

Held

February 18

20

25

COPLEY-FAIRLAWN CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting
Copley High School Auditorium
February 18, 2025 5:30 p.m.

Beth Hertz, President, called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

John Wheadon, Treasurer, called the roll and the following were present:

Jim Borchik
Trevor Chuna
Steve Doss
Beth Hertz
Paula Lynn

2025-8

A. Agenda

It was moved by Mr. Doss, seconded by Mrs. Lynn, to adopt the agenda for the February 18, 2025 regular meeting, as presented.

AYES: Doss, Lynn, Chuna, Borchik, Hertz
NAYS: None

B. Presentation – Brian Falhamer, Principal at Fort Island Primary School, spoke about how i-Ready is being utilized in his building to drive instruction. i-Ready is a program that provides diagnostic assessments that pinpoints students’ strengths and weaknesses in reading and mathematics. Fort Island Primary School also has a kindness campaign in progress. The goal is to spread kindness. A group of teachers led by Mrs. School has already made over 200 shirts with kindness slogans on them for the students.

C. Recognition

Student of the Month – January, 2025
Vincent and Frank Ragon- Arrowhead Primary
Theo Savage - Fort Island Primary (absent)
Fuka Kondo - Herberich Primary
Nyla Lusane - Copley-Fairlawn Middle School
Jaxon Stevens - Copley High School
Angelique Lane - Copley High School Student-Athlete

Staff Recognition
Emily McCarrick
Susan Pelton

(Five Minute Recess)

D Recognition of the Public

The Copley-Fairlawn City School District Board of Education feels that while public participation in Board meetings is not required, it is a valuable way to receive input from community members. The Board will not enter into debate or discussion on any matter brought forward, instead the information will be forwarded to the proper individual for possible follow up. Those who wish to participate in the public comments section of the agenda must sign in on the sheet available at the entrance to the meeting. Those signed up to address the Board should limit their comments to a maximum of three minutes until the total time of 30 minutes is used according to Policy BDDH (Also KD) and Ohio Revised Code 121.22 and 3313.20.

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David Spondike, resident, voiced his concern about the decisions being made at the federal government level with the potential dismantling of the U.S. Department of Education and the elimination of the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) programs. He said he wants to make sure the district is prepared to deal with those issues along with dealing with the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents if they show up at the school buildings.

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E. Treasurer’s Business

It was moved by Mrs. Lynn, seconded by Mr. Borchik to approve the following actions, upon the recommendation of the Treasurer:

1. Minutes

Approve the minutes of the Board of Education’s organizational/regular meeting held January 7, 2025.

2. Financial Statement

Approve the financial statement for the month of January, 2025.

3. Resolution Accepting Amounts and Rates

Adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Fiscal Officer of the Board of Education has provided the Alternative Tax Budget, for the next succeeding fiscal year commencing July 1, 2025; and

WHEREAS, The Budget Commission of Summit County, Ohio, has certified its action together with an estimate by the County Fiscal Officer of the rate of each tax necessary to be levied by this Board, and what part thereof is without, and what part within the ten mill tax limitation;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of Education of the Copley-Fairlawn City School District, Summit County, Ohio, that the amounts and rates, as determined by the Budget Commission in its certification, be and the same are hereby accepted; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that there be and is hereby levied on the tax duplicate of said School District the rate of each tax necessary to be levied within and without the ten mill limitation as follows:

Fund	Maximum Tax		Amount to be Received	
	Inside	Outside	Inside	Outside
General Fund	5.10	56.57	\$6,112,526	\$30,524,791
Bond Retirement		2.57		\$ 3,080,233
Permanent Improvement		2.00		\$ 1,743,948
Total	5.10	61.14	\$6,112,526	\$35,348,972

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and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Treasurer of this Board be and he is hereby directed to certify a copy of this Resolution to the County Auditor of said County.

4. Donation

- a. Accept a donation of a Canon printer and scanner from 3610 Clothing Company.
- b. Accept a donation of \$700.00 from St. Luke’s Ministries for the lunch program at Copley-Fairlawn Middle School.

