

**VAN WERT CITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, December 18, 2024 – 5:00 p.m.
S. F. Goedde Building Conference Room
205 West Crawford Street, Van Wert, OH 45891**

MINUTES

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call - **Time in: 5:00 p.m. Board Members Present - Anthony Adams, Julie Burenga, Greg Blackmore, Debby Compton. Absent - Scott Mull. Others Present – Sam Shriver, Scott Truxell, Mark Bagley, Troy Bowersock, Bob Priest, Justin Bragg, Haley Michaud, Rhonda Cunningham, Julia Doner, Virginia Marbaugh, Ben Hamilton, Eli Zimmerman, Parker Young, Becky Suman, Taelor Suman.**
- II. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America – **Recited by attendees in unison**
- II. 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 - **Becky Suman and Taelor Suman individually addressed the Board of Education in reference to busing concerns with the district no longer stopping at Heather’s Day Care due to its closing expressing resulting safety concerns for younger children walking to the Trinity Friends bus stop. Dr. Compton thanked Becky Suman and Taelor Suman for their comments and indicated that the safety of our students will remain at the forefront with every decision.**

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.

24.12.048

- V. Set agenda
Motion was made by Anthony Adams and seconded by Greg Blackmore to accept the agenda as presented. Vote: Debby Compton, yes; Julie Burenga, yes; Anthony Adams, yes; Greg Blackmore, yes; Scott Mull, absent. Motion carried 4-0 with 1 absent.
- VI. Curriculum and Instruction / Educational Impact Presentation
A. Rhonda Cunningham, VW School @ the Goedde Principal and students - Ben Hamilton, Eli Zimmerman, and Parker Young – Culinary Arts program presentation
- VII. Board member section / reports from Board representatives (discussion only)
A. Vantage - *Reviewed the Board meeting summary report for the December meeting*
B. VWAPAF - *No Report*
C. VWASIG - *No Report*
D. Athletic Council - *Reviewed the agenda/minutes of recent Athletic Council meeting*
E. Safety Team - *Shared information about the recent district Safety meeting; Provided an update on the implementation of the Rapture visitor management system now in place; Planning is underway for the district Safety Tabletop exercise.*
- 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 18, 2024 fiscal year 2025 "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 2026 tax budget hearing.*
- IX. Assistant Superintendent's section - *Mr. Priest provided an update on custodial and transportation staffing and discussed the mass transit busing system in place along with the designated district bus stops available to students on a daily basis. He also discussed security measures now in place with the implementation of the Rapture visitor management system for all visitors entering school buildings during the school day.*
- X. Superintendent's section - *Mr. Bagley presented the first reading of the new/revised policies, administrative guidelines, and forms from the Neola Volume 43, No. 1 - Fall 2024 update and recognized OSBA Media Honor Roll recipients, Sam Shriver – Van Wert Times Bulletin and Scott Truxell – Van Wert Independent. Lastly, Bagley informed the Board of Education of planning that is currently underway for phase III of the Eggerss Stadium restoration project and closed his report with a legislative update.*

24.12.049

- XI. Consent Resolutions
Motion was made by Julie Burenga and seconded by Greg Blackmore to approve items "A through L" as presented. Vote: Debby Compton, yes; Julie Burenga, yes; Anthony Adams, yes; Greg Blackmore, yes; Scott Mull, absent. Motion carried 4-0 with 1 absent.

