

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE AUSTINTOWN LOCAL SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION PUBLIC MEETING**

Pursuant to its rules, the Austintown Board of Education of the Austintown Local Schools met at Austintown Middle School at 3:30 PM on Thursday, February 20, 2025 for a Work Session and at 5:00 PM for the February Regular Session Board Meeting.

Board Members

Mr. Fred Marcum, President
Mrs. Kathy Mock, Vice President
Mr. Harold Porter, Member
Mr. Don Sherwood, Member
Mrs. Kim Smrek, Member

Administration

Timothy Kelty, Superintendent
Blaise Karlovic, Treasurer

2025-2/20-1 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 PM with all members present.

Mr. Marcum, Present; Mrs. Mock, Present; Mr. Porter, Present; Mr. Sherwood, Present; Mrs. Smrek, Present

2025-2/20-2 Work Session-Topics for Discussion

- Annual Review of Federal Programs- JP- Janet provided a Federal Fund update for the district including the programs the district receives, and how they are being utilized by the Title Program and building.
- District Wide Calendar- Mr. Marcum reminded the board to review the draft of the 2025-2026 school calendar.

2025-2/20-3 Executive Session

Mrs. Mock motioned to recess to Executive Session at 3:44 PM for the purpose to discuss Employment, appointment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, compensation of a public employee and the details relative to the security arrangements and emergency response protocols for the Board of Education.

Mr. Sherwood seconded the motion. The vote resulted as follows:

The vote resulted as follows:

Mr. Marcum, Yes; Mrs. Mock, Yes; Mr. Porter, Yes; Mr. Sherwood, Yes; Mrs. Smrek, Yes. The motion carried (5-0). The Executive Session ended at 4:56 PM.

2025-2/20-4 Recall to Order

The Board returned to Regular Session at 5:01 PM with all members present.

2025-2/20-5 Agenda Approval

Mrs. Smrek moved to approve the agenda for the 2/20/2025 Board of Education Regular Session.

Mr. Sherwood seconded the motion and the vote resulted as follows:

Mr. Marcum, Yes; Mrs. Mock, Yes; Mr. Porter, Yes; Mr. Sherwood, Yes; Mrs. Smrek, Yes. The motion carried (5-0).

2025-2/20-6 Public Comments

None

2025/20-7 Principal Report

Andrew Scarmack, AMS Principal- Mr. Scarmack provided an update for each building.

2025/20-8 Student Recognition

- AES Gifted Poetry Contest Winners- Donna Shilling- Mrs. Shilling introduced her students and the top 3 winners read their poems aloud.

- AMS Competition Cheer Team- Macy Kittelberger- Macy introduced her team and talked about their hard work throughout the season.

2025-2/20-9 Treasurer's Consent Items

Mrs. Smrek moved upon the recommendation of the Treasurer to approve the Treasurer's Consent Items:

A. MINUTES

- a. Regular Session held on 1/14/2025
- b. Special Session held on 1/24/2025

B. FINANCIAL REPORTS

- a. January, 2025 Monthly Financial/Expenditure Activity Report
- b. January, 2025 Month End Forecast Report
- c. Purchase Orders over \$15,000 and transfers for the month as submitted

C. DONATIONS

- a. \$250 to Austintown Schools Food Pantry from AESCU
- b. \$100 to Fitch Speech/Debate from Howland Speech and Debate Boosters for State Tournament
- c. \$1750 to Austintown Middle School from Robert Senn studios
- d. \$20,600 to Austintown Camp Invention 2025 via the National Inventors Hall of Fame from the Burton D Morgan Foundation
- e. \$500 to Fitch Food Pantry/Care Closet from Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
- f. \$500 to Fitch Choir from Diane Ferguson
- g. \$400 to Fitch Band from The Bodnar Family, The Svenson Family, and The Cox Family in Memory of Elizabeth Wood

Mrs. Mock seconded the motion and the vote resulted as follows:

Mr. Marcum, Yes; Mrs. Mock, Yes; Mr. Porter, Yes; Mr. Sherwood, Yes; Mrs. Smrek, Yes. The motion carried (5-0).

