

FINAL MINUTES
REORGANIZATION MEETING
ELMWOOD PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION
JANUARY 5, 2021

The Reorganization meeting of the Elmwood Park Board of Education was held on Tuesday, January 5, 2021 at 5:02 p.m. in the High School/Middle School Media Center.

The Statement of Compliance, is hereby incorporated: In accordance with the requirements of Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of 1975, known as the “Open Public Meetings Act,” this is to confirm that we are in compliance with the Sunshine Law and all appropriate postings and notices have been made. The following information is Board of Education Policy: “1) Any individual addressing the board of education is to state his/her name and address and sign the register at the podium. 2) No verbal accusation against any employee or member of the board of education shall be permitted. Such accusations may be presented in writing and will be given full consideration by the board of education. 3) No action will be taken by the board of education at the same meeting on requests from the public, which may necessitate either a new policy or a change in existing policy.” Everyone stood for the flag salute and a moment of silence.

Mr. DiPaola, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, read the election results for the School Boards Election held on November 3, 2020.

THREE 3-YEAR TERMS:

	Douglas DeMatteo	5,276
	Dorin Aspras	3,591
(write in)	Elizabeth Mierzejewski	91

ONE 2-YEAR TERM:

	Carrie Paretto	5,555
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Mr. DeMatteo, Mrs. Aspras, Mrs. Merzejewski and Ms. Paretto, the elected members of the Elmwood Park Board of Education, were sworn in by the Honorable Mayor Robert Colletti.

The meeting was called to order and roll call was taken at 5:09 p.m.

Present were: Mrs. Dorin Aspras, Mr. Keith Cannizzo, Mr. Douglas DeMatteo, Mrs. Louise Gerardi, Mr. George Luke, Mrs. Elizabeth Mierzejewski, Ms. Carrie Paretto, Ms. Karen Pena.

Also present were Mr. Anthony Iachetti, Superintendent of Schools and Mr. John DiPaola, Business Administrator / Board Secretary.

Mr. DiPaola, Board Secretary, called for nominations for President.

Mr. George Luke was nominated as President by Motion of Mrs. Gerardi and Seconded by Ms. Paretti. There were no other nominations for President. Mr. Luke was approved unanimously by roll call vote of the members present.

Mr. DiPaola, Board Secretary, yielded to Mr. Luke, the Board President, who called for nominations for Vice-President.

Mrs. Louise Gerardi was nominated as Vice-President by Motion of Mrs. Apras and Seconded by Mr. DeMatteo. There were no other nominations for Vice-President. Mrs. Gerardi was approved unanimously by roll call vote of the members present.

All board members received two handouts, School Ethics and 10 Tips for New Board Members.

Item #9 Designation of Board Meeting dates, times and locations and Item #10 Annual Code of Ethics presentation and review, were voted on and approved.

Mr. Luke introduced Mr. Iachetti who briefly outlined conditions regarding reopening the district:

- Scheduled to reopen January 11th to hybrid instruction.
- The superintendent will speak to the Dept of Health (DOH) this Thursday to discuss the reopening.
- As of January 3rd the town's numbers from the DOH stand at 1,395 Covid cases.
- The entire county is at the "orange" level of alert which places more stringent guidelines on the schools to remain open.
- After the discussion Thursday with the DOH a final decision will be made on what the district status will be for January 11th.

The meeting was open for Public Comments at 5:18. There were none

At 5:19 p.m. the meeting was opened for board comments.

Mrs. Aspras

- Wished everyone a Happy New Year

Mr. Cannizzo

- Congratulated Mr. DeMatteo, Mrs. Aspras and Ms. Paretti on being elected to the board

Mr. DeMatteo

- Thanked the residents of Elmwood Park for re-electing him
- He will continue to work hard for the district
- Congratulated Mrs. Aspras and Ms. Paretti on being elected to the board
- Welcomed Mrs. Mierzejewski to the board

Mrs. Mierzejewski

- Happy New Year
- Thanked everyone for the warm welcome
- Looking forward to working with everyone

Ms. Paretti

- Thanked the residents of Elmwood Park for their confidence
- Looking forward to working with everyone
- Welcomed Mrs. Mierzejewski to the board

Ms. Pena

- Happy New Year
- Congratulated everyone on being elected
- Looking forward to working with everyone

Mrs. Gerardi

- Thanked board members for voting her in as Vice President
- Congratulated everyone on being elected

Mr. Luke

- Congratulated everyone on being elected
- Welcomed Mrs. Mierzejewski to the board
- Let's hope for a better year this year than last year with the virus

At 5:21 p.m. a Motion to adjourn the Reorganization Meeting was made by Mrs. Aspras and Seconded by Mrs. Gerardi and unanimously approved by voice vote of the members present.

I hereby certify these final summary minutes of the meeting of the Elmwood Park Board of Education in session on January 5, 2021, to be true and correct and in complete agreement with the official Minute Book of the Board of Education.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John DiPaola". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping tail.