- A. Accept the resignation, due to retirement, of Sara Alvarez from her position as fifth grade teacher, effective at the end of the 2024-2025 contract year as presented.
- B. Accept the resignation, due to retirement, of Amy Covey from her position as elementary school intervention specialist, effective August 1, 2025, as presented.
- C. Accept the resignation, due to retirement, of Denise Nicolai from her position as elementary school art teacher, effective at the end of the 2024-2025 contract year as presented.
- D. Approve Nate Hoverman and Kimberly Laudick as volunteer indoor track coaches, effective the 2024-2025 contract year.
- E. Approve an overnight trip, retroactively, for varsity boys bowling (6 students and 2 adults) to Columbus, OH, December 7-8, 2024, as presented.
- F. Approve an overnight trip for high school robotics club (19 students and 3 adults) to Medina, OH, January 17-18, 2025, as presented.
- G. Approve the minutes from the regular Board meeting held on November 20, 2024.
- H. Approve the monthly financial report as presented by the Treasurer.
- I. Approve the contract with Rea & Associates, Inc. to perform Medicaid School Program (MSP) agreed-upon procedures for cost report periods July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024; July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025; and July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026.
- J. Approve the amendments to the fiscal year 2025 Permanent Appropriations totaling \$37,943,075.66 as presented.
- K. Accept the following generous donations to the Van Wert City Schools from:
 - 1. Valam Hospitality, Inc. - \$250.00 to Van Wert Middle School PBIS
 - 2. Central Mutual Insurance Company - \$5,000.00 to High School Robotics
 - 3. Veronica Cuevas - \$130.00 to Cross Country Activity Fund
 - 4. St. Paul's Church - \$500.00 to Elementary Students of Need Fund
 - 5. Madalyn & Mel Emerson - \$300.00 to Van Wert School at the Goedde Principal's Fund
 - 6. The Columbus Foundation - \$5,000.00 to Van Wert Middle School STEM Fund
 - 7. Skylar & Nancy Cunningham - \$500.00 to Van Wert School at the Goedde Principal's Fund
 - 8. Van Wert Rotary Foundation - \$30,000.00 to Eggerss Stadium Project - Legacy Donation
 - 9. LifeHouse Church - \$887.36 to Students of Need Fund
 - 10. Bob & Karlene Priest - \$5,000.00 to Eggerss Stadium Project - Legacy Donation
 - 11. Trevor & Whitney Webster - \$10,000.00 to Eggerss Stadium Project - Legacy Donation
 - 12. Edward Jones - Trevor Webster - \$1,834.00 to Eggerss Stadium Project - Legacy Donation
 - 13. David Johnson - \$1,000.00 to Eggerss Stadium Paver Tribute
 - 14. Steve & Marilyn Bebout - \$1,000.00 to Eggerss Stadium Paver Tribute
 - 15. Karen Workman - \$500.00 to Eggerss Stadium Paver Tribute
 - 16. Tim & Sally Lahmon - \$250.00 to Eggerss Stadium Paver Tribute
 - 17. Lee's Ace Hardware & Lumber - \$500.00 to Eggerss Stadium Paver Tribute
 - 18. Brian & Teresa Mercer - \$500.00 to Eggerss Stadium Paver Tribute
 - 19. Mike & Carole Zedaker - \$500.00 to Eggerss Stadium Paver Tribute
 - 20. Van Wert High School Class of 1986 - \$3,000.00 to Eggerss Stadium Paver Tribute

- 21. Randy Agler - \$1,000.00 to Eggerss Stadium Paver Tribute
- 22. John & Mary Jo Wilhelm - \$1,500.00 to Eggerss Stadium Paver Tribute

L. Nominate and recognize Sam Shriver of the Van Wert Times Bulletin, and Scott Truxell of the Van Wert independent, as members of the Ohio School Boards Association 2024 Media Honor Roll as presented.

24.12.050

XII. Non-consent Resolution(s)

A. Election and appointment of a president pro-tem for the January 14, 2025 Organizational Meeting.

Motion was made by Greg Blackmore and seconded by Julie Burenga to approve the election and appointment of Anthony Adams as the president pro-tem for the January 14, 2025 Organizational Meeting. Vote: Debby Compton, yes; Julie Burenga, yes; Anthony Adams, yes; Greg Blackmore, yes; Scott Mull, absent. Motion carried 4-0 with 1 abent.

24.12.051

XIII. Adjournment

Motion was made by Greg Blackmore and seconded by Anthony Adams to adjourn the Meeting at 5:46 p.m. Vote: Ayes - 4; Nays - 0; Absent - 1

Next Meeting Date

The 2025 organizational meeting, fiscal year 2026 tax budget hearing, and regular January Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 14, 2025, 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 meetings will be in the First Federal Lecture Hall at the Niswonger Performing Arts Center.

Board President

Fiscal Officer