carol Parker-Duncanson
Deniece Walker

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Pamela Byer

ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL PRESENT:

Mr. Albert Harper,	Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Robert Geras,	Director of Business and Facilities
Mrs. Kathleen Safrey	Interim Director of Curriculum & Instruction
Mrs. Barbara Schwartz,	Director of Pupil Personnel and Special Education
Colum P. Nugent,	School Attorney
Celestine L. Lloyd,	District Clerk

ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL ABSENT: None

CONSULTANT PRESENT: Mr. Thomas W. Galante

On a motion by Ms. Ferrigno, seconded by Mr. Maffea, the Board convened in Executive Session at 6:30 PM.

EXECUTIVE
SESSION

Motion Carried Unanimously

On a motion by Mr. Maffea, seconded by Mr. Jaime, the Board convened in Public Session at 8:00 PM.

PUBLIC SESSION

Motion Carried Unanimously

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Mr. Ragona called the meeting to order at 8:13 PM and led the pledge of allegiance.

**PLEDGE OF
ALLEGIANCE**

On a motion by Mr. Jaime, seconded by Ms. Walker, the Board approved the agenda which was distributed to the audience.

**APPROVAL OF
AGENDA**

Motion Carried Unanimously.

On a motion by Mr. Jaime, seconded by Mr. Maffea, the Board approved the minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 10, 2009.

**APPROVAL OF
MINUTES**

Vote on approving the minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 10, 2009:

Yes	-	6
No	-	0
Abstain	-	0

Motion Carried

On a motion by Ms. Walker, seconded by Mr. Maffea, the Board approved the minutes of the Budget Work Session of February 25, 2009.

Vote on approving the minutes of the Budget Work Session of February 25, 2009:

Yes	-	6
No	-	0
Abstain	-	0

Motion Carried

On a motion by Ms. Ferrigno, seconded by Ms. Walker, the Board approved the minutes of the Special Meeting of March 5, 2009:

Vote on approving the minutes of the Special Meeting of March 5, 2009:

Yes	-	6
No	-	0
Abstain	-	0

On a motion by Ms. Ferrigno, seconded by Ms. Walker, the Board approved the minutes of the Budget Work Session of March 9, 2009.

Vote on approving the minutes of the Budget Work Session of March 9, 2009:

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Yes	-	5
No	-	0
Abstain	-	1 (Mrs. Parker-Duncanson)

INFORMATION REPORT - None

PRESIDENT'S/VICE PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

PRESIDENT'S/VICE
PRESIDENT'S
REMARKS

President - Mr. Ragona welcomed and thanked everyone for coming out for the evening's meeting. He extended well wishes for a Happy Saint Patrick's Day. Mr. Ragona noted how busy the Board and Administration has been working on the 2009-2010 budget. He expressed thanks to Mr. Harper, Mr. Galante, Mr. Geras and Mr. Nugent for putting together a great budget.

Mr. Ragona noted that we are faced with difficult times and mentioned the amount of over \$1.7M which will not be received from State Aid. Through hard work, a budget has been put together which will still maintain the quality education our children are use to getting and at the same time maintaining a low enough number which the taxpayers can afford. The initial budget presentation to the Board reflected a minimum of a 3.9% increase. The Board took the opportunity to meet and review the budget again, which resulted in an increase of 2.9% without impact on the quality of education.

Mr. Ragona stated concern and anxiety on how the Budget Vote is going to unfold. The Board will be meeting again to review the entire budget. He mentioned that the Board will do its very best to make sure that the District continues to provide a good education for our children and at the same time be fiscally responsible to the community. Mr. Ragona expressed appreciation for everyone's cooperation.

Mr. Ragona referenced the resolution presented by Mr. Nugent at the previous month's meeting regarding the upcoming election for School and Library Board members and confirmed that he is running. He noted that he has submitted his petition of 43 signatures which have been qualified. Mr. Ragona thanked everyone for supporting him in his effort to continue to work for the District. He also reported on the candidacy of Mrs. Byer and to date she has not submitted her petition. Mr. Ragona made mention of a petition taken out by Mr. Patrick Emeagwali who is also looking forward to serving the district and community. He also noted that there will be "Meet the Candidates" event which will be hosted by the Interschool Council of PTA.

The concern of non-residency issue within the District was expressed and Mr. Ragona thanked everyone along with Mr. Harper for his aggressiveness in pursuing the number of students that do not live in the District. Mr. Ragona stated that thirty-two (32) children

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have been removed from the District since September, resulting in close to a half million dollars being saved. This endeavor will be a continued effort for the future.