John DiPaola
Business Administrator/Board Secretary



Elmwood Park Board of Education
ELMWOOD PARK, NEW JERSEY

AGENDA

REORGANIZATION MEETING

January 5, 2021

THE REORGANIZATION MEETING OF THE ELMWOOD PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION IS BEING HELD THIS EVENING AT **5:00 P.M. IN THE MEDIA CENTER AT MEMORIAL MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL, 375 RIVER DRIVE, ELMWOOD PARK, NEW JERSEY.**

1. SUNSHINE STATEMENT, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. RESULTS OF THE ANNUAL SCHOOL ELECTION

November 3, 2020

THREE 3-YEAR TERMS:

	Douglas DeMatteo	5,276
	Dorin Aspras	3,591
<i>(Write-in)</i>	Elizabeth Mierzejewski	91

ONE 2-YEAR TERM:

	Carrie Paretto	5,555
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3. ADMINISTERING OF OATHS OF OFFICE

- Elected Board Members - Three 3-year terms
Douglas DeMatteo
Dorin Aspras
Elizabeth Mierzejewski
- Elected Board Members - One 2-year term
Carrie Paretto

4. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY BOARD SECRETARY

5. ROLL CALL

Dorin Aspras
 Keith Cannizzo
 Douglas DeMatteo
 Louise Gerardi
 George Luke
 Elizabeth Mierzejewski
 Carrie Paretti
 Karen Pena
 Daniel Zoltek

6. BOARD SECRETARY ENTERTAINS MOTION TO ELECT PRESIDENT

NOMINATION OF PRESIDENT

BE IT RESOLVED, that **GEORGE LUKE** be elected to serve as **PRESIDENT** of the Elmwood Park Board of Education commencing January 5, 2021, until the Reorganization Meeting of 2022, pursuant to 18A:15-1.

Motion of: Mrs. Gerardi
 Seconded By: Ms. Paretti
 Vote on item #6 President:

	DA	KC	DD	LG	GL	EM	CP	KP	DZ
AYE	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	
NAY									
ABSENT									X
ABSTAINED					X				
RECUSED									

7. BOARD SECRETARY YIELDS CHAIR TO NEWLY ELECTED PRESIDENT

8. PRESIDENT CALLS FOR NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF VICE PRESIDENT

NOMINATION OF VICE PRESIDENT

BE IT RESOLVED, that **LOUISE GERARDI** be elected to serve as **VICE-PRESIDENT** of the Elmwood Park Board of Education commencing January 5, 2021 until the Reorganization Meeting of 2022, pursuant to 18A:15-1.

Motion of: Mrs. Aspras

Seconded By: Mr. DeMatteo

Vote on item #8 Vice President:

	DA	KC	DD	LG	GL	EM	CP	KP	DZ
AYE	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	
NAY									
ABSENT									X
ABSTAINED				X					
RECUSED									

9. DESIGNATION OF BOARD MEETING DATES, TIMES AND LOCATIONS

BE IT RESOLVED: The Elmwood Park Board of Education designates the fourth Tuesday of each month as its Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Hearings, as necessary, its Work Meeting and Regular Meeting day. **All HIB Hearings shall be held at 5:30 p.m.** in the Memorial High School Teachers' Cafeteria. **The Work Meetings are to be held at 6:00 p.m.** in the Memorial High School Teachers' Cafeteria, and **all Regular Meetings are held at 7:00 p.m.** in the Memorial High School Media Center, on the dates listed below, or in other locations as announced and posted. *Due to health and safety issues these meetings may also be held remotely and will be noticed as being remote meetings if need be.*

January 26, 2021	August 24, 2021
February 23, 2021	September 28, 2021
March 23, 2021	*October 19, 2021
April 27, 2021	November 23, 2021
May 25, 2021	*December 21, 2021
June 22, 2021	

* Third Tuesday of the Month

Note: *There will be no board meetings in July, unless necessary.*

Motion of: Mr. DeMatteo

Seconded By: Mrs. Gerardi

Vote on item #9 Meeting Dates:

	DA	KC	DD	LG	GL	EM	CP	KP	DZ
AYE	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
NAY									
ABSENT									X
ABSTAINED									
RECUSED									

10. ANNUAL CODE OF ETHICS PRESENTATION AND REVIEW

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Elmwood Park Board of Education hereby adopts the Code of Ethics for School Board Members and authorizes the Board Secretary/Business Administrator to reflect in the minutes that a discussion transpired in regard to the school Ethics Act as required.

Motion of: Mrs. Aspras

Seconded By: Mrs. Gerardi

Vote on item #10 Code of Ethics:

	DA	KC	DD	LG	GL	EM	CP	KP	DZ
AYE	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
NAY									
ABSENT									X
ABSTAINED									
RECUSED									

11. PUBLIC COMMENTS- GENERAL

12. BOARD COMMENTS

13. CLOSED SESSION-AS MAY BE REQUIRED

14. ADJOURNMENT

Certified to be true copies of resolutions adopted by the Elmwood Park Board of Education at its meeting held on January 5, 2021.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John DiPaola". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

John DiPaola, Business Administrator/Board Secretary