2025-2/20-10 Superintendent's Consent Items

Mrs. Smrek moved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the Superintendent's Consent Items:

A. PERSONNEL

1. Resignations

- a. Erica Ramirez, Athletic Groundskeeper effective 1/13/2025, personal
- b. Katelyn Ray, Food Service worker effective 2/14/2025, job change

2. Resignations for the Purpose of Retirement

- a. Susan Roberts, OAPSE Secretary effective 6/30/2025 after 19 years of service with Austintown Schools
- b. Ross Linert, OAPSE Sweeper Cleaner effective 2/10/2025 after 7 years with Austintown Schools

Corrections to Effective dates

- c. Tamara Deeley- July 31, 2025
- d. Antonetta Malvestuto- July 31, 2025
- e. Sue Tamulonis - August 31, 2025
- f. Thomas Bonder - August 31, 2025

3. OAPSE Appointments

- a. Sarah Fenstermaker, Special Education Paraprofessional at AES; 9-month, 5.75 hours (10:15am-4pm) replacing Regina Ashby effective 2/10/2025
- b. Thomas Zetts, Sweeper Cleaner at AMS; 9-month, 5.75 hours (1:15pm-7pm) replacing Michael Pemberton effective 2/3/2025
- c. Barbara McGirr, Sweeper Cleaner at Fitch; 9-month, 5.75 hours (4pm-9:45pm) replacing William Emler effective 3/3/2025

4. OAPSE Transfers

- a. Cheryl Nagle, Sweeper Cleaner at AMS; 9-month, 7-hours (3pm-10pm) per day replacing Isabella Napolitano effective 1/30/2025
- b. Robin Cole-Armbruster, Sweeper Cleaner at Fitch; 9-month, 7-hours (3pm-10pm) per day replacing Ross Linert effective 2/10/2025
- c. Dana Kosco, Sweeper Cleaner at Fitch; 9-month, 7-hours (8am-3pm) per day replacing Robin Cole-Armbruster effective 2/10/2025 following probationary period

5. AEA Appointments

- a. Luke Kelty, (K-12) Intervention Specialist assigned to Fitch High School for the 2024-2025 school year; Youngstown State University, Master of Science in Education; 0-years teaching experience, Masters Column-Step-0 effective 12/20/2024

B. NON-BARGAINING UNIT PERSONNEL

- a. Frank O'Brien, Title I Math Tutor -AMS at the rate of \$25 per hour; 5.75 hours per day limited to 73 days effective 1/28/2025
- b. Paige Campbell, Title I PBIS/IAT Aide AMS at the rate of \$16.50 per hour limited to 83 days effective 2/18/2025
- c. Haley Costellano, Long-term Intervention Specialist Substitute at AIS for grade 5 effective 2/7/25

C. LEAVE OF ABSENCE

- a. Brielle Glista - FMLA - effective 2/14/25 through 3/27/25
- b. Robin Cole-Armbruster - FMLA - effective 1/15/2025-2/10/2025
- c. Victoria Chiera - FMLA - effective 5/15/2025-5/23/2025
- d. Jody Bartlett - FMLA Intermittent - Effective 1/31/25-12/31/25
- e. Mary Loeb - Intermittent FMLA - effective 1/31/25 - 5/23/2025
- f. Carrie Whitehouse- Bus Aide request for four (4) unpaid days; 2/10/25, 2/11/25, 2/12/25 and 2/13/25
- g. Marla Morton, AEA Teacher request for one (1) unpaid day on 5/2/2025

D. AFTER SCHOOL INTERVENTION

- a. Kari Knight, Title I After School Tutor -AMS at the rate of \$25 per hour
- b. Jessica Tomic, Title I After School Tutor -AMS at the rate of \$25 per hour

E. AEA DISTRICT-WIDE SUPPLEMENTALS 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR (AEA)

- a. Melissa Richards, District Coordinator of Summer School - 10%

F. ATHLETIC SUPPLEMENTAL POSITIONS (2024-2025 SY)- AEA MEMBERS

The asterisk () denotes longevity percentage / two (**) denotes maximum longevity percentage*

AMS

- a. Jessica Beall, Track Assistant Girls - 9%

- b. Kaitlyn White, Track Assistant (MOU) - 9%

**G. ATHLETIC SUPPLEMENTAL POSITIONS (2024-2025 SY)- NON-AEA MEMBERS
AMS**

- a. Nathaniel Armstrong, Track Assistant Boys - 9%

H. CLASSIFIED NON-TEACHING SUBSTITUTE PERSONNEL

- a. Kiara DiPietro - Custodial Substitute
- b. Mark Julian - Paraprofessional substitute