PRESIDENT'S/VICE
PRESIDENT'S
REMARKS

Vice President – Ms. Ferrigno greeted everyone. She elaborated more on the residency issue. Ms. Ferrigno noted how wonderful the District is and it cannot afford to pay for someone who does not live in the District. She also stressed that the half million dollars saved by the removal of 32 children was a minimum amount, it does not include any extended services a child may require. This dollar amount results in a one percent increase in our overall budget.

Ms. Ferrigno thanked the Administration and the Board for taking the residency matter seriously and for vigorously pursuing this matter. The District requires all the money to serve its resident children. A non-resident child can potentially take services away from a District resident child, e.g. GYO program enrollment availability.

Ms. Ferrigno encouraged the audience to call the District and report if they see any activity that would warrant a residency investigation. She also thanked everyone for their cooperation.

PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES

PRESENTATION OF
CERTIFICATES

Mr. Harper greeted everyone and expressed that this was the best part of the meeting, when the children are recognized.

Mr. Harper mentioned activities conducted during the conclusion of the previous Saturday 4th Grade Model UN Conference at the Dutch Broadway School where the students debated the topic of world water shortage. The 4th Graders were outstanding and the enrichment program under Mrs. Kathy Safrey is flourishing. The 5th and 6th Graders will hold their Model UN conference in May. Mr. Harper also informed the audience of the Science Research Program at Clara H. Carlson for the upcoming two Saturdays. He encouraged everyone to make a visit and observe the high level of research activities being performed by elementary children.

In addition, Mr. Harper mentioned the art work exhibit that will be on display April 2, 2009 at the Long Island Children's Museum. A reception will be held along with the exhibit on April 2nd. The exhibit will be on display for one month. Mr. Harper urged the audience to support the District and its children.

Mr. Harper spoke of the 2009-2010 Budget being a work in progress. The support of everyone is what makes our programs work. He then made the appeal for everyone to come out and vote for the School Budget Vote on May 19, 2009.

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Preceding the introduction of students to receive the awards, Mr. Harper gave an explanation of students who work their hardest and do not get the recognition they deserve. In this evening's presentation, the District will highlight students who have worked very hard and improved the most. Certificates were then distributed to the "Most Improved 4th Grade Students from the Elmont Union Free School District.

RECOGNITION OF RECIPENT OF THE PATHFINDER AWARD

PATHFINDER
AWARD
RECIPIENT
RECOGNITION

Mr. Harper applauded Dr. Margaret Pleta who has dedicated a great majority of her career to the service of the District on receiving the Pathfinder Award by the Town of Hempstead.

Mr. Ragona congratulated everyone on their awards and requested a recess at 8:39 PM.

The meeting resumed at 8:53 PM.

SEWANHAKA BOARD ITEMS

SEWANHAKA
BOARD ITEMS

Mrs. Parker-Duncanson spoke of the wonderful news of the Floral Park High School Girls Basketball team winning the Long Island Class A Championship. She made mention that there was still time to catch the musical *Beauty and the Beast* which is still playing on March 26, 27 and 28th. The performance of the *Wizard of Oz* is being held at New Hyde Park on March 27 and 29th. *Guys and Dolls* was at *Elmont Memorial*, *Into the Woods* was at Floral Park and *Little Shop of Horrors* was at Sewanhaka High School. Mrs. Parker Duncanson urged everyone to support these events.

Mrs. Parker-Duncanson mentioned the win at the annual sports night of H. Frank Carey. There will be a celebration for the breakfast of champions by weeks end.

Some of the Sewanhaka highlights Mrs. Parker-Duncanson recalled were:

- Several students from grades 8 thru 12 were selected as winners in the Nassau County Poet Laureate School Poetry contest.
- Thirty-five Science students were invited to attend the Nelson Rosenthal Convocation at New York University. One 10th grade student won the 2nd place award for a science essay "Prevention without Certainty"
- The Career Education Skills USA Club competed in the Regional Competition at Farmingdale College and received awards.
- Winter sports honors were received in wrestling, basketball and track.
- 2nd Place awards were received at the Future Business Leaders of America District Competitions held at C.W. Post in Basic Decision Making and Public Speaking.

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SEWANHAKA
BOARD ITEMS

Mrs. Parker-Duncanson commended the schools for the continuance of the community service and fund raising. Students of the Math classes at Sewanhaka raised \$420 for the United Cerebral Palsy of Nassau County. The Math Assessments, which were conducted the prior Tuesday and Wednesday, have been taken by all the schools.

