

**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 Minutes of the Board of Education

September 27, 2021

High School Auditorium

301 W. Butternut

6:00 PM Board Meeting

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

**ROLL CALL** – Dean Cantu, Tom Conklin, Mark Davis, Claude Keefer (absent), Val Ramirez, Katie Vaughan, Kevin Windish

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Marcy Brugger.

**3. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS** – Jenny Williams- Union Co-President, Lori Caulkins-Union Co-President, Tricia Little, Emily Brunnelson, Heather Windish, Matt Windish, David Mitchell, Shauna Blum, Wendy Coulter

**4. PUBLIC HEARING** – Per statute, the district and Board must hold a public hearing to allow for comment on the 2021-22 Budget.

A motion was made by Tom Conklin, seconded by Val Ramirez, to open the public hearing for the 2021-22 Elmwood District #322 Budget

Cantu – yes; Conklin – yes; Davis – yes; Keefer – absent; Ramirez – yes; Vaughan – yes; Windish – yes  
Motion Carried 6-0

Opportunity for Public Comment concerning the 2021-22 Elmwood District #322 Budget.

A motion was made by Mark Davis, seconded by Tom Conklin, to close the public hearing concerning the 2021-22 Elmwood District #322 Budget.

Motion Carried on a voice vote.

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

Jenny Williams, Union Co-President, spoke about the added amount of time needed for teachers, mainly in the elementary, to prepare for quarantined students.

Matt Windish, Elmwood parent, inquired about the chain of command, and who oversaw the superintendent. He also wanted to know about how an item gets placed onto an agenda.

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### 6. ACTION ITEMS-CONSENT AGENDA

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

- A. \*Minutes of Regular & Closed Session Board Meetings, 8/30/21
- B. \*Minutes of Building Committee Meeting, 9/14/21
- C. \*Approval of Bills, Payroll, and Additional Bills
- D. \*Approval of Treasurer's Report
- E. \*Approval of Activity Reports
- F. \*Personnel – Dismissal/Employment/Retirement/Leaves of Absences
  - a. Approve the employment of Stephanie Harkness as a Junior High Aide at a rate of \$13.00/hour for the 2021-2022 school year.
  - b. Approve the employment of Emily Roberts as Basketball Cheer Coach at a rate of half of the specified stipend per the CBA for the 2021-2022 school year.
- G. \*Approval of Administrator and Teacher Salary and Benefits—School Year 2021 Report
- H. \*Approval of 2021-22 Budget
- I. \*Approval of Resolution of Withdrawal from SEAPCO by Dunlap CUSD #322
- J. \*Approval of ESSER III Plan

Conklin – yes; Davis – yes; Keefer – absent; Ramirez – yes; Vaughan – yes; Windish – yes; Cantu – yes  
Motion Carried 6-0

7. **BOARD MEMBER REPORTS** – Board Members, Mark Davis and Val Ramirez, gave an update of the Building Committee Meeting that took place on September 14, 2021. The plan is to utilize funds from ESSER II & III in order to pay a large portion of the elementary HVAC upgrade. The project is expected to go out to bid by February 1, 2022, in hopes for the work to be completed in the Summer of 2022.

### 8. INFORMATION ITEMS

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

- A. Activity Buses. Joe and Bruce have reported that our activity buses are not in the best of shape. We can limp through the rest of the year, but it is time to consider purchasing (2) new Abs. Julie has done an analysis, and in order to accommodate a lot of our trips, we would need to use 14-passenger vehicles. If we did not have them, regular buses would need to be used, and the driver situation would get very convoluted. I intend to have bids prepared to make a recommendation at the October 25 meeting. Additionally, the BOE has requested that the administration look at the cost of leasing.
- B. Teacher Computers. Mr. Waddell applied for a technology grant (related to the dollars provided for impact of COVID and need for distance learning), and received \$30,000 towards the purchase of new, teacher laptops (approximately \$48,000). The administration will look for approval at the October BOE meeting.
- C. Administrator Reports.

### MRS. BRUGGER, ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL

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

- Fall benchmark testing which included AimsWeb and NWEA MAP has concluded for the fall.
- Families received assessment scores and instructional grouping information for their student(s).
- On September 7th and 8th, we held our annual data meetings. Our team worked together to analyze the fall data. Students were placed in the appropriate setting to receive interventions.
- Thank you to Mrs. McFall, Mrs. Burwell, and our teachers for working together to help provide the best support possible for our students.
- Parent teacher conferences will be held on October 20th and October 21st.

