

*APPROVED MINUTES of the Elmont Board of Education*

REORGANIZATION MEETING  
JULY 1, 2008

VOLUME XXVIII, PAGE 1  
ELMONT, NEW YORK

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**REORGANIZATION 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 Elmont Road School on Tuesday, July 1, 2008.

**ROLL CALL**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Pamela Byer  
Lorraine Ferrigno  
Michael A. Jaime  
Anthony S. Maffea Sr.  
Carol Parker-Duncanson  
Frank Ragona  
Deniece Walker

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL PRESENT:**

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

**ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL ABSENT:** None

**CONSULTANT PRESENT:** Mr. Thomas W. Galante

On a motion by Mrs. Byer, seconded by Mr. Ragona, the Board convened in Executive Session at 6:30 PM.

**EXECUTIVE  
SESSION**

Motion Carried Unanimously

On a motion by Mrs. Parker-Duncanson, seconded by Mr. Jaime, the Board convened in Public Session at 8:20 PM.

**PUBLIC SESSION**

Motion Carried Unanimously

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Ms. Lloyd, District Clerk, called the Reorganization Meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. Lloyd stated that there were two Board members to take the Oath of Office tonight, Anthony S. Maffea, Sr. and Deniece Walker. Each was selected to a three-year term on the Elmont Board of Education, commencing July 1, 2008 and expiring June 30, 2011.

OATH OF OFFICE

**OATH OF OFFICE**

Ms. Lloyd administered the Oath of Office to Mr. Maffea and Ms. Walker.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Ms. Lloyd called for nominations for President of the Board of Education.

Ms. Ferrigno nominated Mr. Ragona for President of the Board and Mr. Maffea seconded the nomination.

Mrs. Parker-Duncanson nominated Mrs. Byer for President of the Board and Mrs. Byer seconded the nomination.

There were no other nominations

Nominations for Mr. Ragona for President:

Yes	-	5
No	-	2
Abstained	-	0

Ms. Lloyd declared Mr. Ragona elected Board President.

Ms. Lloyd called for nominations for Vice President of the Board of Education.

Mr. Ragona nominated Ms. Ferrigno to be Vice President of the Board of Education. Mr. Maffea seconded the nomination.

There were no other nominations.

Discussion began by Mrs. Byer concerning her opposition of those nominated for the position for Board President and Vice President. She then read her account of an incident that occurred. Mrs. Byer urged Mr. Ragona and Ms. Ferrigno to keep the community in consideration and be confidential.

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ELECTION OF OFFICERS (continued)

**ELECTION OF  
OFFICERS**

Ms. Ferrigno reminded the community that the remarks presented by Mrs. Byer do not make them true. Mrs. Byer stated that she would provide additional information if necessary. Discussion continued.

Nomination for Ms. Ferrigno for Vice President

Yes	-	5
No	-	2
Abstained	-	0

Motion Carried

Ms. Lloyd declared Ms. Ferrigno elected Board Vice President.

OATH OF OFFICE FOR PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT

**OATH OF OFFICE  
FOR PRESIDENT  
AND VICE  
PRESIDENT**

Ms. Lloyd administered the Oath of Office to the newly elected Board President, Mr. Ragona and Vice President, Ms. Ferrigno.

At this point in the meeting Mr. Ragona assumed the Chair and presided over the rest of the meeting.

SEWANHAKA CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD  
REPRESENTATIVES

**SEWANHAKA  
CENTRAL HIGH  
SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD  
REPRESENTATIVES**

Mr. Ragona made mention of the amendment to policy for the representation on the Sewanhaka Central High School District Board. A motion to table this item was requested for further discussion which was moved by Mr. Jaime and seconded by Ms. Walker.

Discussion by Mrs. Parker-Duncanson restated her strong opposition to the recommended change. She recommended more than one year representation and it is not in the best interest of the Board for the proposed change. Further discussion continued, Mrs. Byer also noted that there is a need to keep board member representation on the Sewanhaka School Board for at least two or more years.