I. VOLUNTEERS- Athletic/Academic

- a. Joseph Chepke, Baseball
- b. Joseph E. Chepke, Baseball

J. STUDENT TRIPS

- a. What: Fitch Swim Camp
When: March 19, March 21, from 6:30-8:30 PM
For: Austintown Students in grades 3rd-8th
Where: Downtown Youngstown YMCA
Cost: \$40
Contact: Greta Barninger - gbarninger@gmail.com
- b. What: Fitch Softball Youth Camp
When: March 18, March 19, March 26 from 5:30-7:30 PM
For: Austintown Students in grades 2nd-6th
Where: Austintown Fitch High School
Cost: \$40 (\$10 discount if they are enrolled in Austintown Community Baseball)
Contact: Steve Ward - ward@auburnschools.org

Mr. Sherwood seconded the motion and the vote resulted as follows:

Mr. Marcum, Yes; Mrs. Mock, Yes; Mr. Porter, Yes; Mr. Sherwood, Yes; Mrs. Smrek, Yes. The motion carried (5-0).

2025-2/20-11 Proposal

Mrs. Smrek moved, upon the recommendation of the Treasurer, to approve the proposal with Wadsworth Solutions to conduct an ASHRAE Level 2 Energy Audit at Fitch High School to provide a comprehensive assessment, in the amount of \$30,000, of the school's energy usage and identify cost-effective energy efficiency improvements, effective 1/23/2025.

Mrs. Mock seconded the motion and the vote resulted as follows:

Mr. Marcum, Yes; Mrs. Mock, Yes; Mr. Porter, Yes; Mr. Sherwood, Yes; Mrs. Smrek, Yes. The motion carried (5-0).

2025-2/20-12 Agreement

Mrs. Smrek moved, Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the following contractual agreement:

The Master Lease Purchase Agreement dated as of January 28, 2025 (this "Master Lease") is entered into by and between Apple Inc. ("Lessor") and Austintown Local Schools ("Lessee"), and is effective 4/1/2025 to 4/1/2028, with annual payments not to exceed \$15,600.13.

Mr. Sherwood seconded the motion and the vote resulted as follows:

Mr. Marcum, Yes; Mrs. Mock, Yes; Mr. Porter, Yes; Mr. Sherwood, Yes; Mrs. Smrek, Yes. The motion carried (5-0).

2025-2/20-13 Agreement Amendment

Mrs. Mock moved, Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the amendment to the following contractual agreement, previously approved 6/27/2024, between the Austintown Local School District ("District") and Supplemental Educational Services, Inc. (SESINC) for the period beginning July 1, 2024 and ending on June 30, 2025 to provide staff for delivery of Title I services to the Austintown Local School District students at the following:

- Valley Christian School Title I Services
- St. Christine School Title I Services
- St. Rose School Title I Services
- ACLD School Title I Services
- St. Nicholas School Title I Services
- IAY Title I Instruction

Mrs. Smrek seconded the motion and the vote resulted as follows:

Mr. Marcum, Yes; Mrs. Mock, Yes; Mr. Porter, Yes; Mr. Sherwood, Yes; Mrs. Smrek, Yes. The motion carried (5-0).

2025-2/20-14 Resolution

Mrs. Sherwood moved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Board of Education is required - in accordance with Federal and State law (i.e., the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act ("IDEA"), 34 C.F.R. 300.201, Ohio Revised Code 3323.08, and Ohio Administrative Code 3301-51-01) – to adopt and implement written policies and procedures approved by the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce ("DEW"); and

WHEREAS, in December 2024, the DEW released updated Special Education Model Policies and Procedures ("Model Policies") that an educational agency can adopt to meet the preceding legal requirement;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby adopts the DEW's Model Policies, and agrees to use the written policies and procedures in accordance with the IDEA and the Ohio Operating Standards for Ohio Educational Agencies Serving Children with Disabilities (hereafter referred to as the "Operating Standards"); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Education agrees to use the required special education forms that are located on the DEW's website; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board acknowledges that the Model Policies, while comprehensive, do not include every requirement set forth in the IDEA, the regulations implementing IDEA, the Operating Standards, the Ohio Revised Code ("ORC"), and/or the Ohio Administrative Code ("OAC"), and the Board recognizes its obligation to follow these laws, regardless of whether their provisions are restated in the Model Policies; and

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board authorizes the Superintendent to notify the DEW of the Board's adoption of the Model Policies through the DEW's Monitoring System by uploading a copy of this

Board resolution on or before March 30, 2025, and by November 30 for each subsequent school year.

