

March 20, 2025

**INDIAN CREEK LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**

The Indian Creek Board of Education met in regular session on March 20, 2025, at 6:00 P.M. at Indian Creek Middle School, Mingo Junction, Ohio. President Dr. John Figel called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance. At roll call, the following members were **present**: Dr. Ted Starkey, Mr. Cowser, Mr. Speece, and Dr. Figel.

Absent: Mr. Bove

HEARING - Review of 2025-26 School Year Calendar

A hearing to review the 2025-26 school year calendar, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code, was held at 5:45 P.M. prior to the regular meeting.

READING, APPROVAL, SIGNING OF MINUTES

#26-03-25

Dr. Starkey moved and Mr. Cowser seconded the motion to approve the minutes from the February 20, 2025, regular meeting. Vote on motion: Dr. Starkey, yes; Mr. Cowser, yes; Mr. Speece, yes; Dr. Figel, yes. Motion approved 4-0.

BILLS, FINANCIAL, BANK RECONCILIATION

#27-03-25

Mr. Speece moved and Dr. Starkey seconded the motion to approve the bills, financial report, and bank reconciliation for the month of February 2025. Vote on motion: Mr. Cowser, yes; Mr. Speece, yes; Dr. Figel, yes; Dr. Starkey, yes. Motion approved 4-0.

INTRODUCTIONS AND RECOGNITION OF GUESTS

The Indian Creek High School Girls Basketball Team and Coach Steve Eft were introduced and recognized for winning their title and their successful season. Dr. Figel expressed warm sentiments, and Mr. Cowser congratulated the team as well.

Mr. Dave Moffat and The Creek Squad made a presentation to the Board on their activities in the district, highlighting a new program for computer repair and setup of district devices, supported by a CTE Equipment Grant.

Food Director Nicole Marshall provided updates on menu changes, upcoming events including Easter items, staff updates, and budget allocations. The Middle School Principal gave an update on school activities and events, including Unified Sports events, a band concert, and a solo game.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Board acknowledged that Courtney Johnson, an English Language Arts teacher at Indian Creek Middle School, was awarded a grant from the Martha Holden Jennings Foundation.

Adopt addendum.

#28-03-25

Dr. Starkey moved and Dr. Figel seconded the motion to adopt item H to the agenda under new business. Vote on motion: Mr. Cowser, yes; Mr. Speece, yes; Dr. Figel, yes; Dr. Starkey, yes. Motion approved 4-0.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

APPROVAL OF ITEMS A THROUGH H UNDER NEW BUSINESS

#29-03-25

Dr. Starkey moved and Dr. Figel seconded the motion to approve items A through H under New Business.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Bills to Be Considered, Over \$5,000.00 and/or Improper Procedure

The Treasurer recommended payment of the following invoice submitted for payment:

Month	PO#	Vendor	Amount	Description	Noted	Reason
March	6008005	Multi - Tuition Reimbursement	\$14,370.06	Tuition for Teachers	Yes	Improper

B. Contract - FinalForms - OMERESA

The Superintendent recommended the Board enter into an agreement with OMERESA to use FinalForms, an online platform for managing student information, emergency medical forms, and school communication.

C. 2025-26 Calendar

The Superintendent recommended the Board accept the District Calendar for the 2025-26 school year, including any necessary changes or adjustments.

D. Agreement - Resource Officers - Jefferson County Sheriff Department

The Superintendent recommended the Board approve an agreement with the Jefferson County Sheriff Department for the services of two Resource Officers from January 2025 through December 2025.

E. Accept Donation - Martha Holden Jennings Foundation

The Treasurer recommended the Board accept a \$279.00 grant from the Martha Holden Jennings Foundation.

F. Accept Donation - Jefferson County ESC - Close Up Program

The Treasurer recommended the Board accept a donation from Jefferson County Educational Service Center for the Indian Creek High School Close-Up program.

G. Appropriation Modifications

The Treasurer recommended approval of the following appropriation modifications:

- Supplemental appropriations of \$279.00, MARTHA HOLDEN JENNINGS GRANTS TO EDUCATORS FY25 (019-9225).
- Supplemental appropriations of \$1,500.00, ICHS CLOSE-UP (200-925I).

H. Statement of Compliance

The Treasurer recommended the Board affirm their commitment to maintain integrity, transparency, and accountability in all financial and operational activities related to the administration of consolidated Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) grants, as described in Board Policy BBFA - Board Member Conflicts of Interest.

Vote on motion: Dr. Figel, yes; Mr. Cowser, yes; Mr. Speece, yes; Dr. Starkey, yes. Motion approved 4-0.

PERSONNEL

APPROVAL OF ITEMS A THROUGH E

#30-03-25

Dr. Starkey moved and Mr. Cowser seconded the motion to approve items A through E under Personnel.

