

Arcanum-Butler Local School District
REGULAR
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING UPDATE
April 9, 2026

Present: Mr. Norris, Mr. Fearon, Mr. Moore, Mr. Trask, Mrs. Zimmer

APPROVED:

- Financial Report, as presented by the Treasurer. (vote – all yea)
- One year contract with Imagine Learning for online curriculum in AVA. (vote – all yea)
- Approve sub pay rates for the 2026-2027 school year, effective July 1, 2026. (vote – all yea)
- Approve increase for substitute custodial and summer custodial rate to \$17.06 effective May 1, 2026. (vote – all yea)
- Expenditures up to \$40,000 to Wagner Paving, Inc. for walking path asphalt, crack fill and asphalt sealing. (vote – all yea)
- Expenditure not to exceed \$21,687 to Waibel Energy Systems for the repair of air handlers. (vote – all yea)
- Josie Weaver as a maintenance sub, effective April 2, 2026. (vote – all yea)
- Non-renew supplemental contracts of non-teaching personnel for school year 2026-2027, per list. (vote – all yea)
- Supplemental contracts and volunteers, per list, for the 2026-2027 school year. (vote – all yea)
- Mr. Pohlman to take eight FFA members to the Ohio FFA Dairy Judging State Finals April 24, 2026, at no expense to the school. (vote – all yea)
- Sara Baker as a long term sub at per diem rate with full benefits to teach Special Education (MD unit classroom) pending her completion of Alternative resident Educator Licensure. (vote – all yea)
- Brenna Loxley Miller as the 7th grade Science and Health teacher. (vote – all yea)
- Clint Neal as the Elementary Physical Education teacher for grades K – 5. (vote – all yea)
- Accept resignations of Elementary PE teacher, Jason Schondelmyer, HS Band Director, Bryce Hopwood, and Susanna Knaus from the Café. (vote – all yea)
- Approve the following overnight summer camps: HS girls basketball – Findlay University Team Camp, June 25 - 26, 2026; HS boys basketball – Cedar Point Team Camp, June 8 - 9, 2026. (vote – all yea)
- Policies: 2431.06 Name, Image and Likeness (NIL) in Athletics (New); 3440/4440 Job-Related Expenses (Revised); 4162 Drug and Alcohol Testing of CDL License Holders (New); 4162 Drug and Alcohol Testing of NON-CDL License Holders (New); 6423 Use of District Credit Card (Revised); 6424 Procurement Cards (Revised); 6460 Vendor Relations (Revised); 6465 Affinity, Rewards, or Other Discount Programs (New); 5112 Entrance Requirements (Revised); 5223 Release Time for Religious Instruction (Revised); 5421 Grading & 5430 Class Rank (Revised); 6220 Budget Preparation (Revised); 6320 Purchasing and Bidding (Revised); 6325 Procurement-Federal Grants/Funds (Revised); 6425

Use of District Tax Exempt Certificate (New); 7540.09 Artificial Intelligence (Replacement); 8500 Food Services. (vote – all yea)

- Approve Madelyn Fearon as the Girls JV Basketball Coach for the 2026-2027 school year. (vote – yea – Norris, Trask, Moore, Zimmer, abstain – Fearon)

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Accolades and Announcements
 - ◆ Congratulations to Senior Cole Kessler, AHS Franklin B. Walter nominee who won the county scholarship and will represent AHS and Darke County in Columbus later
 - ◆ The Arcanum Alumni Banquet will be held on April 18. The Alumni Association will honor the Class of 1951 (75 years), Class of 1976 (50 years), Class of 2001 (25 years) and the 2026 Class. They will also recognize this year's scholarship winners. They will also recognize the new Alumni HOF inductees, Mrs. Kelly Snyder Ragucci – Distinguished Alumni and Mr. Roland "Red" Gilbert – Honorary Trojan.
 - ◆ Congratulations to Sophia Drew, Brayden Freeman, Cody Werling, and Eden Frazee, who were chosen as 2026 IGNITE Award Winners! These awards honor Darke County students, schools, and businesses working collaboratively for the purpose of career development for individuals who are a junior or senior in high school.
 - ◆ The end of the 3rd nine weeks has been completed and we head down the final stretch for the year. Thank you to the administration and staff for a job well done in the 3rd nine weeks.
 - ◆ Recently, students and staff celebrated "Hope Week" that focused on activities to promote positive mental health. MS and HS Students participated in QPR Training (Question, Persuade, Refer). Often described as the "CPR of mental health," it is an emergency response intervention designed to teach non-professionals how to recognize the warning signs of a suicide crisis and guide someone to help.
- School Operations and Updates
 - ◆ Booster Stadium Project Update
 - ◆ 2026-2027 Sub Pay Rate & Summer Maintenance Recommendations.
 - ◆ Board Policy
 - ◆ Van Clarifications –A discrepancy regarding alcohol concentration language will be clarified by stating "0.02" in both sections. One section had "any detectable amount", so to make it consistent it will be the 0.02.
 - ◆ Staffing Update
 - ◆ Thank you to Mr. Bryce Hopwood, HS Band Director, who has accepted a position at Piqua HS. He did an outstanding job leading our band!
 - ◆ We are fortunate to have Mrs. Jessica Berry on our current staff as MS/HS Choir Teacher and Assistant Band Director. Jessica will be taking over next year as the Band Director. Previous to coming to Arcanum, Jessica successfully led the Ansonia HS Band.

