

ELMWOOD VILLAGE CHARTER SCHOOL

# BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2025

EVCS DAYS PARK CAMPUS

TRUSTEES PRESENT: *Kathy Franklin-Adams; Nicca Lebeda; Ken Gholston; Lacole Brumfield; Jacob Piorkowski; Patti Anderson; George McLean; Owen VanKerkhove*

TRUSTEES EXCUSED: *Matt Ryan; Jennifer Bernacki-Smith; Ed Castine; Mimi Barnes Coppola; Anna Sotelo-Peryea*

TRUSTEES ABSENT: none

OTHERS PRESENT: *Danielle Bruno, EVCS Director of Schools; Anne Wechsler, EVCS Director of Curriculum and Instruction; Lisa Kirisits, Kirisits & Associates*

## 1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Jake Piorkowski called the meeting to order at 6:05 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 September 17, 2025, were presented. There were no changes.

*Lacole moved that the minutes be approved, and Ken seconded. Approved unanimously.*

## 3. CHAIR REPORT

Jake welcomed the new board member, an EVCS alumni, Owen VanKerkhove.

A committee of Board members and the administrative team plan to meet with two consultant firms regarding a succession plan for EVCS on October 17th.

## 4. TREASURER'S REPORT

Review of financials.

Discussions with NW Bank are underway regarding the loan refinancing. In the process of finalizing appraisals before the first of the month before moving forward.

*George moved that the financial report be approved, and Jason 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

Strategic Plan Goal: School Leadership and Culture

- 20th anniversary commemoration planning is underway.
  - o Alumni Events will be focused at Days Park and the old Elmwood location.
  - o Evening for EVCS is being brought back. Meeting next week between the admin team and CA to discuss planning and rolls.

Implementation of Strategic Plan

- Culture Rounds for strong classroom and schoolwide systems
- Updated processes and procedures for MTSS across both schools (collaborative work) including a shared dashboard for progress monitoring
- Mastery of excellent teaching strategies (in collaboration with Instructional Team)

### STAFF SNAPSHOT:

HIRES (VOTE)

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Campus</u>	<u>Qualifications</u>
Substitute Teacher	Julie Kalpin	Hertel	MA
Substitute Teacher	Rose Soto	Days Park	HS Diploma
Substitute Teacher	Deja Walker	Hertel	BA

*Kathy moved to approve new hires; Lacole seconded. Approved unanimously.*

PROMOTIONS: 0

EXITS: 0

## **DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION:**

STRATEGIC PLAN KEY IMPERATIVE:

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT (STUDENT PERFORMANCE GOAL)

NYS ASSESSMENT PROFICIENCY IN ELA AND MATH

- 8 PERCENTAGE POINT INCREASE IN ELA (PERCENT INCREASE: HERTEL - 26.5%, DAYS PARK - 16.7%)
- 8 PERCENTAGE POINT INCREASE IN MATH (PERCENT INCREASE: HERTEL - 26.1%, DAYS PARK - 16.8%)

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE COMMITTEE MEETING

- WE WOULD TYPICALLY BE REPORTING ON BOY ASSESSMENTS AND LAST YEAR'S NYS ASSESSMENT DATA AT THIS MEETING. DUE TO ABSENCES (AEC CHAIR AND HERTEL PRINCIPAL) AND LACK OF COMPARABLE REGIONAL DATA (HAS NOT BEEN RELEASED TO PUBLIC YET), WE WILL BE HOLDING OFF ON THIS UNTIL NOVEMBER MEETING

EXCELLENT TEACHING (TEACHER PERFORMANCE GOAL)

- STAR STUDENT GROWTH PERCENTILE (SGP) OF 65 IN BOTH ELA AND MATH
- STAR PROFICIENCY INCREASE OF AT LEAST 10 PERCENTAGE POINTS IN ELA AND MATH
- ALL TEACHERS WHO HAVE BEEN AT EVCS FOR 2 OR MORE YEARS WILL HAVE ATTAINED MASTERY OF EXCELLENT TEACHING STRATEGIES, DEFINED AS 80% ACHIEVEMENT ON THE STRATEGIES FOR EXCELLENT TEACHING RUBRICS FOR ALL 5 ARCS

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

LEAP K-5 MATH CURRICULUM UPDATE (SITE VISIT ON 10/12 AS PART OF OUR YEAR-LONG IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT)

