

**ATHENS-MEIGS EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 14, 2026**

The Governing Board of the Athens-Meigs Educational Service Center held a Regular Meeting on Wednesday, January 14, 2026, at the Chauncey Office, located at 21 Birge Drive, Chauncey, Ohio.

Ms. Dugan called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m.

A moment of silent reflection was held and the Pledge of Allegiance recited.

Roll call:

| | | | |
|-------------------|-----|--------------------|-----|
| Mr. John G Bailey | Yes | Ms. Connie Dugan | Yes |
| Mr. Kevin Dugan | Yes | Mr. Mick Davenport | Yes |
| Mr. Jeff Koehler | Yes | Mr. Steve Wheeler | Yes |
| Mr. Gary Dicken | Yes | Mr. Mony Wood | Yes |

Ex-officio Members: Mr. Covert Absent Mr. Grippa Absent

26-006. Mr. Dicken moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Governing Board Meetings held on December 10, 2025. Mr. Wood seconded the motion.

Roll call:

| | | | |
|-------------------|---------|--------------------|-----|
| Mr. John G Bailey | Yes | Ms. Connie Dugan | Yes |
| Mr. Kevin Dugan | Abstain | Mr. Mick Davenport | Yes |
| Mr. Jeff Koehler | Abstain | Mr. Steve Wheeler | Yes |
| Mr. Gary Dicken | Yes | Mr. Mony Wood | Yes |

Motion carried.

Public Participation

Dawn Hall - Director of Head Start, discussed Head Start funding going forward. She also discussed the upcoming financial review.

Head Start Director's Report and Recommendations

26-007. Mr. Wheeler moved to approve the December 2025 Head Start Directors Report and Recommendations, seconded by Ms. Koehler.

- A. Approve out of state travel for Dawn Hall to attend the Head Start Director Leadership Experience in New Orleans, LA, February 24-26, 2026.

Roll call:

| | | | |
|-------------------|-----|--------------------|-----|
| Mr. John G Bailey | Yes | Ms. Connie Dugan | Yes |
| Mr. Kevin Dugan | Yes | Mr. Mick Davenport | Yes |
| Mr. Jeff Koehler | Yes | Mr. Steve Wheeler | Yes |
| Mr. Gary Dicken | Yes | Mr. Mony Wood | Yes |

Motion carried.

State Support Team Region 16 Director's Reports and Recommendations

No items for Board action at this time.

Executive Session

26-008 Mr. Koehler made the motion to enter into executive session at 6:20 p.m. for Consideration of the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee, official, or student. Mr. Wheeler seconded the motion.

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|-------------------|-----|--------------------|-----|
| Mr. John G Bailey | Yes | Ms. Connie Dugan | Yes |
| Mr. Kevin Dugan | Yes | Mr. Mick Davenport | Yes |
| Mr. Jeff Koehler | Yes | Mr. Steve Wheeler | Yes |
| Mr. Gary Dicken | Yes | Mr. Mony Wood | Yes |

Motion Carried.

Executive session ended at 7:27 p.m.

Treasurer's Reports and Recommendations

26-009. Mr. Wood moved to approve the following items listed under the Treasurer's Report and Recommendations, seconded by Mr. Wheeler.

A. Approve bills paid in December 2025.

B. Approve Monthly Financial Report for December 2025.

Roll call:

| | | | |
|-------------------|-----|--------------------|-----|
| Mr. John G Bailey | Yes | Ms. Connie Dugan | Yes |
| Mr. Kevin Dugan | Yes | Mr. Mick Davenport | Yes |
| Mr. Jeff Koehler | Yes | Mr. Steve Wheeler | Yes |
| Mr. Gary Dicken | Yes | Mr. Mony Wood | Yes |

Motion carried.

