

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING (Monday, March 9, 2026)**

Generated by Alyse Allison on Tuesday, March 10, 2026

6:00 p.m. 3rd. Floor

35353 Curtis Blvd.

Eastlake, Ohio 44095

As Supplemented by the video recording that can be found [here](#).

**1. Introduction****A. Call to Order****B. Roll Call- 6:00 p.m.**

Ms. Gabrielle Miller - Present

Ms. Rhonda Osagie-Erese- Present

Ms. Denise Verdi - Present

Ms. Jaime Shatsman - Present

Ms. Stacy Menser - Present

**C. Pledge of Allegiance****2. Approval of Agenda****A. Approval of Agenda**

A motion was made to approve agenda.

Motion by Ms. Jaime Shatsman

Second by Ms. Rhonda Osagie-Erese

Miller Aye      Osagie-Erese Aye      Verdi Aye      Shatsman Aye      Menser Aye      R-26-29

Motion Approved

5-0

**3. Presentation****A. Longfellow Elementary Presentation**

Representatives from Longfellow Elementary presented on their math instruction model, emphasizing a research-based approach focused on conceptual understanding, student collaboration, and independent problem-solving.

**B. North High School Presentation**

North High School Principal Mr. Puskas highlighted key achievements and programs at North High School, including:

- Superior performance by the North Choir and North Band at OMEA competition.
- Continued implementation of personalized learning.
- Use of multiple instructional modalities including- traditional instruction, flex learning, and project/problem-based learning.
- Expansion of future-ready programming, such as- career capstone electives, cybersecurity pathway, construction/build program, service learning through art, and fab lab opportunities.

**C. Impact and Connection Award**

The administration recognized the following staff members for exemplary service:

- Matthew McCraith, Longfellow Elementary
- Brianna Keidel, Longfellow Elementary
- Kim Comella, North High School
- Chris Tomb, North High School
- Patrick Giusto, North High School

**4. Community Engagement****A. Public Comment**

1. Jason Aquila of Willoughby Hills- Property Tax Valuation

**5. Board Members' Business****A. Board Discussion**

Board members discussed the recent work session focused on district funding challenges. It was emphasized that no decisions were made at the work session, topics discussed included possible future scenarios, including consolidation strictly as hypotheticals. The Board intends to continue thoughtful planning and public discussion.

**B. Legislative Liaison Update**

A legislative update was presented in connection with the district's financial outlook. Discussion focused on:

- State-level conversations regarding school funding and property taxes.
- Concerns about declining enrollment in some districts.
- Broader discussion across Ohio regarding consolidation and cost efficiencies.
- The need for proactive, transparent planning at the local level.

Board members stressed the importance of community engagement, transparency, protecting academic quality, student opportunities, facility safety, and educating the public about the district's financial realities. The Board agreed that an additional work session in April should be scheduled.

**6. Minutes**

**A. Approval of Minutes February 9, 2026**

A motion was made to approve the regular board meeting minutes of February 9, 2026.

Motion by Ms. Jaime Shatsman

Second by Ms. Denise Verdi

Miller Aye      Osagie-Erese Aye      Verdi Aye      Shatsman Aye      Menser Aye      R-26-30  
 Motion Approved      5-0

Please click [here](#) to view the February 9, 2026 minutes.

**B. Approval of Minutes February 23, 2026**

A motion was made to approve the special board meeting minutes of February 23, 2026.

Motion by Ms. Jaime Shatsman

Second by Ms. Gabrielle Miller

Miller Aye      Osagie-Erese Aye      Verdi Aye      Shatsman Aye      Menser Aye      R-26-31  
 Motion Approved      5-0

Please click [here](#) to view the February 23, 2026 minutes.

**7. Treasurer's Report**

**A. Legal Counsel Engagement**

Be it resolved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and Treasurer that the Engagement Letter with Bricker Graydon Wyatt LLP be approved.

Motion by Ms. Gabrielle Miller

Second by Ms. Jaime Shatsman

Miller Aye      Osagie-Erese Aye      Verdi Aye      Shatsman Aye      Menser Aye      R-26-32  
 Motion Approved      5-0

Please click [here](#) to view the Legal Counsel Engagement Letter.

**B. \* Financial Report for Month Ending February 28, 2026**

A motion was made to approve Financial Report for Month Ending February 28, 2026

Please click [here](#) to view the February 28, 2026 Financials.

**C. \* Transfer of Funds - South HS Store**

Be it resolved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and Treasurer that the following amount be transferred to 200-9452 from the Fund/SCC listed below.

