

**1. OPENING.**

- 1.01 The President called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
- 1.02 Recording of Attendance: Board Members Present: D. Reiser, L. Bohs, C. Bliefernich, B. Siegel. A. Laput entered the meeting at 7:03 p.m. Other Present: R. Dufour, S. Krebs, V. Keegan, R. Luis, B. Robertson and approximately 30 citizens.
- 1.03 Presentations:
- Mrs. Jennifer Powell – 3D Printing – Mrs. Powell gave an interesting overview of the 3D Printing course being offered to students, showed several pieces of their work, and student J. Santoro explained his excitement being able to work with the printer.
  - Ms. Colleen Costanzo – Botvin Life Skills – Ms. Costanzo gave a brief description of the overall Botvin Life Skills Program which is a developmentally appropriate substance abuse and violence prevention program designed for the upper elementary students. She explained the scope and sequence of the materials presented to the grade levels.
- 1.04 Budget Presentation: Ms. Ruth Luis – Ms. Luis stated that the budget information that was presented at the last Board meeting remains the same as printed. The revenue report needs to be completed but awaits information from the state.

**2. REPORTS TO THE BOARD.**

- 2.01 Elementary Principal Report (V. Keegan)
- Reported on the upcoming Half-Day Superintendent's Conference, PTA events, the PBIS circus and highlighted the students who participated in the All County Music Festival.
  - Encouraged all to participate in the upcoming EPIC (Every Person Influences Children) focus groups scheduled for March 15 and 16, and invited all to attend the Music in Our Schools Concert on March 16<sup>th</sup>.
  - Spoke to the Dr. Seuss March Madness activities at GRM. Thanked Ms. Heisler for her organization of many of the events.
- 2.02 Secondary Principal Report (S. Krebs)
- In Mr. Gass' absence, reported the amazing accomplishments of boys' basketball, girls' basketball, wrestling, and track teams. Spring sports have started.
  - Reported on the successful Global Fair and All County Music Festival.
  - Stated he was to attend the Middle Level Spring Conference in Albany on March 17 and 18
  - Student Council Report by G. Major was highlighted by the announcement of the Student Council Student Excellence Awards.
- 2.03 Business Office Report (R. Luis)
- Completed Property Tax Cap Report to determine levy maximum (1.0012 – max increase \$65,000)
  - Reported that the Architectural & Engineering RFP submissions for the Building Condition Survey due by June 30, 2016 have been reviewed
  - Held budget committee meetings, tracking current budget for revenue/expenditure balances
  - Compiled information for the NYSED Food Service Review (triennial review)
  - Scheduled meetings with Transportation to address issues of bus driver shortage and spring sports schedules

- 2.04 District Report (R. Dufour)
- Reported on the proposed motion for Narcan policies and the District participation in the program. School nurses and security guards have been trained to administer Narcan for suspected opioid overdoses. Awaiting a more comprehensive policy from the School Nurse Association.
  - The CDEP (Comprehensive District Education Plan) is presently being reviewed by the CDEP Committee. The current plan is in effect until June, 2017.
  - District Wellness Plan is being reviewed by the Wellness Committee. Several sub-committees have been established and a report will follow.
  - Reported that a complimentary PAC performance of “Grease” will be presented to our area Senior Citizens – arrangements are being made.
- 2.05 Board President Report (D. Reiser)
- Reported his attendance at a roundtable discussion with area superintendents and Senator Bonacic and Assemblywoman Gunther concerning among many items mandate assistance, help with shared services, GAP Elimination, money, etc.
  - Commented on the large increase in Fallsburg CSD’s budget compared to Eldred’s stabilized budgets of the past few years
  - Apologized for not being able to travel to the boys basketball game on Long Island, but stated the girls game at Mt. St. Mary was a tremendous experience – wonderful support from the community

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT. (Limited to Consent Agenda Items Only 4.01 through 7.05**

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND WARRANTS.**

**\*\* Consent Agenda: Recommended Action 4.01 through 7.05**

**Made on motion by L. Bohs and seconded by A. Laput.**

**Voting: D. Reiser - yes; A. Laput - yes; L. Bohs - yes; C. Bliefernich - yes; B. Siegel - yes.**

**Votes: 5 yes. Motion carried.**

- 4.01 Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on February 11, 2016.
- 4.02 Approval of the Central Treasurer’s Report for the month ending February, 2016.
- 4.03 Approval of the District Treasurer’s Report for the month ending January, 2016.
- 4.04 Approval of the Payment of Bills appearing on Multi-Fund Warrant #16 (Checks #59154-59213) and Multi-Fund Warrant #17 (Checks #59214-59274).
- 4.05 Approval of the Claims Auditor Report for Multi-Fund Warrant #16 (Checks #59154-59213) and Multi-Fund Warrant #17 (Checks #59214-59274).