Mr. Ragona gave further clarification of the change and the basis for the change. Mrs. Ferrigno also gave a history of a policy change that was presented for a reading and upon further review it was found that no action was taken.

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Mrs. Byer referenced the Special meeting of June 23, 2008 when the second reading was presented for the policy and she then read the proposed policy. Mr. Nugent further clarified that the policy presently in place was the one adopted by the Board at the June 23, 2008 meeting. A new policy was being brought forth tonight, for a first reading, it provides for a one year term for Board members appointed to the Sewanhaka Board.

Mrs. Parker-Duncanson questioned what happens from this point? The response was that the appointments to the Sewanhaka Board normally made at the Reorganization Meeting will be tabled.

Voting results for the tabling of the policy for the representation on the Sewanhaka Central High School District Board are as follows:

Yes	-	5
No	-	2
Abstained	-	0

Motion Carried

APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS

**APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS**

On a motion by Ms. Ferrigno, seconded by Mr. Jaime, the Board appointed the following officers:

Clerk of the Board	-	Celestine L. Lloyd
District Treasurer	-	Joe Guadagno
Central Registrar	-	Sharon Woitko
Deputy District Treasurer	-	Diane Tool

Motion Carried Unanimously

OTHER APPOINTMENTS

**OTHER APPOINTMENTS**

On a motion by Mr. Jaime, seconded by Ms. Ferrigno, the Board also appointed the following:

L.E.A.'s Asbestos Designee	-	Robert Geras
Workers Compensation Third Party Administrator	-	Wright Risk Management
Financial Advisory Advisor	-	NYMAC

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**OTHER  
APPOINTMENTS**

District Medical Advisor	- To Be Announced
School Attorney	- Colum P. Nugent
Unemployment Insurance Consultant	- Barnett Associates
Consulting Architect/Engineer	- James Campbell
Capital Project Owner's Representative/Clerk of the Works	- Frank Marino
Environment Consultant	- J.C. Broderick & Associates
Roof Consultants	- Watsky Associates
Business Consultant	- Thomas W. Galante
Board of Code of Ethics	- To Be Determined
Records Management Officer	- Fernando DeBartolo
Bond Counsel	- Hawkins, Delafield & Wood
403 (B) Advisor Third Party Administrator	- The Omni Group

Independent Auditors

Callaghan Nawrocki LLP	- To do the audit of the 2008/09 fiscal year.
Internal Auditor	- R.S. Abrams
Claims Auditor	- William Madden, CPA
GASB 45 Actuarial Consultant	-Milliman Consultants & Actuaries

District Negotiations

Recommend Colum Nugent be approved as district negotiator at an hourly rate to be determined.

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Impartial Hearing Officers

**OTHER  
APPOINTMENTS**

To be selected in accordance with applicable statutes.

Others to be selected by project subject to Board approval.

Motion Carried Unanimously

DESIGNATIONS

**OFFICIAL BANK  
DEPOSITORIES**

Official Bank Depositories

On a motion by Mr. Jaime, seconded by Ms. Ferrigno the Board designated the following Official Bank Depositories:

- Bank of America                      Authorized for Expendable Trust Account
- MBIA Class                              Authorized for all investment funds
- Citibank (Franklin Square)          Scholarship Accounts
- Commerce Bank\*                      Authorized for all funds
- J. P. Morgan Chase                    Authorized for scholarship & payroll accounts
- Flushing Commercial                 Authorized for investment funds

Banks shall be required to provide necessary collateral statements.

\*This depository is also designated for the wire transfer of Tax Anticipation Notes and Certificates of Deposit.

