

ELMWOOD COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #322

Regular Meeting of the Board of Education

August 31, 2020

Elmwood High School Auditorium

301 W. Butternut Elmwood, Illinois.

DATE/TIME: August 31, 2020 / 6:00 PM

LOCATION: Elmwood High School Auditorium

1. CALL TO ORDER: Dr. Dean Cantu called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

ROLL CALL: Dean Cantu, Tom Conklin , Mark Davis, Bill Frietsch, Claude Keefer, Rick LeHew (absent), Val Ramirez

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Val Ramirez.

3. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS:

4. PRESENTATION BY AUDIENCE ON ACTION & NON-AGENDA ITEMS

5. FY20 BUDGET PRESENTATION: Given by Dr. Wagner.

6. ACTION ITEMS-CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Tom Conklin, seconded by Val Ramirez, to approve the following consent agenda items:

- A. *Minutes of Regular & Closed Session Board Meetings, 7/27/20
- B. *Approval of Bills, Payroll, and Additional Bills
- C. *Approval of Treasurer's Report
- D. *Approval of Activity Reports
- E. *Personnel – Dismissal/Employment/Retirement/Leaves of Absences
 - a. Approval of the following volunteer coaches for the 2020-21 school year: HS Golf – Kevin Faulkner; JH Boys' Baseball – Braden Collins; JH Girls' Softball – Jeremy Przybylo
 - b. Approval of the maternity leave of Haley Davis from October 26, 2020 (tentative), to January 4, 2021
 - c. Approval of a leave of absence for Anne Krolicki, effective immediately, due to the pandemic
- F. *Approval of Reevaluation of Bullying Policy as presented.
 - a. Every two years, ISBE requires that districts and their Boards reevaluate and adopt their bullying policies. We utilize the Illinois Principals' Association Handbook service as well as the Illinois Association of School Boards' PRESS Policy service, which provides us with current policy language and documentation to meet the guidelines of the law.
- G. *Approval of Permanent Transfer of \$4,831.43 from the Debt Service Fund (30) to the Working Cash Fund (70)
 - a. Our auditors had to loan \$4,831.43 from our Working Cash fund (70) to our Debt Service fund (30) several years ago to cover the overages from not receiving 100% of our allocated taxes in that fund (tax protests, non-payments, etc.). That loan is due, and therefore, a transfer needed to be made.
- H. *Approval of PRESS Policy Updates (Policy Reference Education Subscription Service(as presented.

Cantu – yes; Conklin – yes; Davis – yes; Frietsch – yes; Keefer – yes; LeHew – absent; Ramirez – yes
Motion Carried 6-0

7. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

8. INFORMATION ITEMS

Dr. Wagner, Superintendent, reported on the following items:

- A. 2019-20 Budget on Display. An ad has been run in the paper to put the FY21 budget on display per state statute. The budget will be on the agenda for approval at the September 28 BOE meeting.
- B. District Learning Goals? Audit. The FY20 Audit was completed again by Gorenz, and Associates. As reported last month, we ended the year with a positive balance of \$81,318 in our Operational Funds. In addition, our Financial Profile score went from 3.35 to 3.70 (on a 4.0 scale).
- C. CSFST Funds. In FY20, Elmwood CUSD #322 received \$211,411.31 in revenue. The projected decrease of revenue due to COVID was not nearly as dramatic as initially projected. However, we did take a "hit." That being said, using those data from monthly revenues in FY20, and projecting for FY21, we should still be in decent shape to make the Gym & LR Bond repayment due to the strategy of extending the repayment period to 11 years.
- D. Remote Planning Day. We may be inserting some of the five, allocated Remote Planning Days into the calendar at some point to provide our staff with additional training and collaboration for our Blended Learning approach. It would be the district's intent to notify parents two weeks in advance should these be enacted.
- E. Administrator Reports.

Mr. Dimitri Almasi, Elementary Principal, provided information on the following items:

CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION, AND ASSESSMENT

- Benchmark testing began on August 24th and will finish by September 3rd. Students will be taking the AIMSWebPlus and NWEA Map tests.
- The teacher institute on August 17th focused on logistics, safety, and planning. The institute on August 28th focused on feedback and connecting with students.
- Teachers are communicating weekly standards-aligned learning plans to all our students and families.
- The KIDS (Kindergarten Readiness Assessment) data has been provided to schools.

