

EASTERN LEBANON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
180 ELCO Drive, Myerstown, PA 17067

Regular Board of Education Meeting  
District Board Room  
Hybrid  
(In-person or via Zoom)

February 22, 2022

The Regular Board of Education Meeting was called to order by President, Tom Ferrari at 6:00 p.m.

The Eastern Lebanon County School Board met in a Regular Board of Education Session with President Ferrari presiding.

Mr. Ferrari noted the District is audio recording the meeting, which will be posted on the District website. Mr. Ferrari also inquired if anyone in attendance was recording the meeting; it is noted Joel Risser, 2 Park View Dr., Myerstown, indicated video recording the meeting.

A Moment of Silent Mediation was observed, which is optional for attendees.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Ondrusek.

Roll Call

Board Secretary, Gloria Hill, called the roll. The following members were present: Mrs. Kantner, Mrs. Moyer, \*Mrs. Noll and Ms. Schaeffer; and Messer's Ferrari, Kahl, Kramer, Ondrusek, and Ziegler. Also, in attendance were the following from the administrative team: Mrs. Vicente, Dr. Davis, Ms. Haas, Mr. Deane, Dr. Gerhart, Mrs. Hower, Mr. Lin, Mr. Breeden, Mrs. Lutz, Mrs. Shoemaker, ~~Mr. Sweigart~~, Mrs. Himmelreich, Mr. Miller, Mr. Boltz, ~~Mr. Dresch~~, Gloria Hill, Board Secretary; \*William Zee, School Solicitor; and faculty/staff and community residents (in-person and via Zoom).

\*Designate board members, administration, and School Solicitor attending via Zoom.

Student Council Report – Emma Willhoyte, President

Events and activities reported:

- MS and HS student council officers will attend the PASC Conference March 11, 2022
- Spirt Week
- Blood Drive being held March 4, 2022, will benefit Maddie Winters, ELCO HS student
- ELCO Boys' Basketball team – Congratulations on winning the 1<sup>st</sup> round of district playoffs and advancing to the next round against Berks Catholic
- HS Musical – March 4 & 5, 2022 at 7:00pm; tickets are available online through the district website

Students of the Month – presented by Mr. Jack Kahl

- Fort Zeller, 1<sup>st</sup> grade – Thea Shirk (Mrs. McDonnell's class) and Paxton Shepler (\*Miss Thomas' class)
- Jackson, 1<sup>st</sup> grade – Roston Rothrock (\*Miss Meisenhelter's class) and Anya Coy (Mrs. Hummer's class)
- Intermediate School – Maura Asper and Sophia Werner (Mrs. Miller's class)
- Middle School – Hunter Burkholder and \*\*McKenzi Gery
- High School – Jaydon Grumbine, Madelyn Strickler, and Alayna Thompson (CTC)

Students were recognized and introduced by their respective principal. Highlights of the student's favorite things, fun facts, most memorable school experience, favorite quotes, and future plans were shared. Each student received a certificate of recognition from board member, Mr. Jack Kahl.

On behalf of the School Board, Mr. Ferrari congratulated the students on their achievements and accomplishments, and thanked everyone supporting and encouraging these students, with special thanks to the parents.

\*Teachers in attendance.

\*\*Students unable to attend.

Mr. Ferrari called a brief intermission at 6:37pm, allowing students and parents attending the opportunity to exit the meeting prior to the start of the business meeting.

The meeting reconvened at 6:41pm.

#### Board President Communications

- The General Services Committee held a meeting at 5:00pm, February 22, 2022, to review HS stadium turf sitework bid, summer maintenance budget, and discussion on general items as needed.
- The Board will meet immediately following the adjournment of tonight's meeting for continued required training.
- Changes to the agenda were restated.

#### Public Comments – Items On the Agenda

- No comments were made.

#### Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Mr. Ferrari, seconded by Mr. Kahl and approved by Voice vote, all voting Aye, the Minutes of 01-18-2022 and 02-07-2022 were approved.

#### Approval of Treasurer's Report

On a motion by Mr. Kramer, seconded by Mr. Kahl and approved by Voice vote, all voting Aye, the Treasurer's Report of 01-31-2022 was approved.

#### **CONSENT ITEMS** (items discussed on 02-07-2022)

No items were requested to be separated from the overall vote.