- ◆ Matt Macy has 1 year left on his admin contract. I would like to offer him a 3 year extension as we typically have done for administrative contracts.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORTS:

• **Elementary**

- Continuous Improvement and Vision (CIP Goal #1)
 - ◆ Students and teachers have been working extremely hard preparing for the state assessments. The 3rd and 4th grade students will be taking the tests the middle of April. The 2nd grade students will take the IOWA/CogAT assessments, which will identify students as gifted in specific areas the last week in.
 - ◆ Thank you to Ashley Matheson and Megan Smith for leading Erin's Law presentations for the elementary students.
- Instruction (CIP Goal #2)
 - ◆ We held our annual kindergarten screening day on Thursday, April 9.
 - ◆ The AELC students read different books as part of their March Madness Book Challenge. Students were entertained by different guest readers and practiced comprehension skills by recalling key concepts from the different books.
 - ◆ Kindergarten students continue to focus on letters, sounds, and fundamental reading skills through the Heggerty and Secret Stories resources.
 - ◆ The 1st grade classrooms have been learning about goods and services and held their annual Consumer Day on April 2 where students shopped for books, snacks, toys etc. using different coin amounts.
 - ◆ 2nd grade students used their engineering skills to design and construct leprechaun traps for St. Patrick's Day and described the process to their classmates.
 - ◆ The 3rd grade students planned lessons based on one of their interests or hobbies and presented their lesson to their classmates. Students practiced interview skills by asking questions at the end of each presentation.
 - ◆ The 3rd and 4th grade students have been taking practice state assessments to prepare for the upcoming test in Language Arts and Math.
- School Operations, Resources, and Learning Environment (CIP Goal #3)
 - ◆ Students celebrated baseball opening day by wearing their favorite team shirt and enjoyed a ballpark themed lunch thanks to Chef Doug.
 - ◆ The students have worked hard during the past month to focus on PBIS themes and positive behaviors. The students and teachers celebrated the end of the quarter with an interactive assembly playing Spring games with students versus teachers.
 - ◆ Congratulations to the March Trojans of the Month who were chosen for showing the character trait of perseverance: Zayda Guntle, Millie Croft, Isaiah Oswalt, Evelyn Devanney, Lorelai Greve, Ezekiel Wick, Kaia Orr, Emery Cottrell, Lane Garno,

Harper Morgan, Sawyer Parks, Ivy Brown, Fallon Martino, Cali Beaver, Olivia Long, Zelda Wolford, Katie Stiver, Liam Vance, Gracen Neal, Huxley Kniesly.

➤ Collaboration (CIP Goal #4)

- ◆ Thank you, Mrs. Matheson, Mrs. Smith, and the Hope Squad for including Elementary students in Hope Week. They treated the elementary students to donuts and Chapstick, while students reviewed the importance of mental wellness, kindness, and supporting one another.
- ◆ The High School Student Council organized the annual kindergarten Easter egg hunt and games. They planned different activities for the students and ended with an egg hunt.
- ◆ Thank you to the Greenville Elks Lodge #1139 for their generous donation of school supplies for the district.
- ◆ The Elementary Student Council continues to supply the community blessing box at least once a month.
- ◆ Thank you to Rachel Knight for inviting our students to a preview of the high school drama performance of Aladdin Jr.

