

**OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE REGULAR 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, May 12, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Board President, Cynthia Murphy.

The meeting began with everyone present saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT

BOARD MEMBERS: Lindsey Anderson, Lance Baker, Lisa Beaver, Robert DeLong, Jeannine Gray, Erikka Henretta, Daphne Knapp, Cynthia Murphy

ABSENT: Nate Rodgers

PRESENT

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

ABSENT: None

FACULTY/STAFF: Katie Barrett, Erin Jackson, Jonathon Magro

VISITORS: Grayson Givan, Jessica Myers, Wanda Stebbins

REPORTERS: None

Minutes

Motion: It was moved by Lance Baker, seconded by Lisa Beaver, to approve minutes of the regular meeting held on Tuesday, April 14, 2026. All present voted yes.

At this time, the board provided time for public comment.

Jonathon Magro proposed that Otto-Eldred have their own golf team instead of doing the co-op team with Oswayo Valley. The team would play at Birch Run Golf Course at no cost. The boys and girls could play together. Mr. Splain said there would be contact with Oswayo Valley to see what their upcoming team would have for participation.

Treasurers Report **Motion:** It was moved by Lance Baker, seconded by Robert DeLong, to approve April 2026 Treasurers Report as presented. All present voted yes.

Bill List **Motion:** It was moved by Jeannine Gray, seconded by Lisa Beaver, to approve the May 2026 Bill List as presented. All present voted yes.

Cafeteria Report **Motion:** It was moved by Erikka Henretta, seconded by Lisa Beaver, to approve April 2026 Cafeteria Report as presented. All present voted yes.

The Schedule of Accounts and Athletic Fund reports for April 2026 were presented to the Board for their information.

Mrs. Garthwaite relayed that K4 Heggerty testing is almost complete, Headstart students will visit Kindergarten rooms on 5/13, 4th grade wax museum is 5/12 and 3rd grade science fair is 5/13.

Mrs. Burns updated the board on current and future enrollments. PSSA testing is complete! Keystone testing begins this week!

Mr. LaBella noted that the graduation list is attached. There are a lot of events going on at the high school through the end of May.

Mr. Splain stated that the budget season is underway. The budget prep information will be shared later in the agenda. There will be 11 spots available for PreK Counts funding, SB1014 Cell Phone Ban has not passed yet.

Policy Updates are available for a 2nd reading.

School Board Member **Motion:** It was moved by Lisa Beaver, seconded by Erikka Henretta, to approve the resignation of Nate Rodgers, Eldred Borough Board Member. All present voted yes.

Personnel **Motion:** It was moved by Lisa Beaver, seconded by Erikka Henretta, to approve the resignation of Sharon Covert 5/8/26, Ashlee VanGuilder 6/5/26, and Michelle Cressley 6/30/26. All present voted yes.

Personnel **Motion:** It was moved by Lisa Beaver, seconded by Robert DeLong, to approve the following positions:
Kylie DiFanzo – Step 16 Masters
Emily Treat – Step 6 Masters
Chloe Stickle – Step 1 Bachelors

Pending receipts of certifications, clearances, and any other necessary documentation. All present voted yes.

Personnel

Motion: It was moved by Lisa Beaver, seconded by Robert DeLong, to approve Chloe Stickle and Caliana Windsor as substitute teachers for the remaining of the 2025-2026 sy pending receipts of certifications, clearances, and any other necessary documentation. All present voted yes.

Real Estate Tax Millage

Motion: It was moved by Lisa Beaver, seconded by Lindsey Anderson, for a 3% increase in Millage to 21.19. All present voted yes.

Tax Levies

Motion: It was moved by Lisa Beaver, seconded by Erikka Henretta, to approve the tax levies as follows: 1% for Earned Income Tax and 1% for Realty Transfer Tax. All present voted yes.

Preliminary Budget

Motion: It was moved by Lisa Beaver, seconded by Erikka Henretta, to approve the 2026-2027 general fund preliminary budget with expenditures totaling \$14,221,482. All present voted yes.

