EAST KNOX BOARD OF EDUCATION **REGULAR**

April 9, 2026, East Knox Elementary, 6 pm

A. Call to Order

The President, Ms. Bush, called the meeting to order.

B. Roll Call

The President called the roll:

Mr. Joshua Beltz, here
Ms. Lindsay Bush, here
Mr. Alan Huffman, here
Mr. Randy Reese, absent
Mrs. Melissa Tomlinson, here

C. Approval of the Agenda

Recommendation to approve the agenda as presented.

26-032 MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED
Mr. Huffman moved and Ms. Bush seconded the motion to approve the agenda.
Roll call: All Present-Yes. Motion carried.

D. Athletics

- Mr. Bailey Sprague
  - KMAC Winter Sports Awards
  - Athletic Update(s)
    - Unstoppable Football Camp 2026 hosted by Mt. Gilead, Mr. Sprague will attend the event.
    - OHSAA bylaw voting items were reviewed

E. Building Reports

- Elementary – Melissa Moreland
  - 3rd Quarter Awards Ceremony
  - Father/Daughter dance being held for PK-6
  - Elem. Art Show – April 30th
  - Kindergarten Screening
- 6th Grade Presentations
  - Students presented on their stories completed during an ELA partner project
  - Andrew Keith presented on his ELA project

Melissa Tomlinson asked about results of Penny Wars and Right to Read Week competition

  - Mrs. Moreland indicated that 3rd grade won penny wars
  - Over 170 people attended Literacy Night.

- Jr./Sr. HS – Shannon Sprang
  - NHS induction recently with 21 inducted, State FCCLA competition, FFA Nursery/Landscaping placed 5th in the State, EMT/Fire Dept. presented to high school students on career options, mock crash between East Knox and Danville, Prom activities being planned, classroom visits to Ariel Corporation in May through Career Connections.
  - Thank you to Chris Doolittle and work on curriculum review, reviewing social studies and ELA curriculum purchasing in the near future.

Melissa Tomlinson thanked Mrs. Sprang for Bulldog Blitz

Lindsay Bush asked about staff feedback on new curriculum
- Mrs. Doolittle indicated staff is very pleased.

F. Public Participation

Please see Board Policy #0169.1
- None

G. Treasurer Report

- Financial Update
  - Refunding Update
    - Due to ongoing situation in Iran, interest rates have risen and the refunding does not financially provide savings at this time
    - Resolution and paperwork already started so work will slowly continue and then move forward once rates show stabilization back at the level of a couple months ago
      - Approximately $5 million in debt outstanding from 2007 bond issue and refunding estimated to save about $200,000 in interest of the remaining 8 years of the debt schedule
  - Jefferson Health Plan-Medical renewal
    - 6.96% increase for 26-27 is approximately $12,000 per month or $140,00 for the year
    - Premium holiday is $180,000 and we are eligible again
    - Claims increased $829,000 or 43% from 2024 to 2025
  - Emergency Level Renewal Update
    - Property Tax reform changes have made it a neutral revenue stream for the district in regards to the renewal of the emergency levy that expires in 2026.
    - Emergency levy is now included in the 20 mill floor calculation and we are at the 20 mill floor prior to property tax reform
    - Due to the property tax reform and the credits, the district will go below the 20 mills and the emergency levy does not get us back above that 20 mill floor
    - Emergency levy is $1.2 million for 2.27 mills
    - Projections currently estimate that EK taxpayers could receive over $1.6 million in taxpayer credits from tax reform
  - Upcoming items
    - Liability Insurance Renewal
    - Capital Improvement Plan review

H. Treasurer Recommendations

Recommendation to approve the minutes from the March 12, 2026, regular meeting.

Recommendation to approve the March 2026 Financial Report as presented.

Recommendation to join membership with Sheakley in the BWC group retrospective rating program for the 2027 rate year at a cost of $355.

Recommendation to approve the renewal rates for medical insurance with Jefferson Health Plan, for July 1, 2026-June 30, 2027 as presented, which represents a 6.96% increase.

Recommendation to approve the renewal with Vision Service Plan (VSP) from July 1, 2026-June 30, 2028 for the BEST plan option.

Recommendation to accept the following donations, with appreciation and gratitude:

Amount	From	To	For
$500	East Knox Lions Club	to East Knox Elem.	Student Fees
$500	East Knox Lions Club	to East Knox Elem.	PBIS Activities
$ 50	Margaret Dunn	to East Knox Elem.	Kdg. Clrm. Bks. in Memory of Rita Whitney
$79 value	Mr./Mrs. Opfer	to East Knox JRHS Music Dept	Music Stand
$250	an anonymous grateful EK graduate of FFA	to FFA	
$461	Hayden Baker, Blake Elliott, & Dylan Springer	to FFA	
$10,000	EK Athletic Boosters	to EK Athletics	HUDL

Recommendation to approve the budgetary amendments as follows:

009	Uniform School Supplies	$4,600
024	Employee Benefits Fund	$450,000

26-033 MOTION TO APPROVE THE ABOVE RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Beltz moved and Mr. Huffman seconded the motion to approve the above recommendations.
Roll call: All Present-Yes. Motion carried.

I. Superintendent Report and Board Discussion

- District Update
    - Staffing update – introduction of Angie Buchert, 2nd grade. Review of the need for an additional 6th grade teacher, changing library aide to instructional asst./tutor and part-time graphic art teacher. No applications for school psychologist.
    - Playground update – review of playground meeting, students had opportunity to make selections, bidding to take place before next meeting.
    - Football field update – sprinkler system installed.
    - Capital improvements – received input from maintenance, principals, technology, transportation, athletics.
    - Discussion of future long-term projects such as auditorium or multi-use space for events.
    - Discussion of Governor Merit Scholarship and weighted grades.
    - Thank you to the Board and EKEA on ratification of the agreement and unifying a salary schedule.
    - Review of resources available this month and next month.

