

WELLINGTON EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION
Wellington High School
January 21, 2025
6:04 P.M.

President Mohrman called the meeting to order by asking for a roll call.

Pledge of Allegiance

Present: Babb, Ratliff, Shellhouse, Kazmierczak, Mohrman

Absent: None

#25-022 APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA AS AMENDED

Motion was made by Kazmierczak and seconded by Shellhouse to approve the meeting agenda as amended.

1. Page 2, vote separately on item "E." for approval of minutes;
2. Page 9, "Field Trip", move vote to after "Executive Session".

Yes: Kazmierczak, Shellhouse, Babb, Ratliff, Mohrman

No: None

President Mohrman declared this motion passed.

#25-023 MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL

Motion was made by Kazmierczak and seconded by Shellhouse to approve the minutes the Organizational Meeting conducted on Tuesday, January 7, 2025.

Yes: Kazmierczak, Shellhouse, Babb, Mohrman

No: Ratliff

President Mohrman declared this motion passed.

#25-024 MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL

Motion was made by Ratliff and seconded by Babb to approve the minutes the Special Meeting conducted on Monday, January 13, 2025.

Yes: Ratliff, Babb, Shellhouse, Kazmierczak, Mohrman

No: None

President Mohrman declared this motion passed.

#25-025 APPROVE THE FIRST READING OF THE NEOLA RECOMMENDED BOARD POLICIES

Motion was made by Ratliff and seconded by Kazmierczak to approve the the following:

1. Bylaw 0100 - Definitions (Revised) This bylaw has been revised to update the definition of personal communication devices (based on R.C. 3313.753) and President, and to ensure the definitions of President and Vice-President accurately cross-reference Board Bylaw 0152 - Officers. Also, as the treasurer is statutorily required to take meeting minutes, there is no secretary role.
2. Bylaw 0142.1 - Oath (Revised) This bylaw has been revised to consolidate provisions addressing the oath of office (optional provision moved from Bylaw 0152 - Officers) and to include cross-references to other relevant bylaws. The intent of these changes is to improve the ease of use of these bylaws and promote consistency in how they are implemented. Also, we have added "and impartially perform" to the commitment supported by the oath of office.
3. Bylaw 0151 - Organizational Meeting (Revised) This bylaw has been revised to consolidate and align provisions addressing actions taken at the organizational meeting, including cross-references to other relevant bylaws. The intent of these changes is to improve the ease of use of these bylaws and promote consistency in how they are implemented.
4. Bylaw 0152 - Officers (Revised) This bylaw has been revised to consolidate and align provisions addressing the election of officers (materials moved from Bylaw 0173 - Board Officers), and to include cross-references to other relevant bylaws. Materials addressing the annual organizational meeting have been incorporated at Bylaw 0151. Item C, addressing the secretary role has been deleted. As the treasurer is statutorily required to take minutes, there is no secretary role. Finally, we have deleted the language about what happens if there is not a majority vote on the first nomination. Robert's Rules of Order simply dictate that you continue nominating individuals until someone wins the majority vote. The overall intent of these changes is to improve the ease of use of these bylaws and promote consistency in how they are implemented.
5. Bylaw 0155 - Presiding Officer (Technical Correction) Technical correction to cross reference to Bylaw 0167.2 - Executive Session.
6. Bylaw 0163 - Presiding Officer (Technical Correction) Technical correction to cross reference to Bylaw 0152 - Officers.
7. Bylaw 0164 - Notice of Meetings (Revised) The bylaw has been updated to reflect current practice.
8. Bylaw 0165 - Board Meetings (New) This new Bylaw consolidates content regarding board meetings formerly found at Bylaw 0165.1 - Regular Meetings and Bylaw

0165.2 - Special Meetings. Also, the optional provision addressing Emergency Meetings has been organized into an optional paragraph. Please note, content addressing agendas and consent agendas have been moved to Bylaw 0166 - Agendas. Finally, content regarding Emergency Meetings, which was previously optional, has been included in the policy permanently, so the district is prepared under such circumstances.