Transfer FROM Fund	Description	Amount
200-9402	South HS Store payment into South HS Store Debt Account	3,000.00

**D. \* Transfer of Funds To Make Debt Service Payments**

Be it resolved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and Treasurer that the following amount be transferred to the Bond Fund (002-0000) from the PI Fund/SCC listed below.

Transfer FROM Fund	Description	Amount
003-0000	Permanent Improvement Fund	1,707,289.42

### E. \* Athletic Event Worker's Pay Schedule

Be it resolved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and Treasurer that the Athletic Event Worker's Pay Schedule be approved:

Please click [here](#) to view the Athletic Event Worker's Pay Schedule.

### F. \* Grant Application Acceptance

Be it resolved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and Treasurer that the following grant application and award be approved:

Institution Awarding the Grant	Fund/SCC	Amount
The Berlin Family Education Association	007-9011	7,719.35
The Berlin Family Education Association	007-9035	6,940.00
Rebels Families	019-9220	4,195.00
The Lakeland Foundation-Partners in Excellence	019-9410	325.00

### G. \* Establishment of New Accounts

Be it resolved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and Treasurer that the following new accounts be established:

New Account	School	Account Description
018-9180	BOE	Distinguished Alumni Association

### H. \* Student Activity Accounts

Be it resolved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and Treasurer that the following Student Activity Program Purpose, Goals and Proposed Budgets and Revisions for FY26 be approved:

Fund/SCC	School	Account Description	Amount	Comments
007-9011	SHS	South Berlin	7,720.00	New FY26 Budget Only
007-9035	NHS	North Berlin	24,000.00	Revised FY26 Budget Only
007-9090	WWMS	WWMS G.F. Martin Educational Foundation	0.00	New FY26 Budget Only
018-9180	BOE	Distinguished Alumni Association	4,000.00	New Account; New FY26 Budget; New FY26 Purpose & Goals
018-9250	SOI	School of Innovation (Main)	47,000.00	Revised FY26 Budget Only
018-9310	EMS	Eastlake (Main)	44,130.00	7/14/25 Board Agenda Expenditure Reporting Correction
019-9220	SHS	Rebels Families	4,195.00	New FY26 Budget Only
019-9410	EDI	Edison Lakeland PSE Grant	325.00	New FY26 Budget Only
200-9344	NHS	North Robotics Club	2,133.00	Revised FY26 Budget Only

Please click [here](#) to view the March SA.

### I. \* Purchase Orders

Be it resolved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and Treasurer the following be approved:

WHEREAS, §5704.41 requires the fiscal officer of a school district certify the amount required to make an expenditure has been lawfully appropriated and is in the school district's treasury, free from any previous encumbrances before the expenditure is made,

WHEREAS, there are exceptions to the requirement, and

WHEREAS, the exceptions are: an invoice that exceeds a p.o. by \$3,000, and "then and now" certificates over \$3,000;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WILLOUGHBY-EASTLAKE BOARD OF EDUCATION:

To approve the following invoices that exceed the respective p.o. by \$3,000 or more

PO #	Vendor	PO Amount	Invoice Amount	Increase
263887	Ohio Schools Council- Gas	139,763.11	143,990.06	4,226.95

To approve the following Then and Now Certificates

PO #	Vendor	Amount	Description
161723	Riddell All American	6,654.45	SHS Football helmets and shoulder pads

#### J. \* Gifts and Donations

1. John Bireckline donated a 2005 Buick Century to the Auto Tech Program at NCIW.
2. The Cleveland Museum of Natural History provided a bus subsidy of \$250.00 to 018-9410 Edison (Main) for field trip transportation.
3. The Cleveland Museum of Natural History provided a bus subsidy of \$453.44 to 018-9430 Jefferson (Main) for field trip transportation.
4. The Leskiewicz Family donated \$25.00 to 018-9132 Early Literacy Program for A Book and Bunny project.

### 8. Treasurer- Resolutions

#### A. Property Valuation Complaint

Be it resolved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and Treasurer that the resolution authorizing the filing of an original complaint against the valuation of real property pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code Section 5715.19 be approved

Please click [here](#) to view the Board resolution to increase property value- 691 Properties, LLC.

#### B. Property Valuation Complaint

Be it resolved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and Treasurer that the resolution authorizing the filing of an original complaint against the valuation of real property pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code Section 5715.19 be approved

Please click [here](#) to view the Board resolution to increase property value- Akil Mehrotra, Trustee.

