



August 28, 2025 ~ 7:15am
Special Meeting of the ESM Board of Education
ESM District Office ~ Upstairs Conference Room

II-A-4969
09/15/2025

SPECIAL MEETING

Board of Education Present: Mrs. Diana Abdella, Mr. John Albanese, Mrs. Jolie Bonaparte, Mrs. Tracy Callahan, Mrs. Kay Gallery, Mrs. Deborah Kolod [left at 7:48AM], Mr. D. Paul Waltz.

Board of Education Absent: Mrs. Susan Cain, Mrs. Leah Cushing.

Administrative Personnel Present: Dr. Donna DeSiato, Supt.; Mrs. Katherine Skahen, Exec. Dir. of School Bus. Admin./Clerk; Ms. Pamela Buddendeck, Executive Director of Employee Engagement & Accountability.

Other Present: Mr. Donald Budmen, Esq. School Attorney.

Interested Citizens: 0

MR. D. PAUL WALTZ, PRESIDENT, CALLED THE SPECIAL MEETING TO ORDER AT 7:19AM AT THE ESM DISTRICT OFFICE.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

SPECIAL PRESENTATION/RECOGNITIONS: None

REPORTS:

A. Acceptance of Minutes

None

B. President/Vice President/Board Member Reports

None

C. Superintendent Reports

Elmcrest Early Childhood Center Agreement

Staffing Transfer (FYI):

Name	Position	From	To	Eff.
MacKenzie Compton	T. Assistant (Special Edu.)	Minoa	Fremont	8/28/2025
Erica Crowley	T. Assistant (Special Edu.)	Pine Grove MS	Fremont	8/28/2025
Elizabeth Mabbett	Special Education Teacher	Woodland	Pine Grove MS	8/28/2025
Danielle Spencer	ENL Teacher	1.0FTE Woodland	.8FTE Woodland / 2FTE Central HS	8/28/2025

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

Moved by MR. ALBANESE
Ayes - 7 Nays - 0

Seconded by MRS. GALLERY
Carried

FIFTEEN MINUTE PERIOD: No one spoke.

ACTION ITEMS:

A. Elmcrest Early Childhood Center Agreement for 2025-2026

"RESOLVED THAT, the Agreement, between the East Syracuse Minoa CSD and Elmcrest Early Childhood Center, effective July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026 in accordance with the terms of the Agreement as outlined in the enclosure, be approved."

"RESOLVED THAT, the Action Item A, as recommended by the Superintendent be approved."

Moved by MRS. KOLOD
Ayes - 7 Nays - 0

Seconded by MRS. CALLAHAN
Carried

"RESOLVED BY MRS. GALLERY, SECONDED BY MRS. KOLOD THAT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH PUBLIC OFFICER'S LAW SECTION 96, SUBDIVISION I, THE BOARD ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR EMPLOYMENT MATTERS RELATING TO A PARTICULAR PERSON OR CORPORATION AT 7:24AM." ATTENDING WAS, MR. DONALD BUDMEN, SCHOOL ATTORNEY.

Ayes – 7, Nays - 0, Motion **Carried**

"RESOLVED BY MR. ALBANESE, SECONDED BY MRS. CALLAHAN THAT, THE EXECUTIVE SESSION BE ADJOURNED AT 7:55AM."

Ayes – 6 Nays - 0, Motion **Carried**

CONSENT AGENDA: None

PERSONNEL ITEMS:

A. Resignations

Jennifer Janack, Special Education Teacher - Pine Grove Middle School, Eff. 8/28/2025
Kathryn Payne, Teaching Assistant (Project SAVE) - Pine Grove MS, Eff. 8/22/2025
Michael Gorman, Custodial Worker I, Minoa Elementary, Eff. 8/30/2025
Luis Chalas, School Bus Driver - Transportation Center, Eff. 8/21/2025
Brittany St. Laurent, School Bus Driver - Transportation Center, Eff. 8/28/2025

B. Appointments

Instructional, Four-Year Probationary Appointments

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

Brittany St. Laurent, Teaching Asst. (Special Edu.) - East Syracuse Elementary, Eff. 8/28/2025-8/27/2029
Rosemary Langey, Teaching Asst. (Special 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, Four-Year Probationary Appointment

Matthew Sturm, Special Education Teacher - Woodland Elementary, Eff. 8/28/2025-8/27/2029

Amended Part-Time Annual Appointment

Hannah Gardner, Spanish Teacher (0.8FTE) - Central High School, Eff. 8/28/2025-6/30/2026

Instructional, Regular Substitute Appointment

Maria Lorenzo, Special Education Teacher - Woodland Elementary, Eff. 8/28/2025-6/30/2026

Instructional, Annual Appointment [1-Year Only]

Andrew Reed, Social Studies Teacher (0.3FTE) - Central High School, Eff. 8/28/2025-6/30/2026

