

Minutes of the Board of Education Regular Meeting of the Berea City School District held on Monday, May 19, 2025, at 6 P.M., ATLAS Room, 165 E. Bagley Rd., Berea, OH 44017, and shown remotely on YouTube at the following address:
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2eDqel9zE2CFfmt6DakRiA/videos?view_as=subscriber

A. Opening Meeting

Members present: Farris ☒ Mack ☒ Chapman ☒ Michal ☒ Zirke ☒
Time in: 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call A-1
[Minute 7:51](#)

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Pledge of
Allegiance A-2
[Minute 8:04](#)

B. Public Participation

The names and topics of participating community members are as listed: Deb Thompson, Wellness; David Yakimow, Bus Garage Roof; Nusrat Mehdi, DEI Rescinding.

Pub. Part.
B-1
[Minute 8:33](#)

C. Executive Session

Mack moved and Chapman seconded to move into Executive Session for the purpose of preparing for, Conducting, or reviewing negotiations or bargaining sessions with employees.

Ayes: Farris ☒ Mack ☒ Chapman ☒ Michal ☒ Zirke ☒

Nayes: None

Exec. Session
C-1
25-0519-2325
[Minute 10:46](#)

D. Reports

Mr. Doug Schwind provided the Polaris Update. The ERA Project is on budget. Camp Discovery has over 2,000 campers registered. The Earn and Learn STNA program is 19 of 20 fall spots filled; an additional 20 spots Will be added in spring if fall pilot program is successful. The White Coat Wonders program will be held in June For Project Lead The Way students, which features interactive patient simulations, field trips to local hospitals, and networking opportunities. Both Berea-Midpark High School and Middle School received Project Lead The Way Distinguished School Recognition awards. Polaris has appointed Ben Hodge as the new Assistant Superintendent.

Polaris Update
D-1
[Minute 40:02](#)

E. Superintendent Recommendations

Mrs. Wheeler shared a final decision regarding the commencement date will be announced Tuesday. The School year is wrapping up, plans are being made for the June Administrator Retreat, and a lot of work is being Done getting things ready for the next school year.

Supt. Update
E-1
[Minute 44:01](#)

Mack moved and Zirke seconded the recommendation to approve the 2025-2028 contract between the Berea Federation of Teachers (BFT) and the Board of Education as shown on the agenda.

Ayes: Farris ☒ Mack ☒ Chapman - Abstain Michal ☒ Zirke ☒

Nayes: None

BFT Contract
E-2
25-0519-2326
[Minute 44:33](#)

Mack moved and Zirke seconded the recommendation to approve the 2025-2028 contract between the Ohio Association of Public Service Employees (OAPSE) Locals 213, 473, 656, and the Board of Education as shown

OAPSE
Contract E-3

On the agenda.

Ayes: Farris ☑ Mack ☑ Chapman ☑ Michal ☑ Zirke ☑

Nayes: None

25-0519-2327

[Minute 45:06](#)

Zirke moved and Mack seconded the recommendation to approve items E5-E34 as part of the consent agenda.

Ayes: Farris ☑ Mack ☑ Chapman ☑ Michal ☑ Zirke ☑

Nayes: None

Consent

Agenda E-4

25-0519-2328

[Minute 45:45](#)

Mack moved and Zirke seconded the recommendation to approve the personnel listed be paid \$35.00 per hour, Not to exceed a total of 20 hours for participation in the Third Grade Reading Guarantee Scoop during June 2025 as shown on the agenda.

Ayes: Farris ☑ Mack ☑ Chapman - Abstain Michal ☑ Zirke ☑

Nayes: None

Third. Grade
Reading E-35

25-0519-2329

[Minute 51:21](#)

Mack moved and Zirke seconded the recommendation that the individual contracts be issued to certified staff Members, at the proper placement on the salary schedule, as shown on the agenda.

Ayes: Farris ☑ Mack ☑ Chapman - Abstain Michal ☑ Zirke ☑

Nayes: None

Limited

Contract E-36

25-0519-2330

[Minute 52:01](#)

Mack moved and Zirke seconded the recommendation to approve items E38-E45 as part of the consent Agenda.

