EAST KNOX BOARD OF EDUCATION **REGULAR**

November 13, 2025, East Knox Elementary, 6 pm

A. Call to Order

The President calls the meeting to order and leads the Pledge of Allegiance.

- The President reads the vision, mission, and the core values of East Knox Local School District:
  - Vision:
    - Blending Traditions with Visions of our Future
  - Mission:
    - East Knox Local School District is the heart and foundation of the community. Teachers, staff, and families partner to prepare our students for lifelong excellence.
  - Core Value:
    - Our safe and supportive community
    - Preparation leading to new opportunities
    - Relevant, clear, and consistent communication
    - Learning and growing throughout life

B. Roll Call

The President called the roll:

Ms. Lindsay Bush, here
Mr. Larry Campbell, here
Mr. Alan Huffman, here
Mr. Randy Reese, here
Mrs. Kathy Tate, here

C. Approval of the Agenda

Recommendation to approve the agenda as presented.

25-084 MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED
Mrs. Tate moved, and Mr. Huffman seconded the motion to approve the agenda.
Roll call: All Present-Yes. Motion carried.

D. Presentation(s)

- Athletics – Mr. Sprague
  - Fall Athletic Achievements
  - Update on winter sports and OHSAA vote on NIL.
- Elementary Building Report – Mrs. Moreland
  - Veteran's Day, Spelling Bee, and public holiday concert.
  - First Grade Presentation – Pumpkin Patch field trip, Pumpkin Patch investigation, writing process – writing about pumpkins
- Jr./Sr. HS Building Report – Mrs. Sprang
  - Veteran's Day Ceremony, students of the month program, PTO providing students donuts, Spelling Bee, Drama Club providing Variety Show in December.
  - Robotics Presentation
    - Students, Mr. Jacobs, and Mr. Rosshirt

- Mr. Guilliams presentation on Student Leadership Summit
  - 9 Students attended
  - Mikhailon Brady Spoke about the Summit

- Mr. Aaron Hinchliffe – OSBA
  - Recognition of Darcy Knight as a friend of education

E. Public Participation

- Please see Board Policy #0169.1

  - Blair Norris – Suggestion for an Academic Award Letter for High School Students.

F. Treasurer Report

- Financial Update
  - PI Funds
    - $1.48 million balance at the end of October
    - We will make our fourth TAN debt payment 12/1 for $297,000 and $1.8 million balance remains
- Unaudited financial statement for FY25 has been filed and the remainder of the audit is in process at this time
- Premium Holiday for medical insurance
  - Saves employees almost $30,000 in premiums and the district approximately $173,000 in December
  - Balance of $1.7 million in reserves compared to $1.3 million 5 years ago and $232,000 10 years ago
- Future Items
  - Improving cyber security in the district as part of the requirements in HB 96, our financial audit, and our cyber carrier policy
  - RFP for replacement copier throughout the district
  - Finalizing contract with architect for December 2025 approval
- Safety Grants
  - Bus Safety through Department of Education- external cameras, lighting (stop-arm illumination, ground wash lighting)
  - Attorney General - window film
  - BWC Safety-Mr. Baird discusses

G. Treasurer Recommendations

Recommendation to approve the minutes from the October 9, 2025, regular board meeting.

Recommendation to approve the October 2025 Monthly Financial Report as presented.

Recommendation to approve a premium moratorium for the January 2026 accrual payment for the Jefferson Health Plan.

25-085 MOTION TO APPROVE THE ABOVE RECOMMENDATIONS
Ms. Bush moved, and Mrs. Tate seconded the motion to approve the above recommendations.

Roll call: All Present-Yes. Motion carried.

H. Superintendent Report and Board Discussion

- Updates/Discussion Items
  - Property tax relief – discussion of emergency levy renewal & reform
    - Knox County Commissioners piggyback decisions on Homestead and result of loss of $170,000 in tax funds.
  - Architect Committee and selection process – selection of BSHM as architect after review of 5 proposals.
  - Congratulations to new board members
  - Review of BWC safety grants
  - Chiller being installed at the elementary
  - Chris Doolittle working on review curriculum at the Jr./Sr. High School
  - Mr. Baird Reviewed use of additional radios – Kathy Tate-what would the additional 10 radios be purchased for?

- Student Representative – not here

I. Superintendent Recommendations

Recommendation to approve the District's annual membership in the Knox County Chamber of Commerce for $345.

Recommendation to add, as presented, to the Jr./Sr. High School Student Handbook, the following, under the Weighted Grades section:

> *"Career-Technical Assurance Guide (CTAG), and Industry Recognized Credential Transfer Assurance Guide (ITAG)"*

Recommendation to approve the presented quote from Valley ATV LLC for a 7'x18' trailer for the East Knox Band, $8,999.

25-086 MOTION TO APPROVE THE ABOVE RECOMMENDATIONS
Mr. Huffman moved, and Mr. Reese seconded the motion to approve the above recommendations.
Roll call: All present – Yes. Motion carried.

Recommendation to approve the following resolution:

AUTHORIZING SELECTION OF BSHM ARCHITECTS, INC. AS DESIGN PROFESSIONAL FOR THE ELEMENTARY PLAYGROUND PROJECT

The Superintendent recommends that the Board select BSHM Architects, Inc., "BSHM" as the most qualified firm to serve as the design professional and provide design and related construction administration services for the Elementary Playground Project (the "Project") and requests authority to negotiate an agreement with BSHM for those services for the Project.
Rationale:

1. The Board previously identified a need for the Project.

2. The Board requires a design professional to provide design and related construction administration services for the Project.

