

Arcanum-Butler Local School District
REGULAR
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING UPDATE
October 9, 2025

Present: Mr. Norris, Mr. Trask, Mr. Moore, Mr. LeMaster

Absent: Mr. Fearon

APPROVED:

- Minutes from the regular meeting held September 11, 2025, and the agenda for the October 9, 2025 meeting. (vote – all yea)
- Financial Report, as presented by the Treasurer. (vote – all yea)
- Five year contract with Kevin Flory Landscaping for snow removal services. (vote – all yea)
- Kendra Bumbalough as a sub van driver. (vote – all yea)
- High school participation in indoor track for the 2025-2026 school year. (vote – all yea)
- Schedule wrestling matches on selected Wednesday evenings. (vote – all yea)
- Supplemental contracts for the 2025-2026 school year: JV Baseball – Colton Troutwine; Baseball Asst – Justin Rench;; Asst HS Track – Adam Klipstine; Asst HS Track – Luke Holsapple; Asst HS Track – Hannah Arbogast. (vote – all yea)
- Supplemental contract for the 2025-2026 school year: Softball Asst – Ben Garbig (vote – yea- LeMaster, Trask, Norris; abstain - Moore)
- Volunteer for the 2025-2026 school year: HS Softball - Mark Garbig (vote – yea- LeMaster, Trask, Norris; abstain - Moore)
- Volunteers for the 2025-2026 school year: HS Track – Tim Pfahler, Chris Kessler, Thomas Kessler, Brian Arbogast; MS Track – Jerry Rademachir; HS Baseball – Conner Pohl, Kyle Carlisle, and Carter Rhodehamel; HS Softball – Jack Kinninger. (vote – all yea)

PROGRAMS

None

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Accolades and Announcements
 - ◆ Congratulations to our Marching Band who qualified for OMEA State Competition by earning a “Superior – 1” Rating.
 - ◆ Congrats to both our boys and girls golf teams on outstanding seasons. Boys were WOAC Co-Champs and Girls were WOAC Runners-Up. Congrats to Coach of the Year Kip Gray and Co-Player of the Year Luke Stephens. Luke qualified as an individual for the State Golf Championship by firing a round of 75 and winning a playoff hole. Thank you to Coach Warner and Coach Gray for their efforts.
 - ◆ The Principals and Gifted Coordinator, Andrea Painting, led the staff PD during the early dismissal on Sept. 25. The focus was on completing Reading Improvement Plans for qualifying students as well as Written Education Plans for our identified gifted students.
 - ◆ Thank you, Mr. Cates, for organizing the first “Future Friday” for the school year. I appreciate his efforts, several of the teachers who led classes, and the community volunteers who came in.
 - ◆ FCCLA hosted the first Blood Drive of the year and sponsored Cancer Awareness Week that included a Cancer Walk following a recent football game tonight. They raised over \$1400 which was donated to our local Bunco group.

- ◆ In recognition of the upcoming National School Lunch Week, October 13-17, I would like to thank Doug Surber and our Cafeteria Staff for efforts to not only meet the nutritional needs of our students, but for providing an abundant of great options for our kids and staff.
- ◆ The week of October 20-24 is National School Bus Safety Week: **"Safe Stops, Stronger Communities"** Many thanks to the transportation department and drivers for all of their daily efforts to keep our students safe
- School Operations and Updates
 - ◆ Property Tax Commission & HB186 Proposed Bill – A revised version of HB186 would place an inflationary cap on property tax revenue that schools on the 20-mill floor like ours would receive. Simulations show a reduction of over 10% in FY 2025 and 14% each in FY26 and FY27.
 - ◆ Booster Stadium Project Update – The new shot & discus throwing areas
 - ◆ Report Card Summary

PRINCIPAL'S REPORTS:

- Elementary
 - Continuous Improvement and Vision (CIP Goal #1)
 - ◆ During the 2-hour early release on September 26, teachers developed reading improvement and monitoring plans (RIMPS) for students who are not on track in reading, and written education plans (WEPS) for students who have been identified in gifted areas. Students on RIMPS are receiving interventions to build their reading skills, and students on WEPS participate in enrichment and challenging activities and an enhanced curriculum.
 - ◆ Teachers have spent extra time outside of the classroom learning the many different resources and materials i-Ready and Into Reading has to enhance their instruction.
 - ◆ The District Leadership Team met to finalize the planning of the October 24 PD day plan for future events.
 - Instruction (CIP Goal #2)
 - ◆ AELC has been busy assessing students and working on recognizing letters and numbers using a variety of hands-on activities. The staff does an excellent job using the Heggerty program to teach letters and sounds.
 - ◆ Kindergarten students focused on a letter each day to begin the school year and focused on the letter and sound doing a variety of activities.
 - ◆ Second and third grade students have been learning a variety of science concepts through hands-on labs.
 - ◆ Fourth grade students are reviewing writing skills and working hard to integrate these strategies into all content areas.
 - ◆ Third grade students will be taking the Fall ELA state assessment on October 21 and 22. They will be taking the paper and pencil version of the test. The 3rd grade teachers, along with Mrs. Shepherd and Mrs. Glasscoe, have been reviewing test taking skills to help the students be successful.
 - ◆ AELC, kindergarten, and first grade students visited Brumbaugh's Fruit Farm in September. The students learned about apples and pumpkins and had a fun time with their classmates and teachers.
 - School Operations, Resources, and Learning Environment (CIP Goal #3)
 - ◆ Thank you to Ashley Matheson and Megan Smith for planning our annual Start with Hello Week. Students anticipated in activities to promote kindness and positive interactions.
 - ◆ The student council sponsored Spirit Week during Homecoming Week. The students enjoyed ending the week with a districtwide pep assembly.
 - ◆ Congratulations to our Elementary Student Council Members who will be organizing different service and leadership opportunities for the elementary students. The members are Olivia Binkley, Josie Holsapple, Parker James, Owen Lester, Kamryn Hoskins, Aleigha Starns, Jacob Oda, Daxton Riggs, Abriella Koons, Teagan Riggs,

Gracen Neal, Reid Pohlman, Tyma Deaton, Korie Hall, Jaxson Binkley and Jase Kendig. Thank you to Sarah Loxley for leading this great group of students.

- ◆ Congratulations to the September Students of the Month for demonstrating the character trait of kindness: Anna Wilson, Ridge King, Laikyn Brubaker, Aine Krupp, Amity Deaton, Ian Bernard, Emma Crowder, Remington Lacey, Emmie Binkley, Averil Pankratz, Maggie Dickensheets, Lily McCracken, Luken Vore, Ryder Clapp, Carsyn Means, Cherish Baker, Caroline VanCulin, Jude Koenig, Austin Willis, Layna Warren.

➤ Collaboration (CIP Goal #4) and Parent and Community Engagement (CIP Goal #5)

- ◆ The PTO had their first meeting of the school year to brainstorm different ideas and events for the school year.
- ◆ Kindergarten Club also welcomed new officers and families to the club with an introductory meeting. Teachers gave classroom updates and parents were able to ask questions about the daily routines and procedures.
- ◆ The Student Council represented the Elementary in the annual Homecoming Parade.

● **Middle School**

➤ Standard 1: Continuous Improvement – Principals help create a shared vision and clear goals for their schools and ensure continuous progress toward achieving the goals.

- ◆ Congratulations to our newly elected MS Student Council Members: *5th grade* – Norah Gilbert, Haisley Oda, Briggs Stikeleather, Lude Wooten; *6th grade* – Owen Bixler, Kaylee Eley, Colton Hatfield, Afton Knight; *7th grade* – Noah Harleman, Alex James, Sophie Knaus, Ben Noe; *8th grade* – Elexie Fout, Weston Hatfield, Harper Miller, Tim Johnson – President.
- ◆ Congratulations to our September Students of the Month (kindness): *5th grade* – Kirsten Subler & Dallas Kendig; *6th grade* – Lorelei Petitto & Vaughn Byers; *7th grade* – Rylan Schlechty & Archer Sando; *8th grade* – Alyssa Osborne & Evan Beanblossom.
- ◆ Congratulations to our September T-Shirt Tuesday Winners: Avery Bryson & Chase Lucas (*5th*) Drew Stiver (*6th*), Tristen Krupp (*7th*).
- ◆ A Students celebrated their first monthly reward on Friday, October 3. This month, students who earned 10 Trojan Way tickets could exchange them for a grade level kickball game. Each month the PBIS committee will feature a different reward for students.

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➤ Standard 2: Instruction – Principals support the implementation of high-quality standards-based instruction that results in higher levels of achievement for all students.

