ATHENS CITY SCHOOLS
REGULAR MEETING – 6:30 P.M.
ATHENS MIDDLE SCHOOL
APRIL 23, 2026

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Board President Paul Grippa calls the March regular board meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with the following members present.

Paul Grippa
Rusty Rittenhouse
Charity Wilhelm
Jason Heinrich
Dave Hayden

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - MOMENT OF SILENCE

2026-073 ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The Athens City School District Board of Education adopts the agenda for its regular meeting of April 23, 2026, as presented and amended.

Motion by:
Second by:

Discussion:

Paul Grippa
Rusty Rittenhouse
Charity Wilhelm
Jason Heinrich
Dave Hayden

2026-074 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Athens City School District Board of Education approves the minutes of the Organizational and Regular Monthly Board meetings held on March 19, 2026.

Motion by:
Second by:

Discussion:

Paul Grippa
Rusty Rittenhouse
Charity Wilhelm
Jason Heinrich
Dave Hayden

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PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

"Upon request to the Superintendent, the District shall make reasonable accommodation for a disabled person to be able to participate in this activity."

"No more than a total of thirty (30) minutes for public participation is permitted at each regular board meeting. Individuals are welcome to speak provided they identify themselves by name and address, give the topic to be discussed and limit their presentations to three (3) minutes each".

AFSCME Local
Athens Education Association

PRESENTATION/BOARD DISCUSSION

Dr. David Brobeck and Angie Haning present information on the Writing Revolution initiative at Athens City School District and across the State.

Superintendent update on the construction of the new Athens High School Building.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORTS

Legislative Liaison:
McClure Foundation:
Tri-County Career Center:
Educational Service Center:

2026-075 TREASURER'S REPORT

The Athens City School District Board of Education approves the Treasurer's Report for March 2026 as submitted. The report contains the Bank Reconciliation, Fund Report, Monthly Financial Report, Monthly Check Summary Report, and Investment Report.

Motion by:
Second by:

Discussion:

Paul Grippa
Rusty Rittenhouse
Charity Wilhelm
Jason Heinrich
Dave Hayden

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SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

2026-076 PERSONNEL

RESIGNATIONS/RETIREMENT—The Athens City School District Board of Education accepts the resignation of the following individuals:

Resignations:
Emma Stanley from her position as intervention specialist at AMS at the end of her current contract.

Julia Fahrion from her position as paraprofessional at East Elementary School effective May 29th.

Timarie Francis from her position as Director of Food Services at the end of her current contract.

Julie Gillem from her position as intervention specialist at The Plains Intermediate School at the end of her current contract.

Retirements:
Michelle Chapman from her position as first-grade teacher at Morrison Gordon Elementary effective May 30th after 31 years of service in the district.

Kim Roback from her position as preschool teacher at Morrison Gordon Elementary effective May 30th.

Carole Abdella from her position as third-grade teacher at East Elementary effective May 30th after 28 years of service in the district.

EMPLOYMENT/CONTRACT RECOMMENDATIONS (pending successful verification of certification, college transcripts and experience, completion of criminal records check and other state and local requirements for the positions)

1. Administrative Contract – The Athens City School District Board of Education issue a 1-year administrative contract to the following individuals listed:

   Mr. Jared Bunting for the position of Treasurer for the District on a five (5) year 260-day contract as submitted.

   Cort Forgrave – Assistant Principal at The Plains Intermediate School on a three (3) year 217-day contras at step 0 on the administrative salary schedule for assistant elementary principal.

2. Limited Contracts - The Athens City School District Board of Education issues a one (1) year limited contract to the following individual(s) for the 2025-2026 school year:

   Ashley Owisany - School counselor at The Plains Intermediate School on a one (1) year contract, MA Step 0, Master's Degree.

   Kendall Creviston – PreK Integrated Special Education Intervention Specialist at Morrison Gordon Elementary on a one (1) year contract, BA Step 0, Bachelor's Degree.

2026-076 PERSONNEL (continued)

Abigail Swanson – Kindergarten Teacher at Morrison Gordon Elementary on a one (1) year contract, BA Step 0, Bachelor's Degree.

3. Long-Term Substitute Teacher for the remainder of the 2025-2026 school year: The Athens City School District Board of Education issues a Long-Term Substitute Contract to the following individual:

   None at this time.

4. Extended Service Day for the following individual(s) to be paid up to two (10) hours of work at their hourly rate of pay to complete IEP's for any students for the substitute teacher at the Plains Intermediate School that is not part of their current caseload:

   None at this time.