One budget item, which was brought to the forefront quickly by Mr. Meierdiercks, was the removal of the Summer School program. To assist parents in planning, this information was shared early in the year so that arrangements could be implemented for students who may need to take prep classes for their exams. Mrs. Parker-Duncanson mentioned that the budget process is ongoing. Drivers Education is another class that may be eliminated.

Mrs. Parker Duncanson applauded Elmont Memorial as being identified as a benchmark high school by the Magellan Foundation. This is wonderful recognition for the district for its achievement as one of the 41 schools as “best in class”. She extended thanks to the teachers and administrators in having a school with such recognition.

Mr. Jaime addressed the budget concerns, as well. He also mentioned the exceptional services being provided to many students. One of which is the SAT Preparation course. Most of the preparation courses can cost up to \$800 or more, however the High School district is offering the course for \$150. Mr. Jaime felt it necessary that Mr. Meierdiercks be recognized for this effort.

Mr. Jaime noted how wonderful the performances of the students in *Guys and Dolls* and *Little Shop of Horrors* musical were. He extended his thanks to the staff, students and parents from both schools that participated.

Senator Craig Johnson was applauded for his honoring of Winston Waters in receiving an Intel Semi-finalist award. He was recognized the previous month at a Black History month celebration. This recognition of a graduate from the District displays the important foundation established and demonstrates that our children can succeed wherever they go.

Mr. Jaime commended the Guidance Department of the Sewanhaka Central High School District for the valuable information that was given to the students as they embark on their college selection process. He referenced, that although there may be budget cuts, the high school district is still doing things that are important and necessary to help students succeed.

Mr. Ragona commented that he also was in attendance at the performance of the *Little Shop of Horrors* and *Guys and Dolls* performance and noted how well the students performed.

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AUDIENCE ON AGENDA ITEMS - None

CORRESPONDENCE - The District Clerk read a letter expressing thanks for the approval of their memorandum of agreement from the Elmont Clerical Association.

CORRESPONDENCE

REPORT OF THE ATTORNEY

REPORT OF THE
ATTORNEY

Mr. Nugent did not have a report however he requested a motion for an Executive Session to be held immediately following the Regular Meeting to discuss matters appropriate to Executive Session.

On a motion by Mr. Maffea, seconded by Ms. Walker, the Board approved an Executive Session, as per Mr. Nugent's request, to be held immediately following the Regular Meeting to discuss matters appropriate to Executive Session.

Motion Carried Unanimously

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

REPORT OF THE
SUPERINTENDENT

On a motion by Mr. Jaime, seconded by Mr. Maffea, the Board approved the following professional leave of absence:

PROFESSIONAL
LEAVE OF
ABSENCE

DIAZ, STACY, Elementary Teacher at Covert Avenue, effective 9/8/09, duration of leave 9/08/09 – 11/30/09, unpaid*, reason: District Child Rearing Leave; Service to District: 4 years, 6 months.

*Includes Family and Medical Leave from 9/8/09 – 11/30/09

The Board approved a change in leave of absence for District Child Rearing for the following employee:

PROFESSIONAL
CHANGE IN LEAVE
OF ABSENCE

SINNREICH, ARIELLA, .4 School Psychologist at Gotham Avenue:

From: 2/6/09 – 4/2/09, unpaid

To: 2/2/09 – 4/3/09, unpaid

Note: Leave of Absence was originally approved by the Board on 12/16/08.

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The Board also approved the following changes in status and compensation for the following teachers effective February 1, 2009:

