

**VAN WERT CITY SCHOOLS**  
**Board of Education Meeting**  
**Wednesday, April 22, 2026 - 5:00 p.m.**  
**First Federal Lecture Hall - Niswonger Performing Arts Center**  
**10700 State Route 118 South, Van Wert, OH 45891**

**Our Vision**

In partnership with our community, Van Wert City Schools will ensure that all students develop the knowledge, skills, and attributes they need to thrive in post-secondary education, careers and civic life.

**Our Mission**

Van Wert City Schools will continue to be a source of Cougar Pride while providing each student a quality education through innovative instructional methods and technology.

**AGENDA:**

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call
- II. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America
- III. Recite our Vision / Mission
- IV. Public Participation

In order for the Board to fulfill its obligation to complete the planned agenda in an effective and efficient fashion, a maximum of thirty (30) minutes of public participation will be permitted at each meeting.

Each person addressing the Board will give his/her name and address. If several people wish to speak, each person will be allotted three (3) minutes until the total time of thirty (30) minutes is used. During the period, no person may speak twice until all who desire to speak have had the opportunity to do so. Persons desiring more time should follow the procedure of the Board to be placed on the regular agenda. The period of public participation may be extended by a vote of the majority of the Board.

- V. Set Agenda
- VI. Educational Impact Presentation
  - A. Van Wert Elementary School
- VII. Public Hearing on the Board of Education's intent to re-employ the following retirees:
  - A. Mark Bagley, Superintendent
  - B. Chris Covey, Director of Curriculum and Instruction
- VIII. Treasurer's Section
  - A. Business and Records
- VIX. Assistant Superintendent's Section

- X. Superintendent's Section
  - A. First reading of the new/revised policies and forms from the Neola spring 2026 update
- XI. Board Member Section/Reports from Board Representatives (discussion only)
  - A. Vantage Board Report
  - B. VWAPAF Report
  - C. VWASIG Report
  - D. Athletic Council
  - E. Safety Team
- XII. Consent Resolutions  
(all items may be voted on in one motion)
  - A. Accept the resignation, due to retirement, of LeAnn German from her position as Media Assistant/Paraprofessional, effective March 31, 2026, as presented.
  - B. Accept the resignation of Rachel Laing from her position as School Psychologist, effective at the end of the 2025-2026 contract year as presented.
  - C. Accept the resignation of Victoria Lewis from her position as Middle School Music/Assistant Band Director, effective at the end of the 2025-2026 contract year as presented.
  - D. Accept the resignation of Sarah Zabka from her position as High School German Teacher, effective at the end of the 2025-2026 contract year as presented.
  - D.1. Accept the resignation of Keaton Altimus from his position as Middle School Physical Education Teacher, effective at the end of the 2025-2026 contract year as presented.
  - E. Accept the resignation of Curt Schaffner from his position as Assistant Director of Maintenance, effective May 3, 2026, as presented.
  - F. Approve an administrative contract for Curt Schaffner as District Maintenance Director, effective May 4, 2026 through July 31, 2029, as presented.
  - G. Approve Grace Doctor as a 4th Grade Teacher, pending all board policies pertaining to employment are met, effective the 2026-2027 contract year as presented.
  - H. Approve Alyssa Weidman as a Preschool Intervention Specialist, pending all board policies pertaining to employment are met, effective the 2026-2027 contract year as presented.
  - I. Approve Connor Thome as a Kindergarten Intervention Specialist, pending all board policies pertaining to employment are met, effective the 2026-2027 contract year as presented.
  - J. Approve Ashly Stump as a General Cafeteria Worker, pending all board policies pertaining to employment are met, effective the 2026-2027 contract year as presented.
  - K. Approve employee contracts/salary notices, pending all board policies pertaining to employment are met, for the 2026-2027 contract year as presented.
  - L. Approve the following supplemental coaching contracts, pending all board policies pertaining to employment are met, as presented:
    - Effective the 2025-2026 contract year:**
      - 1. Andrew Peel - Spring Strength & Conditioning Coach
    - Effective the 2026-2027 contract year:**
      - 1. Fall Head Coach
        - a. Ashley Showalter - Girls Soccer
      - 2. Head Winter Coaches
        - a. Jeremy Best - Boys Basketball
        - b. Mike Dowdy - Girls Basketball
        - c. Seth Blackmore - Boys and Girls Bowling
        - d. Jacque Welch - Cheerleading
        - e. Eric Muhlenkamp - Swimming
        - f. Ben Collins - Wrestling

3. Fall Assistant Coaches

a. Football

1. Steve Recker - Varsity Assistant
2. Bryce Crea - Varsity Assistant
3. Nick Pauff - Varsity Assistant
4. Josh Poulson - Varsity Assistant
5. Jalen McCracken - Varsity Assistant
6. Kolby Barnhart - Middle School
7. Mason Place - Middle School

b. Boys/Girls Cross Country

1. Toshia Wilhelm - Varsity Assistant
2. Emily Holliday - Middle School
3. Noah Carter - Middle School
4. Nicole Byrum - HS Girls Volunteer
5. Jacob Sealscott - HS Boys Volunteer

c. Girls Tennis

1. Melissa Bloomfield - Assistant

d. Volleyball

1. Issa Ickes - Junior Varsity
2. Avery Cowan - 8th grade
3. Kati Karl - 7th grade

e. Girls Soccer

1. Freddy Rodriguez - Assistant

f. Golf

1. Matt Krites - JV/Varsity Assistant (Flex Coach)
2. Mike Hernandez - Volunteer

g. Cheerleading

1. Krista Baer- Middle School

h. Andrew Peel- Fall Strength & Conditioning Coach

M. Approve the following custodial workers for the summer of 2026, pending all board policies pertaining to employment are met. All summer custodial workers are paid from a timesheet.