Melissa Tomlinson asked who the Chromebook replacements are for?
Josh Beltz asked about the use of Chromebooks for K-3 students

- Mr. Baird indicated that these Chromebooks are for high school students and then we will continue through the proposed schedule of future replacement.

J. Superintendent Recommendations

Recommendation to approve the following presented Neola Board Policies as recommended and approved by the EK Policy Committee at the meeting on February 25, 2026:

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PO2431.06	(NEW) NAME, IMAGE, AND LIKENESS (NIL) IN ATHLETICS-as written
PO3440	JOB-RELATED EXPENSES-as modified
PO4440	JOB-RELATED EXPENSES-as modified
PO5112	ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS-as modified
PO5223	RELEASED TIME FOR RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION DURING THE SCHOOL DAY-as modified
PO5421	GRADING, hold – being reviewed
PO5430	CLASS RANK, hold – being reviewed
PO6220	BUDGET PREPARATION-as modified
PO6320	PURCHASING AND BIDDING-as modified
PO6325	PROCUREMENT – FEDERAL GRANTS/FUNDS-as modified
PO6423	USE OF CREDIT CARDS-as modified
PO6424	PROCUREMENT CARDS-no, delete
PO6425	(NEW) USE OF DISTRICT TAX EXEMPT CERTIFICATE-as written
PO6460	VENDOR RELATIONS-as modified
PO6465	(NEW) AFFINITY, REWARDS, OR OTHER DISCOUNT PROGRAMS-as written
PO7540.09	(REPLACEMENT) ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE-as modified

Recommendation to approve the following presented Neola Board Policies as recommended by the superintendent.

Employment of Retired Staff Employees

PO3144	EMPLOYMENT OF RETIRED TEACHERS-as modified
PO4144	EMPLOYMENT OF RETIRED CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES-as modified

Recommendation to approve the agreement with SchoolLinks for middle school and high school licenses for college, career, and financial aid programming through June 30, 2028 for a cost not to exceed $10,909.05.

Recommendation to accept the quote from Frontline Education for a comparative analytics subscription from July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027 for $5,310.

Recommendation to approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Mount Vernon Nazarene University for College Credit Plus as presented for the 2026-2027 school year.

Recommendation to authorize the treasurer to advertise and accept bids for the purchase of one school bus (up to 83 passengers).

Recommendation to approve the purchase of 284 HP Fortis G1i 14” Chromebooks from Xtek Partners for $113,600.

Recommendation to approve the agreement with Northern Buckeye Educational Council for a print management service for a five-year period, $6,240 total.

Recommendation to approve the overnight field trip for FCCLA to compete in the State Competition, April 16-17, 2026.

Recommendation to approve the quote from Agile Sorts Technologies for Hudl Subscription for the East Knox Athletic Department through August 4, 2028 for $10,800 per year, prorated for year one.

Recommendation to approve the quote from Farnham Equipment for cabinetry for Science classrooms in the Jr./Sr. High School for $31,011.

Recommendation to authorize the treasurer seek bids for the elementary playground construction project.

Recommendation to approve the contract, as presented, with AKtivate LLC for a school psychologist services for the 2026-2027 school year.

Recommendation to approve the contract change order from Southeast Security for recurring cell monitoring service for the elementary fire alarm panel for a monthly cost of $20.

Recommendation to approve the proposal from The Education Company for the Jr./Sr. High School and Elementary professional development training in school discipline solutions, $15,000.

Recommendation to approve the following students as participants in the College Credit Plus program for the 2026-2027 school year. All students below have met the counseling requirements, attended the CCP meeting and returned the paperwork:

Graduating Seniors

Adams, Zachary

Armstrong, Caleb

Armstrong, Colton

Arnold, Ray

Beatty, Reagan

Beltz, Collin

Bostic, Isabelle

Clark, Ellie

Cline, Anna

Colopy, Miles

Crawford, Savannah

Daugherty, Jace

Divan, Curtis

Dunn, Raylee

Ezzarouali, Reem

Faucett, Ava

Faucett, Cason

Ferenbaugh, Reese

Fields, Blake

Frazee, Vincent

Griffith, Kendall

Grigsby, Kiren

Hanners, Avery

Hansen, Carmine
Hoobler, Ava
Houston, William
Hughes, Ava
Kahoe, Brooklynn
Keathley, Katrina
Keirns, Dylan
Keith, James
Kelley, Isabella
Kirk, Jayden
Koontz, Elaina
Kovacevic, Allie
Larner, Lillian
Lilly, Paizley
Lilly, Rhyley
May, Callie
McDowell, Wyatt
McKean, Maddison
Mickley, Hikari
Moore, Kenlie
Nelson, Noah
Norris, Emily
Opheim, Gwenyth
Page, Ava
Peck, Ryan
Priest, Hayden
Ridenour, Caden
Rose, Quentin
Schwartz, Hunter
Severt, Tanner
Shank, Grace
Smith, Angel
Streby, Melina
Stephens, Kylie
Stephens, Rylie
Swartz, Carter
Tucker, Cloe
Undercoffer, Owen
Vineyard, Isaac
Williams, Nora
Williams, Rhyan
Willis, Kylie
Winkler, Imogen

Winkler, Rylan

26-034 MOTION TO APPROVE THE ABOVE RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Huffman moved and Mr. Beltz seconded the motion to approve the above recommendations.
Roll call: All present – Yes. Motion carried.