PROFESSIONAL
CHANGE IN
STATUS

SCHOOL	NAME	FROM DEGREE	STEP	SALARY	TO DEGREE	STEP	SALARY	ACTUAL 2008-09 SALARY	COST
CHC	Aull, Christina	MA+45	9	\$82,675	MA+60	9	\$84,941	\$83,808.00	\$1,133.00
DB	Austin, Lesley	MA+60	7	\$79,687	MA+75	7	\$80,842	\$80,264.50	\$577.50
CHC	Basel, Melissa	MA	7	\$71,107	MA+15	7	\$72,346	\$71,726.50	\$619.50
GA	Beach, Bridget	MA	5	\$66,193	MA+15	5	\$68,027	\$67,110.00	\$917.00
GA	Bianco, Kristine	MA+45	7	\$76,909	MA+60	7	\$79,687	\$78,298.00	\$1,389.00
DB	Blasi, Orsola	MA+60	9	\$84,941	MA+75	9	\$86,156	\$85,548.50	\$607.50
CHC	Brander, Dorit	MA+30	5	\$70,414	MA+45	5	\$71,998	\$71,206.00	\$792.00
CHC	Bruno, Karina	MA	2	\$59,450	MA+15	2	\$61,176	\$60,313.00	\$863.00
GA	Callipari, Christine	MA+45	7	\$76,909	MA+60	7	\$79,687	\$78,298.00	\$1,389.00
SM	Celestin-Parks, Kathleen	MA+30	10	\$82,840	MA+45	10	\$85,162	\$84,001.00	\$1,161.00
GA	Ciquera, Laura	MA+60	16	\$105,154	MA+75	16	\$106,257	\$105,705.50	\$551.50
GA	Cotugno, Lorraine	MA+45	10	\$85,162	MA+60	10	\$87,484	\$86,323.00	\$1,161.00
GA	Covington, Michelle	MA+15	5	\$68,027	MA+30	7	\$70,414	\$69,220.50	\$1,193.50
AT	Crescitelli, Peter	MA	5	\$66,193	MA+15	5	\$68,027	\$67,110.00	\$917.00
SM	Cuccio, Tricia	MA+60	9	\$84,941	MA+75	9	\$86,156	\$85,548.50	\$607.50
SM	DeFalco, Samantha	MA+60	10	\$87,484	MA+75	10	\$88,649	\$88,066.50	\$582.50
CA	Diaz, Stacy	MA+60	4	\$72,257	MA+75	4	\$73,214	\$72,735.50	\$478.50
DB	Donoghue, Valerie	MA+45	12	\$90,159	MA+60	12	\$92,604	\$91,381.50	\$1,222.50
CA	Douglas, Cynthia	MA+45	6	\$75,160	MA+60	6	\$77,208	\$76,184.00	\$1,024.00
DB	Dundon, Karen	MA+60	7	\$79,687	MA+75	7	\$80,842	\$80,264.50	\$577.50
DB	Franco, Jennifer	MA+30	7	\$75,529	MA+60	7	\$79,687	\$77,608.00	\$2,079.00
AT	Fusaro, Annmarie	MA+60	9	\$84,941	MA+75	9	\$86,156	\$85,548.50	\$607.50
CA	Gaffney, Cara	MA+15	3	\$63,085	MA+30	3	\$65,388	\$64,236.50	\$1,151.50
AT	Gaspar, Nancy	MA+45	7	\$76,909	MA+60	7	\$79,687	\$78,298.00	\$1,389.00
CHC	Goff, Jodi	MA	17	\$96,427	MA+15	17	\$98,019	\$97,223.00	\$796.00
CHC	Griffin, Nadine	BA	3	\$53,379	MA	3	\$61,556	\$57,467.50	\$4,088.50
GA	Hauisward, Gloria	MA+15	4	\$65,867	MA+45	4	\$69,645	\$67,756.00	\$1,889.00
DB	Hofmann, Cheryl	MA	10	\$78,455	MA+15	10	\$79,896	\$79,175.50	\$720.50
GA	Huber, Brian	BA	4	\$55,341	MA	4	\$64,033	\$59,687.00	\$4,346.00
AT	Italiano, Lisa	MA+45	6	\$75,160	MA+60	6	\$77,208	\$76,184.00	\$1,024.00
AT	Jablonski, Jennifer	BA	1	\$38,292	MA	1	\$44,179	\$41,235.50	\$2,943.50