Michael McLean, Permanent Itinerant Substitute - Central High School, Eff. 9/2/2025-6/30/2026

Joshua Williams, Permanent Itinerant Substitute - Central High School Eff. 9/2/2025-6/30/2026

Maxwell Kruth, Permanent Itinerant Substitute - Central High School, Eff. 9/2/2025-6/30/2026

John Gingrow III, Permanent Itinerant Substitute - Central High School, Eff. 9/3/2025 - 6/30/2026

Zhanna Saakian, Permanent Itinerant Substitute - Pine Grove MS, Eff. 9/2/2025-6/30/2026

Rachel Dems, Permanent Itinerant Substitute - Park Hill School, Eff. 9/2/2025-6/30/2026

Non-Instructional, 52-Week Probationary Appointments

Renee Medler, School Bus Driver - Transportation Center, Eff. 9/2/2025

Raina DuBose, School Bus Driver - Transportation Center, Eff. 9/2/2025

William Printup, School Bus Driver - Transportation Center, Eff. 9/2/2025

Sulejman Muminovic, School Bus Driver - Transportation Center, Eff. 9/2/2025

Dorely Humez, School Bus Attendant - Transportation Center Eff. 9/2/2025

Sheri Nelk, Custodial Worker I, East Syracuse Elementary, Eff. 9/2/2025

C. Personnel Changes

Name	Position	From	To	Effective
Dylan Cerio	Custodial Worker I	Tues-F 2pm-6pm (CHS), 6:30pm-10:30pm (Park Hill), Sat. 7am-3:30pm (CHS only) Summer: M-F 7am-3:30pm	M-F 3:30pm-12am (Summer: 7am-3:30pm) @ the CHS	9/2/2025
Douglas Compoli	Maintenance Worker I Districtwide	Fall/Winter/Spring: M-F 1pm-9:30pm Summer: M-F 7am-3:30pm	Fall/Spring: M-F 4am-12:30pm Winter: M-F 2am-10:30am Summer: M-F 7am-3:30pm	9/2/2025

D. Amended Substitute List

"RESOLVED THAT, the enclosed amended substitute list dated August 28, 2025, be approved.

"RESOLVED THAT, Personnel Items A - D, as recommended by the Superintendent, be approved."

Moved by MRS. CALLAHAN
Ayes - 6 Nays - 0

Seconded by MRS. BONAPARTE
Carried

E. Amendment to Employment Agreement

“**WHEREAS**, the Board has employed Dr. Donna J. DeSiato as Superintendent of Schools and Chief Executive and Administrative Officer of the East Syracuse Minoa Central School District (hereinafter, the “District”); and

WHEREAS, Superintendent DeSiato has served the District successfully under her existing Agreement and Amendments to same and the Board has determined that a new Agreement with the Superintendent for a new five (5) year term of employment will serve the best interests of the District; and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent has accepted said offer of continuing employment; and

WHEREAS, it is acknowledged that a written contract specifying the terms and conditions of the Superintendent's employment by the District will provide the basis for effective communication and true understanding between the parties; and

WHEREAS, the parties have mutually agreed upon the terms and conditions relative to the Superintendent's continuing employment by the District;

NOW, THEREFORE:

1. **BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, the Board of Education hereby approves the continuing employment of Dr. DeSiato and the Agreement for such employment from July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2029; and
2. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT**, the Board of Education President, or the Vice President in his absence, is authorized to execute the Agreement on behalf of the Board and District.”

Moved by MR. ALBANESE
Ayes - 6 Nays - 0

Seconded by MRS. CALLAHAN
Carried

POLICY DISCUSSION: None

POLICY ACTION: None

“RESOLVED BY MR. ALBANESE, SECONDED BY MRS. GALLERY THAT, THE SPECIAL MEETING BE ADJOURNED AT 8:01AM”

Ayes - 6, Nays - 0, Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted,

Katherine Skahen, District Clerk

Approved _____
Filed _____



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Special Meeting of the ESM Board of Education
ESM District Office ~ Upstairs Conference Room

AGENDA

I. SPECIAL PRESENTATION/RECOGNITIONS: None

II. REPORTS:

- A. Acceptance of Minutes
None
- B. President/Vice President/Board Member Reports
None
- C. Superintendent Reports
Elmcrest Early Childhood Center Agreement
Staffing Transfers (FYI)

III. FIFTEEN MINUTE PERIOD: None

IV. ACTION ITEMS:

- A. Elmcrest Early Childhood Center Agreement for 2025-26

CONSENT AGENDA: None

V. PERSONNEL ITEMS:

- A. Resignations
- B. Appointments
- C. Personnel Changes
- D. Amended Substitute List
- E. Amendment to Employment Agreement

VI. POLICY DISCUSSION: None

VI. POLICY ACTION: None