Recommendation to approve the following resolution:

BOND RESOLUTION

AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS IN THE AMOUNT OF NOT TO EXCEED $5,335,000 FOR THE PURPOSE OF (A) CURRENTLY REFUNDING A PORTION OF THE BONDS ISSUED IN JANUARY 2014 FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSTRUCTING NEW SCHOOL FACILITIES; RENOVATING, IMPROVING AND CONSTRUCTING ADDITIONS TO EXISTING SCHOOL FACILITIES, INCLUDING IMPROVEMENTS TO THE SCHOOL HEATING SYSTEM; FURNISHING AND EQUIPPING THE SAME; IMPROVING THE SITES THEREOF; ACQUIRING LAND AND INTERESTS IN LAND; AND (B) CURRENTLY REFUNDING A PORTION OF THE BONDS ISSUED IN SEPTEMBER 2016 FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADVANCE REFUNDING A PORTION OF THE BONDS ISSUED IN MARCH 2007 FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSTRUCTING NEW SCHOOL FACILITIES; RENOVATING, IMPROVING AND CONSTRUCTING ADDITIONS TO EXISTING SCHOOL FACILITIES, INCLUDING IMPROVEMENTS TO THE SCHOOL HEATING SYSTEM; FURNISHING AND EQUIPPING THE SAME; IMPROVING THE SITES THEREOF; ACQUIRING LAND AND INTERESTS IN LAND, AND RETIRING NOTES PREVIOUSLY ISSUED FOR SUCH PURPOSE; AND AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING RELATED MATTERS

WHEREAS, at the election held on November 7, 2006, on the proposition of issuing bonds of the School District in the amount of $13,000,000 for the improvements described in the title of this Resolution and levying taxes outside the ten-mill limitation to pay the principal of and interest on such bonds, the electors of the School District approved the issuance of such bonds with the requisite majority of those voting on the proposition voting in favor thereof; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to such voted authority, the School District issued its $9,949,985.85 School Facilities Construction and Improvement Bonds, Series 2007, dated March 6, 2007 (the “Series 2007 Bonds”); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to such voted authority, the School District issued its $750,000 School Facilities Construction and Improvement Bonds, Series 2014, dated January 22, 2014 (the “Series 2014 Bonds”); and

WHEREAS, the School District issued its $8,885,000 Refunding Bonds, Series 2016, dated September 8, 2016 (the “Series 2016 Bonds” and, together with the Series 2014 Bonds, the “Outstanding Bonds”), for the purpose of advance refunding a portion of the Series 2007 Bonds; and

WHEREAS, in view of currently prevailing lower interest rates, the Board has determined that it is advisable and in the best interest of the School District to issue the Bonds (as defined hereinbelow) to currently refund a portion of the outstanding principal of the Outstanding Bonds (the “Refunded Bonds”); and

WHEREAS, the Treasurer of the Board (the “Treasurer”) has certified to this Board that the maximum maturity and principal amount of the Bonds cannot exceed the maximum maturity and principal amount of the Refunded Bonds; and

WHEREAS, it is now deemed necessary to issue and sell not to exceed $5,335,000 of the Bonds for the purpose described in the title of this Resolution under authority of the general laws of the State of Ohio, including Ohio Revised Code Chapter 133, and in particular Section 133.34 thereof;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the East Knox Local School District, Knox, Coshocton and Licking Counties, Ohio that:

Section 1. It is declared necessary to issue bonds of the School District for the purpose described in the title of this Resolution in the principal sum of not to exceed $5,335,000, or such lesser amount as shall be determined by the Treasurer and certified to this Board, which bonds shall be designated as "East Knox Local School District, Knox, Coshocton and Licking Counties, Ohio Refunding Bonds, Series 2026," or as otherwise designated by the Treasurer (the "Bonds"). The Bonds may be issued in one or more series.

Section 2. The Bonds shall be issued as fully registered bonds in such denominations as shall be determined by the Treasurer, but not exceeding the principal amount of Bonds maturing on any one date; shall be numbered as determined by the Treasurer; and shall have such final terms as shall be determined by the Treasurer and set forth in the Certificate of Fiscal Officer provided for herein.

Section 3. The Treasurer is authorized and directed to execute on behalf of the School District a Certificate of Fiscal Officer Relating to Terms of Bonds (the "Certificate of Fiscal Officer") setting forth the aggregate principal amount and the final terms of the Bonds, which aggregate principal amount and terms, subject to the limitations set forth in this Resolution, shall be as determined by the Treasurer. The Certificate of Fiscal Officer shall indicate the dated date for the Bonds, the dates on which interest on the Bonds is to be paid (the "Interest Payment Dates"), the purchase price for the Bonds (which shall be not less than 97% of the aggregate principal amount thereof), the maturity schedule for the Bonds (provided that the maximum maturity date of the Bonds shall not be later than December 1 of the year of final maturity of the Refunded Bonds), the interest rates for the Bonds (provided that the true interest cost for all Bonds in the aggregate shall not exceed 6.50% per annum), the optional and mandatory redemption provisions, if any, and such other terms not inconsistent with this Resolution as the Treasurer shall deem appropriate.

Section 4. The Bonds shall be issued with interest payable semiannually on each Interest Payment Date until the principal sum is paid or provision has been duly made therefor (the "Current Interest Bonds") or with interest compounded on each Interest Payment Date but payable only at maturity (the "Capital Appreciation Bonds") in such proportions as shall be set forth in the Certificate of Fiscal Officer. Interest shall be calculated on the basis of a 360-day year of twelve 30-day months, unless otherwise determined by the Treasurer. Unless otherwise determined by the Treasurer, the Current Interest Bonds shall be in the denominations of $5,000 or any integral multiple thereof, and the Capital Appreciation Bonds shall be in the denominations on the date of their issuance and delivery equal to the principal amount which, when interest is accrued and compounded thereon, beginning on the date of delivery to the Original Purchaser (as defined hereinbelow), and each Interest Payment Date thereafter, will equal $5,000 or any integral multiple thereof at maturity.