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DB	**Jacob, Staney	MA	6	\$68,500	MA+15	6	\$70,191	\$69,345.50	\$845.50
SM	Jacobsen, Krista	MA+45	5	\$71,998	MA+75	5	\$75,760	\$73,879.00	\$1,881.00
GA	Jaworski, Kristin	MA+15	4	\$65,867	MA+45	4	\$69,645	\$67,756.00	\$1,889.00
DB	Kerdavid, Gisele	MA+45	18	\$107,471	MA+60	18	\$110,633	\$109,052.00	\$1,581.00
GA	Kohut, Matthew	MA	3	\$61,556	MA+15	3	\$63,085	\$62,320.50	\$764.50
CHC	Kolakowski, Carroll Anne	MA	3	\$61,556	MA+15	3	\$63,085	\$62,320.50	\$764.50
CHC/SM	Kolchin, Paulette	MA+30	5	\$70,414	MA+45	5	\$71,998	\$71,206.00	\$792.00
AT	Lederer, Karen	MA+60	7	\$79,687	MA+75	7	\$80,842	\$80,264.50	\$577.50
GA	Malhas, Joanne	MA+30	18	\$106,161	MA+60	18	\$110,633	\$108,397.00	\$2,236.00
CHC	Marino, Rosemarie	MA+60	4	\$72,257	MA+75	4	\$73,214	\$72,735.50	\$478.50
AT	McGuire, Angela	MA+60	12	\$92,604	MA+75	12	\$93,819	\$93,211.50	\$607.50
DB	Napoli, Nadine	MA+60	9	\$84,941	MA+75	9	\$86,156	\$85,548.50	\$607.50
CA	O'Leary, Lori	BA	1	\$50,055	MA	1	\$57,750	\$53,902.50	\$3,847.50
SM	O'Neill, Nina	MA+45	18	\$107,471	MA+60	18	\$110,633	\$109,052.00	\$1,581.00
DB	Poltorzycski, Andrea	MA	7	\$71,107	MA+30	7	\$75,529	\$73,318.00	\$2,211.00
AT	Richter, Meredith	MA+60	13	\$95,154	MA+75	13	\$96,517	\$95,835.50	\$681.50
CHC	**Savage, Tara	MA+45	10	\$85,162	MA+60	10	\$87,484	\$86,323.00	\$1,161.00
GA	Snellinger, Mary	MA	2	\$59,450	MA+30	2	\$63,336	\$61,393.00	\$1,943.00
GA	Stadtman, Laurie	MA+45	7	\$76,909	MA+60	7	\$79,687	\$78,298.00	\$1,389.00
AT	Testa, Linda	MA+60	6	\$77,208	MA+75	6	\$78,296	\$77,752.00	\$544.00
SM	**Vardouniotis, Renee	MA+30	7	\$75,529	MA+45	7	\$76,909	\$76,219.00	\$690.00
TOTAL									\$65,871.00
**Subject to pro-rating									

The Board further approved the following professional retirement:

PROFESSIONAL
RETIREMENT

STUCCHIO, DR. LYNNE, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Elmont Road School, effective 3/4/09, service to the district: 7 years, 8 months.

The foregoing motions were put to a roll call with the following results:

Motion Carried Unanimously

On a motion by Ms. Ferrigno, seconded by Mr. Jaime the Board approved the extension of conditional appointments for the following employee:

PROFESSIONAL
EXTENSION OF
CONDITIONAL
APPOINTMENTS

Joseph Kasper Senior Maintainer

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The Board also approved the extension of conditional appointments for the following employees:

**CIVIL SERVICE
EXTENSION OF
CONDITIONAL
APPOINTMENTS**

Daniel Widman Cleaner Part-time substitute
Eric Veney, Jr. Cleaner Part-time substitute

The Board further approved the following civil service employees who will complete their probationary period for permanent status on the dates indicated:

**CIVIL SERVICE
CHANGES IN
STATUS**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Classification</u>	<u>End Probation</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Marie Fragomeni	Food Service Helper	3/5/09	3/6/09
Joan Ryan	Food Service Helper	3/5/09	3/6/09
Rosalba Agostino	Food Service Helper	3/5/09	3/6/09
Marie Villarreal	Food Service Helper	3/5/09	3/6/09
Marilyn Cirillo	Typist Clerk	3/16/09	3/17/09
Dionisia Isaacs	Teacher Aide	3/18/09	3/19/09
Ebonne Ranselle	Teacher Aide	3/18/09	3/19/09
Charles Alexander	Bus Attendant	3/30/09	3/31/09
John Seibert	Bus Driver 10 month	3/16/09	3/17/09

The Board approved the following Civil Service changes in status:

RANSELLE, EBONEE

From: Teacher Aide Special Education 1:1
To: Teacher Aide
at the Dutch Broadway School at a salary of \$15.30 hourly, effective 2/24/09.

QUAIL, JOSEPH

From: Maintainer
To: Senior Maintainer
District wide at a salary of \$46,138 annual, effective 3/18/09 pending civil service approval; probation: 26 weeks from civil service approval.

MITCHELL, CHERYLL

From: Bus Driver Part-time substitute
To: Bus Driver 10-month
Transportation at a salary of \$20.95 hourly, effective 3/18/09 pending civil service approval; probation: 26 weeks from civil service approval.

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ROCCO, JUDITH

From: Typist Clerk 12 month

To: Principal Clerk 12 month

Alden Terrace School at a salary of \$44,481 annual, effective 3/18/09 pending civil service approval; probation: 26 weeks from civil service approval.

CIVIL SERVICE
CHANGES IN
STATUS

The foregoing motions were put to a roll call with the following results:

Motion Carried Unanimously

On a motion by Ms. Walker, seconded by Ms. Ferrigno, the Board approved the termination of the following Civil Service employees effective 3/18/09 due to no service to the District:

CIVIL SERVICE
TERMINATIONS

Renee Afflick - Teacher Aide Part-time substitute

Beryl Hall - Bus Driver Part-time substitute

The Board approved the resignation of the following employees:

CIVIL SERVICE
RESIGNATIONS

FALCETTA, JEAN, Teacher Aide at Alden Terrace School, effective 1/29/09, service to district: 14 years, 4 months, reason: personal.

