

**VAN WERT CITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, March 27, 2024 – 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 – Sam Shriver, Scott Truxell, Mark Bagley, Troy Bowersock, Justin Bragg, Chuck Rollins, Haley Michaud, Ben Laudick, Kimberly Laudick, Karlie Ulm, Sydney Collins, McKenzie Collins, Traci McCoy, Lori Bittner, Diana Morrow, Shelly Place, Kim Mull, Katie Wells.**
- II. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America – **Recited by attendees in unison**
- III. Vision / Mission – **Recited by Greg Blackmore**

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 – **Ben Laudick addressed the Board of Education reading his letter of resignation as high school boys head varsity basketball coach. Board of Education members expressed their appreciation to Mr. Laudick for his dedication and service to the Van Wert Cougar basketball program.**

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.

24.03.016

- V. Set Agenda
Motion was made by Greg Blackmore and seconded by Julie Burenga to accept the agenda as presented. Vote: Debby Compton, yes; Julie Burenga, yes; Anthony Adams, yes; Greg Blackmore, yes; Scott Mull, yes. Motion carried 5-0.

- VI. Curriculum and Instruction / Educational Impact Presentation:
A. Lori Bittner, Van Wert Early Childhood Center Principal; Shelly Place, Kindergarten Teacher; Diana Morrow, School Social Worker - Early Childhood Center Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) update and discussion
- VII. Treasurer's Section
Business and Records - *Mr. Bowersock shared with the Board of Education the February 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 March 27, 2024 fiscal year 2024 "amended" permanent appropriations, presented an updated Eggerss Stadium project budget, and discussed the fiscal year 2023 excess cost billings.*
- VIII. Assistant Superintendent's Section – No Report
- IX. Superintendent's Section - *Mr. Bagley presented the first reading of the new/revised policies from the Neola spring 2024 (Volume 42, No. 2) update. Mr. Bagley also provided an update on staffing and welcomed/introduced 2024-2025 school year new staff members who were present. He also continued conversations on Phase II of the Eggerss Stadium restoration project. Lastly, Bagley provided a legislative update and highlighted the upcoming April 8, 2024 staff development activities.*
- X. Board Member Section/Reports from Board Representatives (discussion only)
A. Vantage - *Discussed the upcoming April 4, 2023 All Boards Dinner.*
B. VWAPAF - *Shared the Summer 2024 Feel Good Friday Schedule of Events.*
C. VWASIG - *Employee health screenings will take place in the spring. VWASIG is considering the hiring of a Wellness Coordinator.*
D. Athletic Council - *Reviewed the agenda/minutes of the recent Athletic Council meeting.*
E. Safety Team - *OTOA training successfully took place at Van Wert Elementary School on March 11 & 12, 2024. The district was awarded the Attorney General 2024 School Safety grant that will be used to purchase additional security cameras.*

24.03.017

- XI. Consent Resolutions
Motion was made by Anthony Adams and seconded by Julie Burenga to approve items "A through U" as presented. Vote: Debby Compton, yes; Julie Burenga, yes; Anthony Adams, yes; Greg Blackmore, yes; Scott Mull, yes. Motion carried 5-0.
- A. Accept the resignation of Tom Lee from his position as custodial/maintenance worker, effective May 24, 2024, as presented.
- B. Accept the resignation of Scott Turner from his position as middle school music teacher / assistant band director, effective at the end of the 2023-2024 contract year as presented.
- C. Accept the resignation of Traci McCoy from her position as fourth grade teacher, effective at the end of the 2023-2024 contract year as presented.
- D. Approve Traci McCoy as district library media specialist, effective the 2024-2025 contract year as presented.

- E. Approve Sydney Collins as a second grade teacher, pending all policies pertaining to employment are met, effective the 2024-2025 school year as presented.
- F. Approve Karlie Ulm as a third grade teacher, pending all policies pertaining to employment are met, effective the 2024-2025 school year as presented.
- G. Approve Ryann Morehous as a fourth grade teacher, pending all policies pertaining to employment are met, effective the 2024-2025 school year as presented.
- H. Approve Aaron Ries as assistant to the director of technology, pending all policies pertaining to employment are met, effective April 8, 2024, as presented.
- I. Accept the following supplemental contract resignations as presented:
 - 1. Ben Laudick - high school boys head varsity basketball coach, effective at the end of the 2023-2024 contract year
 - 2. Jalen McCracken - volunteer baseball coach, effective the 2023-2024 contract year
- J. Approve a supplemental contract for Jalen McCracken as freshman baseball coach effective the 2023-2024 contract year as presented.
- K. Approve the minutes from the regular Board meeting held on February 28, 2024.
- L. Approve the minutes from the special Board meeting held on March 6, 2024.
- M. Approve the monthly financial report as presented by the Treasurer.
- N. Approve the amendments to the fiscal year 2024 Permanent Appropriations totaling \$38,462,450.20 as presented.
- O. Approve the 2025-2026 school calendar as presented. A public hearing was held at the regular Board meeting on February 28, 2024 and the calendar complies with minimum hour requirements in the Ohio Revised Code.
- P. Approve the current substitute staff list for the 2023-2024 school year and any subsequent revisions as presented.
- Q. Approve a list of sports for the 2024-2025 school year, as presented:
 - 1. High School Boys Sports
 - a. Baseball
 - b. Basketball
 - c. Bowling
 - d. Cross Country
 - e. Football - 11 player
 - f. Golf
 - g. Soccer
 - h. Swimming & Diving
 - i. Tennis
 - j. Track & Field
 - k. Wrestling
 - l. Indoor Track & Field
 - 2. High School Girls Sports
 - a. Basketball
 - b. Bowling
 - c. Cross Country
 - d. Soccer
 - e. Softball - Fastpitch
 - f. Swimming & Diving
 - g. Tennis
 - h. Track & Field
 - i. Volleyball
 - j. Indoor Track & Field

