

**Vision Statement**

*Elmwood Community School District #322...an exceptional education, with high standards in a tradition of excellence.*

**ELMWOOD COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #322**

Regular Meeting of the Board of Education

January 25, 2021

High School Auditorium

301 W. Butternut Elmwood, Illinois.

DATE/TIME: January 25, 2021 / 6:00 PM

LOCATION: 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, Val Ramirez

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Bill Frietsch.

**3. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS:** Jennifer Williams-Union Co-President, Tom Maier

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

**5. ACTION ITEMS-CONSENT AGENDA**

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

- A. \*Minutes of Regular Meeting, 12/14/2020
- B. \*Minutes of Finance Committee Meeting, 1/6/2021
- C. \*Approval of Bills and Payroll
- D. \*Approval of Treasurer's Report
- E. \*Approval of Activity Fund Reports
- F. \*Personnel—Dismissal/Employment/Retirement/Leaves of Absence
  - a. Approval of the maternity leave of Tara Lopeman and Sarah Christy as presented for the specified times of the 2020-2021 school year.
- G. \*Appoint Sherry Swindler and Chad Wagner as Freedom of Information Act Officers
- H. \*Approval of 2021-22 Public School Calendar

Cantu – yes; Conklin – yes; Davis – yes; Frietsch – yes; Keefer – yes; LeHew – yes; Ramirez – yes

Motion Carried 7-0

**6. ACTION ITEMS**

A motion was made by Tom Conklin, seconded by Mark Davis, to approve the following action item:

- A. Approval of the resolution providing for the issue of not to exceed \$8,500,000 of refunding bonds of the District, providing for the levy of property taxes to pay the principal and interest on such bonds, authorizing the execution of an escrow agreement in connection therewith and authorizing the sale of such bonds to Bernardi Securities, Inc.

Cantu – yes; Conklin – yes; Davis – yes; Frietsch – yes; Keefer – yes; LeHew – yes; Ramirez – yes

Motion Carried 7-0

A motion was made by Mark Davis, seconded by Bill Frietsch, to approve the following action item:

- B. Approval of the employment of Marcy Brugger as Elementary Principal for the 2021-22 school year per the agreed upon contract as presented.

Cantu – yes; Conklin – yes; Davis – yes; Frietsch – yes; Keefer – yes; LeHew – yes; Ramirez – yes

Motion Carried 7-0

**Mission Statement**

*In an active partnership with parents and community, the mission of the Elmwood School District is to provide a positive and supportive environment that vigorously develops the minds and character of 21st Century learners.*

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### 7. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

### 8. INFORMATION ITEMS

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

#### A. Administrator Reports

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

#### **CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION, AND ASSESSMENT**

- The January 4th Teacher Institute focused on blended learning, remote teaching strategies, learning standards, and grade-level collaboration.
- Winter benchmark testing, AIMSWeb Plus and NWEA MAP is finishing up this week. The students have done a fantastic job learning this semester. We are excited to see the results!
- Our data meetings will take place on February 3rd. Families will be receiving updated benchmark data and intervention information after the meetings.
- ISBE has extended the IAR Test window due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Due to this, we will adjust our test window to April 19th - April 30th. The adjustment will allow our teachers more time to teach before the assessment and provide a more accurate representation of our students' mastery of the learning standards.

#### **STAFF/STUDENTS**

- Our staff and students are continuing to follow the guidelines set forth by our Return-to-School Plan. Thank you for your continued adherence to our guidelines and safety measures. Our team will continue to follow the guidelines and keep our school operating to the best of our ability.
- Mrs. Watts will have Ms. Danielle Harris as a student teacher this semester.
- Mrs. Christy will have Ms. Megan Mast as a student teacher this semester.
- Elementary Enrollment Numbers:

	Q1		Q2		Q3	
In-Person	247	75.77%	275	84%	300	90%
Remote	79	24.23%	54	16%	33	10%
Total	326		328		333	

#### **ACTIVITIES**

- The IESA will continue to update guidance as we move in and out of our mitigation phases. We will continue to update our families and student-athletes as we receive guidance.
- Students will not be passing out valentines during this year's classroom parties due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Teachers will be providing festive activities for the students to participate in.

#### **DATES**

- January 30th: Q3 Mid-term
- February 15th: No School

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

#### **CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION, AND ASSESSMENT**

- Our back to school, School Improvement Meeting on January 4, 2021 allowed teachers to work on improving their remote teaching strategies and using the GoGuardian software. This helps the teachers monitor the students when using their Chromebooks.
- Winter MAP testing will be taking place January 19- January 30th.
- Elmwood JH/HS will host 4 student teachers this semester:
  - Danielle Harris (WIU) is with Mrs. Bell (SPED)
  - Laura Volpe (Bradley) is with Mrs. Alcaraz (JH Science)
  - Nicholas Brow (Bradley) is with Mr. Davis (Social Studies)
  - Alyssa Schmidts (Bradley) is with Mr. Anderson (Math)

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**ACTIVITIES and EVENTS**

- Scholastic Bowl contests have started with Tuesdays and Thursdays being their competition nights. Both the Peoria Area League and Prairieland Conference events are virtual contests.
- After school activities have started up again as we wait for guidance from IESA and IHSA for season dates.
- Caroline Colgan will represent Elmwood HS by being named the Lincoln Award winner for the Peoria Regional Office of Education. Congratulations to Caroline and all that she does to represent our school in the numerous clubs, sports, and activities that she participates in.

**DATES**

Jan. 30- midterm ends for Quarter 3

Feb. 15- No School

**9. COMMENTS BY BOARD MEMBERS OR ADMINISTRATION**

**10. CLOSED SESSION** – For the purpose of discussing the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public to determine its validity 5 ILCS 120/2c (1)

A motion was made by Mark Davis, seconded by Tom Conklin, to go into Closed Session at 6:24 PM.

Cantu – yes; Conklin – yes; Davis – yes; Frietsch – yes; Keefer – yes; LeHew – yes; Ramirez – yes  
Motion Carried 7-0 (Rick LeHew left the meeting at 8:15 PM)

A motion was made by Bill Frietsch, seconded by Mark Davis, to go back into Open Session at 8:41 PM.  
Motion carried on a voice vote.

**11. ACTION AS A RESULT OF CLOSED SESSION** – None

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

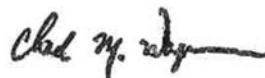
A motion was made by Mark Davis, seconded by Tom Conklin, to adjourn the meeting at 8:42 PM.  
Motion carried on a voice vote.



Dr. Dean Cantu, President



William Frietsch, Secretary



Dr. Chad Wagner, Recording Secretary

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