9. Bylaw 0165.1 - Regular Meetings (Rescind) This bylaw has been rescinded, and its material consolidated at Policy 0165 - Board Meetings.
10. Bylaw 0165.2 - Special Meetings (Rescind) This bylaw has been rescinded, and its material consolidated at Policy 0165 - Board Meetings.
11. Bylaw 0166 - Agendas (New) Content addressing Executive Session has been renumbered/moved unchanged to Bylaw 0167.2. It has been replaced with content addressing agendas taken from Bylaw 0165.1 - Regular Meetings (now Bylaw 0165 - Board Meetings). Again, these changes have been made to improve the ease of use of this manual and promote consistent Board operating procedures.
12. Bylaw 0167.2 - Executive Session (Renumbered) The content of this bylaw was renumbered/moved unchanged (with the exception of miscellaneous grammatical corrections) from Bylaw 0166 - Executive Session. The content it replaced, Use of Personal Communication Devices, was renumbered to Bylaw 0167.7.
13. Bylaw 0167.7 - Use of Personal Communication Devices (Renumbered/Revised) The content of this renumbered/revised bylaw is from Bylaw 0167.2 - Use of Personal Communication Devices. The content has been updated to reflect current definitions and policy related to PCDs and District technology resources.
14. Bylaw 0173 - Board Officers (Rescind) This bylaw is rescinded, and all content related to Board Officers is now found at Board Bylaw 0152 - Officers.
15. Policy 4120.08 - Employment of Personnel for Co-Curricular/Extra-Curricular Activities (Revised) This policy has been revised to ensure personnel know to enroll in the state's Rapback System.
16. Policy 4121 - Criminal History Record Check (Revised) This policy has been revised to make it clear that enrollment is not optional since employees must themselves enroll with the State Board and may need to get a new background check.
17. Policy 5131 - Student Transfers (Revised) This policy has been revised to reflect provisions in HB 147 that allow students who are victims of abuse to transfer athletic eligibility if they transfer schools.
18. Policy 5136 - Personal Communication Devices (Revised) This policy has been revised in response to HB 250. HB 250 provides that districts must adopt and implement a policy that governs student use of cell phones by July 1, 2025. The policy must document disciplinary measures taken for violations and be published on the district's website. Because cell phones are one form of personal communication device (PCD), as defined under Board Bylaw 0100 - Definitions, the requirements of HB 250 have been incorporated into this policy. This policy limits student use of PCDs with legal exceptions for the purposes documented in a student's IEP or

Section 504 plan and to manage the student's health care. Districts may identify other, if any, exceptions for PCD use by students.

19. Policy 5136.01 - Electronic Equipment (Revised) This policy has been revised to address accessing and monitoring of certain features on school-issued devices. Legal Alert, Senate Bill 29 Limits School Monitoring of Student Devices and Accounts, Places Requirements on Third Party Vendor Contracts for additional information.
20. Policy 5200 - Attendance (Revised) This policy has been revised to comply with HB 214. Schools are required to allow three religious expression days. Schools are also required to adopt a policy that prohibits a district from compelling political or ideological beliefs, using statements of commitment to political/ideological beliefs to evaluate employees for hiring, using statements to commit to political/ideological beliefs as part of academic evaluation of students.
21. Policy 5500 - Student Conduct (Revised) This policy has been revised to include provisions addressing academic honesty and optional provisions addressing use of artificial intelligence (AI).
22. Policy 5780 - Student/Parent Rights (Revised) Schools are required by SB 29 to provide parents and students with an opportunity to inspect a complete copy of each technology provider contract. Because these contracts are typically public records, it is reasonable to treat requests to inspect contracts in the same way you handle other public records requests. Any redactions required by law should still be made. Districts may also elect to post the contracts in a central location or provide links to the contracts in their electronic notice.
23. Policy 6220 - Budget Preparation (Revised) Neola now offers Districts two options for addressing cash balance reserves - one simple and one detailed. Previously, Neola offered this detailed provision as an optional sample policy. Districts that adopted this optional sample as a stand-alone policy may have codified it at 6200, 6211, 6215, 6218, 6220, or 6235.
24. Policy 6320 - Purchasing and Bidding (Revised) This policy has been revised to reflect the new competitive bidding threshold established with SB 168. The bidding threshold for 2024 is \$75,000. It will increase by 3% every year as determined and published by the Director of Commerce.
25. Policy 6460 - Vendor Relations (Revised) This policy has been updated to incorporate new requirements adopted through Senate Bill 29 (135th General Assembly), effective October 24th, 2024. The bill establishes a number of restrictions and requirements for technology providers that contract with a school district to provide school-issued devices for student use and create, receive, or maintain educational records pursuant to its contract with the District. The bill also requires that the District will provide parents and students with direct and timely notice by mail, electronic mail, or another method of direct communication of any contracts the District has with a provider of curriculum, testing or assessment technology that affects a student's educational records. This notice is a new requirement adopted through Senate Bill 29 (135th General Assembly), which took effect October 24th, 2024. Districts should be prepared and ready to send the notice by August 1, 2025.

Please review Part 3 of the Legal Alert - Senate Bill 29 Limits School Monitoring of Student Devices and Accounts, Places Requirements on Third Party Vendor Contracts for additional information.