**5. COMMUNICATIONS.**

- 5.01 Senator John Bonacic  
5.02 County of Sullivan  
5.03 R. Scott

**6. APPOINTMENTS AND AUTHORIZATIONS.**

- 6.01 Approval, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to accept the resignation of Robin Scott, Math Teacher, effective February 12, 2016.

- 6.02 Approval, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to appoint Francis Kean as a leave replacement Math teacher, effective February 15, 2016, prorated on Step 1 of the current teachers' contract, including credit pay.
- 6.03 Approval, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to appoint Christy Mead as a substitute cleaner for the 2015-2016 school year, at a rate of \$12.50 per hour.

**7. OTHER.**

- 7.01 Approval, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, of the special education reports submitted.
- 7.02 Approval, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education approve the 2015-2016 Health and Welfare Services Contract with the Valley Central School District for one (1) student in the amount of \$1,038.79.
- 7.03 Approval, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, of the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION NAMING MARCH, 2016 "MUSIC IN OUR SCHOOLS MONTH"

WHEREAS, the study of music is basic to a complete education, provides the competitive edge for successful educational reform, engages students in individual and group activity, develops creativity, problem solving, critical thinking and evaluative skills; and

WHEREAS, music education helps students acquire skills in the production and performance of music, as well as an understanding of history and culture; and

WHEREAS, the Eldred Central School District is concerned with maintaining and improving school music programs for all students, regardless of their socio-economic status or their abilities; and

WHEREAS, the Eldred Central School District strives to instill a higher level of awareness and knowledge of music; and

WHEREAS, the Eldred Central School District strives to support fine musical experiences through the participation of over 600 students in the school's music program;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Eldred Central School District, with Superintendent Robert Dufour and members of the Board of Education, strongly support quality music education in the school district and that all students, Pre-Kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade, should have access to a well-balanced, comprehensive, high-quality sequential program of music, taught by teachers certified in music education; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education recognizes and commends the Eldred Central School District Music Department for their concern and efforts to enhance the quality of music education in the district;

THEREFORE, The Eldred Central School Board of Education and Superintendent Robert Dufour hereby proclaim the month of March, 2016, as "Music in Our Schools Month" and endorse this observance as an opportunity to support the purpose and practices of music education, and encourage teachers, parents, students and all citizens to participate.

- 7.04 Approval, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education permit the District's participation in the opioid prevention program, and the administration is hereby directed to develop regulations regarding the training of staff to administer an opioid antagonist and to maintain on-site opioid antagonists in adequate supplies and types to implement effectively the opioid overdose prevention program.
- 7.05 Approval, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, of the following NYSSBA revisions to the ECSD Policy Manual:

FIRST READING

- 4321 Programs for Students with Disabilities Under the IDEA and NY'S Education Law Article 89  
5430 Permitting Participation in Opioid Overdose Prevention Program

**8. NEW BUSINESS.**

- 8.01 Parent's Right to Refuse State Testing – After discussion of the Board regarding the Opt-Out/Refusal draft letter proposed by Superintendent Dufour as a result of the Board Resolution concerning state testing, the letter and form with corrections was presented for approval by the Board.

