

BUSINESS ADVISORY COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES

DATE: January 23, 2026  
PLACE: WHS Media Center

CONVENE: 10:00 a.m.  
ADJOURN: 11:25 a.m.

ATTENDEES: A. Anderson, J. Batey, D. Beeman, K. Breitenbucher, K. Elsass, A. Hill,  
J. Lawrence, L. McDermitt, B. Pinkerton, D. Slife, L. Giermann

ABSENT: P. Alic, E. Allwood, J. Bilek, D. Chase, J. Goff, T. Manion, B. Neiser, M. Wagar,  
M. White

1. Approval of October 24, 2025 BAC Meeting Minutes
  - a. The minutes were approved.
2. Presentation (Steve Moore & Adam Innocenti): Safety and Security
  - a. Each school within the district has a building-specific safety plan.
  - b. Three safety drills are conducted at each building during the course of the school year:
    - i. Evacuation drill
    - ii. Lockdown drill
    - iii. Emergency management drill
  - c. Each building is stocked with items (e.g., safety buckets, bolo sticks) that may be needed in the event of an emergency. Grant money helps to offset the cost of the supplies.
  - d. The district has a threat assessment team which includes administrators, counselors, and members of the police department.
  - e. The district also utilizes a safety tip line, available 24 hours a day.
  - f. Nate Ball and Adam Innocenti, Wadsworth police officers, serve as our student resource officers. There is always an officer (Adam Innocenti) on-site at the high school, and Nate Ball addresses safety/security issues at the remaining buildings. The cost to the district is split between the district and the Wadsworth Police Department.

- g. The Wadsworth Police Department serves the safety and security of our district by offering training in the following areas:
  - i. ALICE training for staff
  - ii. Safety Forces Camp for students in grades 5-8
  - iii. Drug/alcohol awareness classes
  - iv. Safety belt program for 3rd graders
  - v. Insurance/car accident response class
  - vi. Threat awareness program for 4th graders
  - vii. Safety Town refresher classes
- h. A suggestion was made that the district consider using the services of an outside agency that would test and evaluate the effectiveness of our building security.
- i. A comment was made that the safety improvements realized by constructing a new intermediate school should be promoted by the district.

### 3. Review of Board of Education Meetings Since October 24, 2025

#### a. October 30, 2025

- i. This was a special meeting that was set up specifically for a discussion between PTO and Board of Education members.

#### b. November 17, 2025

- i. Sara Kopacko, Student Well-Being/Mental Health Coordinator, presented information on the results of the Wadsworth City School District employee survey.
- ii. Eric Jackson, Director of Instruction and Professional Development, provided an overview of the State of Ohio report card.
- iii. A discussion took place regarding the 2026-2030 draft Strategic Plan.
- iv. The Ohio Department of Education and Workforce Designation of the Wadsworth City School District in fiscal precaution status was also discussed. The precaution status does not come as a surprise since state funding remains at FY22 levels; it was expected/forecast by the district.

#### c. December 8, 2025

- i. Discussions to finalize the draft 2026-2030 Strategic Plan took place.

- ii. Work on the Fiscal Precaution Plan, which shows how the district will eliminate deficit spending in future years and is due for submission to the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce in January, was completed.
- d. December 18, 2025
  - i. The Fiscal Precaution Plan was board-approved.
    - 1. The plan cannot include any new funding initiatives as a means to reduce the deficit.
    - 2. We will evaluate our staffing numbers; reductions can be achieved through attrition.
    - 3. Before reductions are implemented, the district will solicit community input about the importance of maintaining the level of service currently provided by the district.
- e. January 8, 2026
  - i. At the organizational meeting:
    - 1. Tom Fisher was sworn in as a new board member. Gary McComas did not run for reelection.
    - 2. Tim Beck will serve as board president; Julie Batey will serve as board vice president.
  - ii. At the regular-stated meeting:
    - 1. A discussion took place regarding a potential ballot request for operating funds, per the Fiscal Precaution Plan.
    - 2. The 2026-2030 Strategic Plan was approved.
- f. January 15, 2026
  - i. The board passed a resolution to initiate action to place a funding initiative on the May 5, 2026 primary election ballot. A second resolution will be placed on the January 27 board agenda. The request is due to the Medina County Board of Elections by February 4.
    - 1. The funding request is for a 1.5% earned income tax. This tax would be for all residents of Wadsworth with earned income, regardless of where the income is earned. Earned income does not include pension income or Social Security benefits.

2. The district decided to place the funding initiative on the May ballot in case the initiative fails. This would allow time to consider a ballot issue for the November election.

#### 4. Adjournment

- a. The meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.