- ◆ Last week, Mrs. Griesdorn's 5th grade math class practiced comparing decimals using Reds' players' batting averages. We looked at 2 players and compared who had a better chance of hitting the ball out of 1,000 at bats. Students got really into this, especially with how close they were to getting into the playoffs.
- ◆ Mrs. Byers' 6th grade Science class completed their edible cell lab this week. This lab is a favorite of the students and we often see former students returning to her classroom to attempt to do the lab again, and get candy!
- ◆ Our 7th and 8th grade Science Olympiad class has been studying levers and pulleys and seventh grade science students have been studying the steps of the scientific method seeing how quickly Alka-Seltzer tablets will dissolve with different variables.
- ◆ Lifewise officially began the week of September 15. Current enrollment: *5th grade* – 19; *6th grade* – 23; *7th grade* – 9; *8th grade* – 21.
- ◆ Middle School Club Sign Up Day was September 12. This year we have 19 different clubs for students to choose from. Name that Tune, Trivia, Sports Cards, Sports History, Team Comp., Walking A, Geography, Walking B, Playing Cards, Board Games, Dominos, Checkers, Easy Eats, Crochet, Lego, Done, Outdoor, Hope Squad, Puzzle. Our first meeting was Friday, September 26.
- ◆ Patriot Day was held on September 11. Social Studies teachers provided instruction centered around honoring those impacted by the tragic events of 9-11-2001. We had a

red, white, and blue spirit day and all students watched a tribute video during flex/intervention.

- Standard 3: School Operations, Resources, and Learning Environment – Principals allocate resources and manage school operations in order to ensure a safe and productive learning environment.
 - ◆ Staff and students successfully completed our first lockdown drill on September 17. Students evacuated window rooms and practiced barricading the doors. These practice drills are an essential part of our school safety program.
 - ◆ The Arcanum-Butler Health Inspection was held on Thursday, September 11. Thank you to Jeff Brown for organizing the inspection and providing detailed reports to the administration. No issues were reported in the middle school.
 - ◆ Homework Club kicked off on September 16 and we are averaging 4-5 students each Tuesday. Homework Club is run by Mrs. Griesdorn, and provides an opportunity for students to have a quiet space and support to complete assignments. We predict that this number will increase as we head into the second quarter.
 - ◆ Empowering Darke Co. Youth after school tutoring will begin on October 13. This tutoring is provided by Mrs. Whittaker and Mrs. Rice, and will take place each Monday and Thursday from 2:30-3:30. We have mailed 34 invitations home.
 - ◆ Thanks to Mrs. Matheson and Mrs. Smith for another successful Start With Hello Week. Start With Hello is a national program that enables us to build a strong and resilient school community and empowers students to embrace empathy and reject bullying and social isolation.
 - ◆ Thanks to Mrs. Painting and the HS FCCLA team for their work during Cancer Awareness Week. Mrs. Painting had special events throughout the week and allowed middle school staff and students to be part of the events.
- Standard 4: Collaboration – Principals establish and sustain collaborative learning and shared leadership to promote learning and achievement of all students.
 - ◆ On September 26, staff met with Mrs. Painting to receive important information on creating and writing written education plans for our gifted students. This information ensures that our gifted population is being served and that parents are made aware of the services their student is receiving. Mrs. Pechie also assisted in the creation and organization of RIMPs (Reading Improvement and Monitoring Plan) in the middle school, something that was new to us last year but expanded to 6th grade this year.
 - ◆ The District Leadership Team met on September 24. During this meeting, staff from each building reviewed the start of the school year, examined the district and building report cards, and worked together to plan/organize future professional development needs and days.
 - ◆ Staff observations and goal meetings are underway. All middle school staff have met with me to discuss their professional growth plans / goals and all semester walkthroughs have been completed. Formal Holistic Evaluations will begin next week.
 - ◆ Thank you to Kip Gray, Ty Cates, and Joni Pechie for their work in assisting the presentation sessions for the October 24 in-service day. Staff will attend two sessions, one on behavior management and the other of IEPs/Special Education.
- Standard 5: Parents and Community Engagement – Principals engage parents and community members in the educational process and create an environment where community resources support student learning, achievement and well-being.
 - ◆ 8th graders attended CTC on September 8 and 9. Our 8th graders had a fantastic day touring the MVCTC and learning all about future careers and opportunities. They also spent half of the day working hands-on in careers of their interest. MVCTC had nothing but great things to say about our 8th graders!
 - ◆ 8th grade students made a trip to Henry Penny in Eaton, OH for National Manufacturing Day on Friday, October 3. Students were able to tour the plant, participate in a Q&A panel sessions, and hear about job opportunities in the manufacturing world. Thanks to Mrs. Matheson for organizing the event.