26. Policy 7530.01 V1 - Cellular Telephone Allowance (Revised) This policy has been updated and now reflects the definition of personal communication devices established in Bylaw 0100 - Definitions.
27. Policy 7530.01 V2 - Board-Owned Technology Resources Used for Communication (Revised) This policy has been updated and now reflects the definitions of personal communication devices and technology resources established in Bylaw 0100 - Definitions.
28. Policy 7530.02 - Staff Use of Personal Communication Devices (Revised) This policy has been updated and now reflects the definitions of personal communication devices and technology resources established in Bylaw 0100 - Definitions.
29. Policy 7540.03 - Student Technology Acceptable Use and Safety (Revised) This policy has been revised to reflect the updated definitions provided in Bylaw 0100 - Definitions, to update and align content addressing AI, and to reference notice requirements instituted by SB 29.
30. Policy 7540.04 - Student Technology Acceptable Use and Safety (Revised) This policy has been revised to reflect the updated definitions provided in Bylaw 0100 - Definitions, to update and align content addressing AI, and to reference notice requirements instituted by SB 29.
31. Policy 7540.09 - Artificial Intelligence ("AI") (New) This policy has been added to address the use of artificial intelligence (AI) by district staff and students. We anticipate that this policy will evolve as this tool evolves.
32. Policy 8310 - Public Records (Revised) This policy has been revised to note that educational support services data are not included as public records as defined by 3319.32. The specific citation is R.C. §149.43(A)(1)(tt). For additional information, please see 05 Legal Alert - Senate Bill 29 Limits School Monitoring of Student Devices and Accounts, Places Requirements on Third Party Vendor Contracts (PL), Part 1.
33. Policy 9160 - Public Attendance at School Events (Revised) This policy has been revised to reflect changes adopted by the legislature in HB 147 impacting the cost of admission for school-affiliated events, including discounts for students enrolled at the schools participating in the event.

Yes: Ratliff, Kazmierczak, Babb, Shellhouse, Mohrman

No: None

President Mohrman declared this motion passed.

PRESENTATION

1. First reading of the proposed 2025/2026 Academic Calendar. Attachment to be handed out at the meeting.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS - See Attached Reports

HEARING OF THE PUBLIC - None

REPORTS

1. Athletic Council – J. Kazmierczak/J. Babb – No meeting since the last Board meeting. The next meeting will be February 3, 2025. Dr. Peltz mentioned he and Mrs. Urban met with the alumni organization and they talked about suggestions for the Hall of Fame.
2. Finance – J. Kazmierczak/P. Mohrman – No Meeting. The Treasurer will schedule the next meeting.
3. Policies - J. Babb/P. Shellhouse - Policy updates are on the Board agenda. They will be meeting again in the Spring or end of the school year.
4. Communications – A. Ratliff – The next meeting will be February 21, 2025 from 12:00 - 1:30 p.m. and there is also a meeting scheduled for April 30, 2025.
5. Endowment – P. Shellhouse – The next meeting will be February 14, 2025 at 7:00 AM at the High School Media Center.
6. OSBA Liaison/Student Achievement Liaison – A. Ratliff - Mr. Ratliff supplied each Board member with a Legislative Directory for 2025. Mr. Ratliff mentioned John Houston is taking JD Vance's position. The Ohio State income tax is negative \$1 billion and small districts like ours will feel this impact with less funds being available from the state. Mr. Ratliff mentioned the increase on real estate taxes. Mr. Ratliff spoke briefly about the House Bills. HB 8 will be in effect in less than 90 days that mandates that schools adopt a policy allowing students to be excused from a non-core curriculum subject to attend a religious instruction course. HB 531, Braden's Law, passed for Braden Markus who was a victim of financial sextortion. Financial sextortion is now a felony. HB 206 is in regards to public school expulsion for actions dangerous to others. HB 322 is about childhood sexual abuse registrants, offense of grooming. Mr. Ratliff said there are a lot of things happening at the State House and bills pending. He is hoping to have OSBA present at the next Board meeting.

7. J.V.S. Board – A. Ratliff – Dr. Peltz and Mrs. Urban had a meeting at the JVS on working to better the communication. The end of the first semester was January 17, 2025. There will be parent teacher conferences on February 13, 2025 from 4-7 p.m.

Wellington Schools will hold a Curriculum Night, funded by Title funds, on January 29, 2025, the same night as parent teacher conferences. Students in grades K-5 parents can go to the media center to pick-up resources. Students in grades 6-11 parents will have a presentation on course offerings in the Lindley Center with Mr. Figuly, Mrs. Urban and Dr. Peltz.

