



August 18, 2025 ~ 6:00pm  
Regular Meeting of the ESM Board of Education  
Woodland Elementary Collaborative Commons

II-A-4962  
09/15/2025

## REGULAR MEETING

**Board of Education Present:** Mrs. Diana Abdella, Mrs. Jolie Bonaparte, Mrs. Susan Cain, Mrs. Tracy Callahan, Mrs. Leah Cushing, Mrs. Kay Gallery, Mrs. Deborah Kolod.  
Student Board Member: Ava Meyer

**Board of Education Absent:** Mr. John Albanese, Mr. D. Paul Waltz.

**Administrative Personnel Present:** Dr. Donna DeSiato, Supt.; Mr. Grenardo Avellino, Deputy Supt.; Mrs. Katherine Skahen, Exec. Dir. of School Bus. Admin./Clerk; Ms. Pamela Buddendeck, Executive Director of Employee Engagement & Accountability; Mr. Kieran O'Connor, Exec. Dir. of Planning, Development & Technology; Mr. N. Shane Hacker, Exec. Dir. of Curriculum, Learning & Assessment; Mr. Edward Michalenko, Exec. Principal at CHS.

**Others Present:** Mr. Michael Rood, District Treasurer; Mrs Marcia Kelley, SFO/SRP.

**Interested Citizens:** 0

MRS. TRACY CALLAHAN, VICE PRESIDENT, CALLED THE REGULAR MEETING TO ORDER AT 6:00PM AT WOODLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

## SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:

A. Ex Officio Student Board Member Introduction

## REPORTS:

A. Acceptance of Minutes:

- July 8, 2025 Annual Organizational Meeting
- July 8, 2025 Regular Meeting
- July 22, 2025 Special Meeting
- August 6, 2025 Special Meeting

B. President/Vice President/Board Member Reports:

- Class of 2025 Summer Graduation Ceremony - August 26, 2025, 5:00pm @ CHS
- ESM Education Foundation Golf Tournament - September 14, 2025 @ Rogue's Roost GC
- Select Voting Delegate for NYSSBA Annual Business Meeting - October 16, 2025, 4:00pm

C. Superintendent Reports:

Preparing for the Opening of the 2025-2026 School Year

- ESM Strategic Plan Updates 2025-2026
- Ban on Internet Enabled Devices

School Safety and Security Services Agreement

Staffing Transfers (FYI):

| NAME                                       | POSITION              | FROM     | TO            | EFFECTIVE |
|--|-----------------------|----------|---------------|-----------|
| T. Asst. Vacancy<br>(S. Armstrong Resign)  | T. Asst. (Spec. Edu.) | Woodland | Central HS    | 8/28/2025 |
| Anna Grower                                | T. Asst. (Spec. Edu.) | Minoa    | Fremont       | 8/28/2025 |
| T Asst. Vacancy<br>(D. Steinberger Retire) | T. Asst. (Spec. Edu.) | ESE      | Pine Grove MS | 8/28/2025 |
| Bryan Straub                               | T. Asst. (Spec. Edu.) | Woodland | Central HS    | 8/28/2025 |
| Ashley Thomas                              | T. Asst. (Spec. Edu.) | Minoa    | Woodland      | 8/28/2025 |
| T. Asst. Vacancy<br>(E. Weekley Resign)    | T. Asst. (Spec. Edu.) | Woodland | Fremont       | 8/28/2025 |

Assignment Change (FYI)

| Name         | Change From:                                 | Change To:                                       | Effective |
|--------------|--|--|-----------|
| Justine Hill | Elementary Learning Support Teacher<br>@ ESE | Elementary Math/Science Inquiry<br>Teacher @ ESE | 8/28/2025 |

“RESOLVED THAT, the Reports A – C, as recommended by the Superintendent be approved.”

Moved by MRS. GALLERY  
Ayes - 7      Nays - 0

Seconded by MRS. CUSHING  
**Carried**

**FIFTEEN MINUTE PERIOD:** No one spoke.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

A. Tax Warrants 2025-2026

“**WHEREAS**, in accordance with Chapter 73 of the Laws of 1977, amended Section 1318, subdivision 1, of the Real Property Tax Law, the entire fund balance at the close of the last fiscal year must be applied in determining the amount of the school tax levy except for an amount not to exceed 4% of the current school year budget; and

“**WHEREAS**, this latter amount may be held as surplus funds during the current school year;  
**NOW THEREFORE** the following resolution was MOVED BY \_\_\_\_\_, and SECONDED BY \_\_\_\_\_ that the Board of Education retain as surplus funds of \$4,292,480 from the total fund balance of \$4,592,480 thereby applying \$300,000 to the reduction of the tax levy be approved.”