Motion Carried Unanimously

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REGULAR MONTHLY MEETINGS 2008-09 SCHOOL YEAR

REGULAR  
MONTHLY  
MEETINGS  
2008-09 SCHOOL  
YEAR

On a motion by Mr. Maffea, seconded by Mr. Jaime the Board approved the following schedule for the Regular Monthly Meeting for the 2008-09 school year:

3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday	September 16, 2008	8:00 PM	Elmont Road
3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday	October 21, 2008	8:00 PM	Alden Terrace
3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday	November 18, 2008	8:00 PM	Covert Avenue
3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday	December 16, 2008	7:30 PM	Dutch Broadway
3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday	January 20, 2009	8:00 PM	Stewart Manor
2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday	February 10, 2009	8:00 PM	Covert Avenue
3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday	March 17, 2009	8:00 PM	Gotham Avenue
3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday	April 21, 2009	8:00 PM	Clara H. Carlson
(Note: BOCES Budget Vote also scheduled for April 21 <sup>st</sup> .)			
2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday	May 12, 2009	8:00 PM	Clara H. Carlson
3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday	May 19, 2009	9:00 PM	Elmont Road
(Annual Budget Vote)			
3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday	June 16, 2009	7:30 PM	Dutch Broadway
1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday	July 7, 2009	8:00 PM	Elmont Road
(Reorganization)			
2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday	August 11, 2009	8:00 PM	Elmont Road

Motion Carried Unanimously

2008-09 OFFICIAL NEWSPAPERS

2008-09  
OFFICIAL  
NEWSPAPERS

Discussion began with an inquiry from Mrs. Byer of how the papers were going to be used. Mr. Ragona explained how the papers would be used and the advantage of the flexibility that will be available when needed.

On a motion by Mr. Maffea, seconded by Mr. Jaime, the Board approved the following seven newspapers as the official newspapers who may receive our legals in 2008-09.

Discussion continued, Mrs. Byer inquired how the papers will be used. Mr. Ragona clarified the utilization of advertising in the papers. Mrs. Parker-Duncanson and Mrs. Byer were opposed to the Elmont Herald as an official newspaper.

Franklin Square/Elmont Herald  
Elmont Herald  
Newsday

Three Village Times  
Gateway  
NHP Herald Courier  
Illustrated News

Motion Carried

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COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL EDUCATION 2008-09 SCHOOL YEAR

COMMITTEE ON  
SPECIAL  
EDUCATION  
2008-09 SCHOOL  
YEAR

MEMBERSHIP – SPECIAL EDUCATION

On a motion Ms. Walker, seconded by Mr. Jaime, the Board approved the following memberships on the Committee on Special Education for the 2008-09 school year:

Barbara Schwartz	Chairperson
Lynbrook Medical Group – Dr. David Kim	Medical Advisor
Resource Room Teachers	Special Education Teacher Alternates
Dr. Karen Green	Psychologist/Chairperson Alternate
Dr. Jodi Luce	Psychologist/Chairperson Alternate
Mrs. Stephanie Muller	Chairperson Alternate
Parent of the child being reviewed	
Regular Education Teacher of the child being reviewed	
Special Education Teacher of the child being reviewed	
Ms. Susan Sapek	Psychologist-Alternate
Ms. Dana Kizner	Psychologist-Alternate
Dr. John Ozehosky	Psychologist-Alternate
Mrs. Theresa Sullivan	Psychologist-Alternate
Mrs. Ruby Uliss-Pieri	Psychologist-Alternate
Ms. Ariella Sinnreich	Psychologist-Alternate
Mrs. Dorit Brander	Psychologist-Alternate
Mrs. Ann Ashemeade	Parent Member
Mrs. Judith Bolden	Parent Member
Mrs. Claudine Deverson	Parent Member
Mrs. Josephine Fogarty	Parent Member
Mrs. Kisha Nembhard	Parent Member
Mrs. Rocio Talero	Parent Member
Mrs. Nayibe Venegas	Parent Member
Ms. Tonya Hill	Parent Member
Ms. Linda Ward	Parent Member
Ms. Patricia DeVita	Parent Member
Ms. Shirelle Pearson	Parent Member
Ms. Chineeka Davis	Parent Member
Mr. Hector Miranda	Parent Member
Ms. Nadine Kessler	Parent Member

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COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEES

COMMITTEE ON  
SPECIAL  
EDUCATION  
SUBCOMMITTEES

The Board also approved the following memberships on the Committee on Special Education Subcommittees:

