



## RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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### BOARD OF EDUCATION BOARD ROOM, DISTRICT OFFICE MINUTES OF MEETING January 25, 2021 (Working Session)

A Work Session Board Meeting of the Elizabeth School District was held on Monday, January 25, 2021, in the Board Room, District Office. Director Guttenberg and Director Karcher joined remotely, via Zoom Meeting.

#### 1.0 CALL TO ORDER

President Carol Hinds called the Work Session BOE Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

#### 2.0 ROLL CALL:

The following BOE Directors were present:

Director Paul Benkendorf  
Director Kim Frumveller  
Director John Guttenberg  
Director Carol Hinds  
Director Cary Karcher

Also present: Superintendent Douglas Bissonette, Chief Finance Director Ron Patera, Executive Assistant to Superintendent and BOE Kristen Harris, and Principal of Elizabeth High School Bret McClendon.

#### 3.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Carol Hinds led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### 4.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA/ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/BLANKET MOTION

A motion was made to approve the agenda.

Motion Moved by Director Frumveller

Motion Seconded by Director Benkendorf

#### ROLL CALL:

Director Paul Benkendorf - aye  
Director Kim Frumveller - aye  
Director John Guttenberg - aye  
Director Carol Hinds - aye  
Director Cary Karcher - aye

The motion carried 5-0

#### 5.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5.1 A motion was made to approve the minutes from the January 11, 2021, Elizabeth Schools Board of Education meeting.

Motion Moved by Director Guttenberg

Motion Seconded by Director Karcher

#### ROLL CALL:

Director Paul Benkendorf - aye  
Director Kim Frumveller - aye  
Director John Guttenberg - aye  
Director Carol Hinds - aye  
Director Cary Karcher - aye



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The motion carried 5-0

### 6.0 COMMUNICATIONS

#### 6.1 EHS Principal Update

EHS Principal Bret McClendon provided an update on the progress with the HTI Academies and Pathways. Group of EHS teachers came up with the different academies (umbrella) and have the more linear pathways under each of the academies. There are a total of five (5) academies, listed below for reference.

- 1.) Arts Humanities and Civil Service
- 2.) Business, Communication and Hospitality
- 3.) Engineering, Math and Physical Sciences
- 4.) Health and Biological Sciences
- 5.) Open / Build your own

The academies and pathways are not exclusive; students won't be penalized if they decided to switch along the way. It is as important to identify what a student doesn't like as it is to identify what they do like, providing them an opportunity to know what career path they want to take once they graduate from EHS. This approach will allow students the opportunity to explore a variety of career options before they graduate.

#### 6.2 Chief Financial Officer Update

Chief Financial Director Ron Patera provided an update on the 20-21 beginning fund balance resolution to be approved, it is a state requirement to ensure that BOE is aware of the possibility that some funds will use a portion of the beginning fund balance to balance the budget. Some of the positives of the 20-21 budget, the district started with a higher fund balance, rural funding returned, and ESSER II Funding extended the spend date to September 2023 (after Legacy flow thru staff anticipates about \$400k from this latest stimulus). Due to all the changes that are seemingly happening on a weekly basis, he anticipates that we will have to do a supplemental budget between now and the end of the fiscal year. Also affecting this thinking is the newest ESSER funding from the feds. Staff needs some time for thoughtful ideas on how this money should be spent to address district needs related to COVID.

There were several reasons that impact expenditures. Including an increase in capital expenses. One that was left off was the mid-year step increase for returning employees. On the revenue side there were normal changes based on enrollment from the state, but also two (2) that need a little more explanation. The PERA On-behalf payment is not happening this year, but expect it to return at some point in the future. However, as it was before, the district really doesn't get the money but we have to show it as a revenue and expense. For the pupil activity fund we did not increase the transfer from the previous increase at the beginning of the year. However, staff will need to keep a close eye on this for unexpected changes that might occur, plus we will have a couple more months of data. For the food service fund we did increase the transfer due to reduced revenues and increased food costs. There is a supplemental budget at the legislature for this fiscal year, but according to CDE it will not be approved until late spring. If it is approved in its current form it would be a reduction to the district of \$110,980. However, between now and then I expect it to change to the downside, in other words it will not be as large of a funding reduction.

