

West Branch Local School District Board of Education Meeting (Monday, March 24, 2025)*Generated by Adam J Fisher on Wednesday, March 26, 2025***Members present**

Mikki Kanagy, Aaron Hawk, Bryan Hobbins, David Yaggi, Joe Courtwright

Meeting called to order at 5:30 PM**A. Call to Order**

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call

B. Agenda Approval**1. 2025-029 Approve Consent Agenda**

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and Treasurer, approve the consent agenda for the 3/24/2025 Board of Education Regular Session. If any board member wishes to move any consent agenda items to the regular agenda for further discussion, please let it be known now.

Discussion: None

Motion by Bryan Hobbins, second by Joe Courtwright.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Mikki Kanagy, Aaron Hawk, Bryan Hobbins, David Yaggi, Joe Courtwright

C. Comments

1. Visitor's Comments - None
2. WBEA Comments - None
3. WBCEA Comments - None

D. Building Reports

1. Building Reports - Please see Board Docs

E. Superintendent's Report**1. Monthly Updates**

- a. Honored Student - Senior Mati Hawk - Mrs. DeShields read accolades from teachers and herself
- b. Honored Staff Members - High School teacher Beth Cooley - Mr. Coffee read accolades from a student and himself

Cooks Helper Christine Irely - Mrs. Strausbaugh read accolades from students and herself

c. Warrior Academy Services - Mrs. Egli announced that due to growing costs and low student numbers, we will no longer offer Warrior Academy and E-Group starting next school year. She did say that we would continue to offer credit recovery courses on-line for our students but would purchase that from the ESC.

d. Briefing on Governor DeWine's Budget Proposal - Mrs. Egli and Mr. Fisher gave an explanation of the governor's budget proposal which contains cuts to the funding guarantees that we have been receiving for a number of years. We will lose approximately \$1.6 million over the next two years if this is passed. Mrs. Egli said that there would be some teachers that are retiring that would not be replaced as well as possibly having to let go of the teachers that are currently retire/rehires.

2. Recognitions

1. High School Students of Month -- List Attached
2. Elks Teenagers of the Month (February) -- Isabel Martig and Jack Flickinger
3. Greg Sharp and National Honor Society for hosting a blood drive.
4. Varsity Girls' Basketball and Coaching Staff -- EBC Champs
5. Walt DeShields received the OHSA Sportsmanship, Ethics and Integrity Award.
6. 2025 Winter Athletic Honors (List Attached)
7. Abbie Millard received the Mahoning Valley Educator of the Year as the top teacher throughout Mahoning, Trumbull, and Columbiana Counties.

F. Consent Items**1. 2025-030 Consent Items**

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and Treasurer, approve the following items by consent action:

Treasurer's Consent Items

1. Minutes

1. February 20, 2025 Special Meeting
2. February 20, 2025 Regular Meeting

2. Financial Reports

1. Cash Summary Report February 2025
2. Cash Reconciliation February 2025
3. Monthly Investment Statement February 2025
4. SM2M Report February 2025
5. Amended Certificate of Estimated Resources as of March 6, 2025
6. Detailed Check Register February 2025
7. Appropriations Summary February 2025
8. Appropriations Resolution as of March 6, 2025

3. Accounts Payable

1. Recommend to pay Public School Works \$6,573 for services provided

4. Gifts and Donations

1. CTM Labeling - Donation of steel to the welding program with value of \$4,056.69
2. Haltec Corporation - \$100 to West Branch Athletic Department in memory of Richard Ferguson
3. Sharp's Sheep Farm LLC - \$400 to the Wood shop
4. Kristen Hollis - \$4,961.60 to the Dominic Panezott Scholarship Fund
- 5.

Superintendent' Consent Items

1. Personnel

1. Employment

1. Recommend approval to re-employ James Graham as Technology Director for a 3 year period, effective July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2028.
2. Recommend approval to re-employ Stephanie White as School Psychologist for a 3 year period effective July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2028.

2. Resignations

1. Recommend approval to accept the resignation of Ginger Williamson as a Title Tutor effective March 14, 2025.
2. Recommend approval to accept the resignation of Julie McConnell as a Second Grade Teacher effective March 28, 2025.
3. Recommend approval to accept the resignation of Chris Yannon as a High School Counselor effective at the end of the 2024 - 2025 school year.

