RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
WADSWORTH CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Minutes of Regular Meeting Date: December 8, 2025

The Wadsworth City Board of Education met in Regular Session on Monday, December 8, 2025, at **7:00** P.M. at James R. McIlvaine Performing Arts Center, 625 Broad Street.

ROLL CALL

Present	Batey, Gordon, Stevens, Beck, McComas
Absent	
Administrators	**10**
Staff	**6**
Visitors	**59**
Student Liaison	Ava Canada

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

25-12-165 APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

The motion was made by **McComas**, seconded by **Batey**, to approve the following Board of Education Meeting Minutes:

Regular Meeting November 17, 2025

VOTE: Yea - Gordon, Stevens, Beck, McComas, Batey
Nay - None Motion Carried,

STUDENT/STAFF RECOGNITION

STUDENT	GRADE	SCHOOL
Emily Kitzmiller	04	Franklin
Clara Foote	04	Isham
Landon Reid	04	Lincoln
Claire Shaffer	04	Overlook
Della Jones	04	Valley View
Matthew Kalamets	05	WIS
Mason Shriver	08	WMS
Ty Racin	12	WHS Career-Technical
Robert Beatty	12	WHS

ADMINISTRATIVE DISCUSSION ITEMS, PRESENTATIONS AND UPDATES

A. Discussion: Draft Strategic Plan 2026-2030.

B. Discussion: Ohio Department of Education & Workforce Designation of Wadsworth City School District in Fiscal Pre-Caution Status, per Ohio Revised Code 5705.39.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

25-12-166 Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Hill, the motion was made by **McComas**, seconded by **Stevens**, to adopt the Personnel Consent Items A from the December 8, 2025, Regular Meeting, as presented:

A. **PERSONNEL CONSENT ITEMS**

1. Employment

(Recommendations are contingent upon each individual receiving his/her license from the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce, with a license effective date of July 1, 2025, if he/she does not already have the said license and successfully meet all other pre-employment requirements of the Board.)

a) Administrator

Zachary Ockunzzi (eff. 01/12/26)

b) Non-Teaching Employee

Mariagnes Joyce
Justina Kline

c) Certified Substitutes

Jillian Hendershot
Caylie Quarles

d) Classified Substitute

Shelley Moore (eff. 11/20/25)
Rebecca Roe (eff. 12/01/25)

e) Supplemental Contracts

Kristy Doyle	Competitive Cheer Coach	
Matthew Hulme	Asst. Wrestling Coach (Vol.)	
Jon Larabee	7th Gr. Boys' Basketball Asst. Coach (Vol.)	
Luke Martin	WMS Boys' Basketball Asst. Coach (Vol.)	
Molly Palecek	Asst. Girls' Basketball Coach (Vol.)	
Bradley Squire	WMS Asst. Wrestling Coach (Vol.)	
Will Virgin	Boys' Freshman Basketball Coach	(eff. 12/06/25)

f) Home Instructors

Hope Zakany (eff. 11/19/25)

g) Volunteers

Kevin Crow
Patti Donofrio
Sandra Guarino
Adam Marino
Elizabeth Sandor

2. Recommendation to extend the unpaid leave for Bruce Acker to January 6, 2026 (originally Board-approved to return December 8, 2025.

3. Recommendation to approve unpaid leave for Lora Fox from the end of her allowable sick leave through February 13, 2026.

VOTE: Yea – Stevens, Beck, McComas, Batey, Gordon
Nay – None Motion Carried,

25-12-167 Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Hill, the motion was made by **McComas**, seconded by **Beck**, to adopt the Action Consent Items from the December 8, 2025, Regular Meeting, as presented:

B. **ACTION CONSENT ITEMS**

1. Recommendation to approve a second reading and adoption of the following Wadsworth City School District Board of Education policies:

a) 4162 Drug and Alcohol Testing of CDL License Holders Who Perform Safety-Sensitive Functions and are Subject to DOT Testing (revised)

b)	4162.01	Drug and Alcohol Testing of Employees Without CDL Licenses Who Transport Students in Alternative Vehicles (Non-DOT Testing) (new)
c)	8600	Transportation (revised)
d)	8600.04	Bus and Alternative Vehicle Driver Certification (revised)
e)	8640	Transportation for Non-Routine Trips (revised)
f)	8650	Transportation by Alternative Vehicles (revised)

2. Recommendation to accept the following donations:

a)	Adam Byers	$500
b)	Anita Heyden-Waung	$500
c)	MinuteMen OhioComp	Buehler's gift cards (valued at $4,000)
d)	Blue Tip Festival, Inc.	$500
e)	Wads. Amateur Soccer Assoc.	(8) soccer goals (valued at $1,800 each)
f)	Mark Sandridge	$3,000

3. Recommendation to approve an overnight trip to Marion, Ohio for Engineering Design and Technology students attending the National Robotics competition, departing April16 and returning April 18, 2026.