5. Approval of Vendor Payments (Then and Now Certificates)

- a. It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the following item for payment in accordance with Ohio Revised Code 5705.41 (D):

Vendor	Description	Amount
Jeffrey’s Towing	Bus Towing on Jan. 18, 2024	\$400.00
TPT	Counseling Curriculum	\$1,135.71

6. Fund-to-Fund Transfer

Approve the following fund-to-fund transfers to pay for track uniforms:

From	To	Amount
General Fund	Athletics	\$10,000.00

7. Property Value Complaints

- a. Resolution Authorizing the Filing of an Original Complaint Against the Valuation of Real Property Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 5715.19

WHEREAS, ORC §5715.19 permits a board of education to file an original complaint with the county auditor challenging the determination of the total valuation of property within its boundaries on or before March 31, 2025, if the property was sold in an arm’s length transaction during calendar year 2023, and the sale price exceeds the true value of the property for Tax Year 2024 by both ten (10) percent and \$554,000; and

WHEREAS, prior to filing a complaint, a board of education is required to adopt a resolution authorizing the filing at a public meeting after providing written notice to the record owner(s) of the parcel(s) identified in the resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Copley-Fairlawn City School District hereby authorizes the filing of an original complaint against the value of the following real property as it recently sold according to Summit County Records for \$2,025,000 on January 4, 2023, and the County’s tax year 2024 value is \$875,640.

Street Address	Permanent Parcel Number	Record Owner	Basis for the Complaint	Tax Year of Filing
99 Rothrock Rd., Akron, OH 44321	15-04151	99 Rothrock LLC	Recent sale of the subject property establishes fair market value.	2024

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board, through its counsel, has provided the required written notice to the record owner(s) of the parcel(s) identified herein.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board authorizes Peters, Kalail & Markakis Co., L.P.A. to file said complaint with the Summit County Board of Revision and to take any action necessary to defend the complaint including but not limited to participating in the Board of Revision proceedings and any further appeal and consulting with an appraiser.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Board concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Board, and that all its deliberations and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements including Ohio Revised Code §121.22.

b. Resolution Authorizing the Filing of an Original Complaint Against the Valuation of Real Property Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 5715.19

WHEREAS, ORC §5715.19 permits a board of education to file an original complaint with the county auditor challenging the determination of the total valuation of property within its boundaries on or before March 31, 2025, if the property was sold in an arm’s length transaction during calendar year 2023, and the sale price exceeds the true value of the property for Tax Year 2024 by both ten (10) percent and \$554,000; and

WHEREAS, prior to filing a complaint, a board of education is required to adopt a resolution authorizing the filing at a public meeting after providing written notice to the record owner(s) of the parcel(s) identified in the resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Copley-Fairlawn City School District hereby authorizes the filing of an original complaint against the value of the following real property as it recently sold according to Summit County Records for \$3,897,755 on December 15, 2023, and the County’s tax year 2024 value is \$3,030,000.

Street Address	Permanent Parcel Number	Record Owner	Basis for the Complaint	Tax Year of Filing
575 S. Cleveland-Massillon Rd. Akron, OH 44333	09-02551	Fairlawn 575 Property Holdings LLC	Recent sale of the subject property establishes fair market value.	2024

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board, through its counsel, has provided the required written notice to the record owner(s) of the parcel(s) identified herein.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board authorizes Peters, Kalail & Markakis Co., L.P.A. to file said complaint with the Summit County Board of Revision and to take any action necessary to defend the complaint including but not limited to participating in the Board of Revision proceedings and any further appeal and consulting with an appraiser.

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WHEREAS, ORC §5715.19 permits a board of education to file an original complaint with the county auditor challenging the determination of the total valuation of property within its boundaries on or before March 31, 2025, if the property was sold in an arm’s length transaction during calendar year 2023, and the sale price exceeds the true value of the property for Tax Year 2024 by both ten (10) percent and \$554,000; and

WHEREAS, prior to filing a complaint, a board of education is required to adopt a resolution authorizing the filing at a public meeting after providing written notice to the record owner(s) of the parcel(s) identified in the resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Copley-Fairlawn City School District hereby authorizes the filing of an original complaint against the value of the following real property as it recently sold according to Summit County Records for \$2,353,277 on July 13, 2023, and the County’s tax year 2024 value is \$538,850.

