

VAN WERT CITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, December 20, 2023 - 5:00 p.m.
First Federal Lecture Hall - Niswonger Performing Arts Center
10700 State Route 118 South, Van Wert, OH 45891

MINUTES

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call - **Time In: 5:00 p.m. Board Members Present - Anthony Adams, Greg Blackmore, Julie Burenga, Debby Compton, Scott Mull. Others Present – Scott Truxell, Sam Shriver, Mark Bagley, Troy Bowersock, Bob Priest, Todd Keller, Drew Hamblett, Haley Michaud, Chuck Rollins, Ryan Parrish, Maggie Roehm.**
- II. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America – **Recited by attendees in unison**
- III. Vision / Mission – **Recited by Debby Compton**

Our Vision

In partnership with our community, Van Wert City Schools will ensure that all students develop the knowledge, skills, and attributes they need to thrive in post-secondary education, careers and civic life.

Our Mission

Van Wert City Schools will continue to be a source of Cougar Pride while providing each student a quality education through innovative instructional methods and technology.

- IV. Public participation - **None**

In order for the board to fulfill its obligation to complete the planned agenda in an effective and efficient fashion, a maximum of thirty (30) minutes of public participation will be permitted at each meeting.

Each person addressing the board will give his/her name and address. If several people wish to speak, each person will be allotted three (3) minutes until the total time of thirty (30) minutes is used. During the period, no person may speak twice until all who desire to speak have had the opportunity to do so. Persons desiring more time should follow the procedure of the board to be placed on the regular agenda. The period of public participation may be extended by a vote of the majority of the board.

23.12.054

- V. Set agenda
Motion was made by Greg Blackmore and seconded by Julie Burenga to accept the agenda as presented. Vote: Scott Mull, yes; Julie Burenga, yes; Anthony Adams, yes; Greg Blackmore, yes; Debby Compton, yes. Motion carried 5-0.
- VI. Curriculum and Instruction / Educational Impact Presentation:
Chuck Rollins, Van Wert High School Principal; Ryan Parrish, Van Wert High School Assistant Principal; Maggie Roehm Van Wert High School Counselor – Van Wert High School Partnership with Westwood Behavioral Health Center

- VII. Board member section / reports from board representatives (discussion only)
- A. Vantage - *December Board meeting was held followed by a Christmas dinner that was served by the Culinary Arts Program staff/students.*
 - B. VWAPAF - *Executive Director search/hiring process update.*
 - C. VWASIG - *No Report*
 - D. Athletic Council - *Weight Room/Fitness Center renovation project.*
 - E. Safety Team - *Planning continues for OTOA training that will take place at Van Wert Elementary School.*

- VIII. Treasurer's section
- Business and Records - *Mr. Bowersock shared with the Board of Education the November financial statements, checks issued, summary of cash balances by fund, and monthly revenue and expenditure summary. Mr. Bowersock also reviewed with the Board of Education the December 20, 2023 fiscal year 2024 "amended" permanent appropriations, presented an updated Eggerss Stadium project budget, discussed the November/December scheduled debt retirement payments, and lastly informed the Board of Education of the upcoming fiscal year 2025 tax budget hearing.*

- IX. Assistant Superintendent's section - *Mr. Priest provided an update on the Early Childhood Center playground project/equipment upgrades that are to take place this summer. He also shared information on anticipated transportation staffing needs for the next school year, indicating that planning is underway.*

- X. Superintendent's section - *Mr. Bagley reviewed the proposed 2023-2024 school year district calendar changes resulting from potential implications of the total solar eclipse on April 8, 2024. He also provided an update on staffing, discussed Christmas programs and celebrations taking place throughout the district, and recognized LifeHouse Church for their generous donation. Lastly, Bagley informed the Board of Education of planning that is currently underway for phase II of the Eggerss Stadium restoration project and closed his report with a legislative update.*

23.12.055

- XI. Resolutions

Motion was made by Anthony Adams and seconded by Debby Compton to approve items "A through U" as presented. Vote: Scott Mull, yes; Julie Burenga, yes; Anthony Adams, yes; Greg Blackmore, yes; Debby Compton, yes. Motion carried 5-0.

- A. Accept the resignation of Nicole Blair, high school/middle school custodial maintenance worker, effective January 2, 2024 as presented.
- B. Accept the resignation of Kevin Dailey from his position as a bus driver, effective at the end of the 2023-2024 contract year as presented.
- C. Accept the resignation, due to retirement, of Cindy Dawson, early childhood center paraprofessional, effective at the end of the 2023-2024 contract year as presented.
- D. Accept the resignation of Chris LaRue, high school custodial / maintenance worker, effective May 31, 2024 as presented.
- E. Accept the resignation of Thomas Leindecker, custodial / maintenance worker, effective June 28, 2024 as presented.
- F. Accept the resignation, due to retirement, of Michael Ragan from his position as a bus driver, effective at the end of the 2023-2024 contract year as presented.
- G. Accept the resignation of Diane Tobe, accounts payable/receivable specialist, effective December 8, 2023 as presented.
- H. Accept the resignation, due to retirement, of Nancy Brown, high school english language arts teacher, effective at the end of the 2023-2024 contract year as presented.