Ayes: Farris ☑ Mack ☑ Chapman ☑ Michal ☑ Zirke ☑

Nayes: None

Consent

E-37

25-0519-2331

[Minute 52:37](#)

Zirke moved and Mack seconded the recommendation to approve the MOU and the License Agreement with the Cleveland Clinic School Mental Health Program as shown on the agenda.

Ayes: Farris ☑ Mack ☑ Chapman ☑ Michal ☑ Zirke ☑

Nayes: None

Cle. Clinic

MOU

E-46

25-0519-2332

[Minute 53:37](#)

Zirke moved and Mack seconded the recommendation to approve the Online Day Plan for the 2025-2026 school Year as shown on the agenda.

Ayes: Farris ☑ Mack ☑ Chapman ☑ Michal ☑ Zirke ☑

Nayes: None

Online Day
Plan E-47

25-0519-2333

[Minute 55:24](#)

Zirke moved and Mack seconded the recommendation to approve the Commercial Insurance Proposal premium From Alera Group for the 2025-2026 school year as shown on the agenda.

Ayes: Farris ☑ Mack ☑ Chapman ☑ Michal ☑ Zirke ☑

Nayes: None

Comm. Ins.

Proposal E-48

25-0519-2334

[Minute 56:19](#)

Michal moved and Mack seconded the recommendation to approve the quote from PES for the Big Creek Asbestos Ceiling Tile Abatement as shown on the agenda.

Ayes: Farris ☑ Mack ☑ Chapman ☑ Michal ☑ Zirke ☑

Nayes: None

BCE Ceiling

Abate. E-49

25-0519-2335

[Minute 57:37](#)

Mack moved and Chapman seconded the recommendation to approve the quote from Sweetwater Music Instruments and Pro Audio equipment for Berea-Midpak Middle School as shown on the agenda.	BMMS AV Equip. E-50
Ayes: Farris ☒ Mack ☒ Chapman ☒ Michal ☒ Zirke ☒ Nayes: None	25-0519-2336 Minute 58:22
Zirke moved and Chapman seconded the recommendation to approve the purchase of 14 laptops from Royal Business Equipment for use in Berea-Midpark High School art classes as shown on the agenda.	Laptop Purch. E-51
Ayes: Farris ☒ Mack ☒ Chapman ☒ Michal ☒ Zirke ☒ Nayes: None	25-0519-2337 Minute 59:10
Mack moved and Chapman seconded the recommendation to approve the School Bus Usage License Agreements with the cities of Berea, Brook Park, Middleburg Hts., the Southwest Enforcement Bureau, and the Southwest Emergency Response Team as shown on the agenda.	Bus Usage Agreement E-52
Ayes: Farris ☒ Mack ☒ Chapman ☒ Michal ☒ Zirke ☒ Nayes: None	25-0519-2338 1:00:02
Chapman moved and Zirke seconded the recommendation to split the policies previously part of one agenda item, so as to vote on them separately, as shown on the agenda.	Split Policy E-53
Ayes: Farris ☒ Mack ☒ Chapman ☒ Michal ☒ Zirke ☒ Nayes: None	25-0519-2339 Minute 1:01:51
Mack moved and Chapman seconded the approval of Policy 1422.01 as shown on the agenda.	po1422.01
Ayes: Farris ☒ Mack ☒ Chapman ☒ Michal ☒ Zirke ☒ Nayes: None	25-0519-2340 Minute 1:02:27
Chapman moved and Michal seconded the approval of Policy 5780.01 as shown on the agenda.	po 5780.01
Ayes: Farris ☒ Mack ☒ Chapman ☒ Michal ☒ Zirke ☒ Nayes: None	25-0519-2341 Minute 1:03:25
Chapman moved and Michal seconded the approval of Policy 7421 as shown on the agenda.	po7421
Ayes: None Nayes: Farris ☒ Mack ☒ Chapman ☒ Michal ☒ Zirke ☒	25-0519-2342 Minute 1:05:02

F. Treasurer Recommendations

Mrs. Rowe presented the district's current financial position. She explained the property tax revenue challenges, And state funding uncertainties. Mrs. Rowe emphasized that cash reserves aren't "rainy day funds" but essential For operations and long-term planning, expressing frustration with being "punished for doing what we were Supposed to do" in maintaining adequate reserves.	Treasurer's Update F-1 Minute 1:15:03
Mack moved and Zirke seconded the recommendation to approve items F3-F7 as part of the consent Agenda.	Consent Agenda F-2
Ayes: Farris ☒ Mack ☒ Chapman ☒ Michal ☒ Zirke ☒ Nayes: None	25-0519-2343 Minute 1:34:22

Zirke moved and Chapman seconded the recommendation to approve the school fees for the 2025-2026 school Year as shown on the agenda.

