

**VAN WERT CITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, September 24, 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, Scott Mull. Others Present - Sam Shriver, Scott Truxell, Mark Bagley, Troy Bowersock, Bob Priest, Justin Bragg, Haley Michaud, Chris Covey.**
- II. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America - **Recited by attendees in unison**
- III. Vision / Mission - **Recited by Anthony Adams**

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.

25.09.047

- V. Set Agenda

Motion was made by Greg Blackmore and seconded by Debby Compton to accept the agenda as presented. Vote: Anthony Adams, yes; Julie Burenga, yes; Greg Blackmore, yes; Debby Compton, yes; Scott Mull, yes. Motion carried 5-0.

- VI. Curriculum, Instruction, and District Report Card / Educational Impact Presentation:
Mark Bagley, Superintendent, and Chris Covey, Director of Curriculum
- VII. Board Member Section/Reports from Board Representatives (discussion only)
- A. Vantage Board Report – *Reported that the Vantage Academy of Medical Careers renovation project is underway.*
 - B. VWAPAF Report - *No report*
 - C. VWASIG - *Reviewed information from September VWASIG Trustees meeting that included a financial update, rate increases for 2026 plan year, and upcoming insurance open enrollment.*
 - D. Athletic Council – *Shared that Trent Temple, Athletic Director, will be serving on the YMCA Board representing Van Wert City Schools.*
 - E. Safety Team – *Reviewed planning for the full scale safety drill that will take place in October.*
- VIII. Treasurer's Section
Business and Records - Mr. Bowersock shared with the Board of Education the August financial statements, checks issued, summary of cash balances by fund, and monthly revenue and expenditure summary. Mr. Bowersock also reviewed with the Board of Education the September 24, 2025 fiscal year 2026 permanent appropriations, presented an updated Eggerss Stadium project budget, and lastly discussed the upcoming insurance open enrollment.
- IX. Assistant Superintendent's Section - *Mr. Priest reviewed the continued buildings and grounds maintenance planning to address the district's future needs. He, also, updated the Board of Education on the recent purchase of a replacement van. Lastly, Priest indicated that the annual transportation count week for funding purposes will take place October 6-10, 2025.*
- X. Superintendent's Section - *Mr. Bagley discussed with the Board of Education activities that are taking place throughout the district expressing his appreciation of the ongoing cooperation of the school and community working together. He provided an update on staffing for the 2025-2026 school year and reviewed Phase III of the Eggerss Stadium restoration project. Lastly, Bagley closed his report with a legislative update including ongoing property tax reform discussions.*

25.09.048

- XI. Consent Resolutions
- Motion was made by Scott Mull and seconded by Julie Burenga to approve the consent items "A through I" as presented. Vote: Anthony Adams, yes; Julie Burenga, yes; Greg Blackmore, yes; Debby Compton, yes; Scott Mull, yes. Motion carried 5-0.**
- A. Approve Joseph Balyeat as a long term substitute English teacher at the Van Wert School at the Goedde, pending all Board policies pertaining to employment are met, effective September 5, 2025, as presented.
 - B. Approve Jerrickah Catlin as an elementary school paraprofessional, pending all Board policies pertaining to employment are met, effective September 24, 2025, as presented.
 - C. Approve the minutes from the regular Board meeting held on August 27, 2025.
 - D. Approve the monthly financial reports as presented by the Treasurer.