Elmwood Elementary KIDS Data				
	2018 EES	2018 IL	2019 EES	2019 IL
Percentage Assessed	100%	90%	100%	91%
Social and Emotional Development	82%	53%	98%	56%
Language and Literacy Development	77%	46%	81%	47%
Math Cognition	77%	33%	88%	35%

Thank you to our Elmwood families and Mrs. Stanton-Johnson for preparing our students for Kindergarten. Another thank you to Mrs. Inskeep, Mrs. Ramsay, and the staff who support our Kindergarten students for ensuring they are ready for the assessment and continuing their development.

STAFF/STUDENTS

- Thank you students for a great start to the school year! March 13th was a long time ago, and it is great to see students in our building and remotely!
- Thank you teachers for all the extra time and work you have put into the year's start of school.
- We would like to welcome our new school nurse, Jamie Ward, to Elmwood. She has been a great addition, and we truly appreciate everything she has done for the students and staff.

ACTIVITIES

- In-person Kindergarten back to school night was held on August 17th. We were able to connect with all of our families. Our 1st - 6th grade teachers also provided virtual back to school night.
- New Staff Orientation was held on August 12th. Thank you to Mr. McCoy, Ms. Appell, and Mr. Sharp for collaborating for a great event.
- The Parents' Club Golf Outing was held on August 29th. A big thank you to our Golf-Outing Committee for organizing the event and adhering to the current guidelines.
- Junior High Cross Country, Baseball, and Softball have all been able to begin their seasons. Thank you players, families, and coaches for all your hard work!

MAINTENANCE

- The flooring has been installed in the Media Center. The furniture will arrive on September 18th.
- Thank you to all our maintenance staff for your hard work this summer.

DATES

- Picture Day: 9/2/20
- 5th Grade Band Sign-Up: 9/3/20
- Midterm: 9/18/20

Tony McCoy, Jr./Sr. High School Principal, provided information on the following items:

CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION, AND ASSESSMENT

- Back to School Night was in-person for 7th and 9th graders and virtually for all others. Teachers (and myself) made Flipgrid videos to introduce ourselves to our students and parents. Mrs. Meyers met the 9th graders in the gym and I met with 7th graders in the auditorium. Students were limited to 2 guests and had a time schedule for their meeting. I was pleased with the procedures and logistics of hosting an in-person event.
- MAP testing window opens August 31- September 11th for the JH/HS. We will be collecting assessment data from our remote students.
- First Day Back for Teachers- the administrative team had a full agenda for returning staff. Most of this time was devoted to discussion of the logistical changes at school and preparing for remote learners (synchronous and asynchronous).

FACILITY

- The gym project is ALMOST complete. We are still waiting for the lockers, bleachers, and weight equipment to be delivered and installed. Coaches and PE teachers have been very patient and flexible during the project.
- A big 'Thank You' to Joe Harkness, Ken Parm, Stuart Ingersoll, Tina Foster, Matt Almasi, Cooper Hamby, Griff Wagner, and Gabe Newman for their hard work.

ACTIVITIES

- New Staff Orientation- August 12th. Combined effort of Mr. Almasi and myself to welcome our new teachers and to prepare them to become a part of our learning community. We have 2 new employees: Felicia Appell - HS English and Conner Sharp- GS Physical Education.
- Sunday, August 9th we held our outdoor graduation ceremony for the Class of 2020. A big thank you to our students and parents for their patience and understanding of the changes to the traditional Elmwood ceremony. We received many compliments and words of thanks. The event was also live-streamed on our YouTube channel.
- Fall practices and events have started:
 - JH Cross Country, Baseball, and Softball
 - HS Cross Country and Golf
 - Traditional fall sports of Volleyball and Football will have contact days starting September 7th.

DATES

- 8/31 MAP testing window opens
- 9/2 Picture Day
- 9/18 Midterm Grades for Quarter 1

9. COMMENTS BY BOARD MEMBERS OR ADMINISTRATION

10. CLOSED SESSION – None

11. ACTION AS A RESULT OF CLOSED SESSION

12. ADJOURNMENT

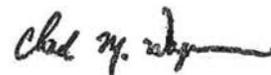
A motion was made by Mark Davis, seconded by Tom Conklin, to adjourn the meeting at 6:31 PM.
Motion carried on a voice vote.



Dr. Dean Cantu, President



William Frietsch, Secretary



Dr. Chad Wagner, Recording Secretary