#### 6.3 Superintendent Update

Superintendent Bissonette shared in person learning has been going well in the district, thanks to the due diligence from staff and students for following guidelines. The district is working with Centura to offer vaccines to staff, who are interested, it will not be mandatory. Staff will also have access to the Binax now rapid COVID test.

Draft 2021-2022 district calendar has been shared with the board. The calendar has been shared with staff and parents for feedback and will be coming to the board for final review/approval by end of February. There is no plan to stop having snow days in the district due to COVID; the calendar has (5-6) snow days accounted for the school year.



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Last spring State Testing was cancelled due to COVID, this year all indications appear the state will move forward with testing and requires each district to provide computers for students to complete those tests.

The district performing arts teachers have done a phenomenal job of continuing to engage students in activities while also keeping students safe by following district COVID guidelines. Due to the phenomenal efforts of the performing arts teachers, the district is re-structuring the way it compensates them for their extra hours, changing from an extra duty pay model to a coach model.

### **7.0 CONSENT AGENDA**

A motion was made to approve Consent Agenda items 7.1 - 7.4.

Motion Moved by Director Benkendorf

Motion Seconded by Director Frumveller

#### **ROLL CALL:**

Director Paul Benkendorf - aye

Director Kim Frumveller - aye

Director John Guttenberg - aye

Director Carol Hinds - aye

Director Cary Karcher - aye

The motion carried 5-0

#### 7.1 New Hires

Jacqueline Vogel, Sped Paraprofessional, SHE

#### 7.2 Transfers/Changes

Laurie Burke, Registrar, EHS

Dorothy Cornelius, Cook, EMS

Anne Ebbert, Teacher, OPP

#### 7.3 Employment Separations

Veronica Zepeda, Bus Paraprofessional, Transportation

#### 7.4 Substitutes

Michael Bilo, Substitute Bus Driver, Transportation

### **8.0 ACTION ITEMS**

8.1 A motion was made to approve the 2020-2021 Budget Revisions.

Motion Moved by Director Guttenberg

Motion Seconded by Director Karcher

#### **ROLL CALL:**

Director Paul Benkendorf - aye

Director Kim Frumveller - aye

Director John Guttenberg - aye

Director Carol Hinds - aye

Director Cary Karcher - aye

The motion carried 5-0

8.2 A motion was made to approve the Fund Balance Resolution.

Motion Moved by Director Frumveller





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Motion Seconded by Director Benkendorf

**ROLL CALL:**

Director Paul Benkendorf - aye  
Director Kim Frumveller - aye  
Director John Guttenberg - aye  
Director Carol Hinds - aye  
Director Cary Karcher - aye

The motion carried 5-0

**9.0 DISCUSSION ITEMS**

9.1 Discussion was had regarding state testing, the board declined to submit a resolution contesting the requirement of state testing as parents have the opportunity to opt out for their child and since Elizabeth School District has remained in person there is no concern to the level of education being received by the students.

**10.0 BOE PLANNING**

The next regular Board of Education meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 8, 2021 at 6 p.m.  
Executive Session for Superintendent Evaluation is scheduled for Monday, February 8, 2021 meeting.

**11.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion was made to convene into executive session under C.R.S. 24-6-402 (4) (d) Specialized details of security arrangements or investigations.

Motion moved by Director Guttenberg  
Motion seconded by Director Frumveller

**ROLL CALL:**

Director Paul Benkendorf - aye  
Director Kim Frumveller - aye  
Director John Guttenberg - aye  
Director Carol Hinds - aye  
Director Cary Karcher - aye

The motion carried 5-0

The Board went into executive session at 7:37 p.m.  
The Board came out of executive session at 9:56 p.m.

**13.0 ADJOURNMENT**

The regular board meeting adjourned at 9:56 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol Hinds, President



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*Cary A. Karcher*

Cary Karcher, Vice President

*Paul Benkendorf*

Paul Benkendorf, Secretary

Kim Frumveller, Treasurer

*John C. Guttenberg*

John Guttenberg, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer

Recorded by: Kristen Harris