Section 5. The Current Interest Bonds shall be subject to optional and mandatory redemption prior to stated maturity as provided in the Certificate of Fiscal Officer. If optional redemption of the Current Interest Bonds at a redemption price exceeding 100% is to take place on any date on which a mandatory redemption of the Current Interest Bonds of the same maturity will take place, the Current Interest Bonds to be redeemed by optional redemption shall be selected by the Bond Registrar (as defined hereinbelow) prior to the selection of the Current Interest Bonds to be redeemed at par on the same date.

When partial redemption is authorized, the Bond Registrar shall select Current Interest Bonds or portions thereof by lot within a maturity in such manner as the Bond Registrar may determine, provided, however, that the portion of any Current Interest Bond so selected shall be in the amount of $5,000 or any integral multiple thereof (unless otherwise determined by the Treasurer).

The notice of the call for redemption of Current Interest Bonds shall identify (i) by designation, letters, numbers or other distinguishing marks, the Current Interest Bonds or portions thereof to be redeemed, (ii) the redemption price to be paid, (iii) the date fixed for redemption, and (iv) the place or places where the amounts due upon redemption are payable. From and after the specified redemption date interest on the Current Interest Bonds (or portions thereof) called for redemption shall cease to accrue. Such notice shall be sent by first class mail at least 30 days prior to the redemption date to each registered holder of the Current Interest Bonds to be redeemed at the address shown in the Bond Register (as defined hereinbelow) on the 15th day preceding the date of mailing. Failure to receive such notice or any defect therein shall not affect the validity of the proceedings for the redemption of any Current Interest Bond.

Section 6. The Bonds shall express upon their faces the purpose for which they are issued and that they are issued pursuant to this Resolution. The Bonds shall be executed by the President of the Board (the "President") and by the Treasurer in their official capacities, provided that either or both of their signatures may be a facsimile. No Bond shall be valid or become obligatory for any purpose or shall be entitled to any security or benefit under this Resolution unless and until a certificate of authentication, as printed on the Bond, is signed by the Bond Registrar as authenticating agent. Authentication by the Bond Registrar shall be conclusive evidence that the Bond so authenticated has been duly issued and delivered under this Resolution and is entitled to the security and benefit of this Resolution. The certificate of authentication may be signed by any officer or officers of the Bond Registrar or by such other person acting as an agent of the Bond Registrar as shall be approved by the Treasurer on behalf of the School District. It shall not be necessary that the same authorized person sign the certificate of authentication on all of the Bonds.

Section 7. The principal of and interest on the Bonds shall be payable in lawful money of the United States of America without deduction for the services of the Bond Registrar as paying agent. The principal of the Bonds shall be payable upon presentation and surrender of the Bonds at the designated office of the Bond Registrar. Each Bond shall bear interest from the later of the date thereof, or the most recent Interest Payment Date to which interest has been paid or duly provided for, unless the date of authentication of any Bond is less than 15 days prior to an Interest Payment Date, in which case interest shall accrue from such Interest Payment Date. Interest on any Current Interest Bond shall be paid on each Interest Payment Date by wire or check or draft mailed to the person in whose name the Bond is registered, at the close of business on the 15th day next preceding that Interest Payment Date (the "Record Date") (unless such date falls on a non-business day, in which case the Record Date shall be the preceding business day), on the Bond Register at the address appearing therein.

Any interest on any Bond which is payable, but is not punctually paid or provided for, on any Interest Payment Date (herein called "Defaulted Interest") shall forthwith cease to be payable to the registered owner on the relevant Record Date by virtue of having been such owner and such Defaulted Interest shall be paid to the registered owner in whose name the Bond is registered at the close of business on a date (the "Special Record Date") to be fixed by the Bond Registrar, such Special Record Date to be not more than 15 nor less than 10 days prior to the date of proposed payment. The Bond Registrar shall cause notice of the proposed payment of such Defaulted Interest and the Special Record Date therefor to be mailed, first class postage prepaid, to each bondholder, at such bondholder's address as it appears in the Bond Register, not less than 10 days prior to such Special Record Date, and may, in its discretion, cause a similar notice to be published once in a newspaper in each place where Bonds are payable, but such publication shall not be a condition precedent to the establishment of such Special Record Date.

Subject to the foregoing provisions of this Section, each Bond delivered by the Bond Registrar upon transfer of or in exchange for or in lieu of any other Bond shall carry the rights to interest accrued and unpaid, and to accrue, which were carried by such other Bond.

Section 8. The Treasurer is authorized and directed to serve as authenticating agent, bond registrar, transfer agent, and paying agent (collectively, the "Bond Registrar") for the Bonds or to execute on behalf of the Board a Bond Registrar Agreement with such bank or other appropriate financial institution as shall be acceptable to the Treasurer and the Original Purchaser, pursuant to which such bank or financial institution shall agree to serve as the Bond Registrar for the Bonds. If at any time the Bond Registrar shall be unable or unwilling to serve as such, or the Treasurer in such officer's discretion shall determine that it would be in the best interest of the School District for such functions to be performed by another party, or the Treasurer determines it necessary and appropriate to appoint a co-Bond Registrar in addition to the Bond Registrar, the

Treasurer may, and is authorized to, enter into an agreement with a national banking association or other appropriate institution experienced in providing such services, to perform the services required of the Bond Registrar hereunder. Each such successor Bond Registrar (or co-Bond Registrar) shall promptly advise all bondholders of its identity and address. So long as any of the Bonds remain outstanding, the School District shall cause to be maintained and kept by the Bond Registrar, at the office of the Bond Registrar, all books and records necessary for the registration, exchange and transfer of Bonds as provided in this Section (the "Bond Register"). Subject to the provisions hereof, the person in whose name any Bond shall be registered on the Bond Register shall be regarded as the absolute owner thereof for all purposes. Payment of or on account of the principal of and interest on any Bond shall be made only to or upon the order of that person. Neither the School District nor the Bond Registrar shall be affected by any notice to the contrary, but the registration may be changed as herein provided. All payments shall be valid and effectual to satisfy and discharge the liability upon the Bonds, including the interest thereon, to the extent of the amount or amounts so paid.

