

**OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE  
OTTO-ELDRED BOARD OF EDUCATION**

The regular meeting of the Otto-Eldred Board of Education was held in the Otto-Eldred High School Library on Monday, September 12, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order by President, Cynthia Murphy.

**PRESENT:**

**BOARD MEMBERS: Lance Baker, Robert Delong, Jeanine Gray, Marlene Lang, Cynthia Murphy, Elizabeth Murphy, Jolene Schuessler**

**ABSENT: Lisa Beaver, Matthew Windsor**

**ADMINISTRATION: Matthew D. Splain, Superintendent; Nicholas J. LaBella, High School Principal; Lindsay Burns, Director of Student Services/Special Education; Nicole Garthwaite, Elementary Principal; Jodi L. Flexman, Business Manager/Board Secretary**

**FACULTY/STAFF: Katie Jo Barrett, Brandon Witmer**

**VISITORS: Amy Jordan, Cole Palmer, Wanda Stebbins**

**REPORTERS: None**

**Minutes**

**Motion:** It was moved by Lance Baker, seconded by Jeannine Gray, to approve the minutes of the regular scheduled meeting held on Tuesday, August 16, 2022. All present voted yes.

At this time the board provided time for public comment. Lisa Benjamin, Barnum Road, Eldred, PA, 16731, had a question about service dogs at athletic events. Mr. Splain discussed the situation with her that service dogs are permitted, however, pets are not permitted. He offered to discuss the matter with her at another time. Also, he explained that service dogs are trained/certified for specific tasks compared to regular pets.

**Mandate**

**Motion:** It was moved by Matthew Windsor, seconded by Jolene Schuessler, to ignore the mandate and continue school without masks. Roll Call Vote – 3 Yes, 6 No, Motion denied.

**Treasurer's Report**

**Motion:** It was moved by Lance Baker, seconded by Jeannine Gray, to approve the August 2022 Treasurer report, as presented. All present voted yes.

**Bill List/Capital Bill List**

**Motion:** It was moved by Jeannine Gray, seconded by Marlene Lang, to approve the General Fund Bill List and Capital Bill List for September 2022 as presented. All present voted yes.

**Cafeteria Report**

**Motion:** It was moved by Jeannine Gray, seconded by Lance Baker, to approve the August 2022 cafeteria report as presented. All present voted yes.

The schedule of accounts and athletic fund reports for September 2022 were presented for informational purposes.

Mrs. Garthwaite relayed to the board that the Heggerty Screener was conducted last week in Pre-K and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. The screenings will soon be completed in K and 1<sup>st</sup> grade. MAP testing in ELA and MATH were completed last week as well.

Mrs. Burns provided a brief update on enrollment in the district and for cyber schools. The in-service days were a success. Winter Keystones will be coming up soon. Upcoming meetings will be arranged with the Keystone subject area teachers and administration.

Mr. LaBella feels that the start of the school year has been relatively seamless. Mrs. Jackson has worked to schedule a SAT date this spring and has been working on dual enrollment classes. Safe2Say training will be conducted this week and there will be a presentation on vaping.

Mr. Splain made the board aware that starting October 1, 2022, all students will have free breakfast based upon Governor Wolf's announcement on 9/9/2022. The district will still serve lunches as normal. To qualify for free lunches for the whole district, the direct certification amount for both schools would need to be 60%. The ES is at 50.9% and the HS is at 46.5%. The roof project is complete, and the final walk through will be on September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

**Plan Updates**

**Motion:** It was moved by Jeannine Gray, seconded by Marlene Lang, to approve the 2022-2023 Title Plan for the Elementary School. All present voted yes.

**Personnel**

**Motion:** It was moved by Jeannine Gray, seconded by Jolene Schuessler, to approve the MOU with OEEA to create a temporary Intervention Support teaching position funded with ESSERS. All present voted yes.

**Personnel**

**Motion:** It was moved by Jeannine Gray, seconded by Marlene Lang, to approve Christin Harris as the

½ AM Elementary Music Substitute and Christine Yingling as ½ PM Elementary Intervention Support Long Term Substitute. All present voted yes.

