

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION  
 ELMWOOD PARK COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #401  
 HELD WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2008  
 ELMWOOD PARK HIGH SCHOOL, ROOM 146

Volume 08-09 #07

<p><b>CALL TO ORDER</b></p>	<p>Board President Marzullo called the meeting to order at 6:13 p.m.</p> <p>The following Board Members were present when the roll was called:</p> <p>Mrs. Bruscato, Mrs. Capraro, Mrs. Cleary, Mr. Fang, Mr. Marzullo and Mrs. Stranges</p> <p>Absent: Mr. Parisi</p>
<p><b>CONVENE TO EXECUTIVE SESSION</b></p>	<p><b>Purpose:</b>        To discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees, student disciplinary cases and possible litigation.</p> <p>Motion was made by Mrs. Cleary and seconded by Mrs. Stranges to call to order the Executive Session at 6:14 p.m.</p> <p>Roll Call was as follows:</p> <p>Aye: Mrs. Bruscato, Mrs. Capraro, Mrs. Cleary, Mr. Fang, Mr. Marzullo and Mrs. Stranges</p> <p>Nay: None</p> <p>Absent: Mr. Parisi</p> <p><i>Other District staff present:</i> Dr. Rudig and Mr. Zelek</p> <p>The President declared the motion carried.</p> <p><i>Mr. Parisi arrived at 6:15 p.m.</i></p>
<p><b>ADJOURNMENT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION</b></p>	<p>Motion was made by Mr. Fang and seconded by Mrs. Bruscato to adjourn the Executive Session at 6:48 p.m.</p> <p>Roll Call was as follows:</p> <p>Aye: Mrs. Bruscato, Mrs. Capraro, Mrs. Cleary, Mr. Fang, Mr. Parisi and Mr. Marzullo and Mrs. Stranges</p> <p>Nay: None</p> <p>Absent: None</p> <p>The President declared the motion carried.</p>
<p><b>RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION &amp; PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE</b></p>	<p>President Marzullo reconvened to open session in the LGI room at 7:07 p.m.</p> <p>The Board and audience recited the Pledge of Allegiance.</p>

<b>PRESIDENT/ SUPERINTENDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>	President Marzullo congratulated the HS soccer team winning their region. He acknowledged the play and thanked all staff for honoring School Board Member Day on November 15. Dr. Rudig noted that each building had a "thank you" poster displayed in their main office and a pen and "star" pen set was given to each Board Member.
<b>COMMUNICATIONS</b>	Secretary Capraro read a thank you card from John Mills staff thanking the Board for the breakfast they received honoring American Education Week.
<b>STUDENT LIAISON REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS</b>	See attached.
<b>BOARD MINUTES</b>	Motion was made by Mr. Fang and seconded by Mr. Parisi to approve the minutes for the special meeting held on October 14, 2008.  Voice Vote was as follows: Aye: Seven                      Nay: None                      Absent: None  The President declared the motion carried.
<b>BOARD MINUTES</b>	Motion was made by Mrs. Cleary and seconded by Mrs. Bruscato to approve the minutes for the regular meeting held on October 15, 2008.  Voice Vote was as follows: Aye: Seven                      Nay: None                      Absent: None  The President declared the motion carried.
<b>BOARD MINUTES</b>	Motion was made by Mrs. Stranges and seconded by Mr. Fang to approve the minutes for the special meeting held on October 29, 2008.  Voice Vote was as follows: Aye: Seven                      Nay: None                      Absent: None  The President declared the motion carried.
<b>EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES</b>	Motion was made by Mrs. Capraro and seconded by Mr. Parisi to approve the minutes for the executive session held on October 14, 2008.  Voice Vote was as follows: Aye: Seven                      Nay: None                      Absent: None  The President declared the motion carried.
<b>EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES</b>	Motion was made by Mrs. Cleary and seconded by Mrs. Stranges to approve the minutes for the executive session held on October 15, 2008.  Voice Vote was as follows: Aye: Seven                      Nay: None                      Absent: None  The President declared the motion carried.
<b>EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES</b>	Motion was made by Mrs. Capraro and seconded by Mrs. Cleary to approve the minutes for the executive session held on October 29, 2008.  Voice Vote was as follows: Aye: Seven                      Nay: None                      Absent: None  The President declared the motion carried.