#### C. Property Valuation Complaint

Be it resolved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and Treasurer that the resolution authorizing the filing of an original complaint against the valuation of real property pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code Section 5715.19 be approved

Please click [here](#) to view the Board resolution to increase property value- Auldi Willoughby Pooh, LLC.

#### D. Property Valuation Complaint

Be it resolved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and Treasurer that the resolution authorizing the filing of an original complaint against the valuation of real property pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code Section 5715.19 be approved

Please click [here](#) to view the Board resolution to increase property value- Best Supply Properties, LLC.

#### E. Property Valuation Complaint

Be it resolved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and Treasurer that the resolution authorizing the filing of an original complaint against the valuation of real property pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code Section 5715.19 be approved

Please click [here](#) to view the Board resolution to increase property value- BETA Opportunity Fund, LLC.

#### F. Property Valuation Complaint

Be it resolved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and Treasurer that the resolution authorizing the filing of an original complaint against the valuation of real property pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code Section 5715.19 be approved

Please click [here](#) to view the Board resolution to increase property value- BFE 35264 Topps, LLC.

#### G. Property Valuation Complaint

Be it resolved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and Treasurer that the resolution authorizing the filing of an original complaint against the valuation of real property pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code Section 5715.19 be approved

Please click [here](#) to view the Board resolution to increase property value- Chardonnay Willoughby Hills Industrial, LLC.

**H. Property Valuation Complaint**

Be it resolved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and Treasurer that the resolution authorizing the filing of an original complaint against the valuation of real property pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code Section 5715.19 be approved

Please click [here](#) to view the Board resolution to increase property value- FSC Eastlake EAST.

**I. Property Valuation Complaint**

Be it resolved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and Treasurer that the resolution authorizing the filing of an original complaint against the valuation of real property pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code Section 5715.19 be approved

Please click [here](#) to view the Board resolution to increase property value- FSC Eastlake WEST.

**J. Property Valuation Complaint**

Be it resolved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and Treasurer that the resolution authorizing the filing of an original complaint against the valuation of real property pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code Section 5715.19 be approved

Please click [here](#) to view the Board resolution to increase property value- Home of Jerome Properties, LLC.

**K. Property Valuation Complaint**

Be it resolved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and Treasurer that the resolution authorizing the filing of an original complaint against the valuation of real property pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code Section 5715.19 be approved

Please click [here](#) to view the Board resolution to increase property value- Lakeland Business Park, LLC.

**L. Property Valuation Complaint**

Be it resolved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and Treasurer that the resolution authorizing the filing of an original complaint against the valuation of real property pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code Section 5715.19 be approved

Please click [here](#) to view the Board resolution to increase property value- Mr. Exclusive Jewelry, LLC.

**M. Property Valuation Complaint**

Be it resolved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and Treasurer that the resolution authorizing the filing of an original complaint against the valuation of real property pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code Section 5715.19 be approved

Please click [here](#) to view the Board resolution to increase property value- Perrino Custom Builders, LLC.

**N. Consent Vote**

To approve items 8A to 8M

Motion by Ms. Jaime Shatsman

Second by Ms. Rhonda Osagie-Erese

Miller Aye      Osagie-Erese Aye      Verdi Aye      Shatsman Aye      Menser Aye      R-26-33 - R-26-45

Motion Approved      5-0

**9. Superintendent - Announcements**

**A. Shared Vision**

Dr. Ward reported on the district's ongoing Shared Vision process. which resumed after weather-related delays. He reviewed the district's four established priorities: academic excellence, student experience, safety/operations/fiscal responsibility, and community engagement. Steering committees have reconvened, and the district plans to gather additional feedback through an April parent survey, a second community survey, focus groups, and community forums before the end of June. Committee leaders also shared updates on progress in learning framework development, safety improvements, communication efforts, and alumni/community engagement.

**B. Campus Updates**

Dr. Ward highlighted several student and program accomplishments, including:

- Owen Lim of the NCIW Business Academy placing second in Ohio in DECA startup business plan competition and qualifying for nationals.
- Isabella Bastic, a North High School junior, having a poem published.
- An update on South High School girls flag football, including Olivia Pennington's participation in a U.S. Junior National Team tryout.
- Growth of the new Willowick Middle School Show Choir, Ranger Remix.
- Continued promotion of the district podcast, Perspectives with Dr. Ward, as another way to connect with the community.

## 10. Superintendent - Resolutions

### A. MOU - Enhanced SRO Program Coordinator

Be it resolved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and Treasurer that the Enhanced School Resource Officer Program Coordinator Position Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Willoughby Police Department be approved.

