

**City Board of Education
Washington Court House City Schools
Organizational Board Meeting
Monday, January 12, 2026 at 7:00 PM**

The Board of Education of the City School District of Washington Court House, Fayette County, Ohio met in regular session pursuant to the rules of section 3313.15 of the Ohio Revised Code, at 306 Highland Avenue, on Monday, January 12, 2026 at 7:00 PM and proceeded to consider business under section 3313.15 of the Ohio Revised Code.

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE (Agenda Item 1)

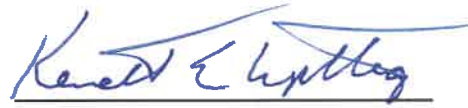
The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Pro-Tem Dr. Camp. Dr. Camp asked Gavin Bunch to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

OATH OF OFFICE (Agenda Item 2)

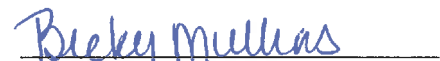
James Bunch and Kenneth Upthegrove, elected on November 4, 2025 as Board of Education members of the Washington Court House City Schools for a 4-year term were administered the oath of office.

“ James Bunch and Kenneth Upthegrove, do you solemnly swear (or affirm) that you will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Ohio; and that you will faithfully and impartially discharge your duties as a member of the Board of Education of the Washington Court House City Schools, Fayette County, Ohio, to the best of your ability, and in accordance with the laws now in effect and hereinafter to be enacted, during your continuance in said office?” The answer is “I do.”


/s/ James Bunch


/s/ Kenneth Upthegrove

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 12th day of January 2026.


/s/ Becky Mullins
Treasurer/CFO
Washington C.H., Ohio 43160

ROLL CALL (Agenda Item 3)

Board Members Present:

Mr. Bunch
Dr. Camp
Mrs. Downing
Mrs. Lynch
Mr. Upthegrove

Others Present:

Chris Briggs
Becky Mullins
Erica Malone
Lisa Robinson
Gavin Bunch
Chad White
Tyler Flora
Megan Anderson
Mason Coffman
Chelsie Baker
Matt Stanly
Kim Hays
Jake Hays
Amber White
Quinn Phillips
Mike Phillips
Brady Streitenberger

ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, OR CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA (Agenda Item 4)

None

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION REGARDING AN AGENDA ITEM (Agenda Item 5)

None

ELECTION OF PRESIDENT (Agenda Item 6)

President Pro-Tem Dr. Camp called for nominations for the office of president. Mrs. Downing nominated Dr. Camp for President.

Mr. Upthegrove seconded the nomination.

Motion 2026-01

Mrs. Lynch moved that nominations be closed.

Mr. Upthegrove seconded the motion.

On roll call the members voted as follows:

Mr. Bunch, yea; Dr. Camp, yea; Mrs. Downing, yea; Mrs. Lynch, yea; Mr. Upthegrove, yea (5 yeas)

President Pro-Tem Dr. Camp declared nominations for President be closed.

The Board then proceeded with election of the President for the coming year.

Motion 2026-02

On roll call the members voted as follows:

Mr. Bunch, yea; Dr. Camp, yea; Mrs. Downing, yea; Mrs. Lynch, yea; Mr. Upthegrove, yea (5 yeas)

President Pro-Tem Dr. Camp declared the motion carried.

Dr. Camp, having received more than the required number of votes, was declared President for the term of one (1) year.

Treasurer Becky Mullins administered the oath of office to Dr. Camp. The oath, as administered and signed is stated below.

OFFICIAL OATH

State of Ohio
County of Fayette

“Dr. Camp, do you solemnly swear (or affirm) that you will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Ohio, and that you will faithfully, honestly, and impartially discharge the duties of the office of President of the Board of Education of the Washington Court House City Schools, Fayette County, Ohio during your continuance in office.” The answer is “I do”.



/s/ Zach Camp

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 12th day of January 2026.



/s/ Becky Mullins
Treasurer/CFO
Washington C.H., Ohio 43160

PRESIDENT ASSUMES THE CHAIR: Dr. Camp assumed the chair at this time and the meeting continued.

ELECTION OF VICE PRESIDENT (Agenda Item 7)

President Camp called for nominations for the office of vice president. Mr. Upthegrove nominated Mrs. Downing.

Motion 2026-03

Mrs. Lynch moved that nominations be closed.

Mr. Upthegrove seconded the motion.