**Made on motion by A. Laput and seconded by C. Bliefernich, that the Opt-Out/Refusal letter with corrections be sent to all parents/guardians of students in Grades 3-8.**

**Voting: D. Reiser – yes; A. Laput – yes; L. Bohs – yes; C. Bliefernich – yes; B. Siegel – yes.  
Votes – 5 yes. Motion carried.**

**9. OLD BUSINESS.**

- 9.01 Announcement of Board of Education Seat Vacancy: expired term of Amador Laput. Five year term from July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2021. Petitions available from District Clerk and must be filed with the office by April 18, 2016.
- 9.02 Final Call for Hall of Fame Nominations – submit to District Clerk
- 9.03 Reminder of District Budget Vote – May 17, 2016 – 11 am. To 9 p.m. at the High School
- 9.04 Board of Education Workshop – After discussion, the Board agreed to pursue the possibility of a NYSSBA run workshop
- 9.05 Board Resolution: Compressor Station – Following the lead from the Town of Highland and surrounding towns, the Board approved a Resolution in opposition to the Millennium compressor station to be built in the District.

**Made on motion by B. Siegel and seconded by A. Laput to approve the Resolution in Opposition to Millennium Compressor Station to be built in the District.**

**Voting: D. Reiser – yes; A. Laput – yes; L. Bohs – yes; C. Bliefernich – yes; B. Siegel – yes.  
Votes: 5 yes. Motion carried.**

**10. PUBLIC COMMENT.**

P. CLARK: Stated that 65% of the voters in the District are older people – the support of these folks is invaluable to the Board. Noted the increase in health insurance premiums and future negotiations for union contracts. Board needs to understand the gravity of where we are and take a hard stance on costs.

L. BOHS: Questioned the increase in insurance premiums and R. Luis' statement that she had over budgeted for some anticipated increases.

R. DUFOUR: District needs to wait for revenue state aid runs – hard numbers will make our budgetary decisions.

B. SIEGEL: Stated that he believed Mr. Clark's comments were focused on a vision for the future – not just this coming year's budget.

R. DUFOUR: Believes Mr. Clark was cautioning us – stated he is very responsible when he is speaking to the budget.

A. SCHADT: Thanked the Board for the Resolution on the compressor.

J. DUTCHER: Complimented the District on their involvement in EPIC, a very successful program that has been introduced to Monticello. Fielded questions to the Board regarding meetings, quorums, etc.

C. WEBER: Questioned budgetary expenditures for the music program.

R. DUFOUR: Stated he would check into Mr. Weber's concerns.

B. DEYERMOND: Questioned the Board if there was a Vision Plan for the District – 5/10 year plan and goals.

D. REISER: Board goals were developed last July/August.

C. BLIEFERNICH: Stated District has a 5 Year Facilities Plan as well as a Technology Plan.

D. JENNINGS: Questioned how the District planned on expanding curriculum offerings – new classes, college classes, AP classes.

B. SIEGEL: Questioned if there could be a public adjunct position for any classes.

R. DUFOUR: Stated teachers must be NYS certified, covered by the teachers' contract. District encourages volunteers to come into classrooms.

G. MAJOR: Asked if there could be information presented to the students/parents regarding the differences in college courses and AP courses.

R. DUFOUR: Encouraged students to contact their guidance counselors for information.

J. GLANTZ: Stated that there are many courses in our catalog that student's do not choose. For a small school, Eldred has a very rich curriculum.

D. JENNINGS questioned the number of students required to enroll in a class and R. DUFOUR said that there is a minimum enrollment of ten students, but exceptions have been made.

L. BOHS: Questioned the Meet the Candidate Night prior to the May 5, 2016 Board Meeting and the PTA graciously agree to help with the organization.

**11. EXECUTIVE SESSION.**

11.01 Approval to enter into Executive Session at 8:55 p.m. **to discuss contract negotiations** was made on motion by A. Laput and seconded by C. Bliefertich.

Voting: D. Reiser – yes; A. Laput – yes; L. Bohs – yes; C. Bliefertich – yes; B. Siegel – yes.

Votes: 5 yes. Motion carried.

11.02 Approval to adjourn Executive Session at 10:15 p.m. was made on motion by L. Bohs and seconded by C. Bliefertich.

Voting: D. Reiser – yes; A. Laput – yes; L. Bohs – yes; C. Bliefertich – yes; B. Siegel – yes.

Votes: 5 yes. Motion carried.

**12. ADJOURNMENT.**

12.01 Approval to adjourn the meeting at 10:15 p.m. was made on motion by A. Laput and seconded by B. Siegel.

Voting: D. Reiser – yes; A. Laput – yes; L. Bohs – yes; C. Bliefertich – yes; B. Siegel – yes.

Votes: 5 yes. Motion carried.