TOYAS, GEORGE, Maintainer, District wide, effective 2/27/09, service to district: 4 months, reason: personal.

The foregoing motions were put to a roll call with the following results:

Motion Carried Unanimously

On a motion by Ms. Walker, seconded by Ms. Ferrigno, the Board received the Committee on Special Education and Preschool Special Education designations and program placements for the Evaluation Placements, Reviews of Program and I.E.P. Modifications of students.

COMMITTEE OF
SPECIAL
EDUCATION &
PRE-SCHOOL
SPECIAL
EDUCATION

Motion Carried Unanimously

Effective September 1, 2001, the State Education Department no longer acts as the lead agency for public school construction projects. Consequently, the Elmont Union Free School District must assume the lead agency role for its own capital construction projects.

STATE
ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY REVIEW
ACT (SEQR)

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As lead agency, the school district must determine whether the capital project actions they directly undertake, fund or approve may have a significant impact on the environment, and, if it is determined that the action may have a significant adverse impact, prepare or request an Environment Impact Statement.

STATE
ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY REVIEW
ACT (SEQR)

In the proposed Elmont UFSD 2009-2010 budget, funding is included for the following capital projects. Consequently, the Superintendent requests a motion classifying the projects under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQR).

On a motion by Mr. Jaime, seconded by Mr. Maffea, the Board approved classifying the projects under the State Environmental Quality Review Act as follows:

1. Covert Avenue School - Masonary Rehabilitation: After careful evaluation of the project, it is determined that the work involved will have no significant environmental impact and requires no further review under SEQR. The project is therefore classified as a Type II Action.
2. Covert Avenue School - Window Replacement: After careful evaluation of the project, it is determined that the work involved will have no significant environmental impact and requires no further review under SEQR. The project is therefore classified as a Type II Action.
3. Covert Avenue School - Univent Rehabilitation: After careful evaluation of the project, it is determined that the work involved will have no significant environmental impact and requires no further review under SEQR. The project is therefore classified as a Type II Action.
4. Covert Avenue School - Replacement of Various Roof Areas: After careful evaluation of the project, it is determined that the work involved will have no significant environmental impact and requires no further review under SEQR. The project is therefore classified as a Type II Action.
5. Elmont Road School - Electrical Service Upgrade and Overhead Paved Area: After careful evaluation of the project, it is determined that the work involved will have no significant environmental impact and requires no further review under SEQR. The project is therefore classified as a Type II Action.

The Board also approved adding the following Parent Members for the Committee on Special Education and the Committee on Pre-School Special Education for the 2009-2010 school year:

CPSE/CSE
PARENT MEMBERS

Nancy Kelly

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Renee Price
Leslie Stack

CPSE/CSE
PARENT MEMBERS

The Board approved *Joy Levinn* as an additional Chairperson for the Subcommittee on Special Education at Gotham Avenue School for the 2008-2009 school year.

SUBCOMMITTEE
CHAIRPERSON

The Board approved the Special Education Plan for the 2008 - 2010 school years. This plan is contained under separate cover.

APPROVAL OF
SPECIAL
EDUCATION PLAN

The Board also approved the donation of \$151.00 from a parent and child who would like the funds to be used as needed by students for student activities to the District for the Gotham Avenue School. Information about the donation is contained in the backup pages of the Board Book of March 17, 2009.

GIFTS TO THE
DISTRICT

The Board further approved a donation of \$192.76 from Washington Mutual to the District for the Dutch Broadway School. Information about the donation is contained in the backup pages of the Board Book of March 17, 2009.

The Board approved the donation of \$25.02 from Target "Take Charge of Education" to the District for the Gotham Avenue School. Information about the donation is contained in the backup pages of the Board Book of March 17, 2009.

The Board approved the donation from the Alden Terrace PTA of a 40-inch flat screen television to the District for the Alden Terrace School. Information about the donation is contained in the backup pages of the Board Book of March 17, 2009.

The Board also approved a donation of \$48.95 from Target "Take Charge of Education" to the District for the Alden Terrace School. Information about the donation is contained in the backup pages of the Board Book of March 17, 2009.

