

**VAN WERT CITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, May 28, 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, Scott Mull. Absent – Julie Burenga. Others Present - Sam Shriver, Mark Bagley, Troy Bowersock, Bob Priest, Justin Bragg, Haley Michaud, Darla Dunlap, Ben Collins, Chris Covey, Lauren Ross, Andrea Anderson, Victoria Lewis, Noah Floyd, Dylan Wierwille, Kolby Barnhart, Matthew Warnecke, Kaz Moynihan, Zoey Anderson, Ivy Lippi, Grayson Collins, Sydney Ross.**
- II. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America - **Recited by attendees in unison**
- III. Vision / Mission - **Recited by Debby Compton**

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.

25.05.030

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

- VI. Ohio School Boards Association Recognition
A. Anthony Adams - 10 years of service as a School Board Member
- VII. Curriculum and Instruction / Educational Impact Presentation
A. Ben Collins, Van Wert Middle School Assistant Principal, Kaz Moynihan, Zoey Anderson, Ivy Lippi, Grayson Collins, Sydney Ross - Focus 3 update and discussion
- VIII. Treasurer's Section
Business and Records - *Mr. Bowersock shared with the Board of Education the April financial statements, checks issued, summary of cash balances by fund, and monthly revenue and expenditure summary. Mr. Bowersock also reviewed the district's "May" 5 year forecast and presented an updated Eggers Stadium project budget.*
- IX. Assistant Superintendent's Section - *Mr. Priest provided an update on maintenance projects that are planned to take place this summer throughout the district and shared maintenance planning that is underway to address future needs. Lastly, Priest reviewed the district's transportation program and commended the bus drivers for their cooperation throughout the school year.*
- X. Superintendent's Section - *Mr. Bagley highlighted school end of year activities and recognized retiring employees thanking them for their service to Van Wert City Schools. Mr. Bagley also provided an update on staffing, highlighted the district's 2025 Quality Profile, and continued conversations on Phase III of the Eggers Stadium restoration project. Lastly, Bagley provided a legislative update including information on the proposed state biennial budget bill (House Bill 96).*
- XI. Board Member Section/Reports from Board Representatives (discussion only)
A. Vantage - *Highlighted end of school year activities and reviewed 2025-2026 school year student enrollment information.*
B. VWAPAF - *No report*
C. VWASIG - *No report*
D. Athletic Council - *Discussed coaching vacancies and highlighted Strength & Conditioning activities that are currently underway.*
E. Safety Team – *Discussed the threat assessment certification class that was recently offered to staff.*

25.05.031

- XII. Consent Resolutions
Motion was made by Debby Compton and seconded by Greg Blackmore to approve the consent items "A through AA" as presented. Vote: Anthony Adams, yes; Julie Burenga, absent; Greg Blackmore, yes; Debby Compton, yes; Scott Mull, yes. Motion carried 4-0 with 1 absent.
- A. Accept the resignation, due to retirement, of Roland Alvarez from his position as high school intervention specialist, effective at the end of the 2024-2025 contract year as presented.
- B. Accept the resignation of Kate Delgado from her position as high school secretary, effective June 10, 2025, as presented.
- C. Accept the resignation of Lori Honigford from her position as cafeteria/custodial-maintenance worker, effective June 9, 2025, as presented.
- D. Accept the resignation, due to retirement, of Amy Covey from her position as elementary school intervention specialist, with a revised date of June 1, 2025, as presented.
- E. Accept the resignation of Emma Guggenbiller from her Board approved position as a third grade teacher for the 2025-2026 contract year, effective May 12, 2025, as presented.

- F. Accept the resignation of Alex Martz from his Board approved position as high school volunteer football coach for the 2025-2026 contract year, effective May 20, 2025, as presented.
- G. Approve Dylan Wierwille as a third grade teacher, pending all Board policies pertaining to employment are met, effective the 2025-2026 contract year as presented.
- H. Approve Kolby Barnhart as a middle school science teacher, pending all Board policies pertaining to employment are met, effective the 2025-2026 contract year as presented.
- I. Approve Matthew Warnecke as a middle school language arts teacher, pending all Board policies pertaining to employment are met, effective the 2025-2026 contract year as presented.
- J. Approve Michael Dowdy as a high school math teacher at Van Wert School at the Goedde, pending all Board policies pertaining to employment are met, effective the 2025-2026 contract year as presented.
- K. Approve Noah Floyd as high school band director / music teacher, pending all Board policies pertaining to employment are met, effective the 2025-2026 contract year as presented.
- L. Approve Sara Bauer as an elementary school paraprofessional, pending all Board policies pertaining to employment are met, effective the 2025-2026 contract year as presented.
- M. Approve the rehire of Sara Royer as an elementary school counselor, pending all Board policies pertaining to employment are met, effective the 2025-2026 contract year.
- N. Approve the rehire of Robert Priest, pending all Board policies pertaining to employment are met, Assistant Superintendent, for a 4-year administrative contract, effective August 1, 2025-July 31, 2029.
- O. Approve a 3-year administrative contract for Trent Temple, Athletic Director, pending all Board policies pertaining to employment are met, effective August 1, 2025 - July 31, 2028.
- P. Approve the following early childhood center summer 2025 staff as presented:
 - 1. Secretarial - as needed
 - a. Sherry Boroff
 - 2. Summer School - Round 1
 - a. Ashley Hockenberry
 - b. Alexa Dunlap
 - 3. Summer School - Round 2
 - a. Danae Leaser
 - b. Chrissy Kreischer
 - c. Lisa Knoch
 - d. Naomi Schlatter
 - e. Megan Neuenschwander
 - f. Kennedy Mercer
 - 4. Testing Week
 - a. Nicole Adams
 - b. Judi Smith
 - c. Megan Neuenschwander
 - d. Danielle Ray
 - e. Ronda Niemeyer
 - f. Becky Doctor
 - g. Danae Leaser
 - h. Chrissy Kreischer
 - i. Taylor Bendele
- Q. Approve the following elementary ESY summer 2025 staff as presented:
 - 1. Jessica Small
 - 2. Kim Dowdy
- R. Approve the following middle school summer 2025 staff as presented:
 - 1. Tom Baer
 - 2. Julia Schaffner

