

**VAN WERT CITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, June 25, 2025 - 5:00 p.m.
First Federal Lecture Hall - Niswonger Performing Arts Center
10700 State Route 118 South, Van Wert, OH 45891**

MINUTES

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call - **Time in: 5:00 p.m. Board Members Present - Anthony Adams, Debby Compton, Greg Blackmore, Julie Burenga. Absent – Scott Mull. Others Present - Sam Shriver, Scott Truxell, Mark Bagley, Troy Bowersock, Bob Priest, Justin Bragg, Haley Michaud, Darla Dunlap, Chuck Rollins, Trent Temple, Todd Keller, Chris Covey, Hate Hoverman, Kim Laudick, Ben Laudick, Lydia Mendenhall, Annie Mendenhall, Keaton Foster, Mandy Burenga, Sam Houg, Noah Spath, Owen Scott, Drew Laudick, Abi Rollins.**
- II. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America - **Recited by attendees in unison**
- III. Vision / Mission - **Recited by Troy Bowersock**

Our Vision

In partnership with our community, Van Wert City Schools will ensure that all students develop the knowledge, skills, and attributes they need to thrive in post-secondary education, careers and civic life.

Our Mission

Van Wert City Schools will continue to be a source of Cougar Pride while providing each student a quality education through innovative instructional methods and technology.

- IV. Public Participation - **None**

In order for the Board to fulfill its obligation to complete the planned agenda in an effective and efficient fashion, a maximum of thirty (30) minutes of public participation will be permitted at each meeting.

Each person addressing the Board will give his/her name and address. If several people wish to speak, each person will be allotted three (3) minutes until the total time of thirty (30) minutes is used. During the period, no person may speak twice until all who desire to speak have had the opportunity to do so. Persons desiring more time should follow the procedure of the Board to be placed on the regular agenda. The period of public participation may be extended by a vote of the majority of the Board.

25.06.035

- V. Set Agenda
Motion was made by Debby Compton and seconded by Julie Burenga to accept the agenda as presented. Vote: Anthony Adams, yes; Julie Burenga, yes; Greg Blackmore, yes; Debby Compton, yes; Scott Mull, absent. Motion carried 4-0 with 1 absent.

- VI. Curriculum and Instruction / Educational Impact Presentation
A. Chuck Rollins, Van Wert High School Principal, Owen Scott, Drew Laudick, Sam Houg, Noah Spath, Keaton Foster, Mandy Burenga, Abi Rollins - Year in review - Academic / Athletic Awards
- VII. Public Hearing on the Board of Education's intent to re-employ the following retiree per section 3307.353 of the Ohio Revised Code:
A. Roland Alvarez - High School Intervention Specialist
A public hearing was held on the Board of Education's intent to re-employ retirees Roland Alvarez per section 3307.353 of the Ohio Revised Code. No public comment offered.
- VIII. Treasurer's Section
Business and Records - *Mr. Bowersock shared with the Board of Education the May financial statements, checks issued, summary of cash balances by fund, and monthly revenue and expenditure summary. Mr. Bowersock also presented an update to the Board of Education in reference to the fiscal year 2025 year-end close-out, the fiscal year 2026 beginning of year preparations, and the Eggerss Stadium project budget.*
- IX. Assistant Superintendent's Section - *Mr. Priest provided an update on maintenance projects that are underway this summer throughout the district and shared continued maintenance planning to address the district's future needs. Lastly, Priest discussed with the Board of Education van transportation legislation and the resulting implications in purchasing a replacement van.*
- X. Superintendent's Section - *Mr. Bagley provided an update on staffing for the 2025-2026 school year and on Phase III of the Eggerss Stadium restoration project. Bagley also highlighted partnerships currently being formed in the community with the Van Wert City School District and closed his report with a legislative update including information on the recently passed state biennial budget bill (House Bill 96) that awaits Governor approval.*
- XI. Board Member Section / Reports from Board Representatives (discussion only)
A. Vantage - *No report*
B. VWAPAF - *No report*
C. VWASIG - *No report*
D. Athletic Council - *No report*
E. Safety Team – *Discussed the recent district Safety Team Meeting and the annual Ohio Safety Conference in Columbus that Mr. Priest attended.*

25.06.036

- XII. Consent Resolutions
Motion was made by Greg Blackmore and seconded by Julie Burenga to approve the consent items "A through U" as presented. Vote: Anthony Adams, yes; Julie Burenga, yes; Greg Blackmore, yes; Debby Compton, yes; Scott Mull, absent. Motion carried 4-0 with 1 absent.
- A. Accept the resignation of Katie Peterson from her position as middle school science teacher, effective at the end of the 2024-2025 contract year as presented.
- B. Accept the resignation of Julia Reichert from her position as high school music teacher, effective at the end of the 2024-2025 contract year as presented.
- C. Accept the resignation of Katie Peterson from her supplemental position as girls high school tennis coach, effective the 2025-2026 contract year as presented.