<p><b>REPORTS FOR DISCUSSION</b></p>	<p><b>Report #0701 Facilities Update -Elmwood Park High School Auditorium Update/Other</b> Mr. Zelek shared information regarding the finishing touches on the auditorium (lighting, curtains, railings...). He also reported about Elm Middle School's lower level (Phase I) and the plan that has been recommended to do tile repair and the installation of the sump pump. Phase II was also shared. No correspondence from A1 roofing.</p> <p><b>Report #0702 Waste Management/Recycling (new company consideration)</b> Mr. Zelek and Dr. Rudig have interviewed another waste management company (Bosman Disposal also used by Triton) who offers recycling at a much reduced rate. They recommend signing a new agreement with Bosman, as long as it saves the District money over its present company.</p> <p><b>Report #0703 Preliminary Tax Levy</b> Mr. Zelek and Dr. Rudig have discussed the preliminary budget levy and presented a recommendation. The District always submits the levy high, so we will collect all new growth money, depending on the year.</p> <p><b>Report #0704 New Intervention Programs</b> Dr. Hlavacek and Dr. Rudig shared highlights of the three new intervention programs:  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⊙ Language!</li> <li>⊙ Reading Plus</li> <li>⊙ Extended Day Academy</li> </ul> </p> <p><b>Report #0705 District Improvement Plan (DIP)</b> All districts are required to submit the DIP by January 1, which must include information regarding the future implementation of RTI (Response to Intervention). Since our District did make AYP (Adequate Yearly Progress) we are not required to respond to questions in the DIP at an in-depth level, but we have outlined our major initiatives so our schools can link their plans to the District Plan (see enclosed).</p> <p><b>Report #0706 Revised Health Immunization Policy 7:100 First Reading</b> The recommended Health Immunization Policy Revision was included in the November 2008 Agenda. Barring any issues with the policy, it will be voted on, at next month's meeting.</p>
<p><b>REPORT #0707 LASEC - POLICY AND PROCEDURES</b></p>	<p>Motion was made by Mr. Fang and seconded by Mrs. Bruscato to approve the LASEC Policy and Procedures as presented.</p> <p>Roll Call was as follows:</p> <p>Aye: Mrs. Bruscato, Mrs. Capraro, Mrs. Cleary, Mr. Fang, Mr. Parisi, Mr. Marzullo and Mrs. Stranges  Nay: None  Absent: None</p> <p>The President declared the motion carried.</p>

<p><b>REPORT #0708 INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT - AUDITORIUM</b></p>	<p>Motion was made by Mrs. Capraro and seconded by Mrs. Cleary to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement for the High School Auditorium as presented.</p> <p>Roll Call was as follows:</p> <p>Aye: Mrs. Bruscato, Mrs. Capraro, Mrs. Cleary, Mr. Fang, Mr. Parisi, Mr. Marzullo and Mrs. Stranges  Nay: None  Absent: None</p> <p>The President declared the motion carried.</p>
<p><b>REPORT #0709 HONEYWELL CONTRACT</b></p>	<p>Motion was made by Mr. Parisi and seconded by Mrs. Stranges to approve the Honeywell Contract as presented.</p> <p>Roll Call was as follows:</p> <p>Aye: Mrs. Bruscato, Mrs. Capraro, Mrs. Cleary, Mr. Fang, Mr. Parisi, Mr. Marzullo and Mrs. Stranges  Nay: None  Absent: None</p> <p>The President declared the motion carried.</p>
<p><b>REPORT #0710 SOUND SYSTEM PROPOSAL</b></p>	<p>Motion was made by Mr. Fang and seconded by Mrs. Capraro to approve the Sound System Proposal as presented.</p> <p>Roll Call was as follows:</p> <p>Aye: Mrs. Bruscato, Mrs. Capraro, Mrs. Cleary, Mr. Fang, Mr. Parisi, Mr. Marzullo and Mrs. Stranges  Nay: None  Absent: None</p> <p>The President declared the motion carried.</p>
<p><b>REPORT #0711 APPROVAL OF LAWYER NAME CHANGE - FRANCZEK RADELET &amp; ROSE</b></p>	<p>Motion was made by Mrs. Cleary and seconded by Mrs. Bruscato to approve the Lawyer Name Change - Franczek Radelet &amp; Rose as presented.</p> <p>Roll Call was as follows:</p> <p>Aye: Mrs. Bruscato, Mrs. Capraro, Mrs. Cleary, Mr. Fang, Mr. Parisi, Mr. Marzullo and Mrs. Stranges  Nay: None  Absent: None</p> <p>The President declared the motion carried.</p>

