

WELLINGTON EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION
Wellington High School
August 12, 2025
6:00 P.M.

President Mohrman called the meeting to order by asking for a roll call.

Pledge of Allegiance

Present: Babb, Ratliff, Shellhouse, Kazmierczak, Mohrman

Absent: None

#25-131 APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA AS AMENDED

Motion was made by Kazmierczak and seconded by Babb to approve the meeting agenda as amended.

1. Page 7, item VI, add to Executive Session: to consider the employment and compensation of a public employee and purchase of public property for public purpose.

Mr. Ratliff thanked Mr. Mohrman for getting the agenda with everything on Friday. Mr. Ratliff stated he appreciated it very much. The last two meetings he received his supporting materials the day of the meeting. The Sunshine Law and Board Policy says 72 hours. So at the last meeting his attorney advised him to vote "no" on everything, which he didn't like to do. So he appreciates that we are on the road to recovery..

Yes: Kazmierczak, Babb, Ratliff, Shellhouse, Mohrman

No: None

President Mohrman declared this motion passed.

#25-132 MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL

Motion was made by Ratliff and seconded by Kazmierczak to approve the minutes the Business Meeting conducted on Tuesday, July 15, 2025.

Yes: Ratliff, Kazmierczak, Babb, Shellhouse, Mohrman

No: None

President Mohrman declared this motion passed.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Introduction of New Hires:
 - a. Alison Butler - Agriscience Teacher - MMS
 - b. Grace Cornelius - Math Teacher - WHS
 - c. Juliana Farr - Intervention Specialist - WWE
 - d. Shamus Ginely - English Teacher - WHS
 - e. Cassandra Grieve - Third Grade Teacher - WWE
 - f. Devlin Pope - Band Director - MMS/WHS
 - g. Bailey Rolland - Intervention Specialist - MMS
 - h. Ciera Trent - Third Grade Teacher - WWE
 - i. Jody Watkins - Intervention Specialist - MMS

2. Retirement Recognition
 - a. Nathan Morris
 - b. Bill Watters

HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

1. Edward Weber - Spoke about how the Board directly hires and supervises only two employees, the District Superintendent and the District Treasurer. Mr. Weber spoke about the roles for the Superintendent and Treasurer. He spoke how these two positions are essentially equal because neither the Superintendent nor Treasurer oversee each other, and both are solely supervised by the Board. There is an annual statement report card that offers feedback to the Board to let them know how the Superintendent is performing scholastically. And each year a financial audit is conducted providing feedback to the Board on the performance of the Treasury. Ideally the Board of Education would take any negative information they received to better the Superintendent or to better the Treasurer. Or to even change the course of one of these two positions if it would better serve the school and children. Since the School Board is 100% responsible for the Treasurer, it appoints a Finance Committee to the individuals that are ultimately responsible to provide recommendations to the rest of the Board when the Treasurer is performing or not performing up to par. The Finance Committee meets regularly with the Treasurer and should know what is going on in the Treasurer's Office and should provide regular reports monthly to the fellow Board members and to the community at each month's school board meeting. It's vital the community knows the school district received a horrendous audit concerning the Office of the Treasurer and it is importantly vital the community knows how we got here. Jen Kazmierczak and Phil Mohrman are appointed to serve as the Finance Committee which basically has failed us as taxpayers and our children they were elected to serve. It's obvious that

their oversight was deficient and our district would have received better audits if we were more involved in what was happening. It should have been obvious to all involved that the Treasurer's Office was not being run correctly and even though Board members should have known of the plethora of problems in the Treasury, and they should have reported on these problems monthly to the rest of the Board, they were neither not involved enough to listen to the alarm bells ringing. I directly rang an alarm bell to the Board of Education when I showed them my State Teachers Retirement System statement in 2023 which shows 35 years of service and each year's contribution. But just my last year, year 36, had multiple changes, errors, deductions and adjustments. Rather than the School Board take this report seriously and launch an investigation, I was told if the money didn't add up I could always get a job at McDonalds. Other alarm bells included our school employees being very unhappy with all the mistakes the Treasurer was making with sick leave and pay calculations. And when these unhappy employees complained, nothing changed. So after Mr. Weber sounded the alarm and the employees sounded the alarm, there should be no surprise that we got a bad audit in 2023 and another bad audit in 2024. We learned in the 2024 audit that Mr. Weber was overpaid \$25,200.50 because of a miscalculation by the Treasurer in his vacation day accruals and payouts when he retired. And this is after Mr. Weber asked the Treasurer in person and an email to please verify and certify that my severance and vacation pays were accurate because he knew there had been problems because he had them on his statement. The 2024 audit told us that the Treasurer was consistent because in the Management Letter, Mr. Weber handed out to the Board members, 13 other school employees, at a minimum, were also overpaid with their retirement pay and calculations by the Treasurer's Office. Mr. Weber stated he worked with our current Treasurer to return his overpayment even while the audit was in progress and maybe some of the other employees did too. Mr. Weber feels there is no doubt we have teachers and support staff members who are not able to pay the money back in a single payment. Mr. Weber stated that means taxpayers funds are being used as loans to employees rather than directly to student learning. Mr. Weber feels this is all the result of insufficient oversight by the Treasurer and the Board Finance Committee. Mr. Weber was surprised the whole Board did not appoint new Board members to the Finance Committee and that the same members are still in charge of the finances now. Mr. Weber said the headline of the audit should have been that the Treasurer overpays dozens of Wellington employees. But instead Mr. Weber said he was singled out and that is not fair to him he said, nor is it transparent to the community. Mr. Weber closed by saying he lives here, he pays taxes here and he would never by no means mishandle public funds, or take money that he did not even ask to be certified. What he got in payout was exactly what was written on paper. So how would he know any difference?