3. Substitutes -- Classified (pending certification)

1. Larry Steed
2. Teresa Lins

4. Substitutes -- Modified Certificated -- \$95 daily rate (pending certification)

1. Karissa Sponseller

5. Retirement

1. Recommend approval to accept the retirement of Denise Elder as School Secretary effective July 1, 2025.
2. Recommend approval to accept the retirement of Matthew Manley, Assistant Principal, at the conclusion of the 2024 - 2025 school year.
3. Recommend approval to accept the retirement of Nancy Yonkey, Transportation/Playground Aide, effective July 1, 2025.

6. Chaperones

1. Recommend approval of Traci Raga as a Young & Alive Chaperone for the 2024 - 2025 school year.

7. Box Truck Drivers

1. Recommend approval for the following to drive our vehicle to transport band/choral equipment:
 1. Gustav Steven Schuster
 2. Samuel Barnhouse

8. Van Drivers - Pending Certification

1. Recommend approval of Larry Steed as a van driver pending certification.

2. Professional Days/Superintendent Assignments

1. March 2025 List Attached

Motion by Aaron Hawk, second by Bryan Hobbins.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Mikki Kanagy, Aaron Hawk, Bryan Hobbins, David Yaggi, Joe Courtwright

G. . New Business

1. **2025-031 Maintenance Director**

Recommend approval to hire Sean Fritz as Maintenance Director for the 3 year period beginning June 1, 2025 and ending on June 30, 2028, and to authorize and direct the Superintendent to execute an employment contract on behalf of the Board upon such terms and conditions as are agreed upon

by the parties.

Discussion: None

Motion by David Yaggi, second by Joe Courtwright.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Mikki Kanagy, Aaron Hawk, Bryan Hobbins, David Yaggi, Joe Courtwright

2. 2025-032 NEOLA Policy

Recommend the Board adopt the following NEOLA policy effective immediately and waive the second reading.

Discussion: None

Motion by Joe Courtwright, second by Bryan Hobbins.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Mikki Kanagy, Aaron Hawk, Bryan Hobbins, David Yaggi, Joe Courtwright

3. 2025-033 Certification of Rates from County Auditor

Resolution accepting the amounts and rates as determined by the Budget Commission and authorizing the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the County Auditor.

Discussion: Mrs. Kanagy asked what exactly this was. Mr. Fisher explained that it is a yearly thing the county auditor sends out that we approve the millage rates for the year.

Motion by Aaron Hawk, second by Joe Courtwright.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Mikki Kanagy, Aaron Hawk, Bryan Hobbins, David Yaggi, Joe Courtwright

4. 2025-034 Shared Services Contract -- Educational Service Center of Eastern Ohio

Recommend approval of a shared services agreement with the Educational Service Center of Eastern Ohio for the 2025 - 2026 school year.

Discussion: None

Motion by Bryan Hobbins, second by Mikki Kanagy.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Mikki Kanagy, Aaron Hawk, Bryan Hobbins, David Yaggi, Joe Courtwright

5. 2025-035 Career Counseling Services Contract -- Educational Service Center of Eastern Ohio

Recommend approval of services provided by the Educational Service Center of Eastern Ohio for Career Counseling Services in the amount of \$9,260 from July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026.

Discussion: None

Motion by Joe Courtwright, second by Bryan Hobbins.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Mikki Kanagy, Aaron Hawk, Bryan Hobbins, David Yaggi, Joe Courtwright

6. 2025-036 Sedgwick Contract

Recommend approval to enter into an agreement with Sedgwick for Workers Comp and Unemployment Group Rating Program at \$3,055 for the 2026 calendar year.

Discussion: None

Motion by Aaron Hawk, second by Bryan Hobbins.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Mikki Kanagy, Aaron Hawk, Bryan Hobbins, David Yaggi, Joe Courtwright

7. 2025-037 Out of Town/Overnight Trip

Recommend approval to the West Branch FFA Members to travel to Columbus, OH on April 30 - May 2, 2025 for the Ohio FFA Convention.

Discussion: None

Motion by David Yaggi, second by Joe Courtwright.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Mikki Kanagy, Aaron Hawk, Bryan Hobbins, David Yaggi, Joe Courtwright

8. 2025-038 Stipend Pay

Recommend approval to pay Mr. Jim Graham, Technology Director, a stipend pay of \$30/hour for supplementary work exceeding standard responsibilities.