4. Recommendation to authorize the Superintendent to sign the Akron Area YMCA Code of Conduct for YMCA Members, Participants, Guests and Third Parties. **(ATTACHED)**

5. Recommendation to approve the Clinical Affiliation Agreement Counselor Education & Family Studies between Liberty University, Inc. and the Wadsworth City School District Board of Education. **(ATTACHED)**

6. Recommendation to approve the Parker Foundation Terms and Conditions. **(ATTACHED)**

7. Recommendation to approve the MatBoss, LLC Terms and Conditions. **(ATTACHED)**

8. Recommendation to approve the Agreement for Admission for Non-Handicapped Tuition Pupils Pursuant to Sections 3327.04, 3327.06, 3323.14, and 3317.08 O.R.C. between the Barberton City School Board of Education and the Wadsworth City School District Board of Education for the 2025-2026 school year. **(ATTACHED)**

9. Recommendation to approve the Contract for Non-Handicapped Open Enrollment Pupils/Agreement for Admission of Open Enrollment Pupils Non-Handicapped Pupils Pursuant to Sections 3301.48, 3313.97, and 3313.98 O.R.C. between the Barberton City School Board of Education and the Wadsworth City School District Board of Education for the 2025-2026 school year. **(ATTACHED)**

10. Recommendation to approve the Contract for Children with Disabilities Open Enrollment/Agreement for Excess Cost for Children with Disabilities Pursuant to Sections 3313.98 OR.C., 3323.14 O.R.C., and Rule 3301-48-02(F) between the Barberton City School Board of Education and the Wadsworth City School District Board of Education for the 2025-2026 school year. **(ATTACHED)**

11. Recommendation to approve the Preventive Maintenance Agreement between Speer Mechanical and the Wadsworth City School District Board of Education for the period of January 1, 2026, through December 31, 2026. **(ATTACHED)**

12. Recommendation to approve the Yearbook Agreement between Jostens, Inc. and the Wadsworth City School District Board of Education for the 2026-2027, 2027-2028, and 2028-2029 school years. **(ATTACHED)**

13. Recommendation to approve the Enterprise License Agreement between TimeClock Plus, Inc. and the Wadsworth City School District Board of Education. **(ATTACHED)**

14. Recommendation to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Wadsworth Educational Support Personnel Association OEA/NEA and the Wadsworth City School District Board of Education. **(ATTACHED)**

VOTE: Yea – Beck, McComas, Batey, Gordon, Stevens
Nay – None Motion Carried,

ITEMS OF THE TREASURER

25-12-168 Upon the recommendation of Treasurer Beeman, the motion was made by **McComas**, seconded by **Batey**, to adopt the Action Items from the December 8, 2025, Regular Meeting, as presented:

A. **ACTION ITEMS**

1. Recommendation for the Wadsworth Board of Education to renew its membership in the Ohio School Boards Association for calendar year 2026.

2. Call for the 2025 organizational meeting of the Wadsworth City School District Board of Education to be held January 8, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. in the Wadsworth High School Performing Arts Center and to appoint Amanda Gordon as president pro tem to open the meeting.

3. Recommendation to accept the financial reports as presented and subject to audit.

VOTE: Yea – McComas, Batey, Gordon, Stevens, Beck
Nay – None Motion Carried,

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

TIM BECK: Four (4) property tax reform bills have passed both the House and the Senate and are on the Governor's desk.