“**BE IT ADDITIONALLY RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:** The collectors for East Syracuse Minoa Central School District, Towns of DeWitt, Manlius, and Cicero, County of Onondaga, and the Town of Sullivan, Madison County, New York State are authorized:

1. To give notice and start collection 9/2/25 in the Town of DeWitt, 9/2/25 in the Town of Manlius, and 9/2/25 in the Town of Cicero, County of Onondaga, and 9/2/25 in the Town of Sullivan, Madison County in accordance with the provisions of the Section 1322 of the Real Property Tax Law.
2. To give notice that tax collection will end on 11/15/25 in the Town of DeWitt, 11/15/25 in the Town of Manlius, and 11/15/25 in the Town of Cicero, County of Onondaga, and 11/15/25 in the Town of Sullivan, Madison County.
3. To collect taxes in the total sum of \$30,872,919.33 in the Town of DeWitt, \$19,570,117.16 in the Town of Manlius, \$664,233.75 in the Town of Cicero, Onondaga County, and \$1,417,114.58 in the Town of Sullivan, Madison County in the same manner that collectors are authorized to collect town and county taxes in accordance with the provision of Section 1318 of the Real Property Tax Law.
4. To make no changes or alterations in the tax warrant or attached tax rolls but shall return the same to the Board of Education. The Board may recall its warrant and tax roll for correction or errors or omissions in accordance with the provisions of Section 1316 of the Real Property Tax Law.
5. To forward by mail to each owner of real property listed in the tax rolls within ten (10) days after the start of collection a statement of taxes due on his property on press-numbered tax bill forms provided by the school district in accordance with the provisions of Section 922 of the Real Property Tax Law. To forward by mail, without interest penalties, to the office of the County Treasurer a detailed tax bill of all state land parcels liable for taxes on the school tax rolls in accordance with provisions of Section 540 and 544 of the Real Property Tax Law.
6. To receive from each of the taxable corporations and natural persons the sums listed on the attached tax rolls without interest penalties when such sums are paid before the end of the first month of the tax collection period. To add two percent interest penalties to all taxes collected during the second month of the tax collection and to add three percent interest penalties to all taxes collected during any part of the third month of the tax collection period and to account for such sums as income due to the school district.
7. To issue press-numbered receipts only on forms provided by the school district in acknowledgement of receipt of payments of taxes and to retain, preserve and file exact carbon copies of all such receipts issued as required by Section 987 of the Real Property Tax Law.
8. To promptly return the warrant at its expiration and, if any taxes on the attached tax rolls shall be unpaid at that time, deliver an accounting thereof on forms showing by town the total assessed valuation, tax rate, the total tax levy, the total amounts remaining uncollected as required by Section 1330 of the Real Property Tax Law.

The warrant is issued pursuant to Sections 910, 912, and 914 of the Real Property Tax Law and is delivered in accordance with Sections 1306 and 1318 of this law. It is effective immediately after it is properly signed by a majority of the Board of Education. The warrant shall expire on the date stated above unless a renewal or extension has been endorsed on the face of this warrant in writing in accordance with Section 1318, subdivision 2, of the Real Property Tax Law.”

“RESOLVED by MRS. KOLOD, Seconded by MRS. CAIN that Action Item A, as recommended By the Superintendent, be approved.”

Ayes - 7          Nays - 0          **Carried**

**B. Combined Sports Agreement**

“WHEREAS, the East Syracuse Minoa Central School District (“ESM CSD”) hereby wishes to enter into a Combined Sports Agreement with Lyncourt Union Free School District (“Lyncourt UFSD”) to allow students from the Lyncourt School to participate in ESM CSD modified sports teams for the 2025-26, 2026-27, 2027-28, and 2028-29 school years; and

WHEREAS, Lyncourt UFSD has agreed to pay to ESM CSD for any additional transportation costs associated with this participation in accordance with the existing transportation agreement;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved as follows:

1. The Combined Sports Agreement between ESM CSD and Lyncourt UFSD is hereby approved, and the Superintendent of Schools is hereby authorized and directed to take all steps necessary and appropriate to execute the agreement.
2. This resolution shall take effect immediately.”

“RESOLVED by MRS. KOLOD, Seconded by MRS. CAIN that Action Item B, as recommended By the Superintendent, be approved.”