On a motion by Ms. Walker, seconded by Mr. Maffea the Board nominated the following candidates for the BOCES Board Seats expiring on June 30, 2009:

BOCES BOARD
ELECTION
NOMINATION

IRIS WOLFSON
SUSAN BERGTRAUM
MICHAEL WEINICK
DOUGLAS PASCARELLA

Letters from BOCES, Iris Wofson, Susan Bergtraum and Michael Weinick are enclosed in the backup pages of the Board Book of March 17, 2009.

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The Board approved the compensation for the Psychologist at Gotham Avenue in the form of compensatory time, not to exceed 10 hours, for participation in meetings with the Early Entrant Committee for the 2008-2009 school year. Information about the compensatory time can be found in the backup pages of the Board Book of March 17, 2009.

COMPENSATORY
TIME FOR
PSYCHOLOGIST

The foregoing motions were put to a roll call with the following results:

Motion Carried Unanimously

ITEMS NOTED FOR THE MINUTES

ITEMS NOTED FOR
MINUTES

Use of Facilities

USE OF FACILITIES

Requests for Use of the Facilities that have been approved by the Superintendent of Schools since the last Board Meeting are enclosed in the backup pages in the back of the Board Book of March 17, 2009.

Family and Medical Leave of Absence

FAMILY AND
MEDICAL LEAVE
OF ABSENCE

<u>Name</u>	<u>Duration of Leave</u>
Diane Marino	12 Weeks

Worker's Compensation

WORKER'S
COMPENSATION

The following employees are on a leave of absence due to Worker's Compensation case still pending:

Kathy Russo	Auto Service/Bus Driver
Christopher Chisolm	Sub Cleaner
Cathy Madonna	Bus Driver

Budget Transfers Under \$5,000

BUDGET
TRANSFERS
UNDER \$5,000

Requests for Budget Transfers under \$5,000 that have been approved by the Superintendent of Schools since the last Board Meeting are enclosed in the backup pages in the back of the Board Book of March 17, 2009.

On a motion by Mr. Jaime, seconded by Mr. Maffea, the Board approved the backup booklet entitled "Schedule of Disbursements and Warrants," which is filed in the "bulky" document file.

SCHEDULE OF
DISBURSEMENTS
AND WARRANTS

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On a motion by Ms. Walker, seconded by Mr. Maffea, the Board received the Report of the Treasurer for the General Fund, Capital Fund, the Lunch Fund, the Trust and Agency Fund, Payroll, Special Aid Fund and Capital Bond Fund as of January 2009.

**TREASURER'S
REPORT**

Motion Carried Unanimously

On a motion by Ms. Ferrigno, seconded by Ms. Walker, the Board approved the authorization to make budgetary transfers (over \$5,000) as per the backup pages in the Board Book of March 17, 2009.

**BUDGET
TRANSFERS OVER
\$5,000**

In accordance with our RFP, the Board approved the appointment of Nawrocki Smith LLP as district independent auditors for fiscal year 2008-2009 at a base cost of \$38,000.00 as per the backup pages in the Board Book of March 17, 2009.

**APPOINTMENT OF
NAWROCKI SMITH
LLP -
INDEPENDENT
AUDITORS**

Ms. Ferrigno inquired when the last time the District went out for an RFP for the District independent auditors. Mr. Geras explained that the District went out for an RFP two years ago for five years with an award on an annual basis at the discretion of the Board of Education. This is consistent with the next year of award if the Board so chooses. This is in compliance with the new regulations within the five years. Ms. Ferrigno confirmed her clarity on her inquiry. Discussion continued for further clarity. Mr. Nugent advised that even though we go through the RFP exercise every five years, we do not have to change this vendor.

The Board also approved the disposal of 2 obsolete units of food service equipment, a Glenco refrigerator and a Mc Call freezer, as per backup pages in the Board Book of March 17, 2009.

**DISPOSAL OF
OBSOLETE
EQUIPMENT**

The foregoing motions were put to a roll call with the following results:

Motion Carried Unanimously

ITEMS NOTED FOR THE MINUTES

**ITEMS NOTED FOR
MINUTES**

Analysis of Revenue – for the month of January 2009.

General Fund Schedule of Receivables - General Fund Schedule of Receivables for the month of January, 2009 appears in the backup pages in the Board Book of March 17, 2009.

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Monthly Budget Status Report

ITEMS NOTED FOR
MINUTES

Monthly Budget Status Report – as of January 31, 2009 appear in the backup pages of the Board Book of March 17, 2009.

Various Fund Trial Balances

Trial Balance Reports General, Capital, School Lunch, Trust & Agency, Expendable Trust, Special Aid, Capital Bond and Non-Expendable Trust as of January 31, 2009 appear in the backup pages in the Board Book of March 17, 2009.

