

**VAN WERT CITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, December 17, 2025 - 5:00 p.m.
S.F. Goedde Building Conference Room
205 W. Crawford St., 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, Thaison Leaser, Chuck Rollins, Ryan Parrish, Rhonda Cunningham, Ginny Marbaugh, Jeff Kallas, Brayden Kirk, Kendra Lenhart, Ethan Armentrout, Zeke Saxton, Wesson Hoersten, Crystal Boroff, Jason Boroff, Cylee Boroff, Molly Greene.**
- II. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America - **Recited by attendees in unison**
- III. Vision / Mission - **Recited by Scott Mull**

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.

25.12.063

- IV. 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.
- V. Board member section / Reports from Board representatives (discussion only)
 - A. Vantage Board - *Reviewed the Board meeting summary report for the December meeting and provided an update on the Vantage Academy of Medical Careers renovation project.*
 - B. VWAPAF - *Discussed programming changes, the upcoming schedule of events, and ongoing financial planning efforts underway to address declining attendance and the resulting financial implications.*
 - C. VWASIG - *No report*
 - D. Athletic Council – *Provided an update the new sound system installation in the High School gymnasium and shared that boys’ basketball season ticket sales are up for the 2025-2026 season.*
 - E. Safety Team - *No report*

- VI. Treasurer's section
Business and Records - Mr. Bowersock shared with the Board of Education the November financial statements, checks issued, summary of cash balances by fund, and monthly revenue and expenditure summary. Mr. Bowersock also shared with the Board of Education an updated Eggerss Stadium project budget, discussed the November/December scheduled debt retirement payments, and lastly informed the Board of Education of the upcoming fiscal year 2027 tax budget hearing.
- VII. Assistant Superintendent's section - *Mr. Priest discussed the December 4, 2025 District Safety team meeting with our law enforcement agencies and lauded all attendees for the dialogue and collaboration. He, also, reviewed ongoing buildings and grounds, equipment, and maintenance planning to address the district's future needs and provided an update on the High School/Middle School chiller project that is underway. Lastly, Priest informed the Board of Education that the district is currently seeking bids for the purchase a new bus.*
- VIII. Public participation – **Crystal Boroff addressed the Board of Education in reference to concerns with the High School Renaissance program. Ms. Boroff indicated that her daughter was not awarded a Renaissance Gold Card resulting from her daughter receiving 4 tardies and feels the decision was unfair as the tardies were occurrences that were beyond the control of her daughter. Mr. Adams thanked Crystal Boroff for her comments and indicated that the addressed concerns will be further examined.**

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.

- IX. Superintendent's section - *Mr. Bagley presented outgoing Board member, Scott Mull, a gift congratulating Mull for 12 years of exemplary service to the Van Wert City School District Board of Education. He also recognized OSBA Media Honor Roll recipients, Sam Shriver – Van Wert Times Bulletin and Scott Truxell – Van Wert Independent, discussed a professional development learning event with a Finnish educational expert at Findlay University covering “immersion learning”, and provided an update on staffing for the 2025-2026 school year. Lastly, Bagley discussed the Eggerss Stadium restoration project and closed his report with a legislative update including ongoing property tax reform discussions.*
- X. Curriculum and Instruction / Educational Impact Presentation
- A. Rhonda Cunningham, VW School @ the Goedde Principal and students – Brayden Kirk Kendra Lenhart, Ethan Armentrout, Zeke Saxton, and Wesson Hoersten – Culinary Arts program “History of the Chuckwagon” presentation that included serving a meal from the chuckwagon to meeting attendees.

25.12.064

XI. Consent Resolutions

Motion was made by Scott Mull and seconded by Julie Burenga to approve the consent items “A through L” as presented. Vote: Anthony Adams, yes; Julie Burenga, yes; Greg Blackmore, yes; Debby Compton, yes; Scott Mull, absent. Motion carried 5-0.

