

**EAST AURORA UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Board of Education Meeting Digest for Wednesday, February 9, 2011**

---

Board President Daniel Brunson called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Other members present included Kathyann Lorca, Steven Zagrobelny, James Whitcomb, MaryBeth Covert, Eric Sweet and Dennis Holbrook.

**Superintendent Brian Russ commented:**

“On Sunday, March 6, 8th grader Rosanne Carbone participated in the verbal round of the Buffalo News Spelling Bee. After winning the local round here at EAMS, Rosanne then had to participate in the written round in which 78 school champions took the test to determine the final 20. In the verbal round, Rosanne finished in the top ten. Congratulations to Rosanne Carbone! 7th grader Bradley Carte was our school alternate to the Buffalo News Spelling Bee.

As the Buffalo News Spelling Bee is only open to grades 6-8, in January, the 5th grade also held their own spelling bee. First place went to Matthew Morgan. Second place went to Emily Lewandowski. Third place went to Matthew Lucyshyn.

6th grader Benjamin Bachman has qualified to represent our School and participate at the state level of the National Geographic Bee, sponsored by Google and Plum Creek. The State Geographic Bee will be held Friday, April 1, 2011 at the New York State Museum in Albany.

On Friday, Feb 25th, MS Physical Education teacher Chris Koselny and School Resource Officer Joe Ferrara were honored by the 100 Club of Buffalo at their annual banquet for their recent heroic lifesaving actions in the pool.”

District Clerk Wopperer announced that Board of Education election petitions would be available in her office tomorrow morning for the seats of Daniel Brunson, Stephen Zagrobelny and James Whitcomb.

**Board members' comments and committee reports:**

Dennis Holbrook announced that his son was admitted to the Rochester Bar today and credited the EAUFSD for assisting his son in that achievement.

**Administrator comments:**

EAHS principal Jay Hoagland announced a cultural exchange program for next year that will involve ten students in a two-week exchange with Spanish counterparts.

He also noted that some students who performed in the recent production *Seussical, the Musical* will be participating in the Kenny Awards at Shea's Performing Arts Center on April 10, accompanied by director Chris Cummins. Competing for “Kennys” against seven other nominated schools from WNY, they will perform a number from the musical.

Dr. Hoagland also commended American Math Competition winners Sam Zagrobelny, EAHS Class of 2012 (11/12 division) and Katherine Mentecki, EAHS Class of 2013 (9/10 division).

Finally, he noted that Business First released their newly designed analysis of last year's Regents exams, combining all of a school's results on different Regents tests to reflect the overall 2010 Regents performance. EAHS's index for 2010 was 30.338, which ranked seventh among 119 public high schools in WNY. The scores on specific Regents exams that are ranked among the top ten include German (#1), US History (#3), Living Environment (#4), Global Studies (#4), Earth Science (#4), Chemistry (#5), and Latin (#7). “This is another example of the quality of our students, teachers and community. I appreciate everyone's efforts to make our school one of the best in WNY,” said Dr. Hoagland.

Colleen Klimchuck announced that third grader Grace Tapani won one of the first prizes in the Buffalo Auto Show students' contest.

**Visitor comments:**

Becky Bailey, president of the Civil Service Union, announced that her group will continue to negotiate with the district, and also credited the district's educational program for the successes of her three daughters.

## Reports:

Mr. Blowers reviewed the January, 2011 Treasurer's Report, Budget Status Report, Revenue Report and Fund Balance Report to date

## Board Discussion

Mr. Russ and Mr. Blowers presented the 2011-2012 Preliminary Budget, and discussion followed among members of the Board of Education and District Administrators.

The Board of Education finalized the vacancy brochure and application.

## In business, Superintendent Russ recommended that the Board of Education:

- Approved co-curricular appointments for 2011 HS Drama production: Christopher Cummins – Drama Director, Krisanne Hailey – Drama Art/Set Director, Rory Brake – Drama Technical Director ;
- Approved the following interscholastic appointments: John Huslander, Volunteer Softball Coach; Christopher O'Connor, Volunteer Boys Lacrosse Coach; Peter Odrobina, Volunteer Baseball Coach;
- Approved the promotional appointment of Steven Smith as custodian at the High School, effective February 7, 2011, replacing John Gauthier;
- Approved the promotional appointment of Shelly DiChiaro, Laborer at the High School, effective February 28, 2011, replacing Steven Smith;
- Approved minutes of previous Board of Education meetings of February 9 and February 17, 2011;
- Approved recommendations of the Committees on Special Education and Preschool Special Education of February 9 & 18, 2011; Approved the High School Course Catalog as presented by Dr. Hoagland at the February 9, 2011 Board of Education meeting.
- Approved the following textbooks and supplementary materials:

Course	Title	Copyright	Author/Publisher
English World Literature	The Namesake	2003	Jhumpa Lahiri
English World Literature	The Woman Warrior	1975	Maxine Hong Kingston
English American Literature	Ceremony	1977	Leslie Marmon Silko

- Nominated Lori E. Sabo and David L. Lowrey to be included on the Ballot as Board Member Candidates to serve on the Board of Cooperative Educational Services, Second Supervisory District of Erie, Chautauqua and Cattaraugus Counties in an Election to be held on Tuesday, April 27, 2010

**Next regularly scheduled regular Board meeting, March 17, 2011.**



### Members of the Board of Education:

Front row, left to right: Eric Sweet, Vice-president Kathyann Lorke,

President Daniel Brunson, MaryBeth Covert,  
(back row) S. Dennis Holbrook, Stephen Zagrobelny, James Whitcomb  
[www.eastauraschools.org](http://www.eastauraschools.org)