A. Employment - Classified - Substitutes

The Superintendent recommended the Board approve employment of the following individuals for inclusion on the Classified Substitute list for the positions listed below and any subsequent positions for which they may qualify:

- Pamela Dodds, Cafeteria
- Matthew Hawk, Bus Driver (pending successful completion of Bus Driver Training/On Board Instruction, Pre-Service Certificate, Bus Driver Test, and all other pre-employment requirements)
- Ashley Rager, Cafeteria/Custodian/Secretary
- Dan Shaffer, Custodian/Secretary
- Holli Carney, Cafeteria/Secretary

B. Resignation - Classified

The Superintendent recommended the Board accept the resignation of John Wardle from the position of Custodian, Indian Creek Middle School, for personal reasons, effective end of work day, May 26, 2025.

C. Resignation - Classified

The Superintendent recommended the Board accept the resignation of Diane McAfee, Secretary to the Superintendent, for the purpose of retirement, effective July 1, 2025, with her last day of work being June 30, 2025.

D. Resignation - Certified

The Superintendent recommended the Board accept the resignation of Dawn Carson, effective June 30, 2025, for retirement purposes, after 35 years of service to the district.

E. Employment - Certified

The Superintendent recommended the Board approve the employment of Christopher Parker, effective the 2025-26 school year, as the Indian Creek High School CTE Financial Literacy Teacher, on a one-year contract, 184 days per year, with salary and benefits pursuant to the ICEA Negotiated Agreement, contingent upon obtaining valid Ohio licensure and completing required background checks and drug testing.

Vote on motion: Dr. Figel, yes; Mr. Cowser, yes; Mr. Speece, yes; Dr. Starkey, yes. Motion approved 4-0.

**PERSONNEL
APPROVAL OF ITEM F
#31-03-25**

Dr. Figel moved and Dr. Starkey seconded the motion to approve item F under Personnel.03-

- **F. Employment - Certified**

The Superintendent recommended the Board approve the employment of Amanda Speece, effective the 2025-26 school year, as the Indian Creek High School Art Teacher, on a one-year contract, 184 days per year, with salary and benefits pursuant to the ICEA Negotiated Agreement, contingent upon obtaining valid Ohio licensure and completing required background checks and drug testing.

Vote on motion: Dr. Figel, yes; Mr. Cowser, yes; Mr. Speece, Abstain; Dr. Starkey, yes. Motion approved 3-0-1.

REPORT OF BOARD LIAISONS

a. Student Achievement - Mr. Speece

Mr. Speece provided an update on the girls' basketball team and a quick update on spring sports, including the track meet schedule.

b. Legislative - Dr. Starkey

Dr. Starkey noted a state update about AI in education and followed up on the AI Summit scheduled for May 7, 2025.

REPORT OF BOARD ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Spring Sports - Mr. Cowser and Mr. Speece

Mr. Cowser gave an update on spring sports, noting that boys' soccer is being brought back. Turf at the football field is in year 7 of 10 and in great shape. Also gave an update on youth participation in weightlifting during school.

REPORT OF JVS REPRESENTATIVE - Mr. Cowser

Mr. Cowser reported on the superintendent search at Jefferson County JVS, the potential use of the EGCC building, 25/26 enrollment for next year, and 450 students enrolled for FY26. The JVS is considering a bond issue for security upgrades to their building.

REPORT OF TREASURER/CFO

The Treasurer provided a report on cash, revenues, and expenses. Along with an update on the 7.9 mil levy renewal.

REPORT OF ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

The Assistant Superintendent gave updates on new 911 bus radios, district phone system upgrades and a planned phone backup system to be installed over Easter break.

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT

The Superintendent provided updates on retirements and hiring staff, as well as upcoming events:

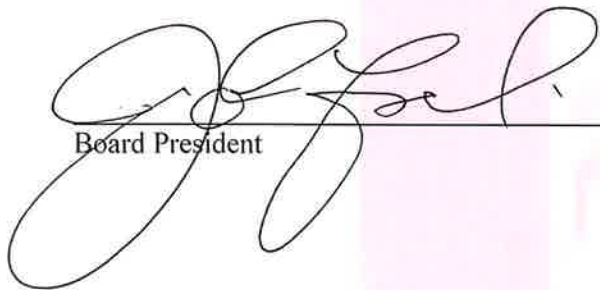
- February 27: Hellbender event at ICHS
- April 25th Reverse Raffle
- May 7: AI Summit
- State of the County at ICHS (already held)
- Scholars Banquet, May 4
- Graduation, May 27, 7:00 P.M. at the Franciscan University

ADJOURNMENT

#32-03-25

Dr. Figel moved to adjourn. All Yes. Time: 7:46 P.M.

ATTEST:


Board President
Treasurer