

**Western Buckeye ESC
January 21, 2026**

Regular Meeting

The Western Buckeye Educational Service Center Governing Board regular meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. on January 21, 2026 at the WBESC office with the following members present: Hazen Kennedy, Derek Miller, Vicki Smith, Kevin Wannemacher and William Poe II.

Others Present: Melissa McClurg, Superintendent and Tricia Taylor, Treasurer/CFO

Motion 1m 1-26 Board Agenda

Moved by Derek Miller and seconded by Kevin Wannemacher to accept the Board Agenda with any additions and/or changes as presented. Voted yes: Hazen Kennedy, Derek Miller, Vicki Smith, Kevin Wannemacher and William Poe II. Motion passed: 5-0.

Motion 2m 1-26 Treasurer's Consent Agenda

Moved by Vicki Smith and seconded by Kevin Wannemacher to approve the Treasurer's Consent Items A-E. Voted yes: Hazen Kennedy, Derek Miller, Vicki Smith, Kevin Wannemacher and William Poe II. Motion passed: 5-0.

- A. Motion to accept the Treasurer's report, bills, and expenditures, with corrections, if applicable;
- B. Motion to approve the minutes from the December 17, 2025 regular meeting;
- C. Motion to approve permanent appropriations and revenues by fund for fiscal year 2026;
- D. Motion to accept a donation in the amount of \$500 from Paulding County Area Foundation to be used for awards, food, and clothing;
- E. Motion to approve the OMNI & TSACG Compliance Services agreement

Motion 3m 1-26 Superintendent's Consent Agenda

Moved by Hazen Kennedy and Seconded by Derek Miller to approve the Superintendent's Consent items A-D. Voted yes: Hazen Kennedy, Derek Miller, Vicki Smith, Kevin Wannemacher and William Poe II. Motion passed: 5-0.

- A. Motion to accept the Parent Mentor Grant from the US Department of Education in the amount of \$25,000;
- B. Motion to accept the School Psych Interns grant through the State of Ohio in the amount of \$29,900;
- C. Motion to accept the Service Learning Institute grant from Serve Ohio in the amount of \$5,000. A portion of these grant funds will be used to compensate select ESC employees at \$25 per hour for work completed outside of normal working hours, payable via timesheet;
- D. Motion to accept the Pre-Employment Transition Services grant through the State of Ohio in the amount of \$8,489.00.

Motion 4m 1-26

Moved by Derek Miller and seconded by Hazen Kennedy to approve the 2025-2026 school year substitute list with changes/additions. Voted yes: Hazen Kennedy, Derek Miller, Kevin Wannemacher and William Poe II. Motion passed: 4-0. Vicki Smith abstained from voting.

Motion 5m 1-26

Moved by Vicki Smith and seconded by Kevin Wannemacher to approve the supplemental contract for Melissa McClurg, Superintendent, in the amount of \$1,309.42 for duties completed for the pre-employment transition service grant. Voted yes: Hazen Kennedy, Derek Miller, Vicki Smith, Kevin Wannemacher and William Poe II. Motion passed: 5-0.

Motion 6m 1-26 Legislative Report

- A. Cell phone ban in schools effective January 1, 2026
- B. Schools working on AI policy due at the end of the year

Motion 7m 1-26 Treasurer/Superintendent Discussion Items

- A. Board Appreciation Month
- B. June and August Board Meeting Dates

Motion 8m 1-26 Executive Session

- Moved by Vicki Smith and seconded by Kevin Wannemacher for Superintendent, Treasurer and Melissa McClurg to move into executive session at 6:38 p.m. and adjourn the executive session at 7:14 p.m. to discuss the compensation of personnel. Voted yes: Hazen Kennedy, Derek Miller, Vicki Smith, Kevin Wannemacher and William Poe II. Motion passed: 5-0.
- A. Following the executive session, a motion to approve a 3% raise for Lori Gunderman effective with the February 10, 2026 payroll. Voted yes: Hazen Kennedy, Derek Miller, Vicki Smith, Kevin Wannemacher and William Poe II. Motion passed: 5-0.

Motion 9m 1-26 Adjournment

Moved by Hazen Kennedy and seconded by Kevin Wannemacher to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m. Voted yes: Hazen Kennedy, Derek Miller, Vicki Smith, Kevin Wannemacher and William Poe II. Motion passed: 5-0.

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, **February 18, 2026 at 5:30 p.m.** at the WBESC Office.

CFO/Treasurer

Board President