2. Danny Michalski and Carol Maggard - Commented on Edward Weber being a good person.

Jamie Babb personally apologized to Edward Weber for the newspaper article.

Ayers Ratliff read a part of the management letter and spoke about Edward Weber's honesty and love for the children. Mr. Ratliff also apologized to Mr. Weber.

REPORTS

1. Athletic Council – J. Kazmierczak/J. Babb – Mrs. Kazmierczak reported they will meet in September.
2. Finance – J. Kazmierczak/P. Mohrman – Mr. Mohrman reported they had a meeting this afternoon with Mr. Bailey and Dr. Peltz. They reviewed a list of savings in the district. The next meeting will be in October. Mr. Ratliff asked how they are going to make sure people's deductions are correct moving forward. Mr. Bailey explained how he has been reviewing everything and implementing new spreadsheets.
3. Policies - J. Babb/P. Shellhouse - Mrs. Shellhouse said they have a meeting scheduled with NEOLA on September 12, 2025.
4. Communications – A. Ratliff – Mr. Ratliff reported his thoughts on GLW Broadband. He reported our district has around 800 people that still have GLW Broadband. Mr. Ratliff would like to see the athletic events and other school activities on GLW Broadband. He would like to have Amy Sword get our newsletter out to the public like in the restaurants and businesses.
5. Endowment – P. Shellhouse – Mrs. Shellhouse reported the next meeting will be Friday at 7:00 a.m.
6. OSBA Liaison/Student Achievement Liaison – A. Ratliff - Mr. Ratliff reported Ohio doesn't want to give the public schools any money but continues to give students vouchers to attend private schools. Mr. Ratliff spoke about how the governor vetoed 67 items off of HB96. Mr. Bailey spoke about the veto of item 66, 55 and 65. The governor did pass the 15% admin cost and we are under that cap. Mr. Bailey mentioned there was also cyber security that has been added and he will be working with Jon Heyd on that. The five year forecast is changing to a three year forecast.
7. J.V.S. Board – A. Ratliff – Mr. Ratliff reported the JVS is offering free lunches and class fees this school year. The JVS has redone their website to be more user friendly. Patriot Day will be September 11, 2025 at 8:15 a.m. Corey Thompson was named in the NE Leaders in Finance. The JVS summer intern program is still continuing. August 25, 2025 will be the first day of school for students. The construction in the back of the JVS is for the CDL program that will be starting in 2026/2027 school year. The class will be available for adults at night and students, age 18, during the day. Ohio passed a law that 18 year olds can obtain a CDL but can only drive in Ohio with the CDL.

#25-133 APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL ITEM

Motion was made by Shellhouse and seconded by Babb to approve the following financial item:

1. Financial statements for July 2025

Yes: Shellhouse, Babb, Ratliff, Kazmierczak, Mohrman

No: None

President Mohrman declared this motion passed.

Operations Update - Attachment handed out at the meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO BOARD

#25-134 APPROVAL OF PERSONNEL

Motion was made by Ratliff and seconded by Mohrman to approve the following items:

1. Resignations:

- a. Katie Custar - Intervention Specialist at McCormick Middle School effective at the end of the 2024/2025 school year.

2. Salary/Hours Adjustments:

- a. Approve the 2025/2026 one-time cost of living increase of \$1,250.00 for the following administrators:

1. Andrew Peltz
2. Lowell Bailey
3. Shyla Urban
4. Robert Figuly
5. Kimberley Milks
6. Jon Heyd
7. Andrea Helton
8. Dan Rahm

3. Employment:

- a. Jody Watkins - Intervention Specialist (BA-EL2), award a one (1) year certified employment contract pending background checks, transcripts, license and experience verification for the 2025/2026 school year;
- b. Bailey Rolland - Intervention Specialist (BA-EL0), award a one (1) year certified

employment contract pending background checks and transcript verification for the 2025/2026 school year;

- c. Logan Cuson - Cleaner (EL0), award a one (1) year classified employment contract effective August 25, 2025;
- d. Approve the Wellington Seasonal Athletic Event Positions rates and employees as presented for the 2025/2026 school year (see attachment);
- e. Supplemental Contracts for 2025/2026 school year:

SUPPLEMENTAL	NAME	DIFFERENTIAL
Varsity Football Assistant Coach	Dylan Lowery	EL8+
Varsity Golf Assistant Coach	Bryan Stone	EL0