Ayes - 7          Nays - 0          **Carried**

**C. School Safety and Security Services Agreement**

“WHEREAS, Requests for Proposals (RFP) were sent to security firms on June 25, 2024 for the purpose of assisting the School District with school safety and security services; and

WHEREAS, proposals were received on July 16, 2024 and a District RFP Review Committee was established to review the proposals, make reference calls regarding the firms and interview the firms; and

WHEREAS, after deliberation and review it was recommended by the District RFP Review Committee that Arrow Security be selected to provide school safety and security services as requested in the RFP for the 2024-25 school year; and

WHEREAS, the Agreement allows the parties to extend the agreement for additional years up until June 30, 2029; and

WHEREAS, the District wishes to continue those services for the 2025-26 school year at an estimated total cost of \$357,216;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education hereby extends the Arrow Security Agreement for the 2025-26 school year in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Agreement presented to the Board, and authorizes the Executive Director of School Business Administration to execute an agreement to provide such services.”

“RESOLVED by MRS. GALLERY, Seconded by MRS. CUSHING that Action Item C, as recommended By the Superintendent, be approved.”

Ayes - 7      Nays - 0      **Carried**

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Treasurer’s Report (June-25)  
Extra Classroom Activity Fund Reports CHS/PGMS (June-25)  
Appropriation Status Report (June-25)  
Budget Transfers (June-25)  
Revenue Status Report (June-25)  
Accounts Payable Warrant Reports #50, #52, #54  
Payroll Warrant Reports #49, #51  
Combining Sports Contracts  
CSE/CPSE Reports  
Donations  
Overnight Field Trip Requests  
Surplus Athletic Inventory  
Surplus Buses & Pickup Truck  
Surplus Music Related Items  
Surplus Science Textbooks - Fremont Elementary

“RESOLVED by MRS. KOLOD, Seconded by MRS. GALLERY that the Consent Agenda, as recommended By the Superintendent, be approved.”

Ayes - 7      Nays - 0      **Carried**

**PERSONNEL ITEMS:**

A. Resignations

Marie Neri, Teaching Assistant (Spec. Edu.) - Pine Grove Middle School, Eff. 8/26/2025  
Brianna Putman, Teacher Aide (Office) - Fremont Elementary, Eff. 8/8/2025  
Frank DeMauro, Assistant Principal - Central High School, Eff. 8/19/2025  
Ashton Rinella, Assistant Principal - Central High School, Eff. 8/19/2025  
Michael Rood, School District Treasurer - District Office (Business Office), Eff. 8/19/2025

B. Appointments/*Amended & Rescinded* Appointments

Administrative, Continuing Probationary Appointments

Frank DeMauro, Associate Principal - Central High School, Eff. 8/19/2025 - 6/30/2028  
Ashton Rinella, Associate Principal - Central High School, Eff. 8/19/2025 - 11/16/2027

Administrative, Provisional Appointment

Michael Rood, Assistant School Business Official - District Office (Business Office), Eff. 8/19/2025

Instructional, Three-Year Probationary Appointment

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Board of Education for the East Syracuse Minoa Central School District hereby appoints the following probationary employee(s):

Kayla Shaut, Special Education Teacher - Fremont Elementary, Eff. 8/28/2025-8/27/2028

The probationary period expiration date will depend on the individual’s educator evaluation ratings. To receive tenure, the individual must receive an overall educator evaluation rating of effective or highly effective in at least two (2) of the three (3) preceding years. Probationary employees who receive an ineffective educator evaluation rating in their final year of probation will not be eligible for tenure at that time.”

Instructional, Four-Year Probationary Appointment

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Board of Education for the East Syracuse Minoa Central School District hereby appoints the following probationary employee(s):

Rebecca Allen, Mathematics Teacher - Pine Grove Middle School, Eff. 8/28/2025-8/27/2029  
Riley Rossignol, Teaching Assistant (Spec. Edu.) - Pine Grove MS, Eff. 8/28/2025-8/27/2029

The probationary period expiration date will depend on the individual’s educator evaluation ratings. To receive tenure, the individual must receive an overall educator evaluation rating of effective or highly effective in at least three (3) of the four (4) preceding years. Probationary employees who receive an ineffective educator evaluation rating in their final year of probation will not be eligible for tenure at that time.”

*Amended*, Instructional, *Three-Year* Probationary Appointment

Katherine McCarthy, Elementary (Grade 5) Teacher - Fremont Elem., Eff. 8/28/2025-*8/27/2028*

*Rescind*, Instructional, Regular Substitute Appointment

Paige Szymanak, Teaching Assistant (Spec. Edu.) - Fremont Elementary, Eff. 8/28/2025

Instructional, Annual Appointment (1-year only)

Nafisa Khan, Mathematics Instructional Coach - Pine Grove MS, Eff. 8/28/2025-6/30/2026