Street Address	Permanent Parcel Number	Record Owner	Basis for the Complaint	Tax Year of Filing
11 S. Cleveland-Massillon Rd. Akron, OH 44333	09-03929	Peterson Parkside LLC	Recent sale of the subject property establishes fair market value.	2024

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board, through its counsel, has provided the required written notice to the record owner(s) of the parcel(s) identified herein.

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WHEREAS, prior to filing a complaint, a board of education is required to adopt a resolution authorizing the filing at a public meeting after providing written notice to the record owner(s) of the parcel(s) identified in the resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Copley-Fairlawn City School District hereby authorizes the filing of an original complaint against the value of the following real property as it recently sold according to Summit County Records for \$4,600,000 on August 1, 2023, and the County’s tax year 2024 value is \$3,419,930.

Street Address	Permanent Parcel Number	Record Owner	Basis for the Complaint	Tax Year of Filing
80 Springside Dr. Akron, OH 44333	05-00710	OHM Fairlawn LLC	Recent sale of the subject property establishes fair market value.	2024

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board, through its counsel, has provided the required written notice to the record owner(s) of the parcel(s) identified herein.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board authorizes Peters, Kalail & Markakis Co., L.P.A. to file said complaint with the Summit County Board of Revision and to take any action necessary to defend the complaint including but not limited to participating in the Board of Revision proceedings and any further appeal and consulting with an appraiser.

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WHEREAS, ORC §5715.19 permits a board of education to file an original complaint with the county auditor challenging the determination of the total valuation of property within its boundaries on or before March 31, 2025, if the property was sold in an arm’s length transaction during calendar year 2023, and the sale price exceeds the true value of the property for Tax Year 2024 by both ten (10) percent and \$554,000; and

WHEREAS, prior to filing a complaint, a board of education is required to adopt a resolution authorizing the filing at a public meeting after providing written notice to the record owner(s) of the parcel(s) identified in the resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Copley-Fairlawn City School District hereby authorizes the filing of an original complaint against the value of the following real property as it recently sold according to Summit County Records for \$3,000,000 on March 14, 2023, and the County’s tax year 2024 value is \$1,932,000.

Street Address	Permanent Parcel Number	Record Owner	Basis for the Complaint	Tax Year of Filing
Rothrock Rd., Copley, OH 44321 (vacant land)	15-01804	Thirty Four Fifty Five LLC	Recent sale of the subject property establishes fair market value.	2024

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board, through its counsel, has provided the required written notice to the record owner(s) of the parcel(s) identified herein.

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AYES: Lynn, Borchik, Doss, Chuna, Hertz
NAYS: None

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D. Superintendent’s Considerations and Recommendations

It was moved by Mr. Doss, seconded by Mr. Chuna, to approve the following actions, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent:

1. Ohio High School Athletic Association

Authorize 2025-2026 membership in the Ohio High School Athletic Association for Copley High School and Copley-Fairlawn Middle School. It is agreed that these schools will conduct their athletics in accordance with the Constitution, Bylaws, Regulations, Interpretations and Decisions of the Ohio High School Athletic Association, as presented.

2. Overnight Field Trip

Approve the following overnight field trips:

- a. Copley High School Quiz Bowl - Atlanta, Georgia - May 23-26, 2025, to participate in the HSNCT National competition.
- b. Ohio DECA Career Development Conference – Columbus, Ohio March 11-12, 2025
- c. DECA International Career Development Conference – Orlando, Florida - April 26-29, 2025
- d. SkillsUSA State Championship – Columbus, Ohio – March 18-19, 2025
- e. SkillsUSA National Competition – Atlanta, Georgia – June 23-27, 2025 for those who place 1st in State Competition
- f. Copley High School Cross Country Team - Camp Nuhop (Perrysville, Ohio) - August 2-5, 2025 for preseason running camp.
- g. Copley High School Wrestling Team – Kenston High School – February 28 – March 1, 2025 to participate in the OHSAA District Wrestling Tournament.