On a motion by Mr. Ondrusek, seconded by Mr. Kramer and approved by Voice vote, all voting Aye, Consent Items were approved:

#### Personnel Committee

A. Approved the following individuals as coaches for the 2022 Spring sports' season, as listed:

Baseball:	Head Varsity Coach	Roger Hehnly
	Varsity Asst. Coaches	John Mentzer, Sam Rueppel
	Varsity Vol. Coaches	Travis Bicher, Lyle Krall, Brian McDonnell
		David Noyes
Softball:		Chris Ruth, Zach Stuart
	Head & Asst. Coaches	TBD
	Head Varsity Coach	Robert Miller
	Varsity Asst. Coaches	Holly Hartman, Earl Thomas, Jr., Michael Harnish
Track & Field:	JH Asst. Coaches	Greg Underkoffler, Warren Zimmerman, Wyatt Hall
	Varsity Vol. Coaches	Jackie Bender, Robert Williams, Alexis Thomas
	Head Varsity Coach	Zach Cook
	Varsity Vol. Coaches	Cathy Shaak, Chris Gyorke
Boys' Tennis:		

General Services Committee

- A. Approved the High School project plans as discussed in the General Services Committee meeting, and to increase the estimated High School project to \$37.7M, with \$1.5M funded with ESSER III funds and \$36.2M from construction bonds.  
*Background: General construction inflation is impacting the projected costs of the High School project. To mitigate some of the cost pressure, the Ag Science animal barn scope was removed from the project, saving an estimated \$950,000. Utility conduits will be run to the site for possible future construction of the animal barn. The final costs of the High School project will be known after the official public bid openings.*

Finance Committee

- A. Approved adding a new account to Student Activities, noting the club has submitted the required by-laws and list of officers, as listed (Board Attachment):
1. 2025 Class Council

**NON-CONSENT ITEMS**Personnel Committee – Mrs. Rachel Moyer, Chair

Item H was requested to be separated from the overall vote.

On a motion by Mrs. Moyer, seconded by Ms. Schaeffer and approved by Voice vote, all voting Aye, Personnel Items A – K, with the exception of Item H, were approved:

- A. Accepted a “Letter of Resignation” from Madelyn Saunders, Middle School Counselor, effective on or about 60 days from February 8, 2022.
- B. Accepted a “Letter of Resignation” from Ashli Shay, Varsity Girls’ Basketball Coach, effective February 11, 2022.
- C. Approved Alysha Burkholder as a Homebound teacher for the 2021-2022 school year, retroactive to February 14, 2022.
- D. Approved Jenny Wolgemuth as a Special Education support teacher for ELCO Virtual Academy for the 2021-2022 school year, retroactive to February 7, 2022.
- E. Approved a trip/travel request from Lucas Sandoe, FFA Advisor, and six (6) FFA students to travel and participate in the PA State Legislative Leadership Conference to be held March 13-15, 2022, at the Harrisburg-Hershey Sheraton Hotel.  
*Background: This is an annual conference in which students participate in workshops to learn parliamentary procedure and the legislative process in P.A. Students will also participate in community service. Costs for the trip are budgeted.*
- F. Approved a trip/travel request from Elizabeth Boyd, School Psychologist, and Tyler Wharton, Middle School teacher, to travel and attend WEB (Where Everybody Belongs) Basic Training, to be held March 14-16, 2022, in Colorado Springs, CO.  
*Background: This will provide training needed to assist in the transition of students from the Intermediate School to the Middle School. Costs for the training are budgeted.*
- G. Approved a trip/travel request from Melodie Fair and David Fair, High School Choral and Band teachers, and one (1) qualifying student, to travel and participate in the PMEA State Chorus Festival to be held April 6-9, 2022, at the Kalahari Resort Poconos.  
*Background: This is an annual event, pending qualifying student(s), and costs for the trip are budgeted.*