➤ Parent, and Community Engagement (CIP Goal #5)

- ◆ Thank you to Erin Fout, Kayla Morrison, and Manda Holliday for planning the annual AELC informational parent evening. We had many families attend to learn about the preschool and how to register for the upcoming school year. Our enrollment is filling up quickly.

• **Middle School**

➤ Standard 1: Continuous Improvement – Principals help create a shared vision and clear goals for their schools and ensure continuous progress toward achieving the goals.

- ◆ Congratulations to our March Students of the Month: *5th grade* – Haisley Oda & Easton Brown; *6th grade* – Avery South & Kamden Tegtmeyer; *7th grade* – Lilah Price & Nathan Johnson; and *8th grade* – Laci Dillman & Kendon Rogers.
- ◆ Congratulations to our March T-Shirt Tuesday winners: Alex Bullock, Lyndi Brubaker, and Bryn Baker.
- ◆ Congratulations to Arcanum students at the Regional Science Fair competition. All told our students earned over \$900 in cash and scholarships.
 - Excellent Ratings: Harper Miller, Weston Hatfield, Erinn Stewart and Eli Huffgarden.
 - Superior Ratings (State Qualifiers): Laci Dillman, Tim Johnson (2nd) and Chloe Rieman (3rd).

➤ Standard 2: Instruction – Principals support the implementation of high-quality standards-based instruction that results in higher levels of achievement for all students.

- ◆ Mrs. Bowser's Science Olympiad class did an excellent job building their electric houses. They made one room with a parallel circuit and one with a series circuit. They also had to hook up switches to turn on their lights. Some will make great electricians!
- ◆ 5th grade students used the engineering design process last week to design and create a harness or cradle to zipline a

leprechaun to this pot of gold in the fastest time. They timed the leprechaun on his journey to the gold and calculated his speed. They then ranked the speeds from fastest to slowest to see which leprechaun won. Thanks to Mrs. Dickman for continuing to make Science fun!

- ◆ Mrs. Byers' 6th grade science class did some surface mining for minerals using chocolate chip cookies. Our 6th graders are doing a great job this year.
- Standard 3: School Operations, Resources, and Learning Environment – Principals allocate resources and manage school operations in order to ensure a safe and productive learning environment.
 - ◆ A-B Local held the first of three required tornado drills on Wednesday, March 25. The drill was inspected by Darke EMA. During the inspections recommendations were made to potentially increase the speed to safety and the weather radio was updated.
 - ◆ MS students participated in the 7th club meeting of the year on Friday, March 27. I would like to thank all MS staff for their commitment to this program. We have one more club meeting scheduled.
 - ◆ The roster verification process is currently underway in all three buildings. The principal setup period closes on April 7 and staff will be setting up percentages that link state testing results to individual teachers shortly after that. In addition, state testing preparation is in full swing. Testing groups and tickets have been created and staff received testing PD on Wednesday, April 1.
- Standard 4: Collaboration – Principals establish and sustain collaborative learning and shared leadership to promote learning and achievement of all students.
 - ◆ Scheduling for the 2025-2026 school year is currently underway. Course elective sheets were submitted in February and we have plans to meet with Jake from USA Scheduler in mid-late April. Thanks to Ty Cates and Beth Kessler for their help.
 - ◆ MS track season is underway! We have over 31 7th and 8th graders participating this year. We are looking forward to a very successful spring season. Thanks to Abbey Moore and Matt Macy for their communication and organization throughout the signup process.
- Standard 5: Parents and Community Engagement – Principals engage parents and community members in the educational process and create an environment where community resources support student learning, achievement and well-being.
 - ◆ The AMS aerial drone teams competed in a drone competition at Trotwood Madison High School in March. There were 21 teams competing (15 HS teams, and 6 MS teams).
 - Our 7th and 8th graders were ranked 4th overall in skills, but they were in 1st place among the middle school teams. They were ranked 2nd in coding, tying with 3 other teams. The team finished 2nd place among the middle school teams. They also made it into the final alliance matches.