3. Policy Recommendation

New Policy Special Education Model Policies and Procedures

4. Memorandums

- a. Approve the memorandum of understanding between Stark State College and the Copley-Fairlawn City School District to provide instructional services to qualifying students for the 2025-2026 school year. (College Credit Plus)
- b. Approve the memorandum of understanding between The University of Akron and the Copley-Fairlawn City School District to provide instructional services to qualifying students for the 2025-2026 school year. (College Credit Plus)
- c. Approve the memorandum of understanding between Cuyahoga Community College and the Copley-Fairlawn City School District to provide instructional services to qualifying students for the 2025-2026 school year. (College Credit Plus)

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5. Personnel

a. Certified

1. Accept the resignation of the following:

Monroe, Kelly

Tutor, effective January 30, 2025

b. Classified

1. Accept the resignation of the following:

Bridges, Myrtice	Van Driver, effective February 7, 2025
Brown, Tierra	Bus Aide, effective January 23, 2025
Newman, Brooke	Special Needs Assistant, effective January 17, 2025
York, Kathryn	Secretary, effective February 28, 2025

2. Employ the following classified staff for the 2024-2025 school year contingent upon subsequent receipt by the Board of Education of reports from FBI and BCII and official documentation of any required licensure, course work, degrees, and testing appropriate to the position for which the candidate is to be hired:

Allen, Joyce	Cafeteria Worker, effective February 20, 2025
Byrd, David	Cafeteria Worker, effective February 18, 2025
Daniels, Marissa	Cafeteria Worker, effective February 18, 2025
Epps, Jamal	Custodian, Step 2, effective February 24, 2025
Hausch Jr., David	Custodian, Step 5, effective February 3, 2025
Smith, Dean	Van Driver, effective February 3, 2025
York, Kathryn	Guidance Secretary, effective March 3, 2025

3. Employ the following substitute personnel for the 2024-2025 school year, contingent upon subsequent receipt by the Board of Education of reports from FBI and BCII and official documentation of any required licensure, course work, degrees, and testing appropriate to the position for which the candidate is to be hired:

Daniels, Marissa	Cafeteria Worker
Hewitt, Melissa	Special Needs Assistant, Cafeteria/Playground Monitor
Hohenshil, Christine	Special Needs Assistant, Office Assistant, Educational Assistant, Library/Media Associate, Secretary
Newman, Brooke	Special Needs Assistant, effective January 21, 2025
Samarigan, Kevin	Mechanic
Silverthorne, Alta	Van Driver
Wier, Robert	Bus Driver

4. Grant an unpaid leave of absence to Sarah Miller from February 10, 2025 through April 13, 2025.
5. Grant an unpaid leave of absence to Dawn Tanner from February 13, 2025 through March 31, 2025.

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6. Approve the employment of Chris McNulty as a substitute central office secretary on an as needed basis.

AYES: Doss, Chuna, Lynn, Borchik, Hertz
NAYS: None

F. New Business

Aimee Kirsch, Assistant Superintendent, gave an update on the construction projects. The elementary schools and middle school are still working on punch list items. The high school construction is ongoing. The kitchen is open and operational. The auditorium is completed but is still not being fully utilized because construction is ongoing on the front entrance which makes the auditorium cold and dusty. The front entrance has been fully fire proofed as required by the building department. Windows were installed in the main entrance at the high school today. The new trophy case has been installed at the high school outside of the auditorium. Members of the construction team will be meeting with Environmental Design Group next week to discuss parking lot renovations at all five school buildings. Parking lots will be renovated over the summer. We wanted to wait for the building construction to be completed prior to renovating the parking lots.

2025-11

G. Executive Session

It was moved by Mr. Borchik, seconded by Mr. Chuna to go into executive session pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(1). The board shall consider the employment or compensation of public employees or officials of the school district at 6:13 p.m.

AYES: Borchik, Chuna, Lynn, Doss, Hertz
NAYS: None

The Board returned to public session at 7:34 p.m.

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H. Adjournment

It was moved by Mr. Borchik, seconded by Mr. Chuna, to adjourn the meeting (7:34 p.m.)

AYES: Borchik, Chuna, Doss, Lynn, Hertz
NAYS: None


President


Treasurer