<b>School</b>	<b>Chairperson</b>	<b>Alternate(s)</b>
Alden Terrace School	Dana Kizner	Barbara Schwartz Amy Buchanan Lisa Italiano
Clara H. Carlson School	Theresa Sullivan Dorit Brander Nancy McLaughlin	Barbara Schwartz Kenneth Rosner
Covert Avenue School	John Ozehosky Kelly O'Shaughnessy	Barbara Schwartz Margaret Pleta Kathleen Mousouroulis
Dutch Broadway School	Susan Sapek Judi Luce	Barbara Schwartz Walter Aksionoff Andrea Poltorzycki Nadine Napoli
Gotham Avenue School	Joann Malhas Patricia Bambino Ariella Sinnreich	Barbara Schwartz Marshall Zucker Ruby Uliss-Pieri Joy Levinn
Stewart Manor School	Karen Green	Barbara Schwartz Hope Kranidis Christina DeCastro
PPS Office	Barbara Schwartz	Stephanie Muller Karen Green Jodi Luce

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The Board further approved the following:

MEMBERSHIP – PRE-SCHOOL SPECIAL EDUCATION

**MEMBERSHIP  
PRE-SCHOOL  
SPECIAL  
EDUCATION**

Mrs. Stephanie Muller	Chairperson
Mrs. Barbara Schwartz	Alternate Chairperson
Dr. Karen Green	Alternate Chairperson
Carolyn Tully	Special Education Teacher
Mrs. Rose Vezzi	General Education Teacher
Mrs. Ann Ashemeade	Parent Member
Mrs. Judith Bolden	Parent Member
Mrs. Claudine Deverson	Parent Member
Mrs. Josephine Fogarty	Parent Member
Mrs. Nadine Kessler	Parent Member
Mrs. Kisha Nembhard	Parent Member
Mrs. Rocio Talero	Parent Member
Mrs. Nayibe Venegas	Parent Member
Ms. Tonya Hill	Parent Member
Ms. Linda Ward	Parent Member
Ms. Patricia DeVita	Parent Member
Ms. Shirelle Pearson	Parent Member
Ms. Chineeka Davis	Parent Member
Mr. Hector Miranda	Parent Member

A Representative from the evaluation agency must attend.

A Representative of the Nassau County Department of Mental Health, Office of Children with Special Needs may attend.

A Representative from Nassau County Early Intervention must attend for Eligibility Transition Meeting.

Motion Carried Unanimously

AUDIOLOGICAL SERVICES FOR DEAF/HEARING IMPAIRED

**AUDIOLOGICAL  
SERVICES FOR  
DEAF/HEARING  
IMPAIRED**

On a motion by Mr. Maffea, seconded by Ms. Walker, the Board approved the use of Long Island Jewish-Hillside Medical Center for the following services for the 2008-2009 school year:

1. Otological Examination - annual

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2. Audiological Assessment (aided and unaided) - semi-annual
3. Hearing Aid evaluation (fitting for a new aid) - every 2 or 3 years. This does not include the purchase of the hearing aid, batteries, or repairs to hearing aid.
4. Hearing Aid Analysis (recheck of aid) - as needed.
5. Post calibration testing. Auditory trainer calibrated to his/her hearing loss with ear molds (including the cost of ear molds).

**AUDIOLOGICAL  
SERVICES FOR  
DEAF/HEARING  
IMPAIRED**

Cost: Approximately \$450.00 per child per examination (15 students).

Motion Carried Unanimously

AUTHORIZATIONS

**AUTHORIZATIONS**

On a motion by Mr. Jaime, seconded by Ms. Ferrigno, the board approved the following authorizations:

School Purchasing Agent

**SCHOOL  
PURCHASING  
AGENT**

- a) Robert Geras, Director of Business and Facilities
- b) To participate in all cooperative contracts of the Nassau County Director of Facilities purchasing consortiums.
- c) To participate in the Southwest Nassau County Student Transportation consortium.
- d) To participate in those Nassau BOCES cooperative purchasing agreements when it is deemed beneficial to the Elmont School District.
- e) To participate in the Educational Data Services, Inc. cooperative bidding program. This regional school district cooperative is used predominately for general classroom supplies and maintenance services.

