

Held May 14 _____ 2025 _____

COPLEY-FAIRLAWN CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Special Meeting/Work Session
 Board of Education Conference Room
 May 14, 2025 3:45 p.m.

Beth Hertz, President called the meeting to order at 3:50 p.m.

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

- Jim Borchik
- Trevor Chuna
- Steve Doss
- Beth Hertz
- Paula Lynn

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A. Agenda

It was moved by Mr. Chuna, seconded by Mrs. Lynn, to adopt the agenda for the May 14, 2025 special meeting/work session, as presented.

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

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C. Executive Session

It was moved by Mr. Borchik, seconded by Mrs. Lynn to go into executive session pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(1). The board shall consider the employment of a public employee and to investigate a complaint against a public employee of the school district at 3:50 p.m.

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

The board returned to public session at 4:35 p.m.

B. Topics

1. Review of the Agenda for the May 20, 2025 Regular Board Meeting

A review and discussion of the Tuesday, May 20, 2025 regular meeting agenda occurred. Drafts of the student handbooks were shared with board members.

2. Construction Update

Mr. Wheadon, Treasurer, informed the board of education that expenses to date along with an estimate for parking lots is about \$42 million. He said there will be additional change orders from the ongoing projects but they have not been received as of yet. Other projects that have been discussed are restrooms being installed by the baseball and softball fields, landscaping, painting, tuckpoint of buildings, renovate the middle school band room, board office renovation, fuel tank at the bus garage, and other smaller ones. There was discussion about holding town meetings and getting input about any remaining money that may be available from the original bond plus the interest earned.

3. 2025-2026 Class Anticipation

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Mrs. Kirsch, Superintendent, said that kindergarten enrollment has begun. It is too early to determine how many new enrollees will occur and if additional staffing will be necessary. Currently, administrators are evaluating class sizes and needs.

4. Five Year Forecast

Mr. Wheadon, Treasurer, reviewed the forecast and indicated the district is in its third year of negative spending. The carryover balance is being utilized to cover the negative spending. He said that there is legislation proposed that would cap carryover balances at 30%. Currently, the districts' carryover balance is what is allowing the district to continue to operate without asking local taxpayers to consider a new operating levy. He said an option some schools are using is transferring money to a Termination Benefits Fund and/or to a Capital Projects Fund. He further stated that if he sees the need for a transfer prior to June 30th, he will make the recommendation along with amending the five-year forecast.

5. Policies

Currently, the Board offers a \$1,000 sign-on bonus to new bus drivers. There has been an issue with driver's receiving the money and then leaving prior to fulfilling their year of additional service. Adjustments will be made to the bonus agreement to ensure the bonus isn't paid until all terms are fulfilled.

6. Technology Replacement

A discussion occurred about students who transfer to another school district and don't return their Chromebook in a timely manner. The Chromebooks are disabled and are not able to be used again until they are returned and reinstated by the district's technology department. In other words, they have no value.

7. Commencement

Commencement is on Sunday May 18, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. at E.J. Thomas Hall on the University of Akron campus.

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D. Adjournment

It was moved by Mr. Borchik, seconded by Mr. Doss, to adjourn the meeting (5:42 p.m.)

AYES: Borchik, Doss, Lynn, Doss, Hertz

NAYS: None



President



Treasurer