On roll call the members voted as follows:

Mr. Bunch, yea; Dr. Camp, yea; Mrs. Downing, yea; Mrs. Lynch, yea; Mr. Upthegrove, yea
(5 yeas)

President Camp declared nominations for Vice President be closed.

The Board then proceeded with election of the Vice President for the coming year.

Motion 2026-04

On roll call the members voted as follows for Vice President.

Mr. Bunch, yea; Dr. Camp, yea; Mrs. Downing, yea; Mrs. Lynch, yea; Mr. Upthegrove, yea
(5 yeas)

President Camp declared the motion carried.

Mrs. Downing, having received more than the required number of votes, was declared Vice President for the term of one (1) year.

Treasurer Becky Mullins administered the oath of office to Mrs. Downing. The oath, as administered and signed is stated below.

OFFICIAL OATH

State of Ohio
County of Fayette

“Mrs. Downing, do you solemnly swear (or affirm) that you will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Ohio, and that you will faithfully, honestly, and impartially discharge the duties of the office of Vice President of the Board of Education of the Washington Court House City Schools, Fayette County, Ohio during your continuance in office.” The answer is “I do”.


/s/ Wendy Downing

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 12th day of January 2026.


/s/ Becky Mullins
Treasurer/CFO

VICE PRESIDENT ASSUMES THE CHAIR: Mrs. Downing assumed the chair at this time and the meeting continued.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Agenda Item 8)

The minutes of the December 15, 2025 regular meeting were included with the agenda. President Camp asked if there were any corrections, additions, or deletions to the minutes.

Motion 2026-05

Mrs. Lynch moved to accept the approval of the minutes.

Mr. Bunch seconded the motion.

On roll call the members voted as follows:

Mr. Bunch, yea; Dr. Camp, yea; Mrs. Downing, yea; Mrs. Lynch, yea; Mr. Upthegrove, yea (5 yeas)

President Camp declared the motion carried.

PRESENTATIONS (Agenda Item 9)

- **Washington High School – Brady Streitenberger**
- **Athletics – Joe Kimling**
- **Washington Band Boosters – Matt Stanley**
- **January OSBA School Board Recognition Month**

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT- Dr. Briggs (Agenda Item 10)

The Superintendent recommended the approval of the following personnel items:

A. Resignation:

1. Courtney Havens- Custodian, effective December 23, 2025

B. Employment:

1. Bryan Munro – Substitute custodian/casual
2. Beth Gerber – Substitute teacher
3. Haley Whitt – TBT leader, effective September 24, 2025

C. Unpaid Leaves of Absence:

1. John Clark – Custodian, from October 6, 2025 through an undetermined time
2. Margaret Matthews – Cook, from October 31, 2025 through an undetermined time

D. Authorization to Accept Resignations:

This resolution will authorize the Superintendent, on behalf of this Board, to accept resignations which have been submitted by employees during times when this Board is not in session, subject to ratification by this Board; provided however, that upon ratification by this Board, such resignations shall be deemed effective as of the date and time of the Superintendent’s acceptance. The authorization provided by this resolution shall commence from January 1, 2026 and remain in effect through December 31, 2026.

E. Authorization to Hire:

This resolution will authorize the Superintendent, during periods when this Board is not in session, to make offers of employment directly to candidates for either teaching or nonteaching positions on behalf of this Board, and to acknowledge acceptance of such offers on behalf of this Board, subject to a subsequent vote of ratification by this Board; provided however, that upon ratification by this Board, the employment shall be deemed effective as of the date and time of the employee’s acceptance of the Superintendent’s offer. Nothing in this resolution shall require the

Board of Education to employ or continue to employ an individual who has not provided a criminal records check satisfactory to the Board or who has not satisfied any other prerequisite to employment created by law or Board policy. The authorization provided by this resolution shall commence from January 1, 2026 and remain in effect through December 31, 2026.