- A. Accept the resignation, due to retirement, of Scott Pollock from his position as custodial-maintenance worker, effective December 31, 2025, as presented.
- B. Accept the resignation, due to retirement, of Richard Kreischer from his position as Assistant to the Director of Technology, effective January 31, 2026, as presented.
- C. Accept the resignation, due to retirement, of John Basinger from his position as Social Worker, effective at the end of the 2025-2026 contract year as presented.
- D. Accept the resignation, due to retirement, of Doug Grooms from his position as School Psychologist, effective at the end of the 2025-2026 contract year as presented.
- E. Accept the resignation, due to retirement, of Rona Trammell from her position as Middle School / Transportation Secretary, effective at the end of the 2025-2026 contract year as presented.
- F. Approve Malissa Mohr as a cafeteria worker, pending all Board policies pertaining to employment are met, effective December 8, 2025, as presented.
- G. Approve Nate Hoverman and Kimberly Laudick as volunteer indoor track coaches, effective the 2025-2026 contract year.
- H. Approve the minutes from the regular Board meeting held on November 19, 2025.
- I. Approve the monthly financial report as presented by the Treasurer.
- J. Approve a resolution authorizing the execution of a variable pricing agreement with Symmetry Energy Solutions, LLC to supply natural gas at a contract price of \$0.59 per MCF for a 36 month period starting May 1, 2026, as presented.
- K. Accept the following generous donations to the Van Wert City Schools from:
 - 1. Michelle Gunter - \$200.00 to Girls Basketball Activity Fund
 - 2. Wallace Plumbing & Underground LLC - \$1,000.00 to Wrestling Activity Fund
 - 3. Northwest Ohio & Welch Trophy LLC - \$270.63 to Cross Country Activity Fund
 - 4. Brewed Expressions LLC - \$200.00 to Middle School MD Classroom Activity Fund
 - 5. Ohio Northern University - \$500.00 to High School Robotics
 - 6. First Federal of Van Wert - \$100.00 High School Students of Need for Hygiene Supplies
 - 7. Koch Law Office - \$200.00 to Masque & Gavel
 - 8. StateWide Ford - \$150.00 to Masque & Gavel
 - 9. Ayers Mechanical Group - \$300.00 to Masque & Gavel
 - 10. Van Wert Service Club Inc. - \$1,400.00 to Van Wert Service Pack
 - 11. Cougar Pride Athletic Booster Club - \$424.99 to Athletic Department for Racquet Stringing Machine
 - 12. Cougar Pride Athletic Booster Club - \$25,000.00 to Eggerss Stadium Project - Legacy Donation
 - 13. Edward Jones - Eric Hurless - \$400.00 to Eggerss Stadium Project - Legacy Donation
 - 14. Van Wert High School Class of 1978 - \$5,000.00 to Eggerss Stadium Project - Legacy Donation

- L. Recognize Sam Shriver of the Van Wert Times Bulletin, and Scott Truxell of the Van Wert Independent, as members of the Ohio School Boards Association 2025 Media Honor Roll as presented.

25.12.065

XII. Non-consent Resolution(s)

- A. Election and appointment of a president pro-tem for the January 14, 2026 Organizational Meeting.

Motion was made by Julie Burenga and seconded by Debby Compton to approve the election and appointment of Anthony Adams as the president pro-tem for the January 14, 2026 Organizational Meeting. Vote: Anthony Adams, yes; Julie Burenga, yes; Greg Blackmore, yes; Debby Compton, yes; Scott Mull, yes. Motion carried 5-0.

XIII. This is to inform the Board of Education that the following employees will be advanced on the payscale, due to additional college coursework, effective the second semester of the 2025-2026 academic year:

- A. Ashley Hockenberry – Bachelor’s-150 to Master’s

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

- A. Colorado Sky LLC, 323/325/327 N. Race St., Van Wert, OH 45891

- B. Ryan Bowman, 390 W. Maple St. Van Wert, OH 45891

25.12.066

XV. Executive Session

- A. Motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(1) and 121.22(G)(8), for the purpose of discussing the employment of public personnel and for the purpose to consider certain confidential information, including trade secrets, of applicants for certain types of economic development assistance, or negotiations with other political subdivisions concerning such applications.

Motion was made by Debby Compton and seconded by Greg Blackmore to go into executive session at 5:52 p.m. for the purpose of discussing the employment of public personnel and for the purpose to consider certain confidential information, including trade secrets, of applicants for certain types of economic development assistance, or negotiations with other political subdivisions concerning such applications. Vote: Anthony Adams, yes; Julie Burenga, yes; Greg Blackmore, yes; Debby Compton, yes; Scott Mull, yes. Motion carried 5-0.

Debby Compton exited the meeting at 6:14 p.m.

Meeting reconvened at 6:23 p.m.

25.12.067

XVI. Adjournment

Motion was made by Scott Mull and seconded by Greg Blackmore to adjourn the Meeting at 6:24 p.m. Vote: Ayes - 4; Nays - 0; Absent - 1

Next Meeting Date

The 2026 organizational meeting, fiscal year 2027 tax budget hearing, and regular January Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 14, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. In addition, the public records commission (Board president, Board vice-president, Superintendent and Treasurer) will meet immediately prior to the organizational meeting to review the records retention schedule. The meetings will be in the First Federal Lecture Hall at the Niswonger Performing Arts Center.

Board President

Fiscal Officer