#25-026 APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL ITEM

Motion was made by Mohrman and seconded by Shellhouse to approve the following financial item:

1. Financial Statements for December 2024;
2. Authorize the Treasurer to transfer \$75,000 from the General Fund (001) to the Bond Retirement Fund (002) to cover the 2011 HB-264 annual payment;
3. Authorize the Treasurer to transfer \$23,252.52 from the General Fund (001) to the Building Fund (004-9016) to cover the 2016 HB-264 annual payment;
4. The Amended Appropriations for FY25.

Yes: Mohrman, Shellhouse, Babb, Ratliff, Kazmierczak

No: None

President Mohrman declared this motion passed.

Operations Update (attachment handed out at meeting)

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO BOARD

#25-027 APPROVAL OF PERSONNEL

Motion was made by Ratliff and seconded by Kazmierczak to approve the following items:

1. Leave of Absences:
 - a. Martha Broud - Family Medical Leave beginning January 28, 2025 for approximately 10 weeks. Sick leave to run concurrently with FMLA;

- b. Kimberly Gronsky - Family Medical Leave beginning February 11, 2025 for approximately 6 weeks. Sick leave to run concurrently with FMLA.

2. Employment:

- a. Anne Falkenberg - Award a one (1) year Classified Contract as Head Cook (EL7) at Westwood Elementary School for the 2024/2025 school year pending background checks and employment verification effective January 24, 2025;
- b. Revise the rate of pay for approved substitute bus drivers (October 15, 2024) to reflect the Board approved substitute bus driver rate (April 16, 2024) of \$18.00 per hour for the 2024/2025 school year unless otherwise specified;
- c. Melissa Carver - Experienced bus driver substitute on an as-needed basis at a rate of \$21.29 per hour for the 2024/2025 school year effective October 14, 2024;
- d. Joyce Scolaro - Experienced bus driver substitute on an as-needed basis at a rate of \$21.29 per hour for the 2024/2025 school year effective January 22, 2025;
- e. Nicole Bostick - Head cook substitute on an as-needed basis at a rate of \$13.00 per hour effective January 9, 2025;
- f. Rodger Whitesel - Van driver for the 2024/2025 school year on an as-needed basis at a rate of \$16.68 per hour effective December 17, 2024;
- g. Jill Boyd - Van driver for the 2024/2025 school year on an as-needed basis at the rate of \$16.68 per hour effective January 9, 2025 pending van driver physical and certification;
- h. Kelsey Smith - On Board Instructor (OBI) to provide training for bus drivers for licensing and renewals on an as needed basis for the 2024/2025 school year at a rate of \$22.25 per hour effective as of August 26, 2024;
- i. Supplemental Contracts for the 2024/2025 school year:

SUPPLEMENTAL	NAME	DIFFERENTIAL
Community Dramatics Director - Spring Production	Kavai Xia	EL0
Varsity Baseball Head Coach	Daniel Davison	EL5

Yes: Ratliff, Kazmierczak, Babb, Shellhouse, Mohrman
 No: None

President Mohrman declared this motion passed.

#25-028 APPROVAL OF RESOLUTIONS AND CONTRACT

Motion was made by Kazmierczak and seconded by Ratliff to approve the following:

1. Resolutions:

- a. Approve The Resolution Declaring Transportation To Be Impractical And Authorizing Payment In Lieu Of Transportation for Chartered Nonpublic And Community Schools for the 2024/2025 School Year. (See attached resolution with additional and revised students);
 - b. Approve the Reimbursement of Background Checks pre-arranged and conducted by the ESC of Lorain County for direct hire substitutes (certified and classified) and volunteer coaches effective January 1, 2025.
2. Contract:
- a. Approve the Special Education Service Agreement with Ombudsman Educational Services, LTD. to provide an on-campus Program for One (1) student determined by the Student Service Department at a rate of \$89,870 for One (1) slot prorated for the remainder of the 2024/2025 school year and \$93,914 for One (1) slot for the 2025/2026 school year with an additional cost if the student requires a 1:1 aide per their IEP (see attachment).

Yes: Kazmierczak, Ratliff, Babb, Shellhouse, Mohrman
No: None

President Mohrman declared this motion passed.

#25-029 APPROVAL TO MOVE TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Kazmierczak and seconded by Babb to move to Executive Session at 7:07 p.m. per the Ohio Revised Code 121.22 (G)(1) to consider the employment and compensation of a public employee or official and to consider the purchase of property for public use. No action will take place after the executive session.