**F. Approval of Substitute Teachers for Second Semester of 2025-2026
School Year:**

1. Robert Armentrout
2. Colton Askew
3. Annetta Baker
4. Reagan Baker
5. Barbara Beam
6. Janet Bihl
7. Brendee Billings
8. Katherine Blumenberg
9. Amanda Brown
10. Dorinda Burley
11. Ellen Businger
12. Julie Carter
13. Stacy Claypool
14. Kristeen D'Aurizio
15. Jordan Darling
16. John Denen – Building substitute at WHS & WMS
17. Delite Dodds
18. Kate Downing
19. Tracy Dunkle
20. Trent Dye
21. Alexandria Elliott
22. Susan Ellis
23. Kacy Eplin
24. David Evans
25. Kevin Evans
26. Stephanie Fisk
27. Jarrett Forrest
28. Jessica Fryer
29. Hannah Girton
30. Tawana Golding
31. Camden Griffith
32. Tara Grimm
33. Christy Grooms
34. Sarah Gruber
35. Kayleigh Heffner
36. Krista K. Hott
37. Stacey Howard

38. Michele Jackson
39. Amber Jenkins
40. Daria Jones
41. Jillian Kelsey
42. Lori "Krista" King
43. Julie Knoblauch
44. Kathryn Leach
45. Valerie LeBeau
46. Alexis Lennert
47. Tara Malloy
48. Taylor Martin
49. Diane Matticks
50. Scott McCoy
51. Joseph Meeker
52. Debra Melvin
53. Debbra Minyo
54. Christin Morris
55. Sydney Mycroft
56. Teresa Myers
57. Kelly Pavey
58. Matthew Peters
59. Beatrice Pettiford
60. Ryan Pontius
61. Katie Purdin
62. Janine Ramirez
63. Taylor Reed
64. Pamela Robinson
65. Glenna Rowe
66. Ethan Saunders
67. Carli Schatmeyer
68. Mackenzie Shaffer
69. Lori Vanzant
70. Matthew Williams
71. Brittney Wilson
72. Lindsay Wilson (Bloom)
73. RaChelle Wolfe
74. Linda Wright
75. Randolph Yankowski

Motion 2026-06

Mrs. Lynch moved to accept the Superintendent's report A-F 75.

Mr. Upthegrove seconded the motion.

On roll call the members voted as follows:

Dr. Camp, yea; Mrs. Downing, yea; Mrs. Lynch, yea; Mr. Upthegrove, yea; Mr. Bunch, yea
(5 yeas)

President Camp declared the motion carried.

76. Megan Camp

Motion 2026-07

Mr. Upthegrove moved to accept the Superintendent's report F 76.

Mrs. Downing seconded the motion.

On roll call the members voted as follows:

Mrs. Downing, yea; Mrs. Lynch, yea; Mr. Upthegrove, yea; Mr. Bunch, yea; Dr. Camp, abstain;
(4 yeas)

(1 abstention)

President Camp declared the motion carried.

The Superintendent recommended the approval of the following instructional item:

G. Conferences, Orientations, Professional Development:

Periodically, members of the staff desire to attend conferences designed to improve their service to the schools. The Superintendent seeks the board's authority to approve these conferences as they arise. Additionally, if district-provided orientations or professional development opportunities arise outside of the normal working day or contract, the Superintendent seeks the board's authority to approve them and pay a \$100.00 (full day) or \$50.00 (half day) stipend from state/federal program funds.

The Superintendent recommended the approval of the following operational items:

H. Request for Advancement of Tax Monies Due:

The Superintendent recommended that the Board of Education authorize the Treasurer to request advancement of funds from the Fayette County Auditor's Office as those funds become available.

I. Authorization to Make Disbursements:

The Superintendent recommended that the Treasurer be authorized to disburse funds to meet the fiscal obligations as those obligations come due.

J. Authorization to Transfer:

The Superintendent recommended that the Treasurer be authorized to make fund-to fund advances, advance returns and transfers as needed throughout the year with Board ratification as part of the financial reports.

K. Authorization to Borrow Money:

The Superintendent recommended that the Treasurer be authorized to borrow funds in anticipation of future tax receipts as permitted by Ohio Revised Code 133.301 at the best available rate for cash flow purposes.

L. Investment of Funds:

The Superintendent recommended the authorization of the Treasurer to invest monies periodically as those funds become available for investment.

M. Appointment of Counsel:

The Superintendent recommended the appointment of the firm Ennis Britton Co., LPA as special counsel to the Board. The regular counsel to the Board is, by statute, the city law director.