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### **STAFF/STUDENTS**

- Our theme of the month is “working hard”. Thank you to all of our staff and students for putting in tremendous effort to begin the school year.
- A big thank you to our school nurse, Jamie Ward, for the work she has done this year in regards to covid. There is a great deal to keep track of and she continues to do a great job.

### **ACTIVITIES**

- The JH baseball season ended with a loss in regional play. Thank you to Mr. Sharp and the players for your work and commitment this season.
- The JH softball team ended their season with a regional game loss. Thank you to Mr. Herridge and the team for your hard work and commitment, as well.
- JH Cross Country season is still underway. Our team is being competitive and is off to a good start. Best of luck to Mrs. Herridge and Mr. Waddell on the remainder of the season.
- JH Girls Basketball has begun their season. Best of luck to our coaches and players as they begin their season.

### **DATES**

- October 11th - No School Columbus Day
- October 14th - Picture Retake Day
- October 18th-23rd - Online Book Fair
- October 20th - Life and Safety Inspection (11:30)
- October 20th and 21st - Parent Teacher Conferences
- October 22nd - No School

### **MR. McCOY, JR./SR. HIGH PRINCIPAL**

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

- MAP testing window closed Sept 16th for our fall testing. Teachers have been analyzing the data and setting goals for the winter assessment.
- Midterm grades for Quarter 1 were finalized on Friday, September 17th. Teachers have been communicating home by email and phone calls to those students that have a D or F. Parent-teacher conferences will be next month after Quarter 1 ends.
- August

#### **FACILITY**

- ROE Health and Life Safety visit will be held on Wednesday, October 20th. The report will be on file in the district office.
- The Fire Marshal completed his inspection on Monday, September 20th. Joe Harkness made notes of the items that need to be addressed before the next inspection.

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**ACTIVITIES**

- Fall sports seasons are closing in on the midway point.
  - Football is currently 2-2 after winning the BlackOut game vs Stark County. Both schools raised over \$9500 for Easter Seals. The JV team is currently 4-0 on the season.
  - Volleyball won the Richwoods Tournament and placed 3rd at the Princeville Tournament last weekend.
  - Golf has had success with a special recognition for Soph. Tanner Wake for winning the ICAC Tournament last week.
  - Cross Country will host our Elmwood CC Invite on October 2nd at Maple Lane Country Club.
  - Spirit Squad and Band have had exciting halftime performances.
- Homecoming Week will begin on September 20th with the theme of GLO-CRAZY. We made some adjustments to our traditions by having games (KickBall) outside, the PEP Assembly on the football field, and the dance moved outside so that the students could have a wonderful time. The Student Council created dress up day themes, collect money for breast cancer research through our penny wars, and served over 125 chicken noodle dinners at their Dinner Dash.
- The Student Leadership Team met for the first time since March of 2020. We have a great group of students that is ready to make long and short term goals to improve our student culture.

**DATES**

- 10/2 HS Cross Country Elmwood Invite at 9:30 at Maple Lane Country Club
- 10/7 SR NIGHT- Volleyball, Golf, and Cross-Country
- 10/11 NO SCHOOL
- 10/20 Parent-Teacher Conferences
- 10/21 Parent-Teacher Conferences
- 10/22 NO SCHOOL
- 10/29 11:30 Dismissal for SIP Day

**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 Val Ramirez, to go into Closed Session at 7:12 PM.

Davis – yes; Keefer – absent; Ramirez – yes; Vaughan – yes; Windish – yes; Cantu – yes; Conklin – yes  
Motion Carried 6-0

A motion was made by Tom Conklin, seconded by Kevin Windish, to go back into Open Session at 7:44 PM.  
Motion carried on a voice vote.

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

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

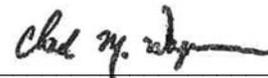
A motion was made by Mark Davis, seconded by Val Ramirez, to adjourn the meeting at 7:46 PM.  
Motion carried on a voice vote.



Dr. Dean Cantu, President



Mark Davis, Secretary



Dr. Chad Wagner, Recording Secretary

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