Budget Transfers Under \$5,000

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

The Board gave authorization to the Superintendent to approve budget transfers under \$5,000 with subsequent reporting to the Board of Education.

Investment Policy

**INVESTMENT  
POLICY**

The Board further approved the following:

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In accordance with provisions of Chapter 708 of the Laws of 1992, Investment Policy #3700, originally adopted by the Board of Education on August 7, 1985 and amended on July 5, 2005, shall be in effect for the 2008-09 school year.

Approval of Staff Conferences

APPROVAL OF  
STAFF  
CONFERENCES

The Board gave authorization to the Superintendent or designee to approve the attendance of staff to conferences.

Authorization to Employ Retroactively

AUTHORIZATION  
TO EMPLOY  
RETROACTIVELY

The Board gave authority to the Superintendent requests to employ, in exceptional situations, any personnel essential to the operation of the school system subject to final approval of the Board of Education.

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

Motion Carried Unanimously

OTHER ITEMS

On a motion by Mr. Jaime, seconded by Ms. Ferrigno, the Board approved the following:

READOPTON OF  
ALL BOARD  
POLICIES

- a. The readoption of all Board policies in effect in 2007-08, except the Purchasing policy. Recommend new Purchasing policy (attached); and in addition the **tabled** Policy #9000 (b) Article II as discussed earlier in the meeting.

POLICY #9000  
ARTICLE (B)  
TABLED

Mrs. Byer requests that further explanation be provided on the acceptance of the policy that is to be tabled. The vote for this policy was as follows:

Yes	5
No	2 (Mrs. Parker-Duncanson & Mrs. Byer)
Abstained	0

- b. Mileage Reimbursement Rate to be standard mileage rate as established by the Internal Revenue Service.

MILEAGE  
REIMBURSEMENT  
RATE

- c. The District Clerk (or in her absence the Superintendent's Secretary) be officially designated to receive summonses, petitions, and all process.

DESIGNATION TO  
RECEIVE  
SUMMONS,  
PETITIONS AND  
ALL PROCESS

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BOARD COMMITTEES

**BOARD  
COMMITTEES**

To Be Determined.

BOARD MEMBERSHIP

**BOARD  
MEMBERSHIP**

On a motion by Ms. Ferrigno, seconded by Mr. Maffea, the Board approved membership in the following organizations for the 2008-09 school year at the cost shown:

1. National School Boards Association	-	\$4,000
2. New York State School Boards Association	-	8,840*
3. Nassau-Suffolk School Boards Association	-	2,670**
4. R.E.F.I.T.	-	600

\* Costs for January - December 2008.

\*\*Costs for July 07 - June 08

Mrs. Byer requested that there be an additional membership added for diversity reasons. Mr. Ragona stated that if there is any affiliation with the participating National School Boards Association, the Board would be happy to revisit the request. Mrs. Byer stated that she would provide the information at a later date.

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

Yes	6
No	0
Abstain	1 (Mrs. Parker-Duncanson)

The Board also approved the following:

RESOLVED, that members of the Board of Education, the Superintendent, the Attorney, and when requested by the Board, members of the administration may upon request attend the National School Boards Association Convention, New York State School Boards Association Convention and the American Association of School Administrators Convention, with appropriate expenses incurred paid by the District.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that members of the Board of Education, the Superintendent, when requested by the Board, members of the administration may upon request be permitted to attend meetings of the Nassau-Suffolk School Boards Association and the

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New York State School Boards Association with appropriate expenses incurred paid by the District.

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

Motion Carried Unanimously

CONCLUSION OF REORGANIZATION MEETING

CONCLUSION OF  
REORGANIZATION  
MEETING

The Board concluded the Reorganization Meeting and began the Regular Meeting at 9:00 PM.

Submitted by,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Approved

Celestine L. Lloyd  
District Clerk