3. Sections 153.65 through .71 of the Ohio Revised Code prescribes a qualifications-based selection process, which is required to be followed by public entities when professional design services are procured.

4. In accordance with the statutory process, the Superintendent publicly advertised and issued a request for qualifications for professional design services for the Project, and the evaluation committee evaluated the statements of qualifications submitted by design professional firms. Four firms submitted statements of qualifications.

5. The evaluation committee evaluated the statements of qualification in accordance with the criteria outlined in the request for qualifications, and ranked the top three firms in the following order: (1) BSHM, (2) Schorr Architects, Inc., and (3) Garmann/Miller & Associates, Inc.; thus the evaluation committee identified BSHM to be “most qualified” to provide the required design professional and construction administration services for the Project.

6. The Superintendent recommends that the Board adopt the ranking of the evaluation committee and select BSHM as the “most qualified” to perform the design professional services and related construction administration services for the Project.

7. The Superintendent also requests authority to work with other administrators and legal counsel to negotiate an agreement with BSHM for the Project.

The East Knox Local School District Board of Education resolves as follows:

1. Based on the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board adopts the rankings provided by the evaluation committee, and selects BSHM as the firm “most qualified” to provide design and related construction administration services for the Project.

2. The Board authorizes the Superintendent and Treasurer, working with other administrators and legal counsel, to negotiate an agreement with the BSHM for the Project on behalf of the Board,

which agreement will be presented to the Board for approval.

25-087 MOTION TO APPROVE THE ABOVE RECOMMENDATIONS
Mr. Huffman moved, and Mrs. Tate seconded the motion to approve the above recommendations.
Roll call: All present – Yes. Motion carried.

*** Ms. Bush – Request for Facebook comments to be turned on for the district Facebook page. The Board was in agreement; Mr. Baird will research. ***

J. Personnel—(Subject to proper placement on the salary scale, contingent upon favorable report from the BCII/FBI, and receipt of proper certification.)

Recommendation to approve the resignation from Gage Steinmetz as spelling bee coordinator for the 2025-2026 school year.

Recommendation to accept the retirement/resignation of Kevin Oldaker, teacher, effective May 22, 2026.

Recommendation to accept the retirement/resignation of Kristine L. Oldaker, bus driver, effective May 22, 2026.

Recommendation to approve the resignation from Brianna Hickman, food service, effective November 21, 2025.

Recommendation to employ, on a one-year limited contract, Brianna Hickman, Attendance/A.D./Communication Secretary, effective November 24, 2025, Step 0, and to compensate Ms. Hickman for training hours worked prior to her effective start date.

Recommendation to employ, on a one-year limited contract, Christine White, food service, beginning November 24, 2025, Step 0.

Recommendation to employ, on a one-year limited contract, Jessica Eaton, teacher, beginning November 17, 2025, BA, Step 3.

Recommendation to approve Megan Bullock as a home instruction tutor for the 2025-2026 school year.

Recommendation to approve the following teacher(s) for after-school programming at the elementary school.

Jason McElroy
Macy Springer

Recommendation to approve Holly Butcher-Grimmer as a surrogate parent for the 2025-2026.

Recommendation, as an annual course of action, to non-renew non-teaching contracts for the 2025-2026 school year as follows:

Andrew Beatty	Head Football Coach
Darrick Faucett	Assistant Football Coach
Derek Heyes Dean	Assistant Football Coach
Dustin Springer	Assistant Football Coach
Weston Melick	Assistant Football Coach
James Price	JH Assistant Football Coach

John Ryan Shotts	JH Assistant Football Coach
Laura Faucett	Assistant Volleyball Coach
Gabrielle Duvall	Junior High Volleyball Coach
Fawnda Bible-Stahl	Fall Facilities Manager

Recommendation to approve the following supplemental contracts for the 2025-2026 school year:

		Step	
Lillian Weimann	JH Boys Basketball	0	$3,044
Cody Howard	JH Girls Basketball	0	$3,044
Fawnda Bible-Stahl	Winter Facilities Mgr.	NA	$1,110
Samantha Carey	Art Club Advisor	0	$897
Julia Kelly	Assistant Play Director	0	$585
Lisa Downes	Spelling Bee Coord (JH)	IV	$296
Brent Lange	Volunteer Indoor Track Coach		0
Tyler Sabo	Volunteer Indoor Track Coach		0
Joshua Wittel	Volunteer Wrestling Coach		0
Weston Melick	Volunteer Boys Basketball		0
Darrick Faucett	Volunteer Girls Basketball		0

Recommendation to approve the following KCESC board-approved substitute teachers:

Terry Nixon
Mary Alice Benson
Erica Grace Hauke
Macy Elizabeth Springer
Morgan Taylor Little

Recommendation to approve the Attendance/A.D./ Communications Secretary Job Description as presented.

25-088 MOTION TO APPROVE THE ABOVE RECOMMENDATIONS
Mr. Reese moved and Mrs. Tate seconded the motion to approve the above recommendations.
Roll call: All Present-Yes. Motion carried.

K. Adjournment

Recommendation to adjourn the meeting at 7:11 p.m.

25-089 MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING
Mrs. Tate moved and Mr. Huffman seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:11 p.m.
Roll call: All Present-Yes. Motion carried.

L. Visitors

Blair Norris	Brian Dodd	Darrick Faucett
Amy Mostaka	Charlie Moore	Kendra Ross

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President Treasurer