N. Fundraising by a Charitable Organization:

As directed by Policy 9700, Relations with Special Interest Groups, any outside organization desiring to solicit funds on school property must receive permission to do so from the Superintendent and Board upon meeting the criteria established in the District's administrative guidelines. Approval was requested for 2026 in advance for Penny Pals (United Way of Fayette County), Jump Rope for Heart (American Heart Association), Relay for Life (American Cancer Association) and Pelotonia Bicycle Ride (Cancer research at The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center, The James)

O. Special Education Agreements: The Superintendent seeks approval to enter into special education agreements for any additional services needed regarding students with Individual Education Plans through the calendar year of 2026.**P. Resolution to Appoint Designee for Public Records Training:**

This resolution appoints the Treasurer as designee for school board members James Bunch and Kenneth Upthegrove with terms beginning January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2029 and to represent them at public records training sessions.

Q. Resolution Regarding Impractical Student Transportation:

The Superintendent seeks the ability during the calendar year of 2026 to make determinations that student transportation is impractical after considering individual data relevant to each particular situation and analyzing the factors outlined in RC 3327.02. Such determinations shall be subject to formalization at the next following meeting of the Board.

R. Written Summary of Reported Incidents of Bullying for First Semester of 2025-2026 as attached.

S. Policy 5136 – Personal Communication Devices (revised) as attached

T. Rental and Facility Use Request:

1. Kirby Wary of K Company Dance requested the use of the historic auditorium on Thursday, May 28 and Friday, May 29 2026 for their rehearsal and dance recital. The rental amount of \$315.00 and a liability policy has been requested before the event.

Motion 2026-08

Mrs. Downing moved to accept the Superintendent's report G-T.

Mr. Bunch seconded the motion.

On roll call the members voted as follows:

Mrs. Lynch, yea; Mr. Upthegrove, yea; Mr. Bunch, yea; Dr. Camp, yea; Mrs. Downing, yea (5 yeas)

President Camp declared the motion carried.

The Superintendent recommended the approval of the following athletic items:

U. Athletic Supplemental Contracts:

The following personnel are recommended for employment on the Supplemental Salary Schedule for Fiscal Years 2024-2026. Pursuant to ORC 3313.53, vacant positions were posted for certificated employees and certificated non-employees and no persons may have applied for or accepted the positions. For the positions for which there were no qualified certificated individuals, qualified non-certificated individuals may be recommended. All coaching recommendations are subject to holding valid pupil activity permits.

1. Brian Yeazel – Head baseball coach, non-certificated
2. Scott Flowers – Assistant baseball coach, non-certificated
3. Aaron Robertson – Assistant baseball coach, non-certificated
4. Zach Collett – High school assistant boys track coach, non-certificated
5. Taylor Alsop – High school assistant girls track coach, certificated
6. Richard Oakes – High school assistant track coach, certificated
7. Ryan Barton – Head middle school boys track coach, non-certificated
8. Zach Anderson – Middle school head girls track coach, non-certificated
9. Jaelyn Mason – Middle school assistant girls track coach, non-certificated

10. Lizzy Valentine – Volunteer gymnastics coach, non-certificated, effective December 17, 2025
11. Amy Stuckey – Reserve girls wrestling coach, ½ contract, non-certificated, effective December 23, 2025
12. Timothy “TJ” Crowder – Head softball coach, certificated

Motion 2026-09

Mr. Upthegrove moved to accept the Superintendent’s report U.

Mrs. Downing seconded the motion.

On roll call the members voted as follows:

Mr. Upthegrove, yea; Mr. Bunch, yea; Dr. Camp, yea; Mrs. Downing, yea; Mrs. Lynch, yea (5 yeas)

President Camp declared the motion carried.

TREASURER’S REPORT - Mrs. Mullins (Agenda Item 11)

- A. The Treasurer recommended the acceptance of the following donations:
 1. \$5.00 – Board Member Support Fund
 2. \$250.00- Pam Robinson – Boys Basketball
 3. \$250.00 – Pam Robinson – Girls Basketball
 4. \$478.99 – Stella Doster Hendryx and Elizabeth H. Devins Palaskas Scholarship
 5. \$500.00 – McDonalds – Athletics
 6. \$1,000.00 – Unlimited Contracting Solutions, LLS – Robotics
 7. \$10,000.00 – Valero
- B. The Treasurer recommended the acceptance of the following funds:
 1. \$500.00 – Great Oaks Career Campuses – Bus reimbursement
 2. \$6,345.72 – McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Program
 3. \$7,814.41 – Title IV Part A Student Support & Academic Enrichment Programs
 4. \$21,669.72 – Improving Teacher Quality
 5. \$168,656.92 – IDEA Part B Special Education Assistance for all Children with Disabilities Ages 3-21
 6. \$174,293.33 – Public School Preschool
 7. \$268,243.16 – Title I – Disadvantaged Children
- C. Credit Card Rewards – Detail report of rewards based on the use of the District’s credit card accounts for 2025 as attached.
- D. For information and to be recorded as public record, board member Jennifer Lynch has elected single dental insurance and family vision insurance coverage for 2026 and board member Wendy Downing has elected family dental insurance and family vision insurance coverage for 2026 as authorized under section 9.9 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Motion 2026-10

