

**Windham Board of Education
Special Board Meeting
April 29, 2025
6:00 PM**

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- III. MOMENT OF SILENCE
- IV. ROLL CALL

Ms. Grant P Ms. Knight P Ms. Minnick P Ms. Fisher P Mr. St. John P
Present: 5
Absent: 0

- V. Approve the minutes of the April 15, 2025 Regular Board Meeting.

Motion: Ms Fisher

Second: Mr St John

Ms. Grant Y Ms. Knight Y Ms. Minnick A Ms. Fisher Y Mr. St. John Y

- VI. BOARD DISCUSSION OF CURRENT LEGISLATION
- VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

**VI. WINDHAM EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION
RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE FAIR SCHOOL FUNDING PLAN**

WHEREAS, the Ohio Constitution guarantees a “thorough and efficient system of common schools throughout the state” (Article VI, Section 2), and the Ohio Supreme Court has repeatedly ruled that the state’s school funding system must be both adequate and equitable; and

WHEREAS, Nearly 90% of Ohio school age children attend Ohio’s public schools; and

WHEREAS, a group of school superintendents and treasurers, led by State Representatives Robert Cupp and John Patterson, developed the Fair School Funding Plan that included a number of recommendations to meet the Constitutional mandate; and

WHEREAS, the 134th Ohio General Assembly passed into law a six-year phase-in of the Fair School Funding Plan, and appropriated funding which amounted to one-third of the cost of full implementation; and

WHEREAS, the Fair School Funding Plan (FSFP) was developed using research-driven inputs to ensure that all Ohio students receive the resources necessary for a high-quality education, regardless of their ZIP code; and

Windham Board of Education
Special Board Meeting
April 29, 2025
6:00 PM

WHEREAS, The current state budget being debated by the state legislature for FY 2026-2027 contains provisions that threaten the FSFP, which undermine the district's ability to plan for the long term and harms our ability to serve our students; and

WHEREAS, the budget passed by the Ohio House will shortchange the Windham Exempted Village School District by **\$2,281,297** compared to what would be provided by the state under the Fair School Funding Plan; and

WHEREAS, a fully implemented and regularly updated FSFP benefits all Ohio students by ensuring predictability, adequacy, and fairness in school funding allocations;

WHEREAS, the Board opposes a provision in Substitute House Bill 96 that would cap school districts' carryover funds at 30% of the prior year's operating expenses, redirecting any excess to reduce property taxes; and

WHEREAS, districts maintain reserves to manage uncertainty in state funding and to meet five-year forecasting requirements, making this cap fiscally irresponsible; and

WHEREAS, this proposal would undermine financial stability, force cuts to student programs, and increase reliance on local levies; and

WHEREAS, while addressing property taxes is important, this provision should be considered separately from school funding legislation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Windham Exempted Village Schools Board of Education

1. Expresses strong support for the continued implementation and full funding of the Fair School Funding Plan, including the use of updated, research-based cost inputs that reflect current economic conditions and student needs.
2. Opposes the 30% carryover fund cap provision included in Substitute House Bill 96 and urges its removal from the budget bill. The Board recommends that any proposals related to property tax relief be considered separately and in full consultation with education stakeholders.
3. Calls upon the Ohio General Assembly and the Governor to uphold their commitment to fair school funding by ensuring that future biennial budgets fully fund the FSFP and update cost calculations to reflect the actual cost of educating Ohio's students.

Windham Board of Education
Special Board Meeting
April 29, 2025
6:00 PM

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to members of the Ohio General Assembly, the Governor of Ohio, the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce, and other relevant stakeholders to emphasize the need for continued investment in Ohio's students and public schools. Adopted this 29th day of April, 2025, by the Windham Exempted Village Schools Board of Education.

Motion: Ms Minnick

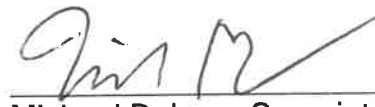
Second: Mr St John

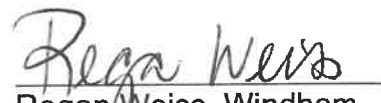
Ms. Grant Y Ms. Knight Y Ms. Minnick Y Ms. Fisher Y Mr. St. John Y

XII. Adjourn 6:41 P.M.


Melissa Knight, Board President


Andrew Pizzulo, Treasurer


Michael Dobran, Superintendent


Regan Weiss, Windham
Teachers Association President


Angela Bartlett, OAPSE President