- D. Approve Ruby Aversch as an elementary school paraprofessional, pending all Board policies pertaining to employment are met, effective the 2025-2026 contract year as presented.
- E. Approve Annie Mendenhall as a middle school science teacher, pending all Board policies pertaining to employment are met, effective the 2025-2026 contract year as presented.
- F. Approve Shelly Smith as a high school secretary, pending all Board policies pertaining to employment are met, effective the 2025-2026 contract year as presented.
- G. Approve the minutes from the regular Board meeting held on May 28, 2025, as presented.
- H. Approve the monthly financial report as presented by the Treasurer.
- I. Approve the 2025-2026 preschool, kindergarten, elementary school, middle school and high school handbooks as presented.
- J. Approve overnight trips/stays as presented:
 - 1. High School Track - 5 athletes and 4 adults to the State Track Meet in Columbus, OH, June 6-7, 2025 (retroactively).
 - 2. High Robotics - 14 students and 3 adults to the Run for the Robots Premier Event, First Tech Challenge in Lexington / Georgetown, KY, June 26-28, 2025, as presented.
- K. Approve an agreement between Wood County Juvenile Detention Center-Juvenile Residential Center of Northwest Ohio and Van Wert City Schools for the 2025-2026 contract year as presented.
- L. Approve a memorandum of understanding with Defiance College for hosting teacher education candidates during the 2025-2026 school year as presented.
- M. Approve the Service Contract Agreement with Western Buckeye Educational Service Center for the 2025-2026 school year as presented.
- N. Approve the Amended Official Certificate of Estimated Resources for fiscal year 2025 as presented.
- O. Approve the amendments to the fiscal year 2025 Permanent Appropriations totaling \$42,928,435.03 as presented.
- P. Approve the Amended Official Certificate of Estimated Resources for fiscal year 2026 as presented.
- Q. Approve the Temporary Appropriations for fiscal year 2026 totaling \$35,519,345.00 as presented.
- R. Approve transfer of the ½ mill equalization payment for fiscal year 2025 as required by the Ohio School Facilities Commission for the Classroom Facilities Assistance Program from the Permanent Improvement Fund to the Classroom Facilities Maintenance Fund in the amount of \$113,804.00.
- S. Approve transfer of \$750,000.00 from the General Fund (001 0000) to the Termination Benefits Fund (035 9025).
- T. Approve transfer of \$5,250,000.00 from the General Fund (001 0000) to the Capital Projects Fund (070 9024).
- U. Acknowledge the following charitable groups, entities, and individuals for their generous donations to the Van Wert City Schools:
 - 1. Gibby's Photo - \$125.00 to Van Wert Middle School Activity Fund
 - 2. Deaf Dog Coffee Company LLC - \$218.00 to Van Wert High School PBIS
 - 3. The Van Wert County Foundation on behalf of the Richard L. & Nadie O. Klein Memorial Trust - \$30,958.48 to Klein Trust Fund
 - 4. The Van Wert County Foundation - \$30,000.00 to Eggerss Stadium Project - Legacy Donation
 - 5. Bob & Karlene Priest - \$10,000.00 to Eggerss Stadium Project - Legacy Donation
 - 6. Vancrest Health Care Center - \$500.00 to Cross Country Activity Fund
 - 7. Van Wert Service Club - \$1,200.00 to Summer Speech Program
 - 8. Van Wert High School Class of 1970 - \$254.11 to Eggerss Stadium Paver Tribute
 - 9. Eric & Melody McCracken - \$5,000.00 to Eggerss Stadium Project - Legacy Donation
 - 10. Veronica Cuevas - \$1,000.00 to Eggerss Stadium Project - Legacy Donation
 - 11. Jay & Kim Fleming - \$1,000.00 to Eggerss Stadium Paver Tribute

- XIII. This is to inform the Board of Education that the following employee(s) will be advanced on the payscale, due to additional college coursework, effective the 2025-2026 school year:
A. Trinda Keber - Master's+15 to Master's+30

25.06.037

- XIV. Executive Session

A. Motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(1) for the purpose of discussing the employment of public personnel.

Motion was made by Debby Compton and seconded by Greg Blackmore to go into executive session at 5:57 p.m. for the purpose of discussing the employment of public personnel. Vote: Anthony Adams, yes; Julie Burenga, yes; Greg Blackmore, yes; Debby Compton, yes; Scott Mull, absent. Motion carried 4-0 with 1 absent.

Meeting reconvened at 6:44 p.m.

25.06.038

- XV. Adjournment

Motion was made by Greg Blackmore and seconded by Debby Compton to adjourn the Meeting at 6:45 p.m. Vote: Ayes - 4; Nays - 0; Absent - 1

Next Meeting Date

The next scheduled regular Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 23, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. The meeting will be in the First Federal Lecture Hall at the Niswonger Performing Arts Center.

Board President

Fiscal Officer