- LESSON STRUCTURE IS BEING FOLLOWED AS INTENDED LEADING TO:
  - LESS TEACHER SCAFFOLDING - STUDENTS DOING MORE OF THE HEAVY LIFTING

- MORE MATHEMATICAL DISCOURSE - WHOLE CLASS AND IN THROUGH PARTNER WORK
- ENGAGED STUDENTS WHO ARE PRODUCING WORK DURING INDEPENDENT PRACTICE

#### PRACTICE CLINICS:

- USING POWER SCHOOL FOR GRADING (NEW TEACHER INDUCTION)
- GO GUARDIAN - TECH TOOL ALLOWING TEACHERS A REAL-TIME VIEW INTO STUDENT WORK AND THE ABILITY TO MANAGE DIGITAL RESOURCES BY CLASS OR INDIVIDUAL

#### INSTRUCTIONAL ROUNDS (2ND SET OF SCHOOL YEAR)

- TOPIC: INTERNALIZING THE LESSON PLAN & GRADUAL RELEASE OF RESPONSIBILITY (ARC 1 & ARC 2 OF STRATEGIES FOR EXCELLENT TEACHING)

SMARTE GOAL SETTING MEETINGS ARE UNDERWAY - COACHES WORK WITH TEACHERS TO SET TWO DATA-DRIVEN GOALS AND ONE GOAL OF THEIR CHOOSING.

#### **DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS:**

Hertel: Nothing new to report

Days Park: Days Park hot water tank needs to be replaced at a cost of \$12,800.

Shared: Snow plow contract was put out to bid and is currently in place after current provider indicated in September that he was unable to perform plowing duties for the coming year.

Space Planning met and reviewed plans for playgrounds from potential vendor. Another meeting will be scheduled to go over plans, bids, and choose vendor.

#### Admissions/Student Enrollment

Admissions is continuing to enroll students for the current year. Current projections are below enrollment target at Days Park, and are on target at Hertel.

Outreach – Our communications coordinator is finalizing an outreach schedule for media and advertising. School fairs are already underway and the admissions/communications team are participating in community tabling opportunities.

#### Technology/Data

Station 28 is in the process of increasing their hours. They have taken over much of the software administration and are more involved in responding to tech tickets and communication to staff.

#### Grants/Finance

Grants: Nothing new to report.

Finance: Nothing new to report.

#### HR Updates

Our HR Manager met with our benefits coordinators regarding trends for medical and ancillary insurance costs and will be presenting us with proposals in the coming month.

#### Other Business

Meeting with EVCS staff and CA representatives about Evening with EVCS is scheduled for

October 20th.

Respectfully submitted by Danielle Bruno, Liz Evans, and Anne Wechsler – October 15, 2025

## 6. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- |                                       |                                      |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| a. Academic Excellence Committee      | Will report on BOY data in November. |
| b. Space Planning Committee           | Renderings of playgrounds reviewed.  |
| c. Finance Committee                  | Nothing to report.                   |
| d. Nominating Committee               | Nothing to report.                   |
| e. Development and Advocacy Committee | Nothing to report.                   |
| f. EVCS Culture Committee             | Nothing to report.                   |

## 7. COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION REPORTS

- a. Days Park: Joint meeting was held between both CAs with plans to meet together on a semi annual basis. Trunk or Treat, Thanksgiving Food Drive were the main topics of conversation.
- b. Hertel Campus: Hertel had a successful fall pancake breakfast and will be seeking volunteers to help with upcoming events like the Evening for EVCS, Trunk or Treat and the Thanksgiving food drive.

## 8. OLD BUSINESS

20th Anniversary, see director's report.

## 9. ANNOUNCEMENTS/NEW BUSINESS

Next meeting November 19 at Hertel. Future meetings as follows: January 21 (H), February 11 (D), March 18 (H), April 15 (D), May 20 (H), June 17 (D), July 15 (H)

## 10. EXECUTIVE SESSION

SWOT Brainstorming Analysis by Ken Gholston

*George moved to enter the executive session, seconded by Patti. Motion carried.*

Discussion ensued.

*Lacole moved to exit the executive session, seconded by Kathy. Motion carried.*

*Kathy moved that the meeting be adjourned, and Owen seconded. Approved unanimously.*

The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 PM.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Nicca Lebeda*

*EVCS Hertel Parent Rep for*

*Anna Sotelo-Peryea*

*EVCS Board Secretary*