3. High School Coed Sport
 - a. Cheerleading
4. Middle School Boys Sports
 - a. Basketball
 - b. Cross Country
 - c. Football - 11 player
 - d. Track & Field
 - e. Wrestling
5. Middle School Girls Sports
 - a. Basketball
 - b. Cross Country
 - c. Track & Field
 - d. Volleyball
6. Middle School Coed Sport
 - a. Cheerleading
- R. Approve the Satellite Program Standards & Maintenance Agreement between Vantage Career Center and Van Wert City Schools for the 2024-2025 school year as presented.
- S. Approve a request for early completion of graduation requirements for a high school student as presented.
- T. Approve the establishment of fund 070-9024 - Capital Projects Fund
- U. Acknowledge the following charitable groups, entities, and individuals for their generous donations to the Van Wert City Schools:
 1. Pat & Shanann Jackson - \$500.00 to Athletic Department Capital Projects Fund
 2. William & Kim Clifton - \$250.00 to Athletic Department Capital Projects Fund
 3. Mike Wollet - \$200.00 to Athletic Department Capital Projects Fund
 4. Thad & Laura Eikenbary - \$250.00 to Athletic Department Capital Projects Fund
 5. Mark & Rachelle Bagley - \$500.00 to Athletic Department Capital Projects Fund
 6. Van Wert County Foundation on behalf of the Van Wert Educational Excellence Fund - \$950.00 to Mighty Oak Grove
 7. Van Wert City Schools Elementary PTO - \$180.43 to Van Wert Early Childhood Center Activity Fund
 8. Brewed Expressions LLC - \$250.00 to Middle School MD Classroom Activity Fund
 9. Mike & Elizabeth Morrow - \$150.00 to Athletic Department Capital Projects Fund
 10. Eric & Melody McCracken - \$5,000.00 to Athletic Department Capital Projects Fund
 11. Van Wert County Foundation on behalf of the Flickinger Fund - \$1,500 to Athletic Department Fund

24.03.018

XII. Non-consent Resolution(s)

- A. Approve a College Credit Plus Memorandum of Understanding and Data Sharing Agreement between Van Wert City Schools and Rhodes State College for the 2024-2025 school year as presented.

Motion was made by Anthony Adams and seconded by Greg Blackmore to approve a College Credit Plus Memorandum of Understanding and Data Sharing Agreement between Van Wert City Schools and Rhodes State College for the 2024-2025 school year as presented. Vote: Debby Compton, yes; Julie Burenga, yes; Anthony Adams, yes; Greg Blackmore, yes; Scott Mull, abstain. Motion carried 4-0 with 1 abstention.

XIII. This is to inform the Board of Education that the following employee will be advanced on the payscale, due to additional college coursework, effective the next pay following April 1, 2024 as presented:

A. Melissa Bloomfield – Masters to Masters+15

24.03.019

XIV. Executive Session

A. Motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(1) and 121.22(G)(2), for the purpose of discussing the employment of public personnel and for the purpose to consider the purchase or sale of property.

Motion was made by Scott Mull and seconded by Anthony Adams to go into executive session at 6:06 p.m. for the purpose of discussing the employment of public personnel and for the purpose to consider the purchase or sale of property. Vote: Debby Compton, yes; Julie Burenga, yes; Anthony Adams, yes; Greg Blackmore, yes; Scott Mull, yes. Motion carried 5-0.

Meeting reconvened at 7:37 p.m.

24.03.020

XV. Adjournment

Motion was made by Greg Blackmore and seconded by Anthony Adams to adjourn the Meeting at 7:38 p.m. Vote: Ayes – 5; Nays – 0

Next Meeting Date

The next scheduled regular Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 24, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. in the First Federal Lecture Hall at the Niswonger Performing Arts Center.

Board President

Fiscal Officer