Any Bond, upon presentation and surrender at the office of the Bond Registrar, together with a request for exchange signed by the registered owner or by a person authorized by the owner to do so by a power of attorney in a form satisfactory to the Bond Registrar, may be exchanged for Bonds of the same form and of any authorized denomination or denominations equal in the aggregate to the unmatured principal amount of the Bonds surrendered, and bearing interest at the same rate and maturing on the same date.

A Bond may be transferred only on the Bond Register upon presentation and surrender thereof at the office of the Bond Registrar, together with an assignment executed by the registered owner or by a person authorized by the owner to do so by a power of attorney in a form satisfactory to the Bond Registrar. Upon that transfer, the Bond Registrar shall complete, authenticate and deliver a new Bond or Bonds of any authorized denomination or denominations equal in the aggregate to the unmatured principal amount of the Bonds surrendered, and bearing interest at the same rate and maturing on the same date.

The School District and the Bond Registrar shall not be required to transfer or exchange (i) any Bond during a period beginning at the opening of business 15 days before the day of mailing of a notice of redemption of Bonds, and ending at the close of business on the day of such mailing, or (ii) any Bonds selected for redemption, in whole or in part, following the date of such mailing.

In all cases in which Bonds are exchanged or transferred hereunder, the School District shall cause to be executed and the Bond Registrar shall authenticate and deliver Bonds in accordance with the provisions of this Resolution. The exchange or transfer shall be without charge to the owner; except that the School District and the Bond Registrar may make a charge sufficient to reimburse them for any tax or other governmental charge required to be paid with respect to the exchange or transfer. The School District or the Bond Registrar may require that those charges, if any, be paid before it begins the procedure for the exchange or transfer of the Bonds. All Bonds issued upon any transfer or exchange shall be the valid obligations of the School District, evidencing the same debt, and entitled to the same benefits under this Resolution, as the Bonds surrendered upon that transfer or exchange.

Section 9. For purposes of this Resolution, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

"Book-entry form" or "book-entry system" means a form or system under which (i) the beneficial right to payment of principal of and interest on the Bonds may be transferred only through a book entry and (ii) physical Bonds in fully registered form are issued only to a Depository or its nominee as registered owner, with the Bonds "immobilized" to the custody of the Depository, and the book entry is the record that identifies the owners of beneficial interests in those Bonds.

"Depository" means any securities depository that is a clearing agency under federal law operating and maintaining, together with its participants, a book-entry system to record beneficial ownership of securities, and to effect transfers of securities in book-entry form, and includes The Depository Trust Company (a limited purpose trust company), New York, New York.

All or any portion of the Bonds may be initially issued to a Depository for use in a book-entry system, and the provisions of this Section shall apply, notwithstanding any other provision of this Resolution: (i) there shall be a single Bond of each maturity; (ii) those Bonds shall be registered in the name of the Depository or its nominee, as registered owner, and immobilized in the custody of the Depository; (iii) the beneficial owners in book-entry form shall have no right to receive Bonds in the form of physical securities or certificates; (iv) ownership of beneficial interests in any Bonds in book-entry form shall be shown by book entry on the system maintained and operated by the Depository, and transfers of the ownership of beneficial interests shall be made only by the Depository and by book entry; and (v) the Bonds as such shall not be transferable or exchangeable, except for transfer to another Depository or to another nominee of a Depository, without further action by the School District. Bond service charges on Bonds in book-entry form registered in the name of a Depository or its nominee shall be payable in same day funds delivered to the Depository or its authorized representative (i) in the case of interest, on each Interest Payment Date, and (ii) in all other cases, upon presentation and surrender of Bonds as provided in this Resolution.

The Bond Registrar may, with the approval of the School District, enter into an agreement with the beneficial owner or registered owner of any Bond in the custody of a Depository providing for making all payments to that owner of principal and interest on that Bond or any portion thereof (other than any payment of the entire unpaid principal amount thereof) at a place and in a manner (including wire transfer of federal funds) other than as provided above in this Resolution, without prior presentation or surrender of the Bond, upon any conditions which shall be satisfactory to the Bond Registrar and the School District. That payment in any event shall be made to the person who is the registered owner of that Bond on the date that principal is due, or, with respect to the payment of interest, as of the applicable date agreed upon as the case may be. The Bond Registrar shall furnish a copy of each of those agreements, certified to be correct by the Bond Registrar, to other paying agents for Bonds and to the School District. Any payment of principal or interest pursuant to such an agreement shall constitute payment thereof pursuant to, and for all purposes of, this Resolution.

If requested, the Treasurer, the Superintendent of the School District (the "Superintendent") or any other officer of this Board is authorized to execute, acknowledge and deliver, in the name of and on behalf of the School District, an agreement among the School District, the Bond Registrar and a Depository to be delivered in connection with the issuance of the Bonds to such Depository for use in a book-entry system.

The School District may decide to discontinue use of the book-entry system through the Depository. In that event, physical Bond certificates will be printed and delivered to the Depository.

If any Depository determines not to continue to act as the Depository for the Bonds for use in a book-entry system, the School District and the Bond Registrar may attempt to establish a securities depository/book-entry relationship with another qualified Depository under this Resolution. If the School District and the Bond Registrar do not or are unable to do so, the School District and the Bond Registrar, after the Bond Registrar has made provision for notification of the beneficial owners by the then Depository, shall permit withdrawal of the Bonds from the Depository and authenticate and deliver bond certificates in fully registered form to the assigns of the Depository or its nominee, all at the cost and expense (including costs of printing and delivering definitive Bonds), if the event is not the result of action or inaction by the School District or the Bond Registrar, of those persons requesting such issuance.