- f. Award the following Extended Service Contracts for the 2025/2026 school year:

EXTENDED SERVICE CONTRACTS	NAME
Teacher on Special Assignment - WHS - up to five (5) days (effective August 12 - August 24, 2025)	John Howells

- g. Addison Nail (student) - Substitute cleaner on an as-needed basis at a rate of \$13.00 per hour - not to exceed 28 hours per week, effective August 28, 2025 through June 3, 2026;
- h. The following transportation employees for the 2025/2026 school year effective August 25, 2025:

- 1. Marcia Friend (bus aide) 3.25 Hours
- 2. Katheryn Gajoch 5 Hours
- 3. Rosalyn Harrell 8 Hours
- 4. Elizabeth Humphreys 2.5 Hours
- 5. Melissa Avery Roberts (driver) 6 Hours
- 6. Melissa Avery Roberts (aide) 2 Hours
- 7. Diane Reininger 5 Hours
- 8. Kelsey Smith 7 Hours
- 9. Molly Smith 5 Hours
- 10. Rodger Whitesel (van driver as needed) \$17.94 per hour

Yes: Ratliff, Mohrman, Babb, Shellhouse, Kazmierczak
 No: None

President Mohrman declared this motion passed.

#25-135 APPROVAL OF RESOLUTIONS AND CONTRACTS

Motion was made by Kazmierczak and seconded by Shellhouse to approve the following:

1. Resolutions:

- a. Approve the 2025/2026 Student Fee Schedule - Same as 2024/2025 (see attachment);
- b. Approve the reimbursement of background checks conducted through the ESC of Lorain County with Superintendent approval for the 2025/2026 school year effective July 1, 2025;
- c. Approve the removal and disposal from inventory of miscellaneous items no longer in working condition (see attachment).

2. Contracts:

- a. Approve the school health service agreement with Lorain County Public Health for the 2025/2026 school year (see attachment);
- b. Approve the three (3) year agreement with Connect effective July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2028 (see attachment);
- c. Approve the revised primary service agreement with the ESC of Lorain County (see attachment);
- d. Approve the service agreement with the ESC of Lorain County for Board Consultant (see attachment);
- e. Approve the purchased service with the Lindley Center for Performing Arts Manager at a total cost of \$30,903.40;
- f. Approve the quotes with Bluum USA, Inc. for the purchase of 165 chromebooks for a total purchase of \$29,646.89 (see attachments);
- g. Approve the agreement for a guardian to transport a student to PEP Phoenix for the 2025/2026 school year (see attachment).

Yes: Ratliff, Babb, Shellhouse, Kazmierczak, Mohrman

No: None

President Mohrman declared this motion passed.

#25-136 APPROVAL OF DONATION

Motion was made by Babb and seconded by Mohrman to approve the following donation:

1. Donation:

- a. Mary Seliga - Donated \$150.00 to the student lunch debt.

Yes: Babb, Mohrman, Ratliff, Shellhouse, Kazmierczak
No: None

President Mohrman declared this motion passed.

Total Donations = \$150.00
Year-to-Date Total of Donations for 2025/2026 School Year = \$332.91

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS

1. OSBA Handbook options - To discuss at the September Work Session .

Mrs. Shellhouse felt the Board could do a handbook themselves and save some money and the rest of the Board agreed with her.

Mr. Bailey mentioned the Capital Conference will be November 16 - 18, 2025 and said he will be emailing the Board members to see if they would like to attend. Mr. Ratliff mentioned he plans to attend the JVS.

#25-137 APPROVAL TO MOVE TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Kazmierczak and seconded by Shellhouse to move to Executive Session at 7:42 p.m. per the Ohio Revised Code 121.22 (G)(1); to consider the employment and compensation of a public employee and purchase of public property for public purpose. There will be no further action to follow.

Yes: Kazmierczak, Shellhouse, Babb, Ratliff, Mohrman
No: None

President Mohrman declared this motion passed.

#25-138 APPROVAL TO RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

Motion was made by Babb and seconded by Kazmierczak to return to Regular Session at 9:09 p.m.

Yes: Babb, Kazmierczak, Ratliff, Shellhouse, Mohrman
No: None

President Mohrman declared this motion passed.

COMMENTS OR STATEMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS - None

FUTURE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS

- A. Tuesday, September 2, 2025, Work Session, 6:00 PM, Westwood Elementary School, Superintendent's Office;
- B. Possible - Tuesday, September 2, 2025, Special Session, 6:00 PM, Westwood Elementary School, Superintendent's Office;
- C. Tuesday, September 16, 2025, Business Meeting, 6:00 PM, Wellington High School and via Zoom.

#25-139 ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Kazmierczak and seconded by Babb to adjourn the Regular Session at 9:10 p.m.

Yes: Kazmierczak, Babb, Ratliff, Shellhouse, Mohrman

No: None

President Mohrman declared this motion passed.

Board President

Treasurer

Note: There is an audio recording of this meeting and it is available upon request to the Treasurer. There is no audio recording after the return from executive session.