



**City of Delaware Joint Meeting of
Delaware City Council & Delaware City Schools
Joint Meeting 3/9/2026
City Council Chambers
6:00pm**

2026-MR 1.0 Opening

2026-MR 1.1 Call to Order and Roll Call

The Delaware City Board of Education met in a special Joint Meeting of Delaware City Council & Delaware City Schools on 3/9/2026 at 6:00pm at the City Council Chambers.

Members present on roll call were:

Mrs. Gasaway (Vice-President)
Mr. Wiener
Mrs. Buckerfield
Ms. Fitzharris

Mr. Backus (President) - Not present.
Ms. Harris - Not present.

2026-MR-1.2 Adoption of Agenda

Moved by Mr. Wiener, seconded by Mrs. Buckerfield to adopt this agenda with adding Ms. Fitzharris.

Roll call resulted as follows: Mr. Wiener, yea; Mrs. Buckerfield, yea; Mrs. Gasaway, yea; Ms. Fitzharris, yea.

Vice-President Gasaway declared the motion carried.

2026-MR-2.0 Special Meeting Topics

2.1 City of Delaware Update

A. Development Update

Sandra Pereira, Community Development and Planning Director, provided an overview of residential development activity:

- Reported on approved development plans for single-family homes and multi-family homes, including locations and associated school districts.
- Shared data on future residential units with approved preliminary plans, including locations and corresponding school districts.

Nic Langford, Economic Development Director, provided updates on industrial and commercial development:

Industrial Development and Commercial Projects:

Under Construction

- Industrial flex space at Sawmill/Innovation Ct.
- Industrial flex space at 2044 Pittsburgh Dr.
- Maridel / Ohio Blue Jackets: Anticipated groundbreaking this year for Phase 1, including an ice arena.
- Kroger Marketplace: Development at Glenn Rd. and US 36/SR 37.
- Foundations Health: Senior living facility at 402 Glenn Rd.
- Miller Building (18–20 N. Sandusky St.): Mixed-use office and restaurant space
- Rooftop Wine Bar (39 E. William St., former J. Gumbo's): Nearing completion.
- Rosebud's: Relocation to 3 W. Winter St.

In Pipeline

- Industrial flex space at Howald Industrial Park
- Belle Ave.
- Downtown Hotel: Planned in collaboration with Ohio Wesleyan University.
- Sunbury Rd. / US 36 / SR 37 Developments: Proposed projects include Chick-fil-A, a daycare facility, Chipotle, and 2–3 large-format retail stores.

On the Horizon

- Gateway Commerce Park: A 200+ acre development focused on biotech and advanced manufacturing.
- New Industrial Park: Approximately 60 acres planned for future industrial development.
- PPG: \$280 million investment expected to create approximately 100 jobs (announced).
- Additional expansion and job creation announcements are anticipated next quarter.

Other Items

- Comprehensive Incentives Policy: An economic impact matrix evaluating benefits across taxing jurisdictions (schools, county, and city).
- Affordable Housing: Collaboration with developers to expand attainable rental and for-sale housing.
- School Planning Coordination: Ongoing coordination with developers to allocate land for current and future school facility needs.

2.2. Delaware City School District Update

Superintendent Keith Pomeroy provided the following update:

- Mr. Pomeroy reported engaging directly with stakeholders. He visited district buildings to gather input from staff, students, and parents. This included structured focus groups, an online questionnaire, and participation in community events with business and civic leaders.
- The community identified five core strengths that define DCS.
 1. Fostering Community
 2. Exceptional People
 3. Supportive Relationships
 4. Abundant Opportunities
 5. Resource-Rich Community
- Identified Pressures and Challenges that strain our foundation.
 1. Proactive Planning
 2. Behavior and Social-Emotional Needs
 3. Student Experience and Opportunities
 4. Communication and Transparency
 5. Technology
 6. Professional Development
- The district is developing five strategic pillars:
 1. The Human Foundation
 2. Building Thinkers' Toolkit for a Complex World
 3. Navigating the Technology Paradox
 4. Forging Stronger Connections to Real Life
 5. Cultivating a Path of Discovery
- A Facilities Master Plan will begin this summer following engagement with architectural firms to assess space needs.
- Enrollment projections indicate an increase of approximately 627 students over the next ten years.
- Ryan Homes has donated 52 acres of land to Delaware City Schools off Troy Road.
- Mr. Pomeroy provided an overview of House Bills 129 and 186 and their impact on district funding.
- Ohio currently ranks 45th in the nation in terms of the state's share of school funding, resulting in a greater reliance on local funding sources.
- The board discussed the potential impact of removing property taxes on other tax levies.
- The board also discussed land requirements and estimated costs associated with constructing a new school.

2.3. Other Discussions

- Mayor Riggle expressed appreciation to DCS for attending the meeting.
- Linsey Griffith stated a desire for frequent communication from the district and emphasized the importance of continuing collaboration.

2026-MR-3.0 Adjournment

3.1. I recommend this meeting be adjourned.

Moved by Mrs. Buckerfield, seconded by Mr. Wiener to adjourn this meeting.

Roll call resulted as follows: Mrs. Buckerfield, yea; Mr. Wiener, yea; Mrs. Gasaway, yea; Ms. Fitzharris, yea.

Vice-President Gasaway declared the meeting adjourned at 6:48 pm.

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President

Treasurer

**Denotes student Board member*