E. Approve the following supplemental contracts, pending all Board policies pertaining to employment are met, effective the 2025-2026 contract year as presented:

1. Athletics

- a. Winter Head Coach
 - 1. Eric Muhlenkamp - Boys and Girls Swimming
- b. Spring Head Coaches
 - 1. Charlie Witten - Baseball
 - 2. Nate Hoverman - Boys and Girls Track & Field
 - 3. Sean Kennedy - Softball
 - 4. Mitch Price - Boys Tennis
- c. Winter Strength Coach
 - 1. Andrew Peel
- d. Winter Assistant Coaches
 - 1. Boys Basketball
 - a. Damian Helm - Varsity Assistant
 - b. Ben Shindeldecker - Junior Varsity
 - c. Keaton Altimus - 9th grade
 - d. Tom Baer - 8th grade
 - e. Nate Hoverman - 7th grade
 - 2. Girls Basketball
 - a. Alexis Burdette - Varsity Assistant
 - b. Erica Racster - Junior Varsity
 - c. Daryl Dowdy - 9th grade
 - d. Sierra Poulson - 8th grade
 - e. Allison Schaufelberger - 7th grade
 - 3. Boys and Girls Bowling
 - a. Brock Blackmore - Assistant
 - b. Jim Davis - Assistant
 - 4. Cheer (Winter)
 - a. Katie Parrish - Middle School

F. Approve the annual 8th grade class trip to Washington, D.C., for 73 students and 10 adults/staff members, Tuesday, October 21, 2025 through Friday, October 24, 2025, as presented.

G. Approve the Amended Official Certificate of Estimated Resources for fiscal year 2026 as presented.

H. Approve the fiscal year 2026 Permanent Appropriations totaling \$36,284,946.52 as presented.

I. Acknowledge the following charitable groups, entities, and individuals for their generous donations to the Van Wert City Schools:

- 1. Alspach-Gearhart Funeral Home & Crematory - \$50.00 to Van Wert Middle School PBIS
- 2. Braun Ambulances - \$100.00 to Van Wert Middle School PBIS
- 3. Sealscott CPA Inc. - \$100.00 to Van Wert Middle School PBIS
- 4. Unverferth Family Dentistry Inc. - \$25.00 to Van Wert Middle School PBIS
- 5. Lees' Ace Hardware - \$100.00 to Van Wert Middle School PBIS
- 6. Laudick's Jewelry - \$100.00 to Van Wert Middle School PBIS
- 7. Straley Realty & Auctioneers, Inc. - \$25.00 to Van Wert Middle School PBIS
- 8. Tisha Fast Insurance Agency Inc./State Farm - \$100.00 to Van Wert Middle School PBIS

9. StateWide Ford - \$900.00 to Van Wert Middle School PBIS
10. Van Wert Family Physicians - \$50.00 to Van Wert Middle School PBIS
11. First Federal of Van Wert - \$900.00 to Van Wert Middle School PBIS
12. Momentum Counseling and Consultation, LLC - \$100.00 to Van Wert Middle School Activity Fund
13. TRULAND Equipment - \$375.00 to Van Wert Middle School Activity Fund
14. The Van Wert County Foundation - \$5,000.00 to the Van Wert Middle School DC Student Activity Fund
15. Dollar General Literacy Foundation - \$2,064.00 to Middle School Youth Literacy Grant
16. Realty Five of Defiance - \$168.00 to Van Wert City Schools General Fund
17. OhioHealth Corporation - \$1,000.00 to Van Wert Middle School Activity Fund
18. Walmart Spark Good Local Grant - \$1,000.00 to Goedde School Culinary and Concessions Fund
19. Van Wert High School Class of 1974 - \$1,000.00 to Eggerss Stadium Paver Tribute
20. Van Wert High School Class of 1965 - \$500.00 to Eggerss Stadium Paver Tribute
21. Collette Carcione - \$1,000.00 to Eggerss Stadium Paver Tribute
22. Sharon L. Baer - \$500.00 to Eggerss Stadium Paver Tribute

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

A. Elite Equity Contracting, LLC, 228 W. 2nd St., Van Wert, OH 45891

25.09.049

XIII. Adjournment

Motion was made by Greg Blackmore and seconded by Debby Compton to adjourn the Meeting at 5:50 p.m. Vote: Ayes - 5; Nays - 0

Next Meeting Date

The next scheduled regular Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 22, 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