The Board recognized that the following staff have met the requirements in Pennsylvania to earn tenure: Mrs. Katie Jo Barrett

**Supplemental**

**Motion:** It was moved by Elizabeth Murphy, seconded by Jeannine Gray, to approve the following for supplemental positions:  
XC Workers-Amy Coffman, Kirsten Perry  
Club Advisor-Rachel Burkhouse Elem Library Club  
Concert Ticket Taker-Stefanie Wolfe  
All present voted yes.

**Volleyball**

**Motion:** It was moved by Jeannine Gray, seconded by Lance Baker, to approve the Pink Pumpkin Volleyball game on October 13, 2022. All present voted yes.

**Varsity Football Officials**

**Motion:** It was moved by Elizabeth Murphy, seconded by Lance Baker, to approve the pay for varsity football officials to be a minimum of \$75.00 for the 2022 season and moved up to \$80.00 for the 2023 season. All present voted yes.

**Bus Drivers**

**Motion:** It was moved by Jolene Schuessler, seconded by Marlene Lang, to approve following individual as a Van Driver for the 2022-2023 school year-Barbara Copenhaver. This is pending receipt of certifications, clearances, and any other necessary documentation. All present voted yes.

**Act 57 Resolution**

**Motion:** It was moved by Jeannine Gray, seconded by Lance Baker, to approve the Act 57 Resolution as presented. All present voted yes, except for Jolene Schuessler, who abstained.

**Field Trips**

**Motion:** It was moved by Elizabeth Murphy, seconded by Jolene Schuessler to approve the following field trips:

Fall Envirothon, September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022,  
Requested by: Fawn Miller

Canticle Farm, Date: TBA, Requested by: Fawn Miller

Environmental Science Class

Zippo Manufacturing Day, October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022,  
Requested by: Erin Jackson, 10 Students, 2 Adults

Kinzua Bridge State Park Event, September 23<sup>rd</sup>,  
2022

Requested by: Rachel Burkhouse, Kaci Daniels  
9 Gifted Students, 2 Adults, Will take District Van

Area Forestry and Wildlife CDE, Northern Potter HS  
September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022, Requested by: Brandon  
Witmer

8 Students, 1 Adult, Will take District Van

McKean County Farm Bureau Leadership Dinner  
Port Allegany VFW, September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022,

Requested by: Brandon Witmer

8 Students, 1 Adult, Will take District Van

Fall Leadership Conference, Altoona, October 4<sup>th</sup>,  
2022

Requested by: Brandon Witmer, 8 Students, 1 Adult  
Will take District Van

Fall Leadership Conference, Altoona, October 28<sup>th</sup>,  
2022, Requested by: Jennifer Snow, 16 Students, 2  
Adults

Sr. High IU9 Chorus, Coudersport HS, November  
18<sup>th</sup>, 2022, Requested by: Katie Jo Barrett, 13  
Students, 1 Adult

STEAM DAY, St. Francis, November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022,

Requested by: Kaci Daniels, 9 Students, 1 Adult  
Will take District Van

PA Farm Show & Mid-Winter Convention,  
Harrisburg, PA, January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Requested by:  
Brandon Witmer, 59 Students, 6 Adult, Will take  
District Van & Bus.

All present voted yes.

**PSBA Elections**

**Motion:** It was moved by Jeannine Gray, seconded  
by Elizabeth Murphy, to approve the following

selection of candidates for the positions specified:

President Elect (one-year term) - Michael Gossert,  
Cumberland Valley School District

Vice President (one-year term) - Allison Mathis, North  
Hills School District

Central Zone Representative (2023-2025) –  
Julie Preston, Northern Tioga School District

Section C1 Advisor (2023-2024) - Thomas Kerek, Kane  
Area School District

Section E2 Advisor (2023-2024) - Karen Beck Pooley,  
Bethlehem Area School District

Section E4 Advisor (2023-2024) - Amy Goldman, Radnor  
Township School District

PSBA Insurance Trust Trustee (term ends Dec. 31,  
2025) - Kathy Scope, Roberta Marcus

Forum Steering Committee (term ends Dec. 31, 2024)  
Tracy Long, Keystone Central School District,  
Steve Skrocki, North Penn School  
All present voted yes.

### **Adjournment**

**Motion:** It was moved by Lance Baker, seconded by  
Jeannine Gray, to adjourn the regular meeting at  
6:47 pm into executive session. All present voted  
yes.

Respectfully submitted,



Jodi L. Flexman  
Business Manager/Board Secretary