<b>REPORT #0712 SUPERINTENDENT GOALS</b>	<p>Motion was made by Mrs. Capraro and seconded by Mrs. Cleary to approve the Financial Reports as presented.</p> <p>Roll Call was as follows:</p> <p>Aye: Mrs. Bruscato, Mrs. Capraro, Mrs. Cleary, Mr. Fang, Mr. Parisi, Mr. Marzullo and Mrs. Stranges</p> <p>Nay: None</p> <p>Absent: None</p> <p>The President declared the motion carried.</p>
<b>REPORT #0713 FINANCIAL REPORTS (A,B,C)</b>	<p>Motion was made by Mrs. Capraro and seconded by Mrs. Stranges to approve the Financial Reports as presented.</p> <p>Roll Call was as follows:</p> <p>Aye: Mrs. Bruscato, Mrs. Capraro, Mrs. Cleary, Mr. Fang, Mr. Parisi, Mr. Marzullo and Mrs. Stranges</p> <p>Nay: None</p> <p>Absent: None</p> <p>The President declared the motion carried.</p>
<b>REPORT #0714 SPECIAL BILLS LIST</b>	<p>Motion was made by Mr. Parisi and seconded by Mrs. Bruscato to approve the Special Bills List as presented.</p> <p>Roll Call was as follows:</p> <p>Aye: Mrs. Bruscato, Mrs. Capraro, Mrs. Cleary, , Mr. Parisi, Mr. Marzullo and Mrs. Stranges</p> <p>Nay: None</p> <p>Present: Mr. Fang</p> <p>Absent: None</p> <p>The President declared the motion carried.</p>
<b>REPORT #0715 PERSONNEL REPORT</b>	<p>Motion was made by Mrs. Stranges and seconded by Mrs. Capraro to approve the Personnel List as presented.</p> <p>Roll Call was as follows:</p> <p>Aye: Mrs. Bruscato, Mrs. Capraro, Mrs. Cleary, Mr. Fang, Mr. Parisi, Mr. Marzullo and Mrs. Stranges</p> <p>Nay: None</p> <p>Absent: None</p> <p>The President declared the motion carried.</p>

**New Hires Non-Certified**



Name	Position*	School*	Effective	Salary*
Romano, Carla	Instructional Aide First Grade	John Mills	11/3/08	\$13.89 per hour
Sanchez, Antonio	Head Accountant	District Office	10/13/08	\$58,000, which includes IMRF

**Resignations Non-Certified**

Name	Position	School	Effective
Maniaci Bland, Kendra	Childcare Provider	Mills/EW	10/20/08

**FYI Extended Leave of Absence**

Name	Position	School	Effective
Hartwig, Christian	Social Studies Teacher	Elm Middle School	1/20-6/5/09

<b>REPORT #0716 SUSPENSION REPORT</b>	<p>Motion was made by Mr. Parisi and seconded by Mrs. Cleary to accept the Suspension Report as presented.</p> <p>Voice Vote was as follows: Aye: Seven                  Nay: None                  Absent: None</p> <p>The President declared the motion carried.</p>
<b>COMMUNICATIONS FROM VISITORS</b>	None
<b>ADJOURNMENT</b>	<p>Motion was made by Mrs. Capraro and seconded by Mrs. Cleary to adjourn the General Session at 8:28 p.m.</p> <p>Voice Vote was as follows: Aye: Seven                  Nay: None                  Absent: None</p> <p>The President declared the motion carried.</p>
<p><b>APPROVED:</b></p> <p></p> <p>Michael Marzullo Board President</p>	<p>Respectfully submitted and Certified,</p> <p></p> <p>Sue Capraro Board Secretary</p>



