

**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 4:00 PM on Monday, April 14, 2025 for a Work Session and at 6:00 PM for the April 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

2025-4/14-1 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM with all members present.

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

2025-4/14-2 Work Session-Topics for Discussion

- Fundraising- Mr. Marcum discussed fundraising for new building
- Transportation Update- Mr. Kelty provided a transportation update and the board discussed getting an inventory process in place for the bus garage
- Fitch Walk through- Mr. Porter discussed what updates he felt were necessary in his recent walkthrough at fitch
- The Budget- Mr. Karlovic shared the projected budget for next year and discussed how the changes would impact the district moving forward
- Facility Update- Mr. Bostian gave an update on the new building

2025-4/14-3 Executive Session

Mrs. Mock motioned to recess to Executive Session at 5:12 PM for the purpose to discuss Employment, appointment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, compensation of a public employee

Mrs. Smrek 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 6:07 PM.

2025-4/14-4 Recall to Order

The Board returned to Regular Session at 6:09 PM with all members present.

2025-4/14-5 Agenda Approval

Mrs. Mock moved to approve the agenda for the 4/14/2025 Board of Education Regular Session.

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).

2025-4/14-6 Public Comments

None

2025-4/14-7 Principal Report

Cathy Dorbish, AES Principal -Mrs.Dorbish provided an update for each building.

2025-4/14-8 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 3/18/2025

B. FINANCIAL REPORTS

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

C. DONATIONS

- a. \$250 from Rebecca Caruso to the Nohra Scholarship
- b. \$1000 from Disabled American Veterans of Trumbull County to Fitch JROTC
- c. \$100 from Todd Stovall DBA Allstate Insurance Company to Fitch Class of 2027
- d. \$100 from Ruth Cole to Fitch RDE Scholarships
- e. \$1500 from Cochran Auto Group to Class of 2027
- f. \$100 donation from Harold and Kay Wilson to Fitch RDE Scholarship

Mrs. 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).

2025-4/14-9 Superintendent's Consent Items

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

A. PERSONNEL

1. Resignations

- a. Gloria Cheatham, Bus Driver effective 4/11/2025, personal
- b. Michael Baer, Bus Mechanic effective 3/28/25, job change
- c. Barbara McGirr, Sweeper Cleaner effective 4/8/25, personal
- d. Dianna Mellinger, Food Service Substitute effective 3/19/25, personal
- e. Penny Callahan, AEA Supplemental -AMS WEB Leader effective 2025-2026 school year, building change
- f. Autumn Walker, AEA Supplemental -AMS Cheerleading Coach effective 2025-2026 school year, personal
- g. Melissa Janis, AEA Supplemental -Fitch Yearbook Advisor effective 2025-2026 school year, personal
- h. Diane Devine, AEA Lead Teacher Supplemental (K-12) Fine and Performing Arts effective 2025-2026 school year, personal
- i. Kristen Dimas, AEA Intervention Specialist at AES effective 8/24/2025, personal
- j. Melissa DelBoccio, AEA Intervention Specialist at AES effective 7/31/2025, personal
- k. Kerri Gries, Director of Gifted and Talented effective the end of the contract year, personal

2. Resignations for the Purpose of Retirement

- a. Christopher Berni, Assistant Principal effective June 30, 2025 after 26 years of service with Austintown Local Schools

3. AEA Appointments Effective 2025-2026 School Year

- a. Haley Castellano, AES Intervention Specialist; Youngstown State University, Bachelor of Science in Education Degree; 0-years teaching experience, Bachelor Column-Step 0 replacing Melissa DelBoccio
- b. Chelsea Kachelries, AIS Grade 4 Math / Science Teacher; Youngstown State University, Bachelor of Arts Degree; Western Governors University, Master of Arts in Teaching Degree; 0-years teaching experience, Masters Column-Step 0 replacing Britney Zarlenga
- c. Isabella Kelty, AIS Grade 4 ELA / Social Studies Teacher; Walsh University, Bachelor of Science in Education Degree; 0-years teaching experience, Bachelor Column-Step 0 replacing Krista Moltchan
- d. Matthew Kidd, AMS Grade 7 Math Teacher; Youngstown State University, Bachelor of Science in Education Degree; 10-years teaching experience, Bachelor Column-Step 10 replacing Kara Sertick
- e. Gina Kingston, AIS Intervention Specialist; Youngstown State University, Bachelor of Science in Education Degree; Walden University, Master of Science Education; 18-years teaching experience, Masters Column-Step 8; new position
- f. Danielle Raeber, AES Intervention Specialist; Walsh University, Bachelor of Science in Education Degree; 0-years teaching experience, Bachelor Column-Step 0 replacing Bailey Doran