- I. Accept the resignation, due to retirement, of Laura Etter from her position as second grade teacher, effective at the end of the 2023-2024 contract year as presented.
- J. Accept the resignation, due to retirement, of Rhonda Mohr from her position as second grade teacher, effective at the end of the 2023-2024 contract year as presented.
- K. Approve Olivia Young as accounts payable/receivable specialist, effective January 22, 2024 as presented.
- L. Approve Nate Hoverman and Kimberly Laudick as volunteer indoor track coaches, effective the 2023-2024 contract year.
- M. Approve the minutes from the regular board meeting held on November 15, 2023.
- N. Approve the minutes from the special board meeting held on December 12, 2023.
- O. Approve the monthly financial report as presented.
- P. Approve the amendments to the fiscal year 2024 Permanent Appropriations totaling \$37,888,676.87 as presented.
- Q. Approve an Athletic Training Services Agreement with OhioHealth Physician Group, Inc., effective August 1, 2023 to July 31, 2028 as presented.
- R. Approve the hiring of Lisa Bracken to provide support services as needed to the Treasurer's Office for the 2023-2024 school year at a hourly rate of \$22.45 as presented.
- S. Approve transfer of \$250,000.00 (Mercy Health sponsorship proceeds) from the General Fund (001) to the Eggerss Stadium Renovation Fund (004 9023).
- T. Approve changing the 2023-2024 district calendar to alleviate transportation issues due to the April 8, 2024 solar eclipse. February 19, 2024 (Presidents' Day) is currently a professional development day with students not in session. The district will change February 19, 2024 to a regular school day with students and staff in session. April 8, 2024 will become a professional development day, with staff reporting but students will not be in session.
- U. Accept the following generous donations to the Van Wert City Schools from:
 - 1. LifeHouse Church - \$23,341.81 to Students of Need Fund
 - 2. Frank & Cheryl Bowen - \$50.00 to Middle School Principal's Fund - D.C. Trip
 - 3. Van Wert Service Club Inc. - \$1,400.00 to Van Wert Service Pack Fund
 - 4. Walmart - \$2,500.00 to Middle School Principal's Fund - D.C. Trip
 - 5. Bruce Kennedy - \$2,500.00 to High School Robotics
 - 6. Skylar & Nancy Cunningham - \$500.00 to Goedde Principal's Fund
 - 7. Citizens National Bank - \$100.00 to Goedde Principal's Fund
 - 8. Citizens National Bank - \$100.00 to Middle School Principal's Fund
 - 9. Citizens National Bank - \$250.00 to VW County Family & Children First
 - 10. Van Wert Rotary Foundation - \$300.00 to High School Choir
 - 11. Gary Taylor - \$50.00 to High School Choir
 - 12. Main Street Van Wert, Inc. - \$100.00 to High School Choir
 - 13. Ty & Jennifer McClain - \$1,100.00 to Athletic Dept. Capital Projects Fund

- XII. This is to inform the Board of Education that the following employees will be advanced on the payscale, due to additional college coursework, effective February 1, 2024:
 - A. Rachael Dettrow - bachelors-150 to masters
 - B. Katelyn Shindeldecker - bachelors-150 to masters
 - C. Ty Wannemacher - bachelors-150 to masters

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- XIII. Adjournment

Motion was made by Debby Compton and seconded by Greg Blackmore to adjourn the meeting at 5:58 p.m. Vote: Ayes – 5; Nays – 0

Board of Education Vacancy Announcement:

The Van Wert City School District Board of Education will seek applicants to fill a Board vacancy which becomes vacant January 1, 2024. Those interested in serving on the Van Wert City School District Board of Education should submit a notice of interest in writing to Mark Bagley, Superintendent by December 29, 2023. Applicants will be reviewed by the Board President and Superintendent, in which a recommendation will be made to the Board of Education. The Board vacancy/appointment is anticipated to be acted upon at its January 11, 2024 meeting.

Next Meeting Date:

The 2024 organizational meeting, fiscal year 2025 tax budget hearing, and regular January board meeting will be held on Thursday, January 11, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. In addition, the public records commission (board president, board vice-president, superintendent and treasurer) will meet immediately prior to the organizational meeting to review the records retention schedule. The meeting will be in the First Federal Lecture Hall at the Niswonger Performing Arts Center.

Board President

Fiscal Officer