# Student Liaison Reports

November 2008

**EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER**  
**November 2008**

**COMMUNICATION/ CLIMATE/ COMMUNITY**

A few weeks ago, the kindergarteners learned all about the voting process. Mrs. Kirsch came to each classroom and explained how everyone's vote counts and it's your own personal choice. After, we set up our voting booths, the children were instructed to privately vote for their favorite pet. They had to choose between a dog, cat or a fish. The children voted and deposited their ballots in the ballot box. When they finished, they received a sticker for voting. By the way, the dog won our election.

We had about 98% of all the Early Childhood Center Families attend Parent Conferences. The teachers did a fine job of stressing the importance of parental involvement and presented the parents with many simple ideas and games to help strengthen their child's skills.

Now we are learning all about the First Thanksgiving. They learned how the Pilgrims lived, worked, slept and played. They were truly amazed to learn that the Pilgrims didn't have any electricity or video games!

**School Board Report  
John Mills School  
November 19, 2008**

**Reporters: Tess Fang and Cheyana Martinez**

**Organization:**

- Student Council has been very busy. They held their annual Taffy Apple Sale, organized and ran a Halloween Fun Fair for students and under the guidance of Mrs. Kirsch, held a mock Presidential election on November 4<sup>th</sup>. By the way, Obama won!
- Many John Mills students worked with our high school Key Club by asking for donations for UNICEF while trick or treating. We collected \$00000.
- PTA's November assembly will take place tomorrow at 1:00 and 2:00. The Ballet Folklorico will present professional trick roping and regional folk dancing.

**Curriculum/Instruction/Staff Development:**

- To help students get a better understanding of our local government, third graders took a tour of Elmwood Park's fire department, water department and public works, library, police station and the Village Hall where they were given a tour of the building and even spoke to Village President Peter Silvestri.

**Communication/Climate/Community:**

- Report Cards went home on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of November and on the 6<sup>th</sup>, we had our first awards assembly celebrating zero tardies, perfect attendance, and sixth grade honor role.
- In honor of Veterans, we colored and placed stars in our classroom windows for family members who have served or who are currently serving in the Armed Forces, we watched a video to help us understand what veterans have done for us and Mr. LoPresti's students read "Veteran's Day" poems all week.
- This week is American Education Week and our parents were able to come to John Mills to visit our classrooms. Some parents saw owl pellets, some saw math and some were able to join their children in the lunchroom.

**Cheyana: "Hey Tess...Can a turkey jump higher than the Empire State Building?"**

**Tess: Of course, a building cannot jump at all! Happy Thanksgiving!**

## SCHOOL BOARD REPORT

November 19, 2008

Elmwood Park High School

LGI Room—7 p.m.

Liaisons: Olivia Hertogs & Justin Perkins

### ORGANIZATION

**Olivia:** All schools in the country are celebrating American Education Week this week. Elmwood School is celebrating the week by having different activities that include an Open House today so parents could visit our classrooms this morning, a Principal and Assistant Principal for the Day on Thursday and a Spirit Day on Friday. We would like to thank our Educational Leaders who gave their time to come to our school to read our "Words of Wisdom" during the week.

**Justin:** The Student Council, under the direction of Mrs. Horvath, is sponsoring a Canned Food Drive to support a local food pantry. The drive is taking place this week. Elmwood students are bringing their non perishable food items to their homeroom. Student Council members pick up the donations each day during their lunch. Thanks to everyone for their generosity.

### CURRICULUM/INSTRUCTION/STAFF DEVELOPMENT

**Justin:** Our 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Honors Assembly was held on November 6<sup>th</sup>. The day began with a PATT sponsored breakfast in celebration of our 36, 6<sup>th</sup> graders that earned Honor Roll status. Our all-school assembly gave recognition to the Honor Roll members, students with Perfect Attendance and Elmwood School's Intramural participants. We thank all the parents in attendance for sharing our assembly with us.