4. OAPSE Appointments

- a. Jeanette Sickie, Bus Driver effective 3/28/2025
- b. Candace Colbert, Bus Aide AM/PM Route replacing Nichole Kolat effective 4/4/2025

5. OAPSE Transfers

- a. Manda Pejic, AES Paraprofessional assigned to Lunch/Recess at AIS Paraprofessional assigned to Lunch/Recess replacing Dana Kosco effective 3/11/2025
- b. Dana Kosco, AES Head Custodian replacing Don Martin effective 3/27/2025
- c. Michael Pemberton, AES Custodian Turn Leader replacing Kelly Watkins effective 3/31/2025

B. LEAVE OF ABSENCE

- a. Jackie Moretti, Two (2) unpaid days March 27 and 28, 2025
- b. Myron Anderson - FMLA- effective 5/25/25-7/30/25
- c. Kimberly Miller - FMLA - effective 3/28/2025 - 4/28/2025
- d. Krista Beard - FMLA - effective 5/5/2025-5/21/2025
- e. Andrew DeNiro FMLA - effective 4/7/2025-4/28/2025

C. SUMMER PERSONNEL

Camp Invention Instructors funded by the National Inventors Hall of Fame Grant

- a. Alicia Burnfield
- b. Eric Diefenderfer
- c. Delores Persing
- d. Sharlene Piper

Food Service Department Summer Meals Program

- a. Susan Parish, Kitchen Manager
- b. Julie Carson, 5.5-hour flex

- c. Serena Raynish, 5.5-hour and 3-hour flex
- d. Angela Bouch, 3-hour flex
- e. Tammie Conroy, 3-hour flex
- f. Alisha Harris, 3-hour flex
- g. Kim Tremayne, 3-hour flex
- h. Loren Wilson, 3-hour flex

D. ATHLETIC- EVENT STAFF

- a. Amanda Krygowski

E. CLASSIFIED NON-TEACHING SUBSTITUTE PERSONNEL

- a. Tammy Baytos -Custodial
- b. Darlene Peters -Custodial
- c. Heather Scott- Custodial
- d. Robert Millich- Bus Aide

F. SUMMER CAMPS

a. **Wrestling:**

What: EOWL Wrestling Giveback Camp

When: 6/12/25 3 PM to 8 PM and 6/13/25 9 AM to 4 PM

For: Wrestlers entering 9th through 12 grade apart of the EOWL

Where: Fitch High School

Cost: Free

Contact: John Burd, Coach (jburd@austintownschools.org)

b. **Volleyball:**

What: Little Spikers Volleyball Camp

When: 6/2/25-6/5/25 9:00-11:00 AM

For: students entering 3rd through 6th grade

Where: Fitch High School

Cost: \$50

Contact: Kylee Herberger Coach (kherberger@austintownschools.org)

What: Little Spikers Volleyball Camp

When: 6/2/24-6/5/24 12:00-2:00 PM

For: students entering 7th through 8th grade

Where: Fitch High School

Cost: \$50

Contact: Kylee Herberger Coach (kherberger@austintownschools.org)

c. **Boys Basketball**

What: Boys Basketball Day Camp

When May 27-30 9:00 AM-12:00 PM

For: students entering grades 2-8

Where: Fitch High School

Cost: \$50

Contact: Brian Beany, Coach (bbeany@austintownschools.org)

d. **Soccer**

What: Soccer Camp for Boys and Girls

When: June 16-20 5:00-8:00 PM

For: Boys and Girls entering Kindergarten-8th grade

Where: Fitch High School

Cost: \$35 U4-U7 - \$50 U8-U14

Contact: Mandy Potkonicky Boys Soccer Booster President
(buckeyefan418@gmail.com)

e. **Girls Basketball**

What: Girls Basketball Summer Camp

When: May 27-30th

For: Students entering grades 1 through 8

Where: Austintown Middle School

Cost: \$50

Contact: Dan Horacek, Coach (dhoracek@austintownschools.org)

f. **Football**

What: Youth Football Camp

When: June 28 9:00 AM - 1 PM

For: Students entering grades 1 through 8

Where: Austintown Fitch High School

Cost: \$20

Contact: T.J. Parker, Coach (tparker@austintownschools.org)

G. STUDENT TRIPS

a. Group: Camp Fitch- AIS Grade 5- First Group (110 students)

Departing: 5/5/25

Returning: 5/7/25

Location: 12600 Abels Road, New Springfield, PA 16430

Transportation: ALSD Bus

Expenses: Self Pay

Chaperones: AIS Staff & Fitch High School Students

Purpose: Outdoor Educational Experience

Contact: Robin Vickers, AIS Building Principal

b. Group: AIS Grade 5- Second Group (120 students)

Departing: 5/7/25

Returning: 5/9/25

Location: 12600 Abels Road, New Springfield, PA 16430

Transportation: ALSD Bus

Expenses: Self Pay

Chaperones: AIS Staff & Fitch High School Students

Purpose: Outdoor Educational Experience

Contact: Robin Vickers, AIS Building Principal

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).

