

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
Minutes of the Northern Local Schools Board of Education
Regular Meeting – March 20, 2025

The Northern Local Schools Board of Education met in regular session in the District Office Board Room.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Call to Order - President Dale DeRolph called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call – Treasurer Jennie Clifton called the roll:

Members Present:

Sharon Cains

Dale DeRolph

Levi Dupler

Megan Miller

Members Absent:

Patrick Hogan

Recommendation for Approval – Mrs. Cains moved to approve the following meeting minutes:

1. Regular Meeting, February 20, 2025

Mr. Dupler seconded the motion.

Roll call: Mrs. Cains, aye; Mr. Dupler, aye; Mrs. Miller, aye; Mr. DeRolph, aye.

Motion carried 4-0.

Mid-East Vocational School Report – Mr. France reported that the Mid-East Board of Education held its regular meeting on Monday, March 10, 2025 along with a public hearing for the purpose of reemploying the current Business Affairs Managers after his retirement in the same position. The credit card compliance officer report was approved and overall there was good financial news. The Mid-East school calendar for 2025-26 was also approved. Mr. France stated that there was a purchase approved for a used New Holland round hay baler for the Philo satellite program and two used tandem axle semi-trucks for use with the CDL and heavy equipment operating programs. Mid-East also received a donation from the VFW of \$1,000 worth of wheelchairs for use in the Occupational Health programs, along with 2 CPR mannequins that also includes a Narcan Education module. Certified negotiations start Monday and Mr. France is the Board representative.

Superintendent's Report – Mrs. Gussler presented the Board with a reminder of several upcoming events. The Drama Club Spring Play is set for April 11; there is no school on May 6th due to the special election, this will instead be used as a professional development day for staff; the FFA banquet is May 13th; graduation is May 18th; and May 5-9th is Staff Appreciation Week.

Mrs. Gussler shared that the local superintendents have met several times to discuss the Governor's budget bill, the impact on each District, and to strategize on negotiating for updates that will reduce the negative impact. Unfortunately, Northern Local is the only Perry County school that is projected to lose funding over the two-year biennial budget. Mrs. Gussler also expressed that she has been in contact and had productive discussions with Representative Kevin Miller about the factors specific to Northern Local Schools.

Business and Finance

Treasurer's Report – Mrs. Clifton presented the Treasurer's Report, highlighting general fund revenues and expenditures to date, compared to the estimated projections. 53.1% of property taxes for the fiscal year have

been received, 66.9% of estimated State Funding and Casino revenue has been received, Restricted State Grants have far exceeded projections at 170.2% due to the increased DPIA funding associated with the district's qualification for CEP, and the State share of local property tax has been collected at 53.2%. General fund interest earnings for the year have reached \$239,746.66. 1st half tax collection settlements have been received from Fairfield and Licking Counties, and Perry County should be received in the next few weeks. The State share will be received in late Spring.

Mrs. Clifton also highlighted a few general fund expenditure accounts that were a bit higher than estimated. The salaries are higher as a result of bringing our Special Education Coordinator onboard from the ESC as of 8/1, the addition of a full-time Nurse Aide at Somerset Elementary and the Athletic Trainer being hired full-time instead of through a contract with Genesis Healthcare. Likewise, purchased services are higher to the contract for a full-time School Resource Officer and while supplies are higher, they should significantly taper off while we head to the end of the school year. Mrs. Clifton also noted that our Food Service Fund expenditures are approximately \$300,000 higher than revenues, mainly due to CEP qualification and there not being much lunch sales revenue being generated; and that the Self-Insurance Fund expenditures are approximately \$400,000 higher than revenues.

Mrs. Clifton shared that the District Insurance Committee met for a second time on March 12th to review proposals for medical plans, changes, and alternative plan designs in an effort to collaboratively work together to control costs. The majority of the proposals received were contingent upon receiving an additional month of claims data. The insurance committee will meet again on April 8th to review the final proposals and vote, if necessary, on changes effective July 1st. Mrs. Clifton also shared that the District changed insurance brokers and that Maggie Neely with Gallagher Benefits will be starting work immediately with the insurance carriers to fine tune, negotiate, and present plans that are "Apples to Apples" so that the committee can make a fully informed decision.