Mr. Bunch moved to accept the Treasurer's report A-C.

Mr. Upthegrove seconded the motion.

On roll call the members voted as follows:

Mr. Bunch, yea; Dr. Camp, yea; Mrs. Downing, yea; Mrs. Lynch, yea; Mr. Upthegrove, yea (5 yeas)

President Camp declared the motion carried.

HEARING OF THE PUBLIC (Agenda Item 12)

(No more than 3 minutes per individual).

Washington Court House City Schools welcome discussion, comments and ideas to grow the District. However, complaints about public school employees should be made through the procedure outlined in Board Policy and not in open session.

Mason Coffman spoke to the Board regarding Excel Athletix

OLD BUSINESS (Agenda Item 13)

Window Project Update – Project is to begin the week of January 19, 2026 at Washington Middle School

NEW BUSINESS (Agenda Item 14)

A. Discussion of board member representation/appointment for 2026:

Legislative Liaison/OSBA - Dr. Camp

Student Achievement Liaison - Mrs. Downing

- **Legislative liaison** - *Each of Ohio's public-school boards should appoint one member, at the January organizational meeting, to serve as its district's legislative liaison. (Each school district should inform OSBA of the appointment as soon as possible. This appointment should be reflected on the OSBA roster form.) The legislative liaisons are a vital part of OSBA's legislative advocacy program because local board members are uniquely positioned to communicate to their legislators the local impact of the decisions made in the legislature. Each legislative liaison has four main objectives: 1) To share, at least monthly, information from OSBA about state and federal education-related legislation with their fellow board members; 2) To encourage their school board colleagues to contact their legislators on important legislative issues; 3) To establish and maintain relationships with their legislators; and 4) To join Kids PAC, OSBA's political action committee, and to encourage other board members to join, as well. Each legislative liaison will receive a copy of The Link publication. It is a monthly publication that will be sent via e-mail unless you request a hard copy be mailed. Furthermore, each Legislative Liaison will receive Facts in a Flash, OSBA's weekly legislative update. Facts in a Flash is distributed via e-mail, when the legislature is in session, and is an excellent resource for staying informed on legislative proposals and hearing schedules.*

- **Student achievement liaison** - *Each of Ohio's public-school boards should appoint one member, at the January organizational meeting, to serve as its district's student achievement liaison. (Each school district should inform OSBA of the appointment as soon as possible. This appointment should be reflected on the OSBA roster form.) The student achievement liaisons are a vital part of OSBA's Student Achievement Initiative as links among individual school boards and the OSBA Student Achievement Leadership Team (SALT). Each student achievement liaison has five main objectives: 1)To share, at least monthly, information about ways to improve student achievement with their fellow board members; 2)To encourage their school board colleagues to focus on improving student achievement; 3)To establish and maintain relationships with their academic booster groups; 4)To send information on successful district programs to the Student Achievement Leadership Team and to nominate the programs for the Student Achievement Fair; and 5)To participate in SALT activities and encourage other board members to so, as well. There are several SALT events during the Capital Conference. Furthermore, each student achievement liaison will receive Success, OSBA's monthly SALT newsletter. Success is distributed to OSBA members. Student achievement liaisons are encouraged to lead a monthly discussion with fellow board members and administrative staff on items in Success.*

ADJOURNMENT (Agenda Item 15)

Motion 2026-11

Mr. Upthegrove moved to adjourn the meeting.

Mrs. Downing seconded the motion.

On roll call the members voted as follows:

Dr. Camp, yea; Mrs. Downing, yea; Mrs. Lynch, yea; Mr. Upthegrove, yea; Mr. Bunch, yea
(5 yeas)

President Camp declared the meeting adjourned.

Meeting adjourned at 8:08 PM

ATTEST
President



Treasurer

Becky Mullins