General Fund Cash Flow Statement

General Fund Cash Flow as of January 31, 2009 and Cash Flow Projection as of February 28, 2009 appear in the backup pages in the Board Book of March 17, 2009.

School Meals Profit and Loss Statement

School Lunch Profit and Loss Statement for the month of January, 2009 appear in the backup pages of the Board Book of March 17, 2009.

Custodial/Transportation Overtime

Breakdown Custodial/Transportation Overtime:

Cust./Trans. Overtime – February, 2009	\$ 14,023.47
Overtime paid Year to Date	\$ 79,335.57
Cust./Trans.Overtime - July, 2006 - June, 2007	\$122,501.03

<u>VANDALISM TALLIES FOR MAY 2008</u> -	\$ 57
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VANDALISM
TALLIES

Year-to-Date	\$ 266
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Previous Year-to-Date	\$ 219
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COMMITTEE REPORTS AND INFORMATION ITEMS

COMMITTEE
REPORTS AND
INFORMATION
ITEMS

Mr. Maffea spoke of the Spring 2009 NYS Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance Inc. seminar he attended on February 27, 2009. This year's theme was "To Get to the Heart". He gave a description of the three workshops he attended during the conference which were Simplexity Games, Sports Law and Risk Management

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and Obesity in School Age Children. He also noted that Mr. Fitzgibbon of Covert Avenue School and Mr. Kaczenski of the Stewart Manor School were also in attendance at the seminar. Mr. Maffea acknowledged Mr. Timothy Smith of the Clara H. Carlson School for his recognition as the outstanding supporter of the Jump Rope/Hoops for Hearts Program for 2007-08.

COMMITTEE
REPORTS AND
INFORMATION
ITEMS

Mr. Ragona thanked Mr. Maffea for the interest in physical education and the work that he continues to do.

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS - None

LEGISLATIVE ITEMS - Mr. Ragona mentioned the effort the Board is putting into working on the budget. He referenced the Districts participation in the rallies which have been held in Albany and Long Island to ensure that the District receives its fair share.

LEGISLATIVE
ITEMS

ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION - Mr. Ragona stated that consideration to move forward on the residency concerns within the District and student registration is being attentive to the issue.

ITEMS FOR
FUTURE
CONSIDERATION

AUDIENCE ITEMS

AUDIENCE ITEMS

Mrs. Cathy Ferrigno, of the Elmont Herald inquired how much State Aid does the high school district anticipate losing. It was responded that it's in the area of 3.7% and the elementary district anticipates a little over 1.875%. She also inquired if the elementary district has considered dropping any programs due to the budget cuts as the high school district has? Mr. Harper stated that no programs have been considered to be dropped.

Mrs. Ferrigno also directed a question regarding the State Environmental Quality Review Act. Her concern was how the State has abdicated some of its responsibilities on the school district in determining whether there is any environmental impact on any construction that is being done by schools. She inquired how does the District determine a Type 2 action. Mr. Geras explained what a Type 2 action denotes that it will have no environmental impact. Mrs. Ferrigno, questioned at what point does the District decide to bring someone in? Mr. Geras explained how the program is developed in cooperation with the District architect and guidelines set up by the state.

Mr. Carmine Yevoli questioned what the actual base cost for the auditing was for last year. Mr. Geras responded that the report reflects it is a 5 to 6% increase. He did not have the exact number with him. Mr. Galante commented that it was about \$36K to \$36.5K the previous year.

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Mr. Ragona mentioned the budget presentations to be conducted by Mr. Harper and members of the Board. He encouraged anyone with an interest or questions to please let the Board know.

AUDIENCE ITEMS

Mr. Ragona, then requested the Board to schedule time for additional review of the budget prior to the end of the month. The Board agreed that the next Budget review meeting would be by April 2, 2009 at 6:00 PM at the PPS Office.

Mr. Ragona announced the next Board of Education Meeting on April 21, 2009 at the Clara H. Carlson School, the Adoption of the Budget will occur at this meeting as well.

ADJORNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Mr. Jaime, seconded by Mr. Maffea, the Board adjourned to Executive Session at 9:26 PM.

ADJOURNMENT TO
EXECUTIVE
SESSION

Motion Carried Unanimously

PUBLIC SESSION

On a motion by Mr. Maffea, seconded by Ms. Ferrigno, the Board reconvened into Public Session at 9:55 PM.

PUBLIC SESSION

Motion Carried Unanimously

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Board adjourned the meeting at 10:00PM on a motion by Ms. Ferrigno, seconded by Ms. Walker.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion Carried Unanimously

Submitted by,

April 21, 2009
Date Approved

Celestine L. Lloyd
District Clerk