- H.** *Move to approve the employment of Allen Phillips as Head Varsity Softball Coach for the 2022 Spring sports' season, pending receipt of all required documentation, clearances, and disclosures. (Board Attachment)*  
*Background: Position filled due to resignation.*
- I.** **Approved adding the following individuals to the ELCO Sub listing for the 2021-2022 school year, as listed (pending receipt of all required documentation, clearances, and disclosures):**
1. Hannah Williams – Pre-K – 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher sub
  2. Jennifer Heller – IU sub, all areas
- J.** **Approved the continued employment of the following individuals, as listed:**
1. Kevin Yeiser (returning for 5<sup>th</sup> year), Seasonal grounds worker, at an hourly rate of \$12.80, to begin on or about March 21, 2022.
  2. Dennis Morgan (returning for 9<sup>th</sup> year), Seasonal grounds worker, at an hourly rate of \$10.00, to begin on or about March 21, 2022.
- K.** **Approved adding the following individuals to the ELCO Volunteer listing for the 2021-2022 school year, as listed, (noting all required documentation, clearances, and trainings are on file):**
1. Emily Hess
  2. Dorothy Noll
  3. Matthew Derr
  4. Sarah Derr
  5. Diane Johnson
  6. Irene Fox
  7. Ella St. Onge
  8. Edward Fuhrman
  9. Jill Ditzler
  10. Sandra Hammock
  11. Bambi Tanger
  12. Sonieliz Delgrado-Cruz

On a motion by Mrs. Moyer, seconded by Mr. Kahl and approved by Roll Call vote, 5 Ayes and 4 Nays, Personnel Item H, was approved:

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Ziegler – Aye  
 Mr. Kramer – Nay  
 Ms. Schaeffer – Nay  
 Mrs. Noll – Nay  
 Mrs. Kantner – Aye  
 Mr. Ondrusek – Aye  
 Mr. Kahl – Nay  
 Mrs. Moyer – Aye  
 Mr. Ferrari – Aye

- H.** **Approved the employment of Allen Phillips as Head Varsity Softball Coach for the 2022 Spring sports' season, pending receipt of all required documentation, clearances, and disclosures. (Board Attachment)**  
*Background: Position filled due to resignation.*

**General Services** – Mr. David Ziegler, Chair

On a motion by Mr. Ziegler, seconded by Mr. Kramer and approved by Roll Call vote, all voting Aye, Item A was approved:

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Kramer – Aye  
 Ms. Schaeffer – Aye  
 Mrs. Noll – Aye  
 Mrs. Kantner – Aye  
 Mr. Ondrusek – Aye  
 Mr. Kahl – Aye  
 Mrs. Moyer – Aye  
 Mr. Ziegler – Aye  
 Mr. Ferrari – Aye

**A. Awarded the HS Stadium Turf Sitework bid to Schlouch Incorporated for \$1,001,340, approved through Board Resolution 02-22-2022-I. (Board Attachments)**

*Background: The District received three sealed bids for the project.*

**Finance Committee** – Mr. Jack Kahl, Chair

No items were requested to be separated from the overall vote.

On a motion by Mr. Kahl, seconded by Ms. Schaeffer and approved by Voice vote, 9-0, Finance Items A - B were approved:

**A. Approved payment of bills as found listed and attached to the February 22, 2022, Board Agenda for payments made January 2022, in the amounts indicated: (Board Attachment)**

General Fund payments in the amount of	\$3,548,631.19
Cafeteria Fund payments in the amount of	\$181,472.94
Capital Reserve Fund payments in the amount of	\$29,299.53
Debt Service payments in the amount of	\$0.00
Construction Fund payments in the amount of	\$187,398.73
Student Activity payments in the amount of	\$12,959.49

**B. Authorized the Administration to work with PFM Financial Advisors LLC, as Independent Financial Advisor, Raymond James, as Underwriter, Barley Snyder LLP, as Bond Counsel, and the District's Solicitor to proceed with the issuance of General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2022, the proceeds of which will be used towards new capital projects in the District. The Board of School Directors also authorizes the transfer of the Series of 2021 Parameters Bond Purchase Agreement to Raymond James. (Board Attachment)**

*Background: Lou Verdelli and several members of RBC's local office have transitioned to Raymond James. The District is transferring its bond business to Raymond James to continue doing business with the same individuals that were previously employed by RBC.*

**Superintendent's Report**

**A. Principal reports:**

- Ms. Jennifer Haas, ELCO High School
  - A letter received from graduate Jesse Simmermon, who currently serves in the US Marines as a fighter pilot, was read expressing his appreciation to ELCO and the education he received that prepared him for his career in the Marines. A flag that accompanied him on a mission was also presented to the High School, which is on display in the HS lobby accompanied by his letter and a certificate.
- Mr. Jason Deane, ELCO Middle School
  - Extended learning opportunities at the Middle School:
    - Envirothon is having its best year ever! Over 40 students are participating in the program. Projects underway include revitalizing the raised garden beds.
    - Women in Science Program for young women in Middle School provides a forum to exchange information on careers in mathematics, science and technology, helping to guide and encourage young women in choosing a career.
- Dr. Michael Gerhart, ELCO Intermediate School
  - Forgotten Friends assembly with Jesse Rothacker was held for each grade sharing the interesting facts about reptiles with students.