Depositories

Motion: It was moved by Lisa Beaver, seconded by Erikka Henretta, to approve the use of Hamlin Bank and Trust Company of Eldred, PSDLAF, and PLIGIT as a depository for the General Fund, Cafeteria, Capital, and Money market funds for the school district accounts including the General, Payroll, Cafeteria, Athletic, and Activity Fund for the period July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027. All present voted yes.

Solicitor

Motion: It was moved by Erikka Henretta, seconded by Lisa Beaver, to re-appoint Mr. Chris Byham as our solicitor for general counsel during the 2026-2027 school year. All present voted yes.

Solicitor

Motion: It was moved by Erikka Henretta, seconded by Lisa Beaver to re-appoint Knox Law as our solicitor for special education and labor topics for the 2026-2027 school year. All present voted yes.

Local Auditors

Motion: It was moved by Erikka Henretta, seconded by Lisa Beaver, to approve the request for Buffamante Whipple Buttafaro as local auditors for the 2026-2027 fiscal year. All present voted yes.

- Supplemental** **Motion:** It was moved by Erikka Henretta, seconded by Lisa Beaver, to approve the attached list of supplemental and volunteer positions for the 2026-2027 school year. All present voted yes, with the exception of Lance Baker and Jeannine Gray who abstained.
- Summer Employment** **Motion:** It was moved by Erikka Henretta, seconded by Lisa Beaver, to approve the following summer school employees and substitutes:
 Teachers: Grace Dalton, Diane Gardner, Teri Lucas, Kirsten Perry, Christine Yingling
 Substitutes: Tammy Schenfield, Kendall Tucker
 Paraprofessionals: Mary Arbor, Megan Nelson
 PE/Health: Michelle Cressley
 -pending receipts of certifications, clearances, and any other necessary documentation. All present voted yes.
- Summer Employment** **Motion:** It was moved by Erikka Henretta, seconded by Lisa Beaver, to approve the following summer technology employees:
 Rob Wight, Stephen Grinolds, and Daniel Tidd
 -pending receipts of certifications, clearances, and any other necessary documentation. All present voted yes.
- Graduation Senior List** **Motion:** It was moved by Lisa Beaver, seconded by Erikka Henretta, to approve the to approve the attached list of seniors that are to graduate on June 5, 2026. All present voted yes.
- Safe Schools** **Motion:** It was moved by Jeannine Gray, seconded by Lisa Beaver, to approve the Bullying Prevention Activities form as presented. All present voted yes.
- Safe Schools** **Motion:** It was moved by Erikka Henretta, seconded by Robert DeLong, to approve the MOU between Otto-Eldred and the PA State Police. All present voted yes.
- Service Agreements** **Motion:** It was moved by Jeannine Gray, seconded by Lisa Beaver, to approve the following service agreements:
 2026-2027 Penn Highlands Dual Credit Agreement
 2026-2027 UPMC Student Physicals
 2026-2027 UPMC Employee Physicals
 2026-2029 TGC Project RAPPOR
 2026-2027 Head Start MOU
 2026-20387 Alcohol & Drug Services Agreement
 2025-2026 IU9 Support Services Contract

All present voted yes.

Service Agreement **Motion:** It was moved by Jeannine Gray, seconded by Lisa Beaver, to approve the Seneca Highlands IU9 Special Education Services for the 2026-2027 school year. All present voted yes.

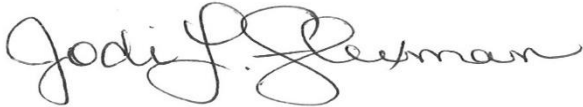
Stipulation of Discipline **Motion:** It was moved by Lisa Beaver, seconded by Erikka Henretta, to approve the stipulation of discipline agreement as presented 2025-26-01. All present voted yes.

Building & Grounds **Motion:** It was moved by Erikka Henretta, seconded by Lisa Beaver, to approve Mr. Splain to obtain quotes for driveway sealing and repairs. All present voted yes.

Adjourn **Motion:** It was moved by Lance Baker, seconded by Lisa Beaver, to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 pm into executive session. All present voted yes.

Executive Session ended at 8:08. No voting action was taken.

Respectfully submitted,



Jodi L. Flexman
Business Manager/Board Secretary