Non-Instructional, 52-Week Probationary Appointment

Marie Neri, Teacher Aide (Office) - Pine Grove Middle School, Eff. 8/26/2025  
Danielle Dyke, Teacher Aide (Office) - Pine Grove Middle School, Eff. 9/8/2025  
Danielle Graham, Teacher Aide (Office) - Central High School, Effective 8/26/2025

Non-Instructional, Annual (1-year only) Appointment

Sarah Angrick, Teacher Aide (Special Education) - Minoa Elementary, Eff. 8/26/2025-6/30/2026

*Rescind* 2025-2026 Professional Learning Team Leader at Central High School

Leslie Pcolinsky - Life Science: Biology

2025-2026 Professional Learning Team Leader at the Central High School

Derek Reyna - Life Science: Biology

2025-2026 Stadium Worker Appointment (Fall, Winter & Spring Seasons)

| SUPERVISOR STAFF<br>2025/2026 | ACTUAL ROLE<br>IN DISTRICT | TITLE IN EXTRA DUTY PAY<br>(ROLES)  | CURRENT RATE<br>OF PAY FOR<br>ALL POSITIONS |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|---|---|
| Heidelberger, Gregory         | Athletic Duty Only         | Horn/Clock/Scoreboard<br>Operator, Chain Crew for<br>Football Games, Site Supervisor<br>Inventory Control<br>Athletic/PE Supply Equipment | \$20.00                                     |

2025 Fall Season Volunteer Coach Appointment

Nicholas Omilanowicz - Football

*Amended*, 2025 Fall Volleyball (Boys) Coaching Appointment

Joseph Dischiave, Assistant Coach - *JV*

Anthony Nesci, Assistant Coach - *Varsity*

C. Personnel Change

| NAME          | FROM                             | TO                           | EFF.      |
|---------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------|
| Heather Allen | T. Asst. (Spec. Edu.) @ Woodland | T. Asst. (Pre-K) @ Park Hill | 8/28/2025 |

D. Amended Substitute List

“RESOLVED THAT, the enclosed amended substitute list dated August 18, 2025, be approved.

“RESOLVED by MRS. CAIN, Seconded by MRS. KOLOD that Personnel Items A - D, as recommended by the Superintendent, be approved.”

Ayes - 7      Nays - 0      **Carried**

**POLICY DISCUSSION:** None

**POLICY ACTION:** None

“RESOLVED by MRS. CAIN, Seconded by MRS. KOLOD that the Regular Meeting be adjourned at 6:20PM.”

Ayes - 7      Nays - 0      **Carried**

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Katherine Skahen, District Clerk

Approved \_\_\_\_\_  
Filed \_\_\_\_\_



August 18, 2025 ~ 6:00pm  
Regular Meeting of the ESM Board of Education  
Woodland Elementary Collaborative Commons

---

## **AGENDA**

### **I. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:**

- A. Ex Officio Student Board Member Introduction

### **II. REPORTS:**

- A. Acceptance of Minutes:
  - July 8, 2025 Annual Organizational Meeting
  - July 8, 2025 Regular Meeting
  - July 22, 2025 Special Meeting
  - August 6, 2025 Special Meeting
- B. President/Vice President/Board Member Reports:
  - Class of 2025 Summer Graduation Ceremony
  - ESM Education Foundation Golf Tournament
  - Select Voting Delegate for NYSSBA Annual Business Meeting
- C. Superintendent Reports:
  - Preparing for the Opening of the 2025-2026 School Year
    - ESM Strategic Plan Updates 2025-2026
    - Ban on Internet Enabled Devices
  - School Safety and Security Services Agreement
  - Staffing Transfers (FYI)

### **III. FIFTEEN MINUTE PERIOD:**

### **IV. ACTION ITEMS:**

- A. Tax Warrants 2025-2026
- B. Combined Sports Agreement
- C. School Safety and Security Services Agreement

### **CONSENT AGENDA:**

Treasurer's Report (June-25)  
Extra Classroom Activity Fund Reports CHS/PGMS (June-25)  
Appropriation Status Report (June-25)  
Budget Transfers (June-25)  
Revenue Status Report (June-25)  
Accounts Payable Warrant Reports #50, #52, #54  
Payroll Warrant Reports #49, #51  
Combining Sports Contracts  
CSE/CPSE Reports  
Donations  
Overnight Field Trip Requests  
Surplus Athletic Inventory  
Surplus Buses & Pickup Truck  
Surplus Music Related Items  
Surplus Science Textbooks - Fremont Elementary

**V. PERSONNEL ITEMS:**

- A. Resignations
- B. Appointments/*Amended & Rescinded* Appointments
- C. Personnel Change
- D. Amended Substitute List

**VI. POLICY DISCUSSION:** None

**VII. POLICY ACTION:** None