

**VAN WERT CITY SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES  
Wednesday, October 22, 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. Absent – Scott Mull. Others Present - Sam Shriver, Scott Truxell, Mark Bagley, Troy Bowersock, Bob Priest, Todd Keller, Haley Michaud, Chris Covey, Heidi Arney, Darla Dunlap.**
- 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.

**25.10.053**

- V. Set Agenda  
**Motion was made by Greg Blackmore and seconded by Julie Burenga to accept the agenda as presented. Vote: Anthony Adams, yes; Julie Burenga, yes; Greg Blackmore, yes; Debby Compton, yes; Scott Mull, absent. Motion carried 4-0 with 1 absent.**
- VI. Curriculum and Instruction / Educational Impact Presentation  
Darla Dunlap, Van Wert Middle School Principal, and Heidi Arney, Teacher

- VII. Board Member Section/Reports from Board Representatives (discussion only)
- A. Vantage Board - *Provided an update on the Vantage Academy of Medical Careers renovation project.*
  - B. VWAPAF - *No report*
  - C. VWASIG - *Discussed upcoming insurance open enrollment and employee/member health screenings.*
  - D. Athletic Council - *Reviewed the agenda/minutes of recent Athletic Council meeting.*
  - E. Safety Team - *Discussed the full scale safety drill that recently took place; Indicated that The Lock-out Company recently completed the 3-dimensional door signage project.*
- VIII. Treasurer's Section
- Mr. Bowersock shared with the Board of Education the September financial statements, checks issued, summary of cash balances by fund, and monthly revenue and expenditure summary. Mr. Bowersock also provided an update on the employee insurance open enrollment, presented an updated Eggerss Stadium project budget, and discussed the fiscal year 2025 financial audit.*
- IX. Assistant Superintendent's Section - *Mr. Priest reviewed continued buildings and grounds, equipment, and maintenance planning that is underway to address the district's future needs. He also provided an update on transportation and custodian/maintenance staffing in place for the 2025-2026 school year and indicated that there is a need for both bus drivers and custodians. Lastly, Priest reviewed school bus transportation count week and the resulting T-1 reporting ridership and mileage information.*
- X. Superintendent's Section - *Mr. Bagley presented the first reading of the new/revised policies, administrative guidelines, and forms from Neola Volume 44, Number 1 - Fall 2025 update. He also reviewed with the Board of Education homecoming activities that recently took place throughout the district and discussed staffing for the 2025-2026 school year. Lastly, Bagley reviewed Phase III of the Eggerss Stadium restoration project and closed his report with a legislative update including ongoing property tax reform discussions.*

#### **25.10.054**

- XI. Consent Resolutions
- Motion was made by Debby Compton and seconded by Greg Blackmore to approve items "A through L" as presented. Vote: Debby Compton, yes; Julie Burenga, yes; Anthony Adams, yes; Greg Blackmore, yes; Scott Mull, absent. Motion carried 4-0 with 1 absent.**
- A. Accept the resignation of Jennifer Yoh from her position as bus driver, effective October 24, 2025, as presented.
  - B. Accept the resignation, due to retirement, of Kelli Thompson from her position as Middle School Family & Consumer Sciences Teacher, effective at the end of the 2025-2026 contract year as presented.
  - C. Accept the resignation of Daryl Dowdy from his Board approved supplemental contract as freshman girls basketball coach effective the 2025-2026 contract year as presented.
  - D. Approve the following supplemental contracts, pending all Board policies pertaining to employment are met, effective the 2025-2026 contract year as presented:
    - 1. Wrestling
      - a. Terrin Contreras - High School Assistant
      - b. Nick Pauff - High School Assistant
      - c. Brad Allmandinger - Middle School
      - d. Isaiah Bretz - Middle School
      - e. Keaton Sudduth – Volunteer

2. Swimming
  - a. Nicole Byrum - High School Assistant
3. Harry Florence - Winter Site Coordinator
- E. Approve the minutes from the regular Board meeting held on September 24, 2025, as presented.
- F. Approve the minutes from the special Board meeting held on October 7, 2025, as presented.
- G. Approve a resolution to appoint Board member, Debby Compton, to the Vantage Career Center Board for 3-year term, commencing on January 1, 2026.
- H. Approve the Department of Education & Workforce Special Education Model Policies (as approved for 2024-2025 on May 28, 2025) for the 2025-2026 school year as presented.
- I. Approve a professional service agreement between Therapy Solutions, LLC and Van Wert City Schools for physical therapy services for designated students, effective the 2025-2026 school year as presented.
- J. Approve the recommendation of the Van Wert Area School Insurance Group for the 2026 plan year premiums effective January 1, 2026 as follows:
  - Health Insurance Premiums - 8% increase
  - Dental Insurance Premiums - 2% increase
- K. Approve the monthly financial report as presented by the Treasurer.
- L. Acknowledge the following charitable groups, entities, and individuals for their generous donations to the Van Wert City Schools:
  1. Greve Chrysler Jeep Dodge Ram - \$900.00 to Van Wert Middle School PBIS
  2. Robert & Dawn Sloan - \$50.00 to Cross Country Activity Fund
  3. Anonymous Donation - \$400.00 to Wrestling Activity Fund
  4. C&J Shaved Ice - \$55.00 to Cross Country Activity Fund
  5. Westwood Behavioral Health Center, Inc. - \$50.00 to High School Students of Need Fund
  6. Cougar Pride Athletic Booster Club - \$7,250.00 to Athletic Department for High Jump Pit and Hudl Focus
  7. Charities Aid Foundation America & Tisha Fast Insurance Agency Inc./State Farm - \$500.00 to Van Wert Middle School DC Student Activity Fund
  8. Citizens National Bank - \$500.00 to High School Robotics
  9. Anonymous Donation - \$250.00 to High School Robotics
  10. Central Insurance - \$2,500.00 to High School Robotics
  11. United Way of Van Wert County, Inc. - \$1,534.50 to Van Wert School at the Goedde
  12. Friends of Bryce L Beckman in Memory of Bryce L Beckman - \$1,050.00 to Eggerss Stadium Paver Tribute
  13. Carol J. Carter - \$250.00 to Eggerss Stadium Paver Tribute
  14. Tony & Amanda Wright - \$500.00 to Eggerss Stadium Paver Tribute

#### **25.10.055**

#### **XII. Non-consent Resolution**

- A. Approve the termination of employment of Steven Hittle, middle school custodial - maintenance worker, effective October 22, 2025.  
**Motion was made by Julie Burenga and seconded by Debby Compton to approve the termination of employment of Steven Hittle, middle school custodial - maintenance worker, effective October 22, 2025, as presented. Vote: Anthony Adams, yes; Julie Burenga, yes; Greg Blackmore, yes; Debby Compton, yes; Scott Mull, absent. Motion carried 4-0 with 1 absent.**

**25.10.056**

XIII. Adjournment

**Motion was made by Greg Blackmore and seconded by Debby Compton to adjourn the Meeting at 5:53 p.m. Vote: Ayes - 4; Nays – 0; Absent - 1**

**Next Meeting Date**

The next scheduled regular Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 19, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. The meeting will be in the First Federal Lecture Hall at the Niswonger Performing Arts Center.

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*Board President*

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*Fiscal Officer*