- ◆ The first Washington DC Parent meeting was held on September 17. This meeting was led by our class advisors, Mrs. Tegtmeyer and Mrs. Garbig, in conjunction with K&K Tours. Parents received important information regarding this years' trip including a FAQ document, reminders about school policy and student discipline, as well as fundraising opportunities.

- **High School**

- Goal #1 – Principals help create a shared vision and clear goals for their schools and ensure continuous progress toward achieving the goals.
 - ◆ In September, all teachers have created their goals for the school year. I have met with each teacher and will meet with them throughout the year to review their goals.
- Goal #2 – Principals support the implementation of high-quality standards based instruction that results in higher levels of achievement for all students.
 - ◆ Teacher evaluations using the Ohio Evaluation System have been started and will continue throughout the school year. All teachers have also turned in their classroom syllabus, emergency sub plans, and behavior plan.
 - ◆ I want to congratulate our students, staff, and organizer, Mrs. Painting, for the great work with the Blood Drive. This was our first Blood Drive of the year!
- Goal #3 – Principals allocate resources and manage school operations in order to ensure a safe and productive learning environment.
 - ◆ As a high school staff, we will be focusing on promoting the values of accountability, honesty, and service to our students throughout the school year. The staff will be promoting these activities in a variety of ways throughout the school year. One example is in the selection of our Students of the Month. The September Students of the Month, recognized for their positive attitudes, were Isaac Wiant (freshman), Brooklynne Eley (sophomore), Kamryn Martin (junior), and Remington Hatfield (senior).
- Goal #4 – Principals establish and sustain collaborative learning and shared leadership to promote learning and achievement of all students.
 - ◆ During the two hour early release professional development opportunity, we were able to work with Mrs. Andrea Painting on WEPS. Thank you Andrea!
 - ◆ Congratulations to our 2025 Homecoming Court! Freshmen - Sadie Waldo and Weston Schmidt. Sophomore – Ella Warren and Leland Neumaier. Juniors – Brycelin Troutwine and Haiden Vencill. Senior girls – Bella Armstrong, Kamryn Beisner, Avery Leeper, Sara Netzley, Grace Psczulkoski, and Trinity Schweitzer. Senior boys – Cameron Ball, Regan Christ, Samuel Kerns, Cole Kessler, Kolten Quigney, and Charlie Weiss.
 - ◆ Congratulations to Brian Pohlman and the Dairy Expo team for representing us at the World Dairy Expo in Madison, Wisconsin.
 - ◆ Congrats to Mr. Hopwood and our marching band for earning a bid to State at the Tipp City competition!
 - ◆ On Friday, September 26, we held our first “Real Life” event, renamed “Future Friday” since it was not on a Wednesday. This event provided students with opportunities to learn about “Real Life” issues that we face as adults. Thanks to our teachers, staff, guest speakers, and students for a great day!
- Goal #5 – Principals engage parents and community members in the educational process and create an environment where community resources support student learning, achievement and well-being.
 - ◆ On Friday, October 3, MTNA, (formally GTI) hosted a visit for our students in honor of National Manufacturing Day.
 - ◆ Congratulations to our Boys Golf team on being named WOAC Co-Champs. Luke Stephens was named Co-WOAC Player of the Year and Kip Gray earned WOAC Coach of the Year honors. Our girl's golf team finished strong as WOAC runners-up.
 - ◆ Also, congrats to Luke Stephens for advancing to State in Golf! First time since 2010 that we've had a golfer make it.
 - ◆ I would also like to give a shout out to the FCCLA and Mrs. Painting for a successful Walk for Cancer. The FCCLA raised a record \$1400 during Cancer Awareness Week. The entire district participated in Caps for Cancer, FCCLA sold luminary bags for the

remembrance walk after the game, and the FCS classes made over 500 bags of treats for the bake sale during Friday night's game! About 20 student volunteers helped before, during, and after the game to make this event a success! All proceeds will be donated to the local Arcanum Bunco for Breast Cancer group.

Adjourned at 8:41 p.m.