

**Windham Board of Education
Regular Board Meeting
April 21, 2026
6:00 PM**

I. CALL TO ORDER

- President Melissa Knight called the April Regular Meeting of the Windham Exempted Village School District Board of Education to order at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 21, 2026.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

- Ms. Knight asked Mr. St. John to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. MOMENT OF SILENCE

- Ms. Knight asked for a Moment of Silence.

IV. ROLL CALL

- Sarah Dye - Present
- Megan Fisher - Present
- Melissa Knight - Present
- Mandy Minnick - Present
- Ted St. John - Present

V. REPORTS

- Board of Education President - Melissa Knight
 - The Washington DC trip is coming up. Mrs. Smith is taking students to Washington DC on April 28-29, 2026. They will travel by charter bus and spend two days exploring historic sites in our nation's capital.
 - The annual senior citizen brunch was held on April 9, 2026. The turnout was great. Thank you to Tom Hickman and the amazing ladies from the cafeteria, Amanda Taylor, Elizabeth Fairbee & Amanda Cleavenger who worked so hard to put this all together to honor our seniors.
 - The Juniors and Seniors attended the None for under 21 event at Kent State University last week as they do each year before prom. This event brings awareness to the dangers of drinking and driving.
 - Prom will be held on Friday, April 24, 2026 from 6 - 9 pm at Diviestes in Warren, Ohio. Let's wish these students a safe and happy event.
 - High school and junior high students will travel to the English festival at YSU this week.

**Windham Board of Education
Regular Board Meeting
April 21, 2026
6:00 PM**

- Congratulations to the Katherine Thomas Elementary School, which has earned the Ohio Department of Education's momentum award for significant improvement in growth and achievement on the Ohio school report card.
- Student Achievement - Mandy Minnick
 - The following students are included in the Prom Court: Girls, Libby Inman, Chanyse Jones, & Malaysia Ogletree; Boys, Gavin Kiser, Matt Kolaczek, & Jordan Ridenbaugh. The junior attendants are Elaina Tucker and Kaegon Bissonette.
 - Some big things have been happening in the gifted program. I am going to turn it over to Sarah Isler to introduce the DI & Math 24 teams and present their awards. A big thank you to Sarah for all she does with these students
- Student Recognition - Sarah Isler
 - Students who participated in recent Math 24 competitions were presented with certificates recognizing their participation.
 - Students who participated in Destination Imagination competitions were presented with certificates recognizing their participation. Ms. Isler noted that one Windham team made it to the state competition where the team received fourth place.
- Student of the Month Recognition - Principals
 - Elementary Principal Regan Weiss presented Student of the Month certificates to students so recognized.
 - Junior/Senior High Principal Zack Burns presented Student of the Month certificates to students so recognized.
- Maplewood Career Center - Mandy Minnick
 - Five Windham students were recently inducted into the National Technical Honor Society.
 - Maplewood has received a 5-star rating for career-technical schools on its state report card.
- Legislative - Megan Fisher
 - The General Assembly is currently in session and the following bills relevant to education are being considered:
 - House Bill 799 concerning standards for instruction in world history.
 - House Bill 800 to increase the sports gaming tax and use the funds to fund preschool programs.
- Elementary Update - Regan Weiss
 - Approximately 150 people attended a Candyland-themed student social and dance held on April 17. The event was an enjoyable evening.
 - State testing has begun for third and fourth grade students.

Windham Board of Education
Regular Board Meeting
April 21, 2026
6:00 PM

- Several student field trips have been scheduled through the remainder of the school year.
- Junior/Senior High Update - Zack Burns
 - The 7th and 8th grade trip to Washington, D.C., is scheduled for April 28-29 and students are excited to go.
 - State testing has begun for students. An informal survey of testing classrooms indicates students are taking the tests seriously and working to their advantage.
 - Work to ready students to take state tests is well underway. Most tests will be administered in April.
 - Preparations for Prom are being finalized and students are looking forward to it.
 - Graduation will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 28.
- Special Education Update - Katie Bandiera
 - Special needs students are being tested in small groups and testing seems to be going well for them.
 - Parent meetings for families with special education students will be held in May.
- Superintendent - Michael Dobran
 - Reviewed attendance and enrollment data for the school year to date.
 - Presented the following Policies for First Reading:
 - Policy 2431.06 Name, Image, and Likeness (NIL) in Athletics
 - Policy 3440 Job Related Expenses (Revision)
 - Policy 4440 Joe Related Expenses (Revision)
 - Policy 5112 Entrance Requirements (Revision)
 - Policy 5200 Attendance (Revision)
 - Policy 5421 Grading (Revision)
 - Policy 5430 Class Rank (Revision)
 - Policy 6220 Budget Preparation (Revision)
 - Policy 6320 Purchasing and Bidding (Revision)
 - Policy 6325 Procurement - Federal Grants/Funds (Revision)
 - Policy 6423 Use of Credit Cards (Revision)
 - Policy 6424 Procurement Cards (Revision)
 - Policy 6425 EH Use of District Tax Exempt Certificate (New)
 - Policy 6460 Vendor Relations (Revision)
 - Policy 6465 EH Affinity, Rewards, or Other Discount Programs (New)
 - Policy 7540.09 Artificial Intelligence ("AI") (Replacement)
 - Policy 8500 Revised Policy - Food Services
 - Discussed the condition of the roof at the elementary building and said plans for making repairs are under discussion. One cost estimate is

**Windham Board of Education
Regular Board Meeting
April 21, 2026
6:00 PM**

\$427,000.