- S. Approve the following summer 2025 custodial workers as presented:
 - 1. Harry Florence (current staff)
 - 2. Luke Wessell (current substitute)
- T. Approve the following coaching supplemental contracts, effective the 2025-2026 contract year, as presented:
 - 1. Michael Dowdy - High School Girls Head Basketball Coach
 - 2. Matt Krites - High School Golf Assistant Coach
 - 3. Nicole Byrum - High School Girls Cross Country Volunteer Coach
 - 4. Jacob Sealscott - High School Boys Cross Country Volunteer Coach
- U. Approve the following student overnight trips as presented:
 - 1. High School Football, 55 students and 9 adults to East Harbor State Park, Lakeside Marblehead, Ohio; July 17-18, 2025, as presented.
- V. Approve a resolution to rescind prior board actions and adopt Special Education Model Policies and Procedures - v1.0 2025 ("2025 Model Policies") as presented.
- W. Approve a satellite program standards and maintenance agreement between Van Wert City Schools and Vantage Career Center for the 2025-2026 school year as presented.
- X. Approve the fiscal year 2025 May Five-Year Forecast based upon the information and assumptions available as of May 28, 2025 as presented.
- Y. Approve the minutes from the regular Board meeting held on April 23, 2025.
- Z. Approve the monthly financial report as presented by the Treasurer.
- AA. Acknowledge the following charitable groups, entities, and individuals for their generous donations to the Van Wert City Schools:
 - 1. Van Wert County Foundation - \$500.00 on behalf of the Tyler Priest Memorial Scholarship Fund
 - 2. Van Wert County Foundation - \$1,500.00 on behalf of the John Fox Maney Scholarship Fund
 - 3. Van Wert County Foundation - \$1,500.00 on behalf of the Margaret Shaffer Maney Scholarship Fund
 - 4. Van Wert County Foundation - \$2,000.00 on behalf of the Wally Grimm Scholarship Fund
 - 5. The Centurion Club of Van Wert - \$1,000.00 to Career Education Opportunity Fund
 - 6. Van Wert City Schools Elementary PTO - \$524.00 to Elementary Student Activity Fund
 - 7. Van Wert City Schools Elementary PTO - \$1,958.47 to Early Childhood Center Activity Fund
 - 8. Van Wert City Schools Elementary PTO - \$3,000.00 to Elementary School Wellness Program Fund
 - 9. Van Wert High School Class of 1979 - \$500.00 to Eggerss Stadium Paver Tribute
 - 10. Van Wert High School Class of 1979 - \$5,000.00 to Eggerss Stadium Project - Legacy Donation
 - 11. Van Wert High School Class of 1971 - \$1,000.00 to Eggerss Stadium Paver Tribute
 - 12. Northwest State Community College - \$150.00 to Masque & Gavel

XIII. Non-consent Resolution(s)

25.05.032

- A. Approve the following supplemental coaching contract, effective the 2025-2026 contract year, pending all Board policies pertaining to employment are met, as presented.
 - 1. Charlie Witten - Middle School Football

Motion was made by Greg Blackmore and seconded by Scott Mull to approve a supplemental coaching contract for Charlie Witten as a Middle School Football coach effective the 2025-2026 contract year, pending all Board policies pertaining to employment are met. Vote: Anthony Adams, yes; Julie Burenga, absent; Greg

Blackmore, yes; Debby Compton, abstain; Scott Mull, yes. Motion carried 3-0 with 1 abstention and 1 absent.

25.05.033

- B. Approve the following custodial worker for the summer of 2025, pending all Board policies to employment are met. All summer custodial workers are paid from a timesheet; many are part-time/as available/as needed.

1. Spencer Adams

Motion was made by Debby Compton and seconded by Greg Blackmore to approve Spencer Adams as a custodial worker for the summer of 2025, pending all Board policies pertaining to employment are met. Vote: Anthony Adams, abstain; Julie Burenga, absent; Greg Blackmore, yes; Debby Compton, yes; Scott Mull, yes. Motion carried 3-0 with 1 abstention and 1 absent.

XIV. Public Notice

- A. The Van Wert City School District Board of Education hereby gives public notice with section 3307.353 of the Ohio Revised Code as follows:

1. Roland Alvarez has given notice of his retirement effective May 28, 2025, and is seeking to re-employ with the district. The Board of Education will hold a public hearing on the issue of Roland Alvarez being re-employed in the district at 5:00 pm on Wednesday, June 25, 2025, in the First Federal Lecture Hall at the Niswonger Performing Arts Center.

- XV. 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. Payton Shays - Bachelor's-150 to Master's

- XVI. Acknowledge notification from the City of Van Wert of a residential CRA application as presented:

A. Stephen Cowling, 715 Elm St., Van Wert, OH 45891

25.05.034

- XVII. Adjournment

Motion was made by Greg Blackmore and seconded by Debby Compton to adjourn the Meeting at 5:47 p.m. Vote: Ayes - 4; Nays - 0; Absent - 1

Next Meeting Date

The next scheduled regular Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 25, 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