1. Tom Lee (½ days)
2. Nancy Brown
3. Zoe Coleman (MWF)
4. Sydney Dowler
5. Saxton Short
6. Anna Marquez
7. Catherine Kramer
8. Kolby Barnhart (TWTh)
9. Abigail Rollins
10. Zoey Miller
11. Tonya Sroufe
12. Rachel Davis
13. Peyton Okuly
14. Luke Wessell
15. Malissa Mohr
16. Kerriane Hoke
17. Brooke Gearhart (part-time)
18. Grace Dowler
19. Nate Gearhart

20. Hayden Dowler
  21. Nancy Riley
  22. Tom Leiendecker
  23. Jace Wehner (new)
  24. Aaron Dowdy (new)
  25. Shay Wehner (new)
  26. Hayden Davis (new)
  27. Olivia Snyder (new)
- N. Approve requests for early completion of graduation requirements for two high school students as presented.
  - O. Approve for graduation the Class of 2026 as submitted and presented, providing all requirements are met.
  - P. Approve an overnight request for High School Cross Country to travel to Logan, Ohio, for camp. 30 students and 2 adults will travel to Hocking Hills on August 3-7, 2026, as presented.
  - Q. Approve the minutes from the Regular Board Meeting held on March 25, 2026.
  - R. Approve the monthly financial report as presented by the Treasurer.
  - S. Approve a College Credit Plus Memorandum of Understanding between Van Wert City Schools and Rhodes State College for the 2026-2027 school year as presented.
  - T. Approve a Data Sharing Agreement between Van Wert City Schools and Rhodes State College for the 2026-2027 school year as presented.
  - U. Approve membership in CORAS (Coalition of OHIO Rural and Appalachian Schools) Legislative Committee for fiscal year 2027, as presented.
  - V. Approve the following Community Reinvestment Area Agreements (CRA) between the City of Van Wert:
    1. True North Partners Holdings, LLC
    2. Cool Machines Holdings, LLC
  - W. Acknowledge the following charitable groups, entities, and individuals for their generous donations to the Van Wert City Schools:
    1. The Van Wert County Foundation - \$2,000.00 on behalf of the Black, Inc. Scholarship Fund
    2. United Way of Van Wert County - \$1,534.50 to Van Wert School at the Goedde
    3. Danfoss - \$300.00 to Masque & Gavel
    4. Strategence Capital, LLC - \$125.00 to Van Wert Endowment Fund for Educators
    5. Braun Custom Ambulances - \$100.00 to Van Wert High School Cougar Closet for Hygiene
    6. Calvary Evangelical Church - \$250.00 to Van Wert High School Cougar Closet for Hygiene
    7. Gibson's Barnyard BBQ LLC - \$100.00 to Van Wert High School Cougar Closet for Hygiene
    8. The Van Wert County Foundation - \$30,000.00 to Eggerss Stadium Project - Legacy Donation
    9. Mark Lewis - \$1,000.00 on behalf of the John & Leander Wentz Scholarship Fund
    10. Charles Thompson - \$2,000.00 on behalf of the Chuck Thompson Scholarship Fund
    11. Dentman LLC - \$50.00 to Van Wert Elementary School Wellness
    12. Dairy Queen / Castle Treats Inc. - \$100.00 to Van Wert High School Cougar Closet for Hygiene
    13. Slushers Jewelry - \$60.00 to Van Wert Elementary School Wellness
    14. Jeffery-Mohr Dentistry - \$60.00 to Van Wert Elementary School Wellness
    15. The Van Wert County Foundation - \$500.00 on behalf of the Tyler Priest Memorial Scholarship Fund

16. The Van Wert County Foundation - \$2,000.00 on behalf of the John Fox Maney Scholarship Fund
17. The Van Wert County Foundation - \$2,000.00 on behalf of the Margaret Shaffer Maney Scholarship Fund

XIII. Non-consent Resolution(s)

(each item to be voted on individually)

- A. Approve the following supplemental coaching contract, effective the 2026-2027 contract year, pending all board policies pertaining to employment are met, as presented.
  1. Charlie Witten - Middle School Football
- B. Approve the following custodial worker for the summer of 2026, pending all board policies pertaining to employment are met. All summer custodial workers are paid from a timesheet; many are part-time/as available/as needed.
  1. Spencer Adams (returning summer employee; T,W,TH)

XIV. The Annual Food Services Notification regarding compliance with the “Standards for Food and Beverages Act” is presented for your review.

XV. Executive Session

- A. Motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(1) and 121.22(G)(4) for the purpose of discussing the employment of public personnel and for the purpose of employee negotiations.

XVI. Adjournment

The next scheduled meeting is Wednesday, May 27, 2026, at 5:00 p.m.  
in the First Federal Lecture Hall at the Niswonger Performing Arts Center.