Mrs. Clifton reported that there was an RFP released put out for Lawn Care, Grounds Services and Snow Removal to be effective with the 2025-26 school year.

Recommendation for Approval – Mr. Dupler moved to approve the following:

1. February Financial Reports Attachment

Recommend the Board approve the February 2025 financial reports, as presented.

2. Budget Adjustments

Recommend the Board approve the following adjustments:

Revenue:

FY25 Safety Grant (499-9225)	\$49,813.80
Cheerleaders (300-950I)	\$8,824.00
HS National Honor Society (200-971H)	\$1,688.11
Amvets Scholarship Fund (008-924A)	\$40,951.92

Appropriations:

FY25 Safety Grant (499-9225)	\$49,813.80
Athletics (300-950H)	(\$18,409.37)
Cheerleaders (300-950I)	\$8,224.00
HS National Honor Society (200-971H)	\$1,688.11
Amvets Scholarship Fund (008-924A)	\$40,951.92

3. Donations

Recommend the Board acknowledge the following donations:

- a.) Sherry Alexander, Stickers to Glenford Elementary
- b.) Zanesville Salvation Army, 13 pairs of leggings/sweatpants to Glenford Elementary
- c.) Jesse Young, 3-ring binders to Glenford Elementary
- d.) Autumn Jones, Books to Glenford Elementary
- e.) Sheridan Youth Wrestling Club, Sterilaser Mat Disinfectant to Sheridan High School Wrestling
- f.) Perrydise Frozen Yogurt, \$160.00 donation to Sheridan High School Wrestling

4. Then & Now Certificates

Recommend the Board approve the following Then & Now Certificates:

- a) PO #131720, Auditor of State, IPA Quality Review
- b) PO #131681, Perry County Park District, Thornville Programs
- c) PO #131831, The Positivity Project, Glenford, Thornville & MS Partnership

5. Shackleford's Disposal

Attachment

Recommend the Board approve a contract with Shackleford's Disposal for waste removal services, as presented.

6. The Positivity Project

Attachment

Recommend the Board approve a contract for partnership with The Positivity Project and Sheridan Middle School, Thornville Elementary and Glenford Elementary for the 2024-25 school year, as presented.

7. Granite Communications

Attachment

Recommend the Board approve contract with Granite Communications for telecommunications services, as presented.

8. Blocksi, Inc.

Attachment

Recommend the Board approve a 3-year contract with Blocksi, Inc. for content filtering services, as presented.

9. Workers Compensation Group Rating Plan

Attachment

Recommend the Board approve participation in the Ohio SchoolComp 2026 Workers' Compensation Group Rating program with Sedgwick, as presented.

10. Cintas Rental Service Agreement

Attachment

Recommend the Board approve the rental service agreement with Cintas for custodial and maintenance uniforms and facility service products, as presented.

11. META ITC Master Services Agreement

Attachment

Recommend the Board approve the ITC Master Services Agreement with META Solutions for the 2025-26 school year, as presented.

12. Zane State Data Sharing Agreement

Attachment

Recommend the Board approve the Data Sharing Agreement with Zane State, as presented.

13. Asset Disposal

Recommend the Board approve the disposal of the following assets:

- a) Assorted Glenford Library Books, Damaged
- b) Trainer's Room Refrigerator, Inoperable

Mrs. Miller seconded the motion.

Roll call: Mr. Dupler; aye; Mrs. Miller, aye; Mrs. Cains, aye; Mr. DeRolph, aye.

Motion carried 4-0.

Employment

Recommendation for Approval – Mrs. Miller moved to approve the following:

1. Retirements

Recommend the Board accept the following retirements:

- a.) Annabelle Currence, Educational Assistant, effective May 31, 2025
- b.) Jay Hickman, Principal, effective July 1, 2025
- c.) Jeanette Snider, 5th grade Teacher, effective May 31, 2025
- d.) Michael Rodich, Assistant Principal, effective June 30, 2025
- e.) Gayla Shafer, 2nd grade Teacher, effective May 31, 2025
- f.) Scott Johns, Elementary Physical Education Teacher, effective August 31, 2025
- g.) Sharon Wise, Bus Driver, effective May 31, 2025
- h.) Doug Fisher, Intervention Specialist, effective April 1, 2025