- ‘Twosday’ event featured all ‘two’ things. Several activities were conducted by the PTO and PBIS. In addition, it was also Picture Day.
- Mrs. Tam Hower – Jackson Elementary
  - Book Vending Machine was unveiled on February 18<sup>th</sup>, and will be used for the PBIS program. Donations from the community and local businesses resulted in Jackson receiving this unique vending machine providing books to students.
  - Math Fiesta Night will take place February 28<sup>th</sup>. 300 guests are expected to attend and experience a fun evening to include a walking taco dinner, scavenger hunt, and math bingo.
- Mr. Steven Lin – Fort Zeller Elementary
  - Picture Day took place with individual student photos and class pictures taken.
  - ‘Twosday’ was celebrated at Fort Zeller.
  - Student assembly held with a visit by Jesse Rothacker and Forgotten Friends sharing interesting information and facts about reptiles.
- Mrs. Jenelle Himmelreich – Food Services Department
  - ELCO Food Pantry is underway helping to assist families in need. Many sources have contributed to the pantry, which include local churches, businesses, and our own school buildings/groups. Thank you to everyone for making a difference in our community!

Mrs. Vicente reported on the following items:

- CTC National Technical Society Induction was held February 17<sup>th</sup>; five ELCO students were inducted.
- Update was given on the Comprehensive Plan. The committee met for the first time on February 8<sup>th</sup> with 45 attendees working in small groups and reviewing data. The next meeting will take place March 1<sup>st</sup> and will focus on “Where do we go next?” and, review and potentially revise the Portrait of a Graduate. A staff survey is going out this week asking for employees in the district for their input and perspective. A community survey will also be offered seeking input from the community. The next edition of the ELCO Communicator will have a link to the survey or copies will be available at the District Office. The Draft Plan will be brought forward to the board in the spring.

Upcoming Dates/Announcements:

February 23, 2022, 6:00pm – Ad Hoc Committee Meeting for Branding/Signage  
 March 7, 2022, 6:00pm – Committee-of-the-Whole Board of Education Meeting  
 March 10, 2022, 6:00pm – Curriculum Committee Meeting  
 March 16, 2022, 5:15pm – Finance Committee Meeting  
 March 18, 2022 – Act 80 Day (NO students)  
 March 21, 2022, 6:00pm – Regular Board of Education Meeting  
 March 28, 2022 – End of 3<sup>rd</sup> Marking Period  
 March 30, 2022 – 2-Hour Late Start for Students K-12

Public Comments – Items On/Off the Agenda

- Dennis Foltz, 700 N. Market St., Schaefferstown – commented on schools across the Commonwealth conducting student surveys and parent rights for opting out.
  - Mrs. Vicente will speak to Mr. Foltz after the meeting to address his concerns.

Board Announcements/Comments

- Ms. Schaeffer – Congratulated students for accomplishments in recent competitions. Commented on the upcoming Blood Drive at the High School benefiting Maddie Winters.
- Mrs. Kantner – Commented on the recent posting on PSBA’s Daily Edition, which featured the Lebanon County CTC producing items for NASA and the space program.
- Mr. Kahl – Thank You to Millcreek Lutheran Church and their pastor who recently organized a food drive to benefit the ELCO Food Pantry.
- Mr. Kramer – Commented on assisting families in ELCO; the efforts of many, including Mrs. Vicente, and the persistence in contacting Penn Dot to improve dangerous intersections, particularly the intersection of Rte. 501 and Reistville Road; and lastly, possible recognition and visits by former ELCO students who have assisted in significant rescue efforts.

- Mr. Ziegler – February is CTC Month, urges board members and residents to encourage our students attending CTC; congratulations to Dr. Gerhart whose daughter was named Student of the Month at CTC.
- Mr. Ferrari – Congratulations to our boys' basketball team and their win in the 1<sup>st</sup> round of Districts, qualifying them to advance to the next round on Thursday.

Old Business

- NO Old Business was discussed.

New Business

- NO New Business was discussed.

Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Ferrari, seconded by Mr. Ziegler and approved by a Voice vote, all voting Aye, President Ferrari adjourned the meeting at 7:37pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria J. Hill  
Board Secretary