

ELMWOOD VILLAGE CHARTER SCHOOL

# BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2025

EVCS HERTEL CAMPUS

TRUSTEES PRESENT: *Matt Ryan; Kathy Franklin-Adams; Nicca Lebeda; Ken Gholston; Lacole Brumfield; Jacob Piorkowski; Patti Anderson; George McLean; Owen VanKerkhove Jennifer Bernacki-Smith; Mimi Barnes Coppola; Jason Lang*

TRUSTEES EXCUSED: *Ed Castine; Anna Sotelo-Peryea*

TRUSTEES ABSENT: none

OTHERS PRESENT: *Danielle Bruno, EVCS Director of Schools; Anne Wechsler, EVCS Director of Curriculum and Instruction; Liz Evans, Director of Operations, Sara Corona, Principal Hertel, Christine Cleary, Days Principal, Angel Bieter, Kirsits & Associates, Ebony Pope, Dawn Roberts*

## 1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Jake Piorkowski called the meeting to order at 5:59 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 October 15, 2025, were presented. There were no changes.

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

## 3. CHAIR REPORT

Succession Plan Consultant Meetings have been ongoing.

Coffee and donuts with the teachers and Board President at both campuses. This will happen again next trimester.

Went to meeting with the Charter School Association & Legislative Breakfast to network and share our economic frustrations.

## 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.

*Matt moved that the financial report be approved, and Owen 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

#### 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

*Mimi moved to approve new hires; Jason seconded. Approved unanimously.*

Promotions: 1 Ellery Brown

Exits: 1 Rojita Saedizedah

## **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%)

##### 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 11/14 THE SECOND OF TWO 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)

SMARTER 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 –  
November 19, 2025

## 6. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Academic Excellence Committee
  - Scores have hit the bottom and are recovering
  - Attendance is good
  - Social Emotional work is being done to reduce suspensions
  - Stabalization of administration
- b. Space Planning Committee
  - ?
- c. Finance Committee
  - Interviewing accountants for comparison including our current accountants.
  - Looking at mortgage refinance.
- d. Nominating Committee
  - Interviewing a new potential board member with a finance background.
  - Looking for more potential board members, possibly looking for a political background.
- e. Development and Advocacy Committee    Nothing to report.
- f. EVCS Culture Committee                      Nothing to report.

Ebony Pope and Dawn Roberts presented the Hertel school newspaper to the board as an example of an academic club taking place at Hertel

## 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 January 21 at Days. Future meetings as follows: 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

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

Discussion ensued.

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

*Ken moved that the meeting be adjourned, and George. Approved unanimously.*

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Nicca Lebeda*

*EVCS Hertel Parent Rep for*

*Anna Sotelo-Peryea*

*EVCS Board Secretary*