Discussion: None

Motion by David Yaggi, second by Aaron Hawk.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Mikki Kanagy, Aaron Hawk, Bryan Hobbins, David Yaggi, Joe Courtwright

9. 2025-039 Bus Bid

WHEREAS, the West Branch Local School District is a member of the Ohio Schools Council. On November 1, 2024, the Ohio Schools Council received bids for school buses on behalf of its members. The West Branch Local School District Board of Education authorizes the purchase of two (2) - 72-passenger school bus chassis and bodies that were bid through the Ohio Schools Council. THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the West Branch School District Board of Education wishes to purchase two (2) - 72 passenger school bus chassis and bodies from the bids received through the Ohio Schools Council on November 1, 2024.

Discussion: Mr. Fisher informed the Board that the buses will be ordered this spring and will not arrive until July 2026 or after.

Motion by Joe Courtwright, second by Bryan Hobbins.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Mikki Kanagy, Aaron Hawk, Bryan Hobbins, David Yaggi, Joe Courtwright

10. 2025-040 Field Experience and Student Teaching Agreements

Recommend approval to enter into Memorandum of Understandings with local colleges and universities to allow for candidates to participate in field experiences and student teaching experiences for the 2025 - 2026 school year.

Discussion: None

Motion by Joe Courtwright, second by Mikki Kanagy.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Mikki Kanagy, Aaron Hawk, Bryan Hobbins, David Yaggi, Joe Courtwright

11. 2025-041 Approval of Vocational Agriculture Barn/Lab Expansion Bids

Recommend approval to accept the bids from Caplea Architects, Inc. for the Vocational Agriculture Barn/Lab Expansion Project as listed below.

Discussion: None

General Conditions and Construction Management - Caplea Studio Architects

Sitework/Excavation - Pags Excavating

Concrete Work - Level Masonry and Concrete

General Trades - Stitle Construction

Electrical Work - Dickey Electric

Fencing Work - HP Fencing

Water Service - Hahlen Line Services

Motion by David Yaggi, second by Aaron Hawk.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Mikki Kanagy, Aaron Hawk, Bryan Hobbins, David Yaggi, Joe Courtwright

J. Executive Session

1. 2025-042 Executive Session

Recommend the West Branch Board of Education enter into Executive Session at 6:13 P.M. for the purpose of discussion with regard to:

- ☒ Employment of a public official
- ☒ Appointment of a public official
- ☐ Dismissal of a public official
- ☐ Discipline of a public official
- ☐ Promotion of a public official
- ☐ Demotion of a public official
- ☒ Compensation of a public official
- ☐ Investigation of chargers or complaints against a public employee, official, licensee, or student
- ☐ To confer with an attorney for the board of education concerning disputes involving the board that are the subject of pending or imminent court action
- ☒ To consider legal matters required to be kept confidential by federal law or regulations or state statutes
- ☒ To consider confidential information related to marketing plans, specific business strategy, or production techniques
- ☐ To consider the purchase of property for public purposes
- ☐ To consider the sale of property at competitive bidding
- ☒ To prepare for negotiations or bargaining sessions with public employees concerning their compensation or other terms and conditions of their employment
- ☐ To conduct negotiations or bargaining sessions with public employees concerning their compensation or other terms and conditions of their employment
- ☐ To discuss details relative to security arrangements and emergency response protocols or the board of education
- ☐ To consider matters required to be kept confidential by federal law or rules or state statutes.

No action will be taken.

Motion by David Yaggi, second by Bryan Hobbins.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Mikki Kanagy, Aaron Hawk, Bryan Hobbins, David Yaggi, Joe Courtwright

K. Adjournment

1.2025-043 Adjourn

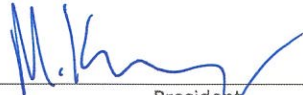
Recommend motion to adjourn at 7:27 P.M.

Motion by Bryan Hobbins, second by Joe Courtwright.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Mikki Kanagy, Aaron Hawk, Bryan Hobbins, David Yaggi, Joe Courtwright

Meeting adjourned at 7:27 P.M.



President

Attest:



Treasurer