- Noted that Katherine Thomas Elementary School has received the Momentum Award for improvement in academic achievement for the second consecutive year.
- Treasurer - Todd Puster
 - Informed the Board that school districts and other public entities throughout the state are receiving burdensome public records requests from out of state and/or anonymous sources, often generated with the assistance of Artificial Intelligence. He noted that the Ohio General Assembly is considering updates to the public records law to address this.
 - Explained the reasons why the Auditor of State has decided to subcontract the annual audit of the school district for the next five fiscal years (FY 2026-FY 2030) to an independent public accounting firm.
 - Reported that Ohio Edison (First Energy) is disputing the value of its public utility personal property throughout its service area and has short paid its taxes as a result. He said this is the primary reason that tax receipts for the first half of the year were less than expected.
 - Advised that otherwise the financial picture of the District is trending very close to forecast estimates.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

- None.

VII. TREASURER RECOMMENDATIONS (Resolution 2026-30)

- Ms. Minnick moved that the Board consolidate and approve the following recommendations of the Treasurer; Ms. Fisher seconded the motion.
 - Approve the March 2026 Financial Reports
 - Approve the Minutes from the March 17, 2026, Regular Meeting.
 - Accept the recommendation of the Auditor of State to subcontract the annual audit of the school district to the firm of Julian & Grube for the period from Fiscal Year 2026 to Fiscal Year 2030.

Vote Record

Ayes: Dye, Fisher, Knight, Minnick, St. John

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

**Windham Board of Education
Regular Board Meeting
April 21, 2026
6:00 PM**

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT RECOMMENDATIONS - PERSONNEL (Resolution 2026-31)

- Ms. Fisher moved that the Board consolidate and approve the following personnel recommendations; Mr. St. John seconded the motion.
 - Approve the appointment of the following individuals as substitute teachers for the 2025-2026 school year pending proper certification and clear BCI/FBI checks:
 - Jon Crisman
 - Kim Frye
 - Approve the appointment on the respective substitute lists as presented for the remainder of the 2025-2026 school year pending proper certification and clear BCI/FBI checks:
 - Kim Frye - Educational Aide and Districtwide
 - Approve FMLA leave for Louie Stanley effective March 30, 2026, through June 2, 2026.
 - Approve the resignation for the purpose of retirement of Janice Roach, Educational Aide, at the end of the 2025-2026 school year.
 - Approve the following volunteers for the 2025-2026 school year pending proper certification and clear BCI/FBI checks:
 - Dave Rickey - JHS Baseball
 - Approve the appointment of Matthew Porter as a Teacher and grant him a one-year limited contract effective August 24, 2026, for the 2026-2027 school year at BA Step 1 \$41,835.00 pending proper certification and clear BCI/FBI checks.

Vote Record

Ayes: Dye, Fisher, Knight, Minnick, St. John

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

IX. SUPERINTENDENT RECOMMENDATIONS - GENERAL (Resolution 2026-32)

- Mr. St. John moved that the Board consolidate and approve the following recommendations; Ms. Fisher seconded the motion.
 - Adopt the following Board Policies:
 - Policy 1439 New Holidays
 - Policy 1617 Revised Weapons
 - Policy 3217 Revised Weapons
 - Policy 4217 Revised Weapons
 - Policy 4439 New Holidays
 - Policy 6144 Revised Investments

**Windham Board of Education
Regular Board Meeting
April 21, 2026
6:00 PM**

- Policy 7217 Revised Weapons
- Approve the Windham Preschool Handbook for the 2026-2027 school year.
- Accept the following donations:
 - Ohio Education Association \$500 for Student Food Pantry
 - Michael & Lisa Sampson \$100 for Student Food Pantry
 - Jason & Karie Brown \$25 for Student Food Pantry
 - Freida Goldman \$200 for Student Food Pantry
 - Campbell Welfare Association \$100 for Student Food Pantry
 - Islerscaping LLC \$100 for Student Food Pantry
 - New Hope Baptist Church \$500 for Student Food Pantry
 - Kenneth & Kathy Austin \$25 for Student Food Pantry
 - Orma Downs \$6 for Student Food Pantry
 - Scratch Off Systems \$100 for Student Food Pantry
 - Sons of American Legion Squad 674 \$500 for Student Food Pantry
 - American Legion Auxiliary Unit 674 \$500 for Cafeteria Fund
- Accept the following open enrollment students for the 2025-2026 school year:
 - Alexander Salas Grade 2 LaBrae
- Approve the Electricity Purchase Program agreement with the Ohio Schools Council effective April 21, 2026.
- Approve the agreement with Visual Edge for copier equipment and services.
- Approve the agreement with Harbor Educational Services, LLC, for the Leap Program for the 2026-2027 school year as presented.
- Approve the agreement with LLA Therapy for therapy services for the 2026-2027 school year as presented.

Vote Record

Ayes: Dye, Fisher, Knight, Minnick, St. John

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION (Resolution 2026-33)

- Mr. St. John moved to enter Executive Session; Ms. Minnick seconded the motion, calling the Executive Session for the following purposes:
 - Considering the employment and compensation of personnel;
 - Considering matters required to be kept confidential by federal laws, federal rules, or state statutes.

**Windham Board of Education
Regular Board Meeting
April 21, 2026
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Ayes: Dye, Fisher, Knight, Minnick, St. John

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

Time Record

Entered: 7:05 p.m.

Returned: 7:49 p.m.

XI. ADJOURNMENT (Resolution 2026-34)

- Ms. Minnick moved to adjourn the meeting; Ms. Fisher seconded the motion.

Vote Record

Ayes: Dye, Fisher, Knight, Minnick, St. John

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

- The meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.



Melissa Knight, Board President



Todd Puster, Treasurer

