

ELMWOOD VILLAGE CHARTER SCHOOL

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 2025

EVCS DAYS CAMPUS

TRUSTEES PRESENT: *Jennifer Bernacki-Smith; Ed Castine; Kathy Franklin-Adams; Mimi Barnes Coppola; Nicca Lebeda; Ken Gholston; Lacole Brumfield; Jacob Piorkowski; Patti Anderson; George McLean; Pamela Pollock; Jason Lang; Anna Sotelo-Peryea*

TRUSTEES EXCUSED: *Matt Ryan*

TRUSTEES ABSENT: none

OTHERS PRESENT: *Danielle Bruno, EVCS Director of Schools; Liz Evans, EVCS Director of Operations; Anne Wechsler, EVCS Director of Curriculum and Instruction*

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice-chair Jacob Piorkowski called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. He presented the agenda. There were no changes.

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the Elmwood Village Charter School Board of Trustees meeting held on March 19, 2025 were presented. There were no changes.

Jen moved that the minutes be approved, and George seconded. Approved unanimously.

3. CHAIR REPORT

Jake shared that we are actively seeking nominations for the Board.

4. TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer is gathering information and working with the finance committee to bring options on investment before the Board. Budgeting process for 2025-2026 is in a holding pattern, expected to finalize May or June once additional information becomes available.

Pam moved that the financial report be approved, and Lacole seconded. Approved unanimously.

5. DIRECTORS' REPORT

The Directors' Report was prepared jointly by Danielle Bruno, Liz Evans, and Anne Wechsler.

DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS:

SCHOOL LEADERSHIP & CULTURE

- Principal search update
- Review and approval of 2025-2026 calendar (approved with edits)
- School culture highlights

STAFF SNAPSHOT:

HIRES (VOTE)

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Campus</u>	<u>Qualifications</u>
Substitute Teacher (Rehire)	Siegfried Behal	Hertel	Bachelors
Substitute Teacher	Kaitlin Czamara	Days Park	Bachelors
Substitute Teacher	Pasqual Acosta	Days Park	Masters
Substitute Teacher	Kathryn Condon	Days Park	Bachelors

Pam moved to approve new hires; Nicca seconded. Approved unanimously.

PROMOTIONS: None this month

EXITS: 2 non-instructional

DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION:

ACADEMICS

Strategic Plan Key Imperative: Academic Achievement

- NYS Assessment dates:
 - Science - April 23
 - ELA - April 29 & 30
 - Math - May 6 & 7
- Parent-teacher conferences: May 15th

Strategic Plan Goal: Excellent Teaching

- Continuing to provide targeted feedback on our EVCS Strategies for Excellent Teaching

DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS:

OPERATIONS/FACILITIES

Hertel: Work is scheduled for fields to prep them for athletics and soccer.

Days Park: Proposals are being received for fencing improvements on the Hudson Street side of the building to take place over the summer. Lights in parking lot and playground are being improved to increase visibility and safety.

Shared: EVCS will be hosting a Shakespeare performance of an abridged version of Romeo and Juliet on Monday August 4th at 7:00 p.m. at Hertel. It will be free and open to the public. This was arranged by our Communications and Community Engagement Coordinator.

ADMISSIONS/STUDENT ENROLLMENT

ENROLLMENT COUNTS:

Steady from previous month.

We are continuing to enroll students for the coming year, and are holding an accepted families open house from 10-12 on May 3 at Days Park and May 17 at Hertel.

Enrollment Waitlist is small to none in grades K-2. We are continuing to do outreach, encourage families to apply, and enrolling students on demand. We will continue to do this while we have open seats. We are strategizing ways to maximize enrollment at all upper grade levels and optimize staffing levels.

TECHNOLOGY

Wifi capacity has been tested in anticipation of upcoming computer based state testing throughout the coming month.

GRANTS/FINANCE

GRANTS: Final vouchers for Securing Communities Against Hate Crimes grant were submitted for light poles at Hertel and upgrading of security system.

FINANCE: NY State budget has still not passed. Budget meetings with all stakeholder groups have been held and when the funding levels are finalized, we can move forward with budget proposal review with finance committee and full board. Any proposed adjustments to the organizational chart will be presented with the budget for the board's review.

HR UPDATES

We are discussing 403b plan's TPA, and we have set up an introductory meeting with a local provider.

OTHER BUSINESS

None at this time.

Respectfully submitted by Danielle Bruno, Liz Evans, and Anne Wechsler – April 23, 2025

6. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

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| a. Academic Excellence Committee | Next meeting end of June (after STAR testing) |
| b. Space Planning Committee | Nothing to report. |
| c. Finance Committee | Nothing to report. |
| d. Nominating Committee | Looking for nominees. |
| e. Development and Advocacy Committee | Shuttered until needed. |
| f. EVCS Culture Committee | Met April 2, discussed EVCS experience. |

7. COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION REPORTS

- a. DAYS PARK: Discussed planning spaghetti dinner at start of 2025-2026 year to get school community together sooner. Staff appreciation breakfast planned for Teacher Appreciation Week. CA planning to assist with Field Day. Really successful social for Days parents at Iron Tail.
- b. HERTEL CAMPUS: Meat Raffle debrief. Instead of breakfast, we are sponsoring a (Paula's) donut delivery cart with Sunshine Committee. Donating to Field Days. Planning school dances for lower school and upper schools. Fundraising is down this year across the board. Chiavetta's dinner upcoming.

8. OLD BUSINESS

Hertel Principal search ongoing. 20th Anniversary planning underway for 2025-2026 School Year; committee assembling.

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS/NEW BUSINESS

Next meeting May 21 at Hertel. Future meetings as follows: June 18 (D), and July 16 (H).

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Jen moved to enter executive session, seconded by Ed. Motion carried.

Discussion ensued.

Ed moved to exit executive session, seconded by Patty. Motion carried.

Jen moved that the meeting be adjourned, and Pam seconded. Approved unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Anna Sotelo-Peryea

EVCS Board Secretary