Section 10. There shall be and is hereby levied annually on all the taxable property in the School District, in addition to all other taxes and outside the ten-mill limitation, a direct tax (the "Debt Service Levy") for each year during which any of the Bonds are outstanding for the purpose of providing, and in an amount which is sufficient to provide, funds to pay interest upon the Bonds as and when the same falls due and to provide a fund for the repayment of the principal of the Bonds at maturity or upon redemption. The Debt Service Levy shall not be less than the interest and sinking fund tax required by Article XII, Section 11 of the Ohio Constitution.

Section 11. The Debt Service Levy shall be and is hereby ordered computed, certified, levied and extended upon the tax duplicate and collected by the same officers, in the same manner, and at the same time that taxes for general purposes for each of such years are certified, extended and collected. The Debt Service Levy shall be placed before and in preference to all other items and for the full amount thereof. The funds derived from the Debt Service Levy shall be placed in a separate and distinct fund, which shall be irrevocably pledged for the payment of the premium, if any, and interest on and principal of the Bonds when and as the same fall due. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if the School District

determines that funds will be available from other sources for the payment of the Bonds in any year, the amount of the Debt Service Levy for such year shall be reduced by the amount of funds which will be so available, and the School District shall appropriate such funds to the payment of the Bonds in accordance with law.

Section 12. The Treasurer shall sell the Bonds to such purchaser or purchasers (collectively, the "Original Purchaser") as the Treasurer shall designate in the Certificate of Fiscal Officer at the purchase price set forth in the Certificate of Fiscal Officer plus interest accrued, if any, to the date of delivery of the Bonds to the Original Purchaser. The Treasurer, the Superintendent, the President and any other officer of this Board, or any of them individually, are authorized to execute on behalf of the Board a bond purchase agreement or term sheet with the Original Purchaser, setting forth the conditions under which the Bonds are to be sold and delivered, which agreement or term sheet shall be in such form, not inconsistent with the terms of this Resolution, as the Treasurer shall determine.

Section 13. There is hereby created and established, as an account within the bond retirement fund (USAS 002 debt retirement fund) of the School District, a trust fund to be designated "East Knox Local School District – 2026 Refunding Bonds Escrow Fund" (the "Escrow Fund"), or as otherwise designated by the Treasurer, which account may be in the custody of a bank or trust company as an escrow trustee, if desired. The proceeds from the sale of the Bonds, except the accrued interest and premium thereon (if any), shall be deposited in the Escrow Fund, along with such funds, if any, as the Treasurer may transfer from the bond retirement fund. Such moneys deposited in the Escrow Fund may be (i) held as cash or (ii) used to purchase direct obligations of or obligations guaranteed as to payment by the United States of America of such maturities and interest payment dates and bearing interest at such rates as will, as certified by such independent public accounting firm as shall be acceptable to the Treasurer and the Original Purchaser without further investment or reinvestment of either the principal amount thereof or the interest earnings therefrom, be sufficient to pay the interest on, and the redemption price (including any redemption premium) of, the Refunded Bonds on the earliest optional redemption date for the Refunded Bonds. The Treasurer is also authorized, if necessary or desirable to facilitate the refunding of the Refunded Bonds, to engage a consultant to verify the sufficiency of the cash or other obligations held in the Escrow Fund to refund the Refunded Bonds on such redemption date.

Any accrued interest received from the sale of the Bonds shall be transferred to the bond retirement fund to be applied to the payment of the principal of and interest on the Bonds, or other obligations of the School District, as permitted by law. Any premium received from the sale of the Bonds may be used to pay the financing costs of the Bonds within the meaning of Ohio Revised Code Section 133.01(K) or be deposited into the bond retirement fund, including the Escrow Fund contained therein, in the manner provided by law.

The Treasurer is authorized to execute on behalf of the School District an Escrow Agreement (the "Escrow Agreement") with a bank or trust company to be selected by the Treasurer (the "Escrow Trustee"), setting forth the terms by which the Escrow Fund shall be held and disbursed, if the Treasurer determines that an Escrow Agreement is necessary or beneficial to facilitate the refunding of the Refunded Bonds. Such an Escrow Agreement shall be in such form, not inconsistent with this Resolution, as the Treasurer shall determine.

Section 14. The Ohio Department of Education and Workforce is requested, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 3317.18, to approve an agreement among the State, the School District, and the Bond Registrar providing for the withholding of deposit of funds otherwise due to the School District under Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3317 for the payment of debt charges on all or any portion or series of the Bonds. The President, the Superintendent, and the Treasurer are authorized to prepare and file with the State an application for such approval and to execute and deliver on behalf of the Board any and all documents, certificates, forms and agreements that are in their judgment necessary or appropriate in connection therewith, if the Treasurer deems such agreement to be in the best interest of the School District.

Section 15. The Treasurer may determine to issue all or any series or portion of the Bonds as obligations that the interest thereon is excluded from the bondholders' gross income for federal income tax purposes, and the following provisions of this Section shall apply to such Bonds (or series or portions thereof):

The Board covenants that it will comply with the requirements of all existing and future laws which must be satisfied in order that interest on the Bonds is and will continue to be excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes, including without limitation restrictions on the use of the property financed with the proceeds of the Bonds so that the Bonds will not constitute "private activity bonds" within the meaning of Section 141 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"). The Board further covenants that it will restrict the use of the proceeds of the Bonds in such manner and to such extent, if any, as may be necessary, after taking into account reasonable expectations at the time the Bonds are issued, so that they will not constitute arbitrage bonds under Section 148 of the Code and the regulations prescribed thereunder (the "Regulations").