BOARD MEMBER ITEMS

25-12-169 The motion was made by **McComas**, seconded by **Stevens**, to adopt the Board Member Item Ratification of Resignations from the December 8, 2025, Regular Meeting, as presented:

A. **RATIFICATION OF RESIGNATIONS**

1.	Barbara Crookes	Certified Teacher	(retire 06/01/26)
2.	Anne Dougherty	Certified Teacher	(retire 06/01/26)
3.	Zachary Ockunzzi	WIS Social Studies Dept. Head (50% suppl.) (served 90 days)	(retire 06/01/26)
4.	Molly Palecek	9th Grade Girls Basketball Coach	
5.	Laurie Ryder	Certified Teacher	(retire 06/01/26)
6.	Melissa Ewolski	Non-Teaching Employee	(eff. 12/20/25)
7.	Kathy Ott	Certified Teacher	(retire 06/01/26)

VOTE: Yea – Batey, Gordon, Stevens, Beck, McComas
Nay – None Motion Carried,

AVA CANADA:

Academics

- Today, during the Academic Lab, Grizzly Leaders went out into the student parking lot and put rubber ducks on the students' cars as a holiday gift and good luck on finals.
- Student Council hosted a snowball fight for the Soprema Center this morning in the lunchroom. We are also currently running a spirit week. All high school students who participate in at least three days of the event are eligible to attend a hot chocolate bar party. Personally, my favorite day is Family Photo Day. On Wednesday, the newspaper has volunteered time to take family photos in the gym during Academic Lab.
- On this past Saturday, the Student Council went shopping for four needy families. We were able to supply each family with clothes, games, and some essentials, as well as a Walmart gift card.

Athletics

- Boys' and Girls' Basketball teams are off to a good start, both winning the season openers.
- Competition Cheer placed 6th out of 16 over the weekend.
- Bowling boys placed 1st at a Muskingum Invitational, and the girls placed 3rd.
- At the last swim meet, we had multiple students take first place in many of the events.

Arts

- Rhythm in Red has been on a holiday tour. They will visit all of our elementary schools and many other local establishments, including the Soprema Center and The Galaxy.
- Royal Sensation will perform at four different nursing homes next week to finish off the holiday tour.
- The winter comedy, *The Holiday Wonderthon*, was this past weekend. The cast did an amazing job. If you weren't able to see it, it was a holiday movie mashup that combined six different classic movies into one play. It was truly hilarious.
- The Show Choir Holiday Concert is this week on the 11th and 12th. Please come and support.

AMANDA GORDON: Recognized Gary McComas for his leadership and expertise and for his eight years of service. The Board presented him with a gift as a token of the Board's appreciation.

GARY McCOMAS: Stated that the past eight years have been a great learning experience for him. He is proud of the Board's accomplishments and the collaborative work it has done in recent years.

JULIE BATEY: Recognized everyone for their efforts during this time of giving to make sure everyone in our District and community is taken care of.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

WHEREAS, a public board of education may hold an executive session only after a majority of a quorum of this board determines by a roll call vote to hold such a session and only at a regular or special meeting for the sole purpose of the consideration of any of the following matters:

A. To consider one or more, as applicable, of the check-marked items with respect to a public employee or official:

1. Appointment
2. Employment
3. Dismissal
4. Discipline
5. Promotion
6. Demotion
7. Compensation
8. Investigation of charges/complaints (unless public hearing requested).

B. To consider the purchase of property for public purposes or for the sale of property at competitive bidding.

C. Conferences with an attorney for the public body concerning disputes involving the public body that are the subject of pending or imminent court action.

D. ***Preparing for, conducting, or reviewing negotiations or bargaining sessions with public employees concerning their compensation or other terms and conditions of their employment.***

E. ***Matters required to be kept confidential by Federal law, rules, or State statutes.***

F. Regularized details of security arrangements where disclosure of the matters discussed might reveal information that could be used for the purpose of committing or avoiding prosecution for a violation of the law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wadsworth City Board of Education, by a majority of the quorum present at this meeting, does hereby declare its intention to hold an executive session on A2, D, and E as listed above.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

25-12-170 The motion was made by **McComas,** seconded by **Stevens**, to enter Executive Session at **8:11** p.m.

VOTE: Yea – Gordon, Stevens, Beck, McComas, Batey
Nay – None Motion Carried,

EXECUTIVE SESSION recessed at **9:43** p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

25-12-171 The motion was made by **McComas**, seconded by **Batey**, to adjourn at **9:43** p.m.

VOTE: Yea – Stevens, Beck, McComas, Batey, Gordon
Nay – None Motion Carried,

(Signed)_____
Amanda Gordon, President

(Attested)_____
Douglas D. Beeman, Treasurer