Motion by Ms. Jaime Shatsman

Second by Ms. Gabrielle Miller

Miller Aye      Osagie-Erese Aye      Verdi Aye      Shatsman Aye      Menser Aye      R-26-51

Motion Approved      5-0

Please click [here](#) to view the MOU Enhanced SRO Program Coordinator.

### B. Change Order - Ameresco Agreement

Be it resolved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and Treasurer, that the Board of Education approve the requested change order in the amount of \$165,621.00 to replace eight (8) additional air conditioning units at Royalview Elementary, originally approved on July 14, 2025.

Motion by Ms. Rhonda Osagie-Erese

Second by Ms. Denise Verdi

Miller Aye      Osagie-Erese Aye      Verdi Aye      Shatsman Aye      Menser Aye      R-26-46

Motion Approved      5-0

Please click [here](#) to view the Ameresco Change Order.

### C. RFQ - GPD Group

Be it resolved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and Treasurer that a resolution approving the procurement of professional design services from GPD Group through participation in a contract of the Ohio Schools Council be approved.

Motion by Ms. Rhonda Osagie-Erese

Second by Ms. Gabrielle Miller

Miller Aye      Osagie-Erese Aye      Verdi Aye      Shatsman Aye      Menser Aye      R-26-47

Motion Approved      5-0

Please click [here](#) to view the Architect RFQ Resolution.

### D. Resolution approving the Sale of Real Property to the Lake Development Authority

Be it resolved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and Treasurer that the Resolution Approving the Sale of Real Property Associated with Permanent Parcel Number 27-A-015-0-00-024-0 to the Lake Development Authority and Authorizing the Board to enter into a Purchase Agreement to Effectuate the Sale be approved.

Motion by Ms. Gabrielle Miller

Second by Ms. Rhonda Osagie-Erese

Miller Aye      Osagie-Erese Aye      Verdi Aye      Shatsman Aye      Menser Aye      R-26-48

Motion Approved      5-0

Please click [here](#) to view the 2026 Purchase Option Agreement and please click [here](#) to view the resolution for Shankland Road Purchase Agreement.

### E. \*MOU - Baylor University

Be it resolved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and Treasurer that the Memorandum of Understanding with Baylor University be approved.

Please click [here](#) to view the Baylor University MOU.

**F. \*Trip Request - SOUTH Wrestling**

Be it resolved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent that an educational trip for the South High School Wrestling Team to participate in the District Wrestling Tournament in Perrysburg, Ohio, Friday, March 6, 2026 through Saturday, March 7, 2026 be approved.

**G. \*Trip Request - NORTH Robotics**

Be it resolved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent that an educational trip for the North High School Robotics Team to participate in the State Competition for Robotics in Troy, Ohio, Friday, March 13, 2026 through Saturday, March 14, 2026 be approved.

**11. Personnel Agenda**

**A. \* Administrative Personnel**

Be it resolved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and Treasurer that the Administrative Personnel Agenda be approved.

Please click [here](#) to view the Administrative Personnel.

**B. \* Certified Personnel**

Be it resolved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and Treasurer that the Certified Personnel Agenda be approved.

Please click [here](#) to view the Certified Personnel.

**C. \* Classified Personnel**

Be it resolved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and Treasurer that the Classified Personnel Agenda be approved.

Please click [here](#) to view the Classified Personnel.

**D. \* Supplemental Contracts**

Be it resolved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and Treasurer that the Supplemental Contracts be approved.

Please click [here](#) to view the Supplemental Contracts.

**12. Meeting Notification**

**A. \* Meeting Notification**

The next regular Board of Education Meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 13, 2026, 6:00 p.m., at the Administration Building, 35353 Curtis Blvd., Eastlake, OH 44095.

**13. Consent Calendar**

**A. Adoption of Consent Calendar**

Motion by Ms. Jaime Shatsman

Second by Ms. Rhonda Osagie-Erese

Miller Aye	Osagie-Erese Aye	Verdi Aye	Shatsman Aye	Menser Aye	R-26-49
					5-0

Motion Approved

**14. Closing**

**A. Adjournment**

A motion was made to adjourn.

Motion by Ms. Gabrielle Miller

Second by Ms. Denise Verdi

Miller Aye	Osagie-Erese Aye	Verdi Aye	Shatsman Aye	Menser Aye	R-50
					5-0

Motion Approved

Adjourned 7:28 p.m.

Treasurer

President