Mr. Smrek seconded the motion and the vote resulted as follows:

Mr. Marcum, Yes; Mrs. Mock, Yes; Mr. Porter, Yes; Mr. Sherwood, Yes; Mrs. Smrek, Yes. The motion carried (5-0).

2025-2/20-15 Resolution

Mrs. Smrek moved, Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS the Austintown Local School District hereby retains KeyBanc Capital Markets Inc., ("the Adviser") a registered adviser under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, to provide advice and supervision for the District's investment portfolio managed by the Adviser consistent with its duties and obligations under the Advisers Act.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of Ohio, except to the extent superseded by the Advisers Act.

Mrs. Mock seconded the motion and the vote resulted as follows:

Mr. Marcum, Yes; Mrs. Mock, Yes; Mr. Porter, Yes; Mr. Sherwood, Yes; Mrs. Smrek, Yes. The motion carried (5-0).

2025-2/20-16 Resolution

Mrs. Smrek moved, Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the following resolution regarding the 3rd grade testing on paper format:

WHEREAS, Ohio Revised Code Section 3301.0711(G)(4) states beginning with the 2019-2020 school year, a school district, other public school, or chartered nonpublic school may administer the third-grade English language arts or mathematics assessment, or both, in a paper format in any school year for which the district board of education or school governing body adopts a resolution indicating that the district or school chooses to administer the assessment in a paper format. The board or governing body shall submit a copy of the resolution to the department of education not later than the first day of May prior to the school year for which it will apply. If the resolution is submitted, the district or school shall administer the assessment in a paper format to all students in the third grade, except that any student whose individualized education program or plan developed under section 504 of the "Rehabilitation Act of 1973," 87 Stat. 355, 29 U.S.C. 794, as amended, specifies that taking the assessment in an online format is an appropriate accommodation for the student may take the assessment in an online format. ; and

WHEREAS, A district board of education or governing authority must make the choice to use paper tests and submit a board or governing authority resolution by May 1, 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board hereby confirms Austintown Local School District will administer the third-grade English language arts assessment in a paper format to all students in the third grade, except that any student whose individualized education program or plan developed under section 504 of the "Rehabilitation Act of 1973," 87 Stat. 355, 29 U.S.C. 794, as amended, specifies that taking the assessment in an online format is an appropriate accommodation for the student may take the assessment in an online format for the 2025-26 school year.

Mr. Sherwood seconded the motion and the vote resulted as follows:

Mr. Marcum, Yes; Mrs. Mock, Yes; Mr. Porter, Yes; Mr. Sherwood, Yes; Mrs. Smrek, Yes. The motion carried (5-0).

2025-2/20-17 Resolution

Mrs. Smrek moved, Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS the student(s) identified below have been determined to be residents of this school district, and eligible for transportation services; and

WHEREAS after a careful evaluation of all available options, it has been determined that it is impractical to provide transportation for these student(s) to their selected school(s); and

WHEREAS the following factors as identified in Revised Code §3327.02 have been considered:

1. The time and distance required to provide the transportation
2. The number of pupils to be transported
3. The cost of providing transportation in terms of equipment, maintenance, personnel, and administration
4. Whether similar or equivalent service is provided to other pupils eligible for transportation
5. Whether and to what extent the additional service unavoidably disrupts current transportation schedules
6. Whether other reimbursable types of transportation are available; and

WHEREAS the option of offering payment-in-lieu of transportation is provided in Ohio Revised Code: Therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the Austintown Board of Education hereby approves the declaration that it is impractical to transport the students identified herein and offers the parent(s)/guardian(s) of students named on the attachment, payment-in-lieu of transportation.

ATTACHMENT TO RESOLUTION:

For the 2024/2025 school year

Student First	Student Last	Parent(s)	School	Grade
Dani	Ferrell	Donna Ferrell	Akiva Academy	6
Dominica	Murray	Joe Murray	Heartland Christian	1
Marion	Pazin	Gloria Pazin	Akiva Academy	8
Natalie	Pazin	Gloria Pazin	Akiva Academy	6
Zack	Fields	Adam Fields	Heartland Christian	12
Caleb	Fields	Adam Fields	Heartland Christin	6
Carl	Sarigianopoulos	Joseph and Cyndi Sarigianopoulos	Northeast Ohio Impact Academy	9

Mr. Sherwood seconded the motion and the vote resulted as follows:

Mr. Marcum, Yes; Mrs. Mock, Yes; Mr. Porter, Yes; Mr. Sherwood, Yes; Mrs. Smrek, Yes. The motion carried (5-0).

