

VAN WERT CITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, June 26, 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, Bob Priest, Justin Bragg, Haley Michaud, Chuck Rollins, Trent Temple, Nate Hoverman, Kim Laudick, Ben Laudick, Abigail Bretz, Kendra Deehring, Harper Roop, Mia Rager, Josh Ebbing, Keri McClure.**
- 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 - **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.

24.06.028

- V. Set Agenda
Motion was made by Julie Burenga and seconded by Scott Mull 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. Trent Temple, Van Wert City Schools Athletic Director – 2023-2024 Van Wert High School athletics program year in review
 - B. Nate Hoverman, Van Wert High School Track Coach – 2024 track season review and recognition

C. Chuck Rollins – Van Wert High School Principal – 2023-2024 Van Wert High School academics year in review

VII. Treasurer's Section

Business and Records - *Mr. Bowersock shared with the Board of Education the May financial statements, checks issued, summary of cash balances by fund, and monthly revenue and expenditure summary. Mr. Bowersock also presented an update to the Board of Education in reference to the fiscal year 2024 year-end close-out, the fiscal year 2025 beginning of year preparations, and the Eggerss Stadium project budget.*

VIII. Assistant Superintendent's Section - *Mr. Priest provided an update on the Early Childhood Center playground project/equipment upgrades along with other projects throughout the district that are planned to take place this summer.*

IX. Superintendent's Section - *Mr. Bagley provided an update on staffing for the 2024-2025 school year and on the Phase II Eggerss Stadium restoration project. Bagley also highlighted partnerships currently being formed in the community with the Van Wert City School District and reviewed progress on the Fitness Center renovation. Lastly, Bagley provided a legislative update discussing Title IX regulations and cell phone policy requirements.*

X. Board Member Section / Reports from Board Representatives (discussion only)

- A. Vantage – *Discussed the recent approval of the three(3) year negotiated agreement with staff*
- B. VWAPAF - *2024-2025 programming/schedule of events*
- C. VWASIG - *Reviewed monthly financial information*
- D. Athletic Council - *No report*
- E. Safety Team - *SRT team training scheduled to take place June 29, 2024*

24.06.029

XI. Consent Resolutions

Motion was made by Greg Blackmore and seconded by Anthony Adams to approve items “A through R” 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 Eli Alvarez from his position as high school paraprofessional, effective at the end of the 2023-2024 contract year as presented.
- B. Accept the resignation, due to retirement, of Rick Allen from his position as high school/middle school head custodian, effective December 27, 2024, as presented.
- C. Accept the resignation, due to retirement, of Jill Wermer from her position as elementary school paraprofessional, effective January 6, 2025, as presented.
- D. Approve Abi Bretz as a long-term substitute language arts teacher at Van Wert School at the Goedde, pending all board policies pertaining to employment are met, effective the 2024-2025 contract year as presented.
- E. Approve Avery Cowan as a 5th grade teacher, pending all board policies pertaining to employment are met, effective the 2024-2025 contract year as presented.
- F. Approve a one-year certified teacher contract for L. Paige Gerardot (formerly a long-term substitute) as a high school intervention specialist, effective the 2024-2025 contract year as presented.
- G. Approve the minutes from the regular Board meeting held on May 22, 2024, as presented.
- H. Approve the monthly financial report as presented by the Treasurer.
- I. Approve the 2024-2025 preschool, kindergarten, elementary school, middle school and high school handbooks as presented.

- J. Approve overnight trip/stay as presented:
1. High School Track - 10 athletes and 5 adults to the State Track Meet in Dayton, OH – May 30 - June 1, 2024, (retroactively) as presented.
- K. Approve the Service Contract Agreement with Western Buckeye Educational Service Center for the 2024-2025 school year as presented.
- L. Approve transfer of the ½ mill equalization payment for fiscal year 2024 as required by the Ohio School Facilities Commission for the Classroom Facilities Assistance Program from the Permanent Improvement Fund to the Classroom Facilities Maintenance Fund in the amount of \$113,804.00.
- M. Approve the Amended Official Certificate of Estimated Resources for fiscal year 2024 as presented.
- N. Approve the amendments to the fiscal year 2024 Permanent Appropriations totaling \$39,060,141.22 as presented.
- O. Approve the Temporary Appropriations for fiscal year 2025 totaling \$33,858,475.87 as presented.
- P. Approve a memorandum of understanding with Defiance College for hosting teacher education candidates during the 2024-2025 school year as presented.
- Q. Approve the Enterprise Zone Agreement for 100% tax exemption for a fifteen (15) year period with Alliance Automation, LLC as presented, and to waive the 45 day notification requirement.
- R. Acknowledge the following charitable groups, entities, and individuals for their generous donations to the Van Wert City Schools:
1. Anonymous - \$465.00 to Middle School Renaissance Fund
 2. Casey's - \$500.00 to Van Wert Middle School Activity Fund
 3. Danfoss Power Solutions - \$250.00 to Softball Fund
 4. Ayers Service Group, LLC - \$125.00 to Boys Basketball Fund
 5. Central Mutual Insurance Company - \$500.00 to Middle School STEM Fund
 6. First Federal of Van Wert - \$500.00 to Middle School STEM Fund
 7. Van Wert Area Boy Choir - \$875.00 to Middle School Choir Fund
 8. Bob & Karlene Priest - \$5,000.00 to Eggerss Stadium Legacy Fund - Handicap Landing

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 the 2024-2025 school year:

- A. Hannah Philipot - Master's to Master's+15
- B. Charlie Witten - Master's+15 to Master's+30

XIII. Acknowledge notification from the City of Van Wert of a residential CRA application as presented:

- A. Verna Gillette & Anthony Landwehr, 300 N. Vine St., Van Wert, OH 45891

XIV. Acknowledge correspondence received as presented:

- A. Thank-you letter from Vantage Career Center for the use of the Van Wert High School facility at their senior awards program on May 20, 2024

24.06.030

XV. Executive Session

- A. Motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(1) and 121.22(G)(8), for the purpose of discussing the employment of public personnel and for the purpose of considering certain confidential information of applicants for certain types of economic development. **Motion was made by Anthony Adams and seconded by Julie Burenga to go into executive session at 6:14 p.m. for the purpose of discussing the employment of public personnel and for the purpose of considering certain confidential information of applicants for certain types of economic development. Vote: Debby Compton, yes; Julie Burenga, yes; Anthony Adams, yes; Greg Blackmore, yes; Scott Mull, yes. Motion carried 5-0.**

Meeting reconvened at 7:09 p.m.

24.06.031

XVI. Adjournment

Motion was made by Greg Blackmore and seconded by Scott Mull to adjourn the Meeting at 7:10 p.m. Vote: Ayes – 5; Nays – 0

Next Meeting Date

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

Board President

Fiscal Officer