Mrs. Smrek moved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the Food Service Bid Contract Renewals for the 2025-2026 school year:

- Pizza from Bajco North LLC., dba Papa John's Pizza
- Dairy Products from Prairie Farms Dairy (formally Smith Foods, Inc.)
- Bakery Products from Nickles Bakery, Inc.

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).

2025-4/14-11 Agreement

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

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following Agreement with the Educational Service Center of Eastern Ohio for Transportation for Special Education Classroom Services:

This Agreement is made by and between the Educational Service Center of Eastern Ohio with its principle place of business at 7320 North Palmyra Rd., Canfield, OH 44406 (herein "ESC of Eastern Ohio") and Austintown Local School District an individual or company residing/located at Austintown Local School District (herein "Contractor").

This agreement will be effective from August 15, 2025, through May 31, 2026. or until earlier terminated as provided in this Agreement.

ESC of Eastern Ohio shall reimburse Contractor for the following expenses incurred in performing duties under this Agreement: Transportation Costs not to exceed \$40,000.

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).

2025-4/14-12 Agreement

Mrs. Smrek moved, Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the following Agreement by and between the Austintown Local Schools ("District") and United Way of Youngstown and the Mahoning Valley:

WHEREAS, the United Way of Youngstown and the Mahoning Valley and the Austintown Local School District agree to enhance education opportunities to selected pre-kindergarten students.

Therefore, the parties mutually agree to the Scope of Services as presented in the Memorandum of Agreement between Austintown Elementary School and the United Way of Youngstown and the Mahoning Valley. The United Way Success By 6 Initiative will commence on 8/4/2025 and end no later than 8/15/2025 with financial support for 8 units at \$4,500 each at a cost not to exceed \$36,000 to be provided by the Youngstown Mahoning Valley United Way.

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).

2025-4/14-13 Agreement

Mrs. Smrek moved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the following Agreement with Julian & Grube to provide medicaid services in accordance with the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) 5160-35-04(K)(2) for the Austintown Local School District for fiscal years ended June 30, 2026 and June 30, 2027, at a cost not to exceed \$2,400 per 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).

2025-4/14-14 Agreement

Mrs. Mock moved, Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the following Agreement by and between the Mahoning County Board of Commissioners for the Mahoning County Solid Waste Management District (hereinafter "District") and Austintown Local School District, (hereinafter "School"):

WHEREAS, the District, under the provisions of Chapter 3734 of the Ohio Revised Code, may expend funds for local solid waste projects; and

WHEREAS, the overall goal of the District is to develop an integrated solid waste management system, that will be implemented in an environmentally sound, technically feasible; cost effective and publicly acceptable manner; and

WHEREAS, the School has made available to the District space, and incidental services, for the accommodation of recycling drop-off containers; and

WHEREAS, the District desires to lease said space and obtain said incidental services from the School; and

WHEREAS, the objective of this Agreement is to provide a public drop-off recycling center that will benefit both the School and surrounding community; and

WHEREAS, the School has been authorized by a Resolution of its governing body to enter into an Agreement with the District.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises and covenants contained herein, the parties agree to the following as presented.

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).

2025-4/14-15 Resolution

Mrs. Smrek moved, to approve the following resolution declaring transportation impractical for the student listed below:

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
Dennis	Brown Jr.	Dennis Brown Sr.	John F Kennedy	6

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).

2025-4/14-16 Resolution

Mr. Sherwood moved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to adopt Amplify ELA for middle school English Language Arts courses at Austintown Middle School.

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).

2025-4/14-17 Board Policy Amendment

Mrs. Mock moved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent to Amend Board policy 2111 to include the following statement:

The District shall ensure that any particular attention paid to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background, does not result in any disfavoring of other families who are not part of these groups. This line is meant only to ensure that engagement is appropriate for all families (for example, a person with limited English proficiency might require a translator).

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).

2025-4/14-18 Public Meeting for May, 2025

Mrs. Smrek moved for the following day, date, time, and location for the May, 2025 Board of Education meeting to take place:

Work Session: May 15, 2025 at the BOE Office Conference Room beginning at 4:00 PM

Regular Session: May 15, 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).

2025-4/14-19 Treasurer's Comments

None.

2025-4/14-20 Superintendent's Comments

None.

2025-4/14-21 Board Comments

None.

2025-4/14-22 Adjournment

Mrs. Smrek moved to adjourn at 6:22PM.

Mrs. Mock 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