2. Resignations

Recommend the Board accept the following resignations:

- a) Doug Fisher, Varsity Baseball Coach, effective March 13, 2025
- b) Hannah Olson, Assistant Cook, effective March 21, 2025

3. Leave of Absence

Recommend the Board accept the following Leave of Absence for the 2025-26 school year:

- a) Miranda Shriner, Family Nurturing Leave

4. Certified Employees

Recommend the Board approve the following certified employee for the 2025-26 school year:

- a) Ty Davis, Intervention Specialist, Masters+, Step 10
- b) Emma Taylor, Social Worker, Masters, Step 1
- c) Landen Russell, Intervention Specialist, Bachelors, Step 0
- d) Genna Heileman, Intervention Specialist, Bachelors, Step 5

5. Certified Substitutes

Attachment

Recommend the Board approve the following certified substitutes for the 2024-25 school year:

- a) MVEESC Substitutes, as presented

6. Supplemental Contracts

Recommend the Board approve the following supplemental for the 2024-25 school year:

- a) Josh Coleman, Varsity Baseball Coach, Step 12
- b) Caleb Bennett, Assistant Baseball Coach (Varsity), Step 5
- c) Alan Lyle, Assistant Baseball Coach (JV), Step 0
- d) Katie Huffman, Assistant Track Coach (Jump), Step 3
- e) Alicia Clouse, Year 1 Mentor
- f) Deb Masterson, Year 1 Mentor
- g) Dan Riggs, Year 2 Mentor
- h) Tracey VanBalen, Year 2 Mentor
- i) Lena Moore, Year 2 Mentor
- j) Colleen Craft, Year 2 Mentor
- k) Casey Jones, Mentor Program Coordinator

7. Certified Contract Correction

Recommend the Board approve the following certified contract correction for the 2025-26 school year:

Two Year Contract:

- a) Clay Fisher

8. Classified Contract Renewals

Recommend the Board approve the following classified contract renewals for 2025-26 school year:

One Year Contract:

- a) Isaiah Peck
- b) Marilyn Winegardner

Mrs. Cains seconded the motion.

Roll call: Mrs. Miller, aye; Mrs. Cains, aye; Mr. Dupler, aye; Mr. DeRolph, aye.

Motion carried 4-0.

Curriculum & Instruction

Recommendation for Approval – Mrs. Cains moved to approve the following:

1. Field Trips

Recommend the Board approve the following Field Trips for the 2024-25 school year.

- a) April 25, 2025 Senior Class Trip to King's Island
- b) April 30, 2025 Somerset Elementary 5th graders to Dawes Arboretum

Mr. Dupler seconded the motion.

Roll call: Mrs. Cains, aye; Mr. Dupler, aye; Mrs. Miller, aye; Mr. DeRolph, aye.

Motion carried 4-0.

Board Policy & Procedure

Recommendation for Approval – Mrs. Miller moved to approve the following:

1. **Board Policies – Final Reading**

Recommend the Board approve the following Board Policies upon Final Reading:

- a) PO# 0131.1; Technical Corrections
- b) PO# 2271; College Credit Plus Program
- c) PO# 2460; Special Education
- d) PO# 5223; Released Time for Religious Instruction During the School Day
- e) PO# 5330; Use of Medications
- f) PO# 5610; Removal, Suspension, Expulsion and Permanent Exclusion of Students

2. **Board Policies – Rescission, Final Reading**

Recommend the Board approve the rescission of the following Board Policies upon final reading:

- a) PO# 0171; Review of Policy
- b) PO# 24600DE; ODE-Special Education

Mrs. Cains seconded the motion.

Roll call: Mrs. Miller, aye; Mrs. Cains, aye; Mr. Dupler, aye; Mr. DeRolph, aye.

Motion carried 4-0.

Adjournment – Mr. Dupler moved to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. Miller seconded the motion.

Roll call: Mr. Dupler, aye; Mrs. Miller, aye; Mrs. Cains, aye; Mr. DeRolph, aye.

President DeRolph declared the meeting adjourned.

ATTEST:

President

Treasurer