- Our 5th and 6th graders were the youngest students. They ranked 13th place in skills, but were in 5th place among the middle school teams. They outscored 10 high school teams and 2 middle school teams with their coding skills!
 - ◆ Thanks to Ashley Matheson and Megan Smith for organizing a successful Hope Week March 23-27. The goal of this week was to build community, make our school a safe place for everyone, and have a little fun too! We had theme days, donuts, QPR training, Badges BBQ, and a free Photo Booth during lunch. Thank you to all those who helped make it possible: Tri County Board, Bismark's, Badges BBQ, MS/HS Hope Squad, Timothy Clopp Photography, and our counseling team!
 - ◆ The JH Dance was held on March 27. The theme was "Spring Fling". Thanks to Mrs. Bowser, MS Student Council members, numerous parent volunteers, and all of our students for a great night!
 - ◆ We are currently working on finalizing plans for the following programs: Quarter 4 Service Project, Washington DC Trip, Reality Fair, Spring Field Trips, and 2026-2027 Class Scheduling.
- **High School**
 - Goal #1 – Principals help create a shared vision and clear goals for their schools and ensure continuous progress toward achieving the goals.
 - ◆ During the month of March, Mr. Vince, Mrs. Kessler, and Mrs. Matheson worked to get our schedules outlined for next year. Mrs. Kessler met with all of our students that scheduled their classes for the 2026-2027 school year. Our goal is to complete the schedule by the end of the month and have it ready for the staff in May.
 - Goal #2 – Principals support the implementation of high-quality standards based instruction that results in higher levels of achievement for all students.
 - ◆ I want to commend our teachers, staff, and Mrs. Kessler for their work in coordinating our ACT Day. Seniors participated in a job shadow, juniors took the ACT, sophomores took the Pre-ACT, and our freshmen went on a college visit to Miami University.
 - Goal #3 – Principals allocate resources and manage school operations in order to ensure a safe and productive learning environment.
 - ◆ As a high school staff, we will be focusing on promoting the values of accountability, honesty, and service to our students throughout the school year. One example of this is in the selection of our Students of the Month. Recognizing the theme of "Kindness" for March, we congratulate the following outstanding Students of the Month: Freshman Weston Schmidt, Sophomore Haddasah Hatfield, Junior Annabelle May, and Senior Cole Kessler.
 - Goal #4 – Principals establish and sustain collaborative learning and shared leadership to promote learning and achievement of all students.
 - ◆ The FFA Banquet was a great success, celebrating many great accomplishments.
 - ◆ Shoutout to Miss Pleiman for supporting our future female scientists by helping them attend the Impact STEM program in

Darke County. This event introduced young women to exciting opportunities in the world of science and technology.

- ◆ Our drama production of "Aladdin Jr." was a major success!
- Goal #5 – Principals engage parents and community members in the educational process and create an environment where community resources support student learning, achievement and well-being.
 - ◆ Senior Cole Kessler was named Arcanum's representative for the Franklin B. Walter Scholarship Program in Darke County. Special recognition goes to Mrs. Kuhbander for being honored as Cole's Teacher of Influence. Congratulations to Cole for being selected as the 2026 Darke County Franklin B. Walter Scholarship Award Winner!
 - ◆ Congratulations to Addy Wooten, Madison Schwartz and FCCLA Advisor Andrea Painting for qualifying for the state FCCLA competition!
 - ◆ Congrats to our Grain Merchandising Team of Ben Hartman, Logan Brinksneider, Lance Brinksneider and Charlie Weiss, as they competed in the State Finals at Wilmington College winning state!
 - ◆ The 1st annual Senior Career Fair went extremely well, and we were very proud of how our seniors conducted themselves. Over 20 businesses, 6 colleges, and 2 military branches met with seniors as well as conducting mock interviews with resumes.
 - ◆ We completed our final blood drive of the year. A huge thank you to Mrs. Painting for all of her work on scheduling these events!
 - ◆ The 13th Annual Serve Arcanum will be held on Friday, May 8, with a rain date of May 15.
 - ◆ Spring sports are in full swing, come out and watch our student athletes compete!
 - ◆ State testing dates: ELA – April 14 & 15; Math – April 21 & 22; Sci/SS – April 28 & 29.

Adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

**Supplemental Sports & Activity Positions
for the 2026 - 2027 School Year**

Supplemental Positions	Name	Supplemental Positions	Name
Head Football	Matt Macy	Transportation Supervisor	Matt Macy
Asst. HS Football (4)	Ty Cates Josh Gilmore Mason Thobe TJ Powers	6th Grade Class Advisor	Erin Keiser
Head MS Football	Doug Surber	7th Grade Class Advisor	Jacie Holman - .50 Kim Peltier - .50
Asst. MS Football	TBD	8th Grade Class Advisor	Jaimee Garbig
Strength Coach (2)	Matt Macy Kaitlyn Zell	Art Club Advisor	Maggie Wright
HS Cross Country (B & G)	Adam Klipstine	Color Guard Advisor	TBD
MS Cross Country (B & G)	Amy Byers	Detention Monitor	Andrew Bryant
Golf - Boys	Andrew Bryant	District/Community STEM Coach	Matt Grote - .50 Adam Kendig - .50
Golf - Girl	Jesse Warner	Drama Director 7 - 12	Rachel Knight
Asst. HS Golf	TBD	Drama Asst. Director 7 - 12	Wade Harrison
Varsity Volleyball	Jacie Holman	Drone Club	Cindy Dickman
Asst. HS Volleyball	Angie Filbrun	EL Student Council	Cassie Bixler - .50 Kami Smith - .50
JV Volleyball	Macey Hartman	FCCLA Advisor	Andrea Painting
8th Gr. Volleyball	Emilie Fout	Gifted Coordinator	Andrea Painting
7th Gr. Volleyball	Terri Greve	HS Academic Team Advisor	Kathy Kuhbander
Varsity Basketball - Boys	Kevin Brackman	HS Band Director	Jessica Berry
Asst. HS Basketball - Boys	Chey Kramer	HS Concession Stand	John James
JV Basketball - Boys	Colton Troutwine	Freshman Class Advisor	Andrew Bryant
9th Gr. Basketball - Boys	Ben Akers	Sophomore Class Advisor	Angie Polley
8th Gr. Basketball - Boys	Henry Bourne	Junior Class Advisor	Sarah Murphy
7th Gr. Basketball - Boys	Jesse Warner	Senior Class Advisor	Heather Whittaker - .75 Beth Kessler - .25
Varsity Basketball - Girls	Abbey Moore	National Honor Society Advisor	Jennifer Arling
Asst. HS Basketball - Girls	Kaitlyn Zell	Renaissance coordinator	Matt Grote - .50 Roger McEldowney - .50
JV Basketball - Girls	Madelyn Fearon	SADD Club Advisor	Kaitlyn Zell
8th Gr. Basketball - Girls	TBD	Science club Advisor	John James
7th Gr. Basketball - Girls	TBD	HS Student Council	Kathy Kuhbander - .50 Charity Wright - .50
Gymnastics (dependent on enrollment)	Jessica Pothast	HS Student Mentorship Prog.	Lora Brandon
Head Track (B & G)	TBD	HS Vocal Music	TBD
Asst. HS Track (B & G) (3)	TBD	HS Yearbook (Arcette)	Kathy Kuhbander
Head MS Track (B & G)	TBD	HS/MS Percussion Advisor	TBD
Asst. MS Track (B & G)	TBD	Science Fair Coordinator	Adam Kendig - .50 Emily Pleiman - .50
Varsity Baseball	TBD	MS Academic Team Advisor	Emilie Rice
Asst. HS Baseball	TBD	MS Band	TBD
JV Baseball	TBD	DC Trip Advisor	Erin Tegtmeyer
Varsity Softball	TBD	MS Student Council	Erica Byers
Asst. HS Softball	TBD	MS Yearbook	Matt Grote
JV Softball	TBD	Wednesday School Monitor	Andrew Bryant
Asst. Athletic Director	Kelly Kramer	AVA Director	Jim Gray
Athletic Site Manager	Chey Kramer	HS Band 20 days extended duty	Jessica Berry
HS Football Cheerleading	Ashley Rose - .50 Brianna Eley - .50	HS Guidance 25 days extended duty	Beth Kessler
HS Basketball Cheerleading	Ashley Rose / Brianna Eley	EL/MS Guidance 10 days ext. duty	Ashley Matheson
MS Football Cheerleading	TBD	FCS teacher 5 days ext. duty	Andrea Painting
MS Basketball Cheerleading	TBD	Library Media Aide	Britny Bolinger - .50 Kristina Quigney - .50
HS Wrestling	Jared Beatty		
MS Wrestling	Noah Brown		
HS Swimming	Josh Artin		
Volunteers			
Asst. HS Football	Rick Ary	Asst. HS Basketball	John Brackman
Asst. HS Football	Zack Stone	Asst HS Basketball	Mark Wiseman
Asst. HS Football	Jared Morris	HS Assistant Basketball	Stevie Zumbrun
Asst. HS Football	Kamdon Riethman	MS Assistant Volleyball	Erica Byers
Asst. HS Football	Mark Wiseman		