* The Board of Education recognizes the value to school governance of public comment on educational issues and the importance of allowing members of the public to express themselves on school matters of community interest.

In order to permit the fair and orderly expression of such comment, the Board shall provide a period for public participation at every public meeting of the Board and publish rules to govern such participation. These rules are available at each Board meeting. Anyone desiring to speak is asked to make this request in advance. Participants must be recognized by the presiding officer. Comments shall be directed to the presiding officer; not to Board members individually. Board Bylaw 0169.1

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Roll Call: Mr. Manfredi, Ms. Timmons, Mr. Koster - Present
Mr. Miller, Mr. Honkala – Absent

Motion made by Mr. Koster, seconded by Mr. Timmons to approve the current agenda and the minutes from November 18, 2013 board meeting.

Roll Call: All Ayes, Two Absent
Motion Carried.

Recognition:

Mr. Manfredi presented The Geauga County Maple Leaf with certificates of appreciation for their coverage of Berkshire Local Schools.

Expenditures and Interest Earned:

Let the records reflect that – The Treasurer has submitted a statement to the board and to the Superintendent showing the revenues and receipts from whatever sources derived, the various appropriations made by the board, the expenditures and disbursements therefrom, the purposes thereof, and the balances remaining in each fund. The financial statements for the period ending November, 2013 submitted subject to audit and include: Financial Summary, Appropriations and Revenue Summary, Check Register Recap, and Bank Reconciliation per ORC 3313.29.

Donation:

Motion made by Ms. Timmons, seconded by Mr. Koster to accept the following donations:

$1,000 from Larry and Joyce Moore to be used for the purchase and replacement of musical equipment
$1,000 from Kinetico for the Actively Caring For People Program.

Roll Call: All Ayes, Two Absent
Motion Carried.
Then and Now Encumbrances

Motion made by Mr. Koster, seconded by Ms. Timmons to approve the following Then and Now encumbrances:

- Sun Pro Mercury Spill $6,066.56
- PEP Special Ed Costs $6,615.00

Roll Call: All Ayes, Two Absent
Motion Carried.

Invoice

Motion made by Ms. Timmons, seconded by Mr. Manfredi to approve the annual membership in the Ohio Schools Boards’ Association, legal assistance fund and subscription to the Briefcase.

Roll Call: All Ayes, Two Absent
Motion Carried.

Vocational Report:

None.

Committee Report:

None

Superintendent’s Report and Recommendations:

Personnel

Certified:

Motion made by Ms. Timmons, seconded by Mr. Manfredi to approve the following supplemental contract for the 2013/2014 school year:

- Janet Duns 6th Grade Math Counts Advisor
- Richard Guthrie Junior High Wrestling Coach
- Richard Guthrie 8th Grade Trip Coordinator

Roll Call: All Ayes, Two Absent
Motion Carried.
Motion made by Mr. Manfredi, seconded by Mr. Koster to approve the following Home Bound Tutor for the 2013/2014 school year:

- Mindy Cannella

Roll Call: All Ayes, Two Absent
Motion Carried.

Motion made by Mr. Koster seconded by Ms. Timmons to approve Janet Blaha as an after school/Home Bound Tutor, $15.00 an hour, with no benefits for the 2013/2014 school year:

Roll Call: All Ayes, Two Absent
Motion Carried.

Motion made by Mr. Manfredi, seconded by Ms. Timmons to accept the retirement resignation of Gerald Canton, effective March 31, 2014.

Roll Call: All Ayes, Two Absent
Motion Carried.

Classified:

Motion made by Mr. Koster, seconded by Ms. Timmons to approve the following supplemental contracts for the 2013/2014 school year:

- Josh DeWeese  Junior High Wrestling Coach-50%
- Jesse DeWeese  Junior High Wrestling Coach-50%

Roll Call: All Ayes, Two Absent
Motion Carried.

Motion made by Ms. Timmons, seconded by Mr. Koster to recall Kayrn Petersen, classroom aide, from the RIF list, Step 15, effective December 2, 2014.

Roll Call: All Ayes, Two Absent
Motion Carried.

Business:

Motion made by Ms. Timmons, seconded by Mr. Manfredi to approve the Third Reading for the following NEOLA Policy New/Revisions:
Old Business

Mr. DeLong reported that Career Day has been set for January 8, 2014 at Kent Geauga Campus. They have thirty businesses scheduled to participate.

Mr. Manfredi gave an update on the Consolidation efforts with Newbury.

New Business

Motion made by Ms. Timmons, seconded by Mr. Manfredi to hold the January Organizational meeting on January 13, 2014 at 6 p.m., with the regular meeting to immediately follow. An alternative date of January 14, 2014 will be held in case of inclement weather.

Roll Call: All Ayes, Two Absent
Motion Carried.

Motion made by Mr. Koster, seconded by Ms. Timmons to appoint John Manfredi, President Pro Tem, effective until the annual Reorganizational Meeting in January 2014.

Roll Call: All Ayes, Two Absent
Motion Carried.

Motion made by Mr. Manfredi, seconded by Ms. Timmons to approve the following resolution of Berkshire Local Board of Education’s intent to seek consolidation of the Berkshire Local School District with the Newbury Local School District.

RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO CONDUCT A STUDY OF THE NEED FOR CONSOLIDATION OF BERKSHIRE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT AND NEWBURY LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT AND AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING RELATED MATTERS

(Ohio Revised Code Sections 3311.37, 3311.11)
WHEREAS, state law authorizes the Ohio State Board of Education (the "State Board") to conduct a study (the "Study") of the need of consolidation of contiguous school districts, including improvements in school district organization and the desires of residents of the affected districts; and

WHEREAS, the Board has researched the option of consolidation for several years with significant community input; and

WHEREAS, Berkshire and the Newbury Local School District ("Newbury") are contiguous, both wholly located in Geauga County, and both served by the Geauga County Educational Service Center; and

WHEREAS, the Board intends to retain Public Finance Resources, Inc., to perform such additional financial analysis as necessary to determine the savings and resulting financial impact from a consolidation of Berkshire and Newbury; and

WHEREAS, due to the financial status of Berkshire and Newbury, expiration dates of their collective bargaining agreements and the 2014 election schedule, the Study must proceed in order to determine the viability of consolidation for either the May or November 2014 ballot pursuant to Exhibit A attached hereto;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the Berkshire Local School District, Geauga County, Ohio, a majority of the members of the Board concurring, that:

Section 1. The State Board is hereby requested to perform the Study of the consolidation of Berkshire and Newbury.

Section 2. The Board President, Superintendent, and the Treasurer, or any of them individually, are hereby authorized to execute and deliver on behalf of the Board any and all documents, reports, and agreements that are in their judgment necessary or appropriate in connection with the Study.

Section 3. The Treasurer is directed to immediately certify a copy of this Resolution to the State Board.

Section 4. All formal actions of this Board concerning and relating to the passage of this Resolution were taken in an open meeting of this Board, and that all deliberations of this Board and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Roll Call: Ms. Timmons - Aye, Mr. Koster - Aye, Mr. Manfredi - Aye
Mr. Miller – Absent, Mr. Honkala – Absent
Motion Carried.
Open Public Participation
None

Adjournment
Motion made by Ms. Timmons, seconded by Mr. Manfredi, to adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call: All Ayes, Two Absent
Motion Carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Mr. John Manfredi President

Mrs. Beth McCaffrey Recorder of Proceedings