The Treasurer, or any other officer of this Board, is authorized and directed (a) to make or effect any election, selection, designation, choice, consent, approval or waiver on behalf of the Board with respect to the Bonds as permitted or required to be made or given under the federal income tax laws, for the purpose of assuring, enhancing or protecting favorable tax treatment or the status of the Bonds or interest thereon or assisting compliance with requirements for that purpose, reducing the burden or expense of such compliance, reducing any rebate amount or any payment of penalties, or making any payments of special amounts in lieu of making computations to determine, or paying, any excess earnings as rebate, or obviating those amounts or payments, as determined by the Treasurer, which action shall be in writing and signed by the Treasurer, or any other officer of this Board, on behalf of the Board; (b) to take any and all actions, make or obtain calculations, and make or give reports, covenants and certifications of and on behalf of the Board, as may be appropriate to assure the exclusion of interest from gross income and the intended tax status of the Bonds; and (c) to give an appropriate certificate on behalf of the Board, for inclusion in the transcript of proceedings, setting forth the facts, estimates and circumstances, and reasonable expectations of the Board pertaining to Section 148 and the Regulations, and the representations, warranties and covenants of the Board regarding compliance by the Board with Sections 141 through 150 of the Code and the Regulations.

The Treasurer shall keep and maintain adequate records pertaining to the use and investment of all proceeds of the Bonds sufficient to permit, to the maximum extent possible and presently foreseeable, the School District to comply with any federal law or regulation now or hereafter having applicability to the Bonds that relates to the use of such proceeds, which limits the amount of bond proceeds that may be invested on an unrestricted yield or requires the School District to rebate arbitrage profits to the United States Department of the Treasury. The Treasurer is authorized and directed to file such reports with, and rebate arbitrage profits to, the United States Department of the Treasury, to the extent that any federal law or regulation having applicability to the Bonds requires any such reports or rebates.

Section 16. The Treasurer is authorized to make appropriate arrangements, if the Treasurer deems it in the best interest of the School District, for the issuance of a municipal bond insurance policy with respect to all or any portion or series of the Bonds, including executing and delivering a commitment therefor and certificates and other documents in connection therewith and paying the bond insurance premium related thereto. All additional provisions required to be authorized by this Board for the issuance of a municipal bond insurance policy shall be contained in the Certificate of Fiscal Officer or in the transcript of proceedings described herein.

Section 17. The distribution of an Official Statement of the School District, in preliminary and final form, relating to the original issuance of the Bonds is authorized if the Treasurer determines that it is necessary or advisable to prepare and distribute an Official Statement in connection with the original issuance of the Bonds. If the Treasurer so determines, then the Treasurer, the Superintendent, and the President, and any other officer of this Board, are authorized and directed to negotiate, prepare and execute, on behalf of the School District and in their official capacity, the Official Statement and any supplements thereto as so executed in connection with the original issuance of the Bonds, and they are authorized and directed to advise the Original Purchaser in writing regarding limitations on the use of the Official Statement and any supplements thereto for purposes of marketing or reoffering the Bonds as they deem necessary or appropriate to protect the interests of the School District. The Treasurer, the Superintendent and the President are each authorized to execute and deliver, on behalf of the School District and in their official capacities, such certificates in connection with the accuracy of an Official Statement, in either preliminary or final form, and any supplements thereto as may, in their judgment, be necessary or appropriate.

Section 18. The Treasurer is authorized to obtain or update a rating or ratings on the Bonds and the School District if the Treasurer determines that it is necessary or advisable in connection with the original issuance of the Bonds. If the Treasurer so determines, then the Treasurer, Superintendent, and any officer of this Board are authorized and directed to take all steps necessary to obtain such rating or ratings, including paying the rating fees imposed by any rating agency and paying any travel expenses relating to obtaining such rating or ratings.

Section 19. The Treasurer is authorized to make the deposits and fund transfers required or necessary to accomplish the intent of this Resolution.

Section 20. The Board approves of the appointments of the law firm of Bricker Graydon Wyatt LLP to serve as Bond Counsel and Baker Tilly Municipal Advisors, LLC to serve as a municipal advisor to the School District with respect to the issuance of the Bonds. The respective fees to be paid to such firms shall be subject to review and approval by the Treasurer and shall not exceed the fees customarily charged for such services.

Section 21. The officer having charge of the minutes of the Board and any other officers of the Board, or any of them individually, are authorized and directed to prepare and certify a true transcript of proceedings pertaining to the Bonds and to furnish a copy of such transcript to the Original Purchaser. Such transcript shall include certified copies of all proceedings and records of the Board relating to the power and authority of the School District to issue the Bonds and certificates as to matters within their knowledge or as shown by the books and records under their custody and control, including but not limited to a general certificate of the Treasurer and a no-litigation certificate of the President and the Treasurer, and such certified copies and certificates shall be deemed representations of the School District as to the facts stated therein. Except for the procedure for authenticating the Bonds set forth herein, documents (including this Resolution) executed, scanned and transmitted electronically and electronic and digital signatures shall be deemed original signatures for said transcript of the Bonds, for the purposes of this Resolution, and for all matters related thereto, with any such scanned, electronic, and digital signatures having the same legal effect as original signatures.

The Treasurer, the Superintendent, the President, and any other officer of this Board are authorized and directed to take such action (including, but not limited to, hiring such professionals and consultants as may be needed to facilitate the issuance of the Bonds) and to execute and deliver, on behalf of the Board, such additional instruments, agreements, certificates, and other documents as may be in their discretion necessary or appropriate in order to carry out the intent of this Resolution. Such documents shall be in the form not substantially inconsistent with the terms of this Resolution, as they in their discretion shall deem necessary or appropriate.