5. Supplemental Contracts: Issue supplemental contracts based on the salary schedule in effect July 1, 2026 for the position listed for the 2026-2027 school year to the following individuals:

   Certified
   Steve McCollum Varsity Assistant Football Coach
   Bill Rogers High School Football Varsity Assistant Coach (resignation)

   Non Certified
   Scott Cottrill Middle School Boys Basketball Coach
   Austin Parsons High School Football Volunteer
   Tyler Wurth High School Football Varsity Assistant Coach
   Sam Orlando Middle School Football Coach (pending PAP)
   Haddie DiBenedetto High School Cross Country Assistant Coach
   On Lam High School Cross Country Volunteer
   Grant Hampson Middle School Girls Soccer (resignation)

6. Substitute Teacher/Home Instructor/Tutor for 2025-2026 School Year: The Athens City School District Board of Education issues a substitute teacher contract at the Board approved rate of pay on an as needed basis to the following:

   Substitute Teacher
   Daniel DeLuca
   Kristen Andrews
   Anne Hamm, Professional Intern assigned to Irene Kidd.
   Carolyn Vieland
   Lauren Bunn, Professional Intern assigned to William Rogers
   Francis Scolaro (Pending licensure)

   Home Instructor/Tutor
   Piper Scolaro at a rate of $59.15 per hour for up to 7 hours.

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2026-076 PERSONNEL (continued)

7. Classified Personnel – The Athens City School District Board of Education in accordance with Article VII, Job Postings/Transfer/Assignment and Bidding Procedure approves the following position as listed and detailed below (pending successful verification of certification, highly qualified status for paraprofessional positions, completion of criminal records check and other state and local requirements for these positions):

Transportation

Food Services

8. Substitute Classified Personnel—The Athens City School District Board of Education approves the employment of the following personnel for the 2025-2026 school year on an as need basis at the Board approved rate of pay for the position they are subbing in.

Paraprofessional
Hudson Forman

Custodial
Tanya Nuber
Brian Sedwick
Brian Hamilton

Cafeteria
Tanya Nuber

Transportation
Savauna Fitz

The Athens City School Board of Education accepts the resignations/retirement of employment and approves the Superintendent's personnel recommendations for employment as listed and detailed above.

Motion by:
Second by:

Discussion:

Paul Grippa
Rusty Rittenhouse
Charity Wilhelm
Jason Heinrich
Dave Hayden

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2026-077 BOARD OF EDUCATION APPROVALS

A. APPROVAL OF RENEWAL IN THE OHIO SCHOOLCOMP GROUP RETRO PROGRAM

The Athens City School District approves the re-enrollment/renewal in the 2027 Ohio SchoolComp group retro program through Sedgwick at an annual cost of $13,445.

B. APPROVAL TO AMEND THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL CALENDAR

The Athens City School District approves the amended 2025-2026 school calendar which puts the last day of the 4th quarter as the last workday for teachers.

C. APPROVAL OF DONATION OF SCHOOL BUS

The Athens City School District Board of Education approves the donation of one (1) school Bus #21 (2009 International) VIN 4DRBUAAN49B129501 to be donated to the Plains Volunteer Fire Department to be used for their regional training.

The Athens City School District approves the list of Board of Education Approvals as submitted.

Motion by:
Second by:

Discussion:

Paul Grippa
Rusty Rittenhouse
Charity Wilhelm
Jason Heinrich
Dave Hayden

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2026-078 <u>SECOND READING OF UPDATED/REVISED BOARD POLICIES</u>

Policy 2431.06 - Name, Image, and Likeness (NIL) in Athletics (New)
Policy 3440/4440 - Job-Related Expenses (Revised)
Policy 6423 - Use of District Credit Card (Revised)
Policy 6424 Procurement Cards (Revised)
Policy 6460 - Vendor Relations (Revised)
Policy 6465 - Affinity, Rewards, or Other Discount Programs (NEW)
Policy 5112 - Entrance Requirements (Revised)
Policy 5223 - Release Time for Religious Instruction (Revised)
Policy 5421 - Grading (Revised)
Policy 5430 - Class Rank (Revised)
Policy 6220 - Budget Preparation (Revised)
Policy 6320 - Purchasing and Bidding (Revised)
Policy 6325 - Procurement - Federal Grants/Funds (Revised)
Policy 6425 - Use of District Tax Exempt Certificate (New)
Policy 7540.09 - Artificial Intelligence (AI) (Replacement)
Policy 4162 - Drug and Alcohol Testing of CDL License Holders Who Perform Safety-Sensitive Functions (Revised)
Policy 4162.01 - Drug and Alcohol Testing of Employees Without CDL Licenses Who Transport Students in Alternative Vehicles (Non-DOT Testing) (NEW)
Policy 8600 - Transportation (Revised)
Policy 8600.04 - Bus and Alternative Vehicle Driver Certification (Revised)
Policy 8640 - Transportation for Non-Routine Trips (Revised)
Policy 8650 - Transportation by Alternative Vehicles (Revised)

The Athens City School District approves the adoption of the updated/revised board policies.

Motion by:
Second by:

Discussion:

Paul Grippa
Rusty Rittenhouse
Charity Wilhelm
Jason Heinrich
Dave Hayden

ADJOURNMENT

The Board President declared the Athens City School District Board of Education Regular Meeting of April 23, 2026 adjourned at p.m.

_____ _____
Board President Jared M. Bunting, Treasurer/CFO
(No addendum after the Board Authorized Signatures is a valid account of the meeting.)

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