Yes: Kazmierczak, Babb, Ratliff, Shellhouse, Mohrman
No: None

President Mohrman declared this motion passed.

#25-030 APPROVAL TO RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

Motion was made by Shellhouse and seconded by Kazmierczak to return to Regular Session at 8:14 p.m..

Yes: Shellhouse, Kazmierczak, Babb, Ratliff, Mohrman
No: None

President Mohrman declared this motion passed.

#25-031 APPROVAL OF FIELD TRIP

Motion was made by Kazmierczak and seconded by Babb to approve the following:

1. Approve the Off Campus Educational Experience for Junior High and High School Choir students to attend the Festival of Music at Kings Island Amusement Park in Cincinnati, Ohio from April 24, 2025 to April 26, 2025. This replaces the board-approved (October 15, 2024) trip to Chicago.

Yes: Kazmierczak, Babb, Ratliff, Shellhouse, Mohrman

No: None

President Mohrman declared this motion passed.

#25-032 APPROVAL OF SALES PROJECT AND DONATIONS

Motion was made by Ratliff and seconded by Mohrman to approve the following sales project and donations to be approved and if necessary the establishment of fund, appropriations, budget and revenue accounts:

1. Sales Project:

- a. Jr. High Student Council - Valentine's Dance

2. Donations:

- a. Wellington Eagles donated \$5,000.00 toward the Wellington High School Drama Club trip to New York City in March of 2025;
- b. Wellington Eagles donated \$4,000.00 toward the Wellington High School Choir trip to Cincinnati;
- c. Dan Gossman donated \$300.00 to the McCormick Middle School Science Olympiad;
- d. Wellington Eagles donated \$500.00 to McCormick Middle School for the 4th Grade Duke Dollars program;
- e. Jennifer McCloskey donated "12 Days of Office Giveaways" items for Westwood teachers and staff valued at \$150.00;
- f. Hope Liggett donated toys to the Westwood Dukes Care Closet valued at \$300.00;
- g. Rick and Janice Brill of Brill-View Farms Inc. donated \$100.00 to the 2025 Wellington Duke Pride Carnival for the Summer Food Voucher Program;
- h. Edward Weber donated \$100.00 to the 2025 Wellington Duke Pride Carnival for the Summer Food Voucher Program;
- i. Gary Jordan donated \$100.00 to the 2025 Wellington Duke Pride Carnival for the Summer Food Voucher Program;
- j. John and Cheryl Nolan donated \$100.00 to the 2025 Wellington Duke Pride Carnival for the Summer Food Voucher Program;

- k. Mark and Kathy McConnell donated \$50.00 to the 2025 Wellington Duke Pride Carnival for the Summer Food Voucher Program;
- l. Vidika Law, LLC donated \$300.00 to the 2025 Wellington Duke Pride Carnival for the Summer Food Voucher Program;
- m. Tom Orlando and Lorain County Clerk of Courts staff donated \$250.00 to the 2025 Wellington Duke Pride Carnival for the Summer Food Voucher Program;
- n. Wellington VFW donated \$200.00 toward the current student lunch debt;
- o. Judge Raymond Ewers donated \$50.00 to the Wellington K-Kids service club.

Yes: Ratliff, Mohrman, Babb, Shellhouse, Kazmierczak

No: None

President Mohrman declared this motion passed.

#25-033 APPROVAL OF DONATIONS

Motion was made by Babb and seconded by Shellhouse to approve the following donations:

1. Donations:

- a. Ayers Ratliff donated \$300.00 to the Wellington Duke Pride Carnival for the Summer Food Voucher Program;
- b. Ayers Ratliff paid for postage of letters for the Duke Pride Carnival for a total donation of \$102.60..

Yes: Babb, Shellhouse, Kazmierczak, Mohrman

Abstain: Ratliff

No: None

President Mohrman declared this motion passed.

Total Donations = \$11,902.60

Year-to-Date Total of Donations for 2024/2025 School Year = \$130,949.73

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS - None

COMMENTS OR STATEMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Mrs. Shellhouse mentioned she still has concerns over the field trip.

FUTURE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS

- A. Tuesday, February 4, 2025, Work Session, 6:00 PM, Westwood Elementary School Superintendent's Office;
- B. Tuesday, February 18, 2025, Business Meeting, 6:00 PM, Wellington High School and via Zoom.

#25-034 ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Ratliff and seconded by Babb to adjourn the Regular Session at 8:32 p.m.

Yes: Ratliff, Babb, Shellhouse, Kazmierczak, Mohrman

No: None

President Mohrman declared this motion passed.

Board President

Treasurer

Note: There is an audio recording of this meeting and it is available upon request to the Treasurer.