**Olivia:** All Elmwood students showed the country who the next President of the United States would be when they participated in a Mock Election on November 4<sup>th</sup>. Students were required to register to vote and to bring their registration card to the polling place set up in the library. Student Council members were our election judges and helped to explain to us how the voting on the computer should be done. Prior to the election, the 6<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms debated both sides of the candidates' issues. Thanks to Mrs. Kirsch and all our teachers for giving us this experience.

### COMMUNICATION/CLIMATE/COMMUNITY

**Justin:** Our 1<sup>st</sup> grade classrooms would like to thank Dr. Rudig for sharing his time and his love of Art with them when he spent the afternoon talking to them and drawing Halloween pictures for our youngest Panthers. It was a great experience and the artwork from the day is proudly displayed in our 1<sup>st</sup> grade hallway. Thank you Dr. Rudig.

**Olivia:** Elmwood School's Fall Fundraiser was completed the first week in November. Mr. Bolin's 4<sup>th</sup> grade class earned a pizza party for bringing in the most money for a classroom. Sarah Woelfle was the top individual seller, followed by Susan Skoufis and Victoria Bendersky. Thanks to all of our efforts, we raised \$5800 that can help give us a better educational experience.

**Justin:** **News Flash!** Elmwood School's Panther Press has just published its first issue of the year. Our talented writers have put together an issue full of Halloween poetry, staff interviews, election coverage and fun and scary stories to read. Thanks to Mrs. Kirsch, Mrs. DiDavide and all our writers for a great 1<sup>st</sup> edition!

**Olivia & Justin:** We hope you enjoyed our Elmwood School news.

**School Board Notes  
ELM MIDDLE SCHOOL  
November 19, 2008**

**ORGANIZATION**

Elm Middle School had a very successful end result for the fall fire drill, with the fire department commending us on a well-organized, orderly participation. In addition, the state police department surprised the staff and students with a random dog search that shows once again that Elm Cougars are drug-free.

**CURRICULUM/ INSTRUCTION/ STAFF DEVELOPMENT**

We are happy to report that our 2<sup>nd</sup> Think Link testing was successful. Our results show promise and gain as we head into 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter preparations for ISAT testing.

**COMMUNICATION/ CLIMATE/ COMMUNITY**

On October 31, our 7<sup>th</sup> grade students engaged in a multicultural experience that includes various ethnic presentations and a variety of cultural foods that were "out of this world". In addition, our 8<sup>th</sup> grade students participated in a 20's & 30's day that encouraged our students to dress up in the time period and included a trip to Tommy Guns restaurant for a host of fun.

On Nov 5 & 6, the staff welcomed several students and parents to the fall parent/teacher conference sessions. Many productive discussions took place that show potential for stronger student achievement.

In addition, we have the following activities coming up in the next month:

November 27 & 28:            No School (Thanksgiving)

December 6:                Adventure Education: Gurnee Mills Shopping Trip

**School Board Notes  
Elmwood Park High School  
November 2008**

**Organization**

- Elmwood Park High School will be hold its 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Curriculum Night on December 9 beginning at 6 pm in the gymnasium
- EPHS Fall Play will be a 'Night of One Act Plays' November 14-15 at 7:00 pm and November 16 at 2:00 pm
- EPHS will be having a Teacher Variety Show on Thursday, November 20, at 7:00 pm

**Curriculum/Instruction**

**PSAE review classes in English and Math have begun. Classes will meet during the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> term.**

- EPHS will be starting a new after-school program. The program will focus on developing the reading and math skills of low achieving students and will be aimed at helping them become more successful both in the classroom and on state tests.
- Seniors have been encouraged to visit colleges. Additionally, college visits at EPHS will now take place during academic lab.

**Community/Climate/Communication**

- Key Club raised over \$4200 for needy children in the community selling peanuts for Kiwanis Peanut Day
- Key Club collected for UNICEF on Halloween, and also helped decorate and work the haunted house at the Parks and Recreation Building.
- The Key Club is sponsoring their annual canned food drive starting on Monday, Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> through Monday, November 24. Donations will be collected weekly.

**Music**

- The Holiday Band Concert will be on December 11 at 7 pm.
- The Holiday Chorus Concert will take place on December 16 at 7 pm.

**DECA**

- DECA is working on market research projects and business plans which will be presented at a competition in March.