Section 22. It is hereby found and determined that all acts, conditions and things necessary to be done precedent to and in the issuing of the Bonds in order to make them legal, valid and binding obligations of the School District have happened, been done and been performed in regular and due form as required by law; that the full faith, credit and revenue of the School District are hereby irrevocably pledged for the prompt payment of the principal and interest thereof at maturity; and that no limitation of indebtedness or taxation, either statutory or constitutional, has been exceeded in issuing the Bonds.

Section 23. It is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of the Board concerning and relating to the passage of this Resolution were taken in an open meeting of the Board, and that all deliberations of the Board and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements, including Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22.

Section 24. The Treasurer is directed to forward a certified copy of this Resolution to the County Auditors of Knox, Coshocton and Licking Counties, Ohio.

26-035 MOTION TO APPROVE THE ABOVE RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Beltz moved and Mr. Huffman seconded the motion to approve the above recommendations.

Roll call: All present – Yes. Motion carried.

K. Personnel—(Subject to proper placement on the salary scale, contingent upon favorable report from the BCII/FBI, and receipt of proper certification.)

Recommendation to approve the tentative agreement for a successor labor agreement between the Board and the EKEA effective July 1, 2026-June 30, 2029.

Recommendation to approve the Graphic Arts Teacher Job Description as presented.

Recommendation to accept the resignation due to retirement from Susan Beachy, library aide, effective June 30, 2026.

Recommendation to accept the resignation from John Bradley, effective April 2, 2026.

Recommendation to accept the resignation from Rebecca Gaines, classroom teacher, effective at the end of the 2025-2026 contract year.

Recommendation to accept the resignation from Carrie Streby, cafeteria worker, effective May 22, 2026.

Recommendation to accept the resignation from Stephanie Stacy, custodian, effective April 17, 2026.

Recommendation to re-employ Tyler Guilliams as the Jr./Sr. High School Assistant Principal on a three-year limited contract effective August 1, 2026, Step 1.

Recommendation to re-employ Emma Barteau as the Occupational Therapist on a three-year limited contract effective August 1, 2026, Step 1.

Recommendation to re-employ David Coleman, Elementary Assistant Principal, from August 1, 2026- July 31, 2027, Step 0, contract days 220.

Recommendation to employ Dustin Springer, Classroom Teacher, on a one-year limited contract, effective the 2026-2027 school year, BA Step 0.

Recommendation to employ Angie Buchert, Classroom Teacher, on a one-year limited contract, effective the 2026-2027 school year, MA Step 0.

Recommendation to approve up to 4 student summer helpers for custodial needs at a rate of $12 per hour from May 26-August 7, 2026 at 8 hours per day.

Recommendation to non-renew, as an annual course of action, for the 2025-2026 school year, non-teaching contracts as follows:

Varsity Cheerleading	Tammy Lemley
Jr High Cheerleading	Alyssa Merritt
Assistant Marching Band Director	Aaron Vance
Flag Advisor	Nyssa Luckey
Junior Class Advisor	Fawnda Bible-Stahl

Recommendation to approve the summer school programming for current Kindergarten through 5th grade students for Monday through Thursday, June 1-4, 2026, June 8-11, 2026 and June 15-18, 2026. Student summer school hours are 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and an additional one-hour prep per day per teacher. In addition, the teachers will have up to 6 hours total of additional prep time prior to the start of summer school. Third grade students who do not pass the Ohio State Assessment for Reading in the fall or spring or do not obtain the promotional score on NWEA Map will need to come in to take the

summer test offered the week of June 22-25, 2026. The associated positions and rates of pay are as follows:

Summer school teachers - 9 positions, $30 per hour
Summer school coordinator – 1 position, $3,000 stipend
Summer school aides – 6 positions, $14 per hour
Summer school food service - 1 position at 2025-2026 hourly rate for up to 2 hours per day
Summer school bus drivers – 3 positions at 2025-2026 hourly rate for approx. 2 hours per day.

Recommendation to approve Kindergarten Jumpstart programming to be held on August 4, 2026 from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. for students, with one hour of additional prep for teachers at a rate of $30 per hour, $14 per hour for aides.

Recommendation to approve the following Elementary summer school teachers for summer 2026:

Callie Proper
Jayna Svoboda
Mckenna VonAllman
Abigail Grandstaff
Jessica Bookmyer
Rachel Legros

Recommendation to approve a summer school program to be offered to current 9-12 grade students to take Apex courses who attend EK Jr./Sr. High School. Dates of the summer school will be June 1 - 25, 2026, Monday through Thursday. Student summer school hours will be 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and an additional one hour prep per day for the summer school teacher.

Summer school teacher – 1 position - $30 per hour
Summer school coordinator – 1 position - $1,000

Recommendation to approve the non-teaching staff and administrative salary scales as presented effective for the 2026-2027 contract year.

26-036 MOTION TO APPROVE THE ABOVE RECOMMENDATIONS
Mrs. Tomlinson moved and Ms. Bush seconded the motion to approve the above recommendations.
Roll call: All present – Yes. Motion carried.

L. Board Recommendation

Recommendation to approve compensation to board member, Melissa Tomlinson, for attending the following trainings:

Election to Action: Central Region
1/31/26 & 2/1/26 $250 (2 days)

Pepple and Waggoner School Negotiations Workshop
1/15/26 $60 (3 hours)

26-037 MOTION TO APPROVE BOARD RECOMMENDATION
Mr. Huffman moved and Mr. Beltz seconded the motion to approve the above recommendation.
Roll call: Mrs. Tomlinson - abstained; All others present – Yes.
Motion carried.

M. Adjournment

Recommendation to adjourn the meeting at 7:22 p.m.

26-038 MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING
Mr. Huffman moved and Mr. Beltz seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:22 p.m.
Roll call: All Present-Yes. Motion carried.

N. Visitors

_____ _____
President Treasurer