2025-2/20-18 Memorandum of Understanding

Mrs. Mock moved, Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Austintown Local School District (District) and Stark State College (College, Institution of Higher Education, IHE) College Credit Plus for this agreement is defined as providing middle and high school students, grades 7-12, the opportunity to be enrolled in a college-level course or series of courses taught by the college and the IHE faculty (including courses taught by high school teachers who are credentialed IHE adjuncts). Upon successful completion of the course, the student will receive both high school graduation credit and college credit from the cooperating IHE.

Stark State College and the District will comply with all the laws, rules and timelines associated with College Credit Plus.

The District and Stark State College agree to the following as listed in the MOU:

1. Student Requirements
2. Program Requirements:
3. Financial Structure

The term of this agreement shall be for the 2025-2026 academic year, including the Summer session in 2025-2026. This agreement cannot be used by either party to limit participation of a student enrolling in courses that are not part of this agreement.

Mr. Sherwood seconded the motion and the vote resulted as follows:

Mr. Marcum, Yes; Mrs. Mock, Yes; Mr. Porter, Yes; Mr. Sherwood, Yes; Mrs. Smrek, Yes. The motion carried (5-0).

2025-2/20-19 Memorandum of Understanding

Mrs. Smrek moved, Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding by and between **Youngstown State University** and Austintown Local School District to participate in the College Credit Plus Program (CCP) with Youngstown State University. This agreement is in effect from July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026. This agreement shall expire on June 30, 2026.

Mr. Sherwood seconded the motion and the vote resulted as follows:

Mr. Marcum, Yes; Mrs. Mock, Yes; Mr. Porter, Yes; Mr. Sherwood, Yes; Mrs. Smrek, Yes. The motion carried (5-0).

2025-2/20-20 District Calendar

Mrs. Smrek moved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the 2025-2026 Austintown Local School District Calendar as presented.

Mrs. Mock seconded the motion and the vote resulted as follows:

Mr. Marcum, Yes; Mrs. Mock, Yes; Mr. Porter, Yes; Mr. Sherwood, Yes; Mrs. Smrek, Yes. The motion carried (5-0).

2025-2/20-21 Board Policy-Re-Adoption/ Revision

Mr. Sherwood moved, Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve re-adoption/revision of the following board policies:

- PO1130- Conflict of Interest
- PO3113- Conflict of Interest
- PO4113-Conflict of Interest
- PO6110- Grant Funds

PO6111- Internal Controls
PO6112-Cash Management of Grants
PO6114-Cost Principles- Spending Federal Funds
PO6325-Procurement- Federal Funds/Grants
PO6550- Travel Payment & Reimbursement/Relocation
PO7310- Disposition of Surplus Property
PO7450- Property Inventory

Mrs. Smrek seconded the motion and the vote resulted as follows:

Mr. Marcum, Yes; Mrs. Mock, Yes; Mr. Porter, Yes; Mr. Sherwood, Yes; Mrs. Smrek, Yes. The motion carried (5-0).

2025-2/20-22 Public Meeting for March, 2025

Mrs. Smrek moved for the following day, date, time, and location for the,December 2024 Board of Education meeting to take place:

Work Session: March 19, 2025 at the BOE Office Conference Room beginning at 4:00 PM

Regular Session: March 19, 2025 at Austintown Middle School beginning at 5:00 PM

Mr. Sherwood seconded the motion and the vote resulted as follows:

Mr. Marcum, Yes; Mrs. Mock, Yes; Mr. Porter, Yes; Mr. Sherwood, Yes; Mrs. Smrek, Yes. The motion carried (5-0).

2025-2/20-16 Treasurer's Comments

None.

2025-2/20-17 Superintendent's Comments

None.

2025-2/20-18 Board Comments

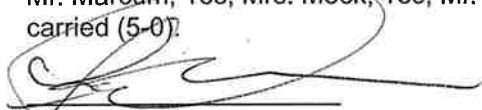
None.

2025-2/20-19 Adjournment

Mrs. Smrek moved to adjourn at 5:32 PM.

Mr. Sherwood seconded the motion as the vote resulted as follows:

Mr. Marcum, Yes; Mrs. Mock, Yes; Mr. Porter, Yes; Mr. Sherwood, Yes; Mrs. Smrek, Yes. The motion carried (5-0).



Mr. Fred Marcum, President
Austintown Board of Education



Blaise Karlovic, Treasurer
Austintown Board of Education