Superintendent's Reports and Recommendations

26-010. Mr. Dickens moved to approve items the following Superintendent's Reports and Recommendations as presented by Lindy Douglas, Superintendent:

- A. Approve the complete Substitute Teacher and Substitute Aide Lists for Athens and Meigs Counties.
- B. Amend the AMESC Substitute Teacher rate of pay to be \$125.00 per day effective January 5, 2026.
- C. Amend the AMESC Substitute Paraprofessional rate of pay to be \$14.00 per hour effective January 5, 2026.
- D. Approve a One Year Contract (2025 through 2026) to Jady Crockron as a Classroom Paraprofessional at Beacon School, 9 Months (187 days prorated), effective January 5, 2026, at the rate of \$19.64 per hour, no benefits, being contingent upon proper certification, continued funding and need.
- E. Approve the Memorandum of Understanding with Hocking Valley Community Residential Center.

Alexander

- F. Approve the Joint Agreement appointing the Business Advisory Council (BAC) of the AMESC to serve as the BAC for the Alexander Local School District.

Federal Hocking

- G. Approve a One Year Contract (2025 through 2026) to Tabitha Robinson as a 1:1 Paraprofessional at Beacon School serving a Federal Hocking student, 9 Months (187 days prorated), effective January 28, 2026, at the rate of \$19.64 per hour, no benefits, being contingent upon proper certification, continued funding and need.

Head Start

- H. Adopt the following:

Retention Bonus Policy: This policy will take effect at the beginning of fiscal year 2025. It has been resolved that AMESC will offer retention bonuses to employees within the Head Start program. This will be decided yearly based on available funding.

This initiative aims to recognize and reward the dedication and hard work of our staff, ensuring we continue to provide high-quality services to the families we serve.

Meigs Local

- I. Approve the Staffing Agreement / Liability Waiver Agreement between the Meigs Local School District, AMESC, and Helping Hands Home Healthcare Agency, LLC for Behavior/Medical Aide Services and transportation support for a Meigs Local student. Terms of agreement to be December 19, 2025 through May 29, 2026.

Southern

- J. Accept the resignation of Michaela Brothers, 1:1 Paraprofessional, with her last day of employment being January 21, 2026.

Addendum

Head Start

- K. Accept the resignation of Tonda Fulks, Center Manager in Gallia County, effective January 23, 2026.

Mr. Dugan seconded the motion.

Roll call:

| | | | |
|-------------------|-----|--------------------|-----|
| Mr. John G Bailey | Yes | Ms. Connie Dugan | Yes |
| Mr. Kevin Dugan | Yes | Mr. Mick Davenport | Yes |
| Mr. Jeff Koehler | Yes | Mr. Steve Wheeler | Yes |
| Mr. Gary Dicken | Yes | Mr. Mony Wood | Yes |

Motion carried.

Legislative Report

Nothing

Tri-County Career Center Report

Held the organizational meeting.

Old Business

Mr. Bailey asked about the situation with Carleton Schools. Ms. Douglas reported that we are still working through the details and will know more at a later date.

Mr. Bailey also asked that Trimble’s plan was for next year regarding the superintendent position. Ms. Douglas reported that the job has been posted; however, the budget commission for the state has asked if she would be interested in staying an additional year.

New Business

The board asked about having another dinner for all of the schools that Athens-Meigs Educational Service Center provides services like they have done in the past. Ms. Douglas will start organizing the said dinner.

Mr. Koehler talked about the future of property taxes and what it means for school districts around the state. Mr. Koehler had heard that it would take a sales tax of 18% to cover what the property tax generates.

Vacant Board Seat

26-011. Mr. Dugan made the motion to appoint Mr. Fred Davis to the vacant board seat. Mr. Dicken seconded the motion.

| | | | |
|-------------------|-----|--------------------|-----|
| Mr. John G Bailey | Yes | Ms. Connie Dugan | Yes |
| Mr. Kevin Dugan | Yes | Mr. Mick Davenport | Yes |
| Mr. Jeff Koehler | Yes | Mr. Steve Wheeler | Yes |
| Mr. Gary Dicken | Yes | Mr. Mony Wood | Yes |

Motion Carried

The next regular Athens-Meigs ESC Governing Board Meeting is scheduled to be held on Wednesday, January 28, 2026, 6:00 p.m., at the Athens-Meigs ESC, 21 Birge Drive, Chauncey, Ohio.

26-012. Time 8:14 p.m. Mr. Dicken moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Bailey seconded the motion. Without objection, the meeting was adjourned.

President

Treasurer