School Fees
25-26 SY
F-8
25-0519-2344
[Minute 1:35:41](#)

Ayes: Farris ☒ Mack ☒ Chapman ☒ Michal ☒ Zirke ☒
Nayes: None

Mack moved and Zirke seconded the recommendation to approve the Service Agreement as shown on the Agenda.

Service
Agree. F-9
25-0519-2345
[Minute 1:36:30](#)

Ayes: Farris ☒ Mack ☒ Chapman ☒ Michal ☒ Zirke ☒
Nayes: None

Chapman moved and Michal seconded the recommendation to approve the Five Year Forecast and Five Year Assumptions, and directed the treasurer to submit documents to the Ohio Department of Education, as shown On the agenda.

Five Year
Forecast
F-10
25-0519-2346
[Minute 1:37:01](#)

Ayes: Farris ☒ Mack ☒ Chapman ☒ Michal ☒ Zirke ☒
Nayes: None

G. Regular Business

Mack moved and Chapman seconded the recommendation to approve the minutes from the April 14, 2025, Regular Meeting, and the April 16, 2025, Special Meeting, as shown on the agenda.

Minutes
Approval G-1
25-0519-2347
[Minute 1:37:36](#)

Ayes: Farris ☒ Mack ☒ Chapman ☒ Michal - Abstain Zirke ☒
Nayes: None

Chapman moved and Mack seconded the recommendation to approve the Resolution Recommending Amendments to the Ohio School Boards Association 2026 Legislative Platform as shown on the agenda.

OSBA Resoln.
G-2
25-0519-2348
[Minute 1:38:09](#)

Ayes: Farris ☒ Mack ☒ Chapman ☒ Michal ☒ Zirke ☒
Nayes: None

Mrs. Chapman provided the legislative update. Senate Bill 155, Cell Phone Ban, passed in the Senate last week And will go to the House, then the Governor. It would require all public schools to adopt policies prohibiting cell Phone use during instruction. The following bills are in Committee Review: HB 262, Natural Family Month; SB 34, Historical Documents Bill; SB 113/HB 155, DEI ban; and HB 97/SB 109, Free Meals Program. The Following bills are under consideration: HB 42, Immigration data collection; SB 107/HB 153, Partisan School Board Races; HB 145, Extended school year; SB 68, Educational Savings Accounts; HB 190, Given Name Act, SB 156/ HB 269, Success Sequence Curriculum; HB 191, Teacher minimum salary; SB 127, School closure authority; HB 114, Kindergarten age requirements. Senate Bill 1 passed and was signed by the governor, and a petition is underway. It needs 250,00 signatures from 44 counties to appear on the November ballot.

Legislative
Update G-3
[Minute 1:41:23](#)

Mr. Mack reported on the Safety and Security Committee and recent upgrades to district. Grant money in the Amount of \$496,000 supported the purchases of safety measures. Mrs. Farris reported on the Finance Committee, where Mrs. Rowe discussed the biannual budget bill and the five year forecast. Mrs. Chapman addressed having a student on the Board of Education. Mrs. Farris attended Senior Scholarship Night, and was impressed with the generosity of scholarships, and the Student recipients. She also commented on the District Showcase. Mrs. Wheeler has been selected as one of the Five recipients of the Ohio Superintendent Board of Excellence.

Committee
Reports &
Brd. Comments
G-4
[Minute 1:46:23](#)

H. Adjournment

Chapman moved and Mack seconded the recommendation to adjourn the meeting.

Ayes: Farris ☒ Mack ☒ Chapman ☒ Michal ☒ Zirke ☒

Nays: None

Adjournment

H-1

25-0519-2349

Time adjourned: 7:40 p.m.

Date of Approval: 05/19/2025 Approved: Corinne A. Jarvis Attest: Jul A. Kone