

(A)

PAULDING EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOLS
Minutes of Board of Education Regular Board Meeting
June 23, 2026

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M. in the Administration Office by President Karen Saxton.
2. Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Roll Call: Present – Julie Arend, Nicole DenHerder, Joe Manz, Karen Saxton, Matt Stoller
4. Introduction of Guests and Public Participation
 - A. Athletic Director Andi Mead introduced the Paulding High School softball team to be recognized as District Champions. The spring athletic teams had successful seasons, with the baseball team earning a 6th place finish in the GMC and winning the sectional tournament; the softball team earning a 3rd place finish in the GMC, and winning the sectional and district tournaments; the girls track team earning a 4th place finish in the GMC; and the boys track team earning a 3rd place finish in the GMC. Northwest District honors for baseball went to Colten Hunt (1st team); Grady Arend and Zachary Barton (2nd team); and Stroker Etter and Easton Lahman (honorable mention). District honors for softball went to Mariah Klopfenstein (1st team); Tia Mendez and Madison Clark (2nd team); and Civil Pumphrey (honorable mention). The track team sent several athletes to the state meet, where Elliette Roughton finished 10th in the 100m hurdles and 10th in the long jump, and Kayleigh Dunham finished 9th in the 100m hurdles. Regional qualifiers included Landon Grinnell (400m), Gannon Parrett (long jump), and Achilles Mead (1600m). GMC honors for baseball went to Colten Hunt (1st team); Grady Barton and Zach Barton (2nd team); and Stroker Etter and Grady Arend (honorable mention). GMC honors for softball went to Tia Mendez and Mariah Klopfenstein (1st team); Madison Clark (2nd team); and Cadence Schwab, Civil Pumphrey, and Luciana Martinez (honorable mention). GMC honors for track went to Kayleigh Dunham (1st team); Jack Schweller, Landon Grinnell, Gannon Parrett, Emmet Barnes, Bolu Omonayin, Parker Egnor, and Anya Mead (2nd team); and Achilles Mead, Alex Highwarden, Max Daeger, and Elliette Roughton (honorable mention). The U.S. Marine Corps Athlete Award went to Miguel Martinez and Lucy Breier. OHSAA Scholar Athlete Awards were awarded to Jack Schweller & Addison Pease. The NFHS Award of Excellence went to Jackson Griffith and Makayla Carr. The Archie Griffin Sportsmanship Award went to Colten Hunt and Addison Pease. The average grade point average of each program ranged from 3.012 to 3.820.
 - B. Jim Drewes, Director of Workforce Development at Northwest State Community College, spoke to the board regarding some of the programs he helps administer at Paulding. He works with Tim Copsey from the Paulding County Economic Development Office, and Tim helped connect him to Paulding. Jim Drewes also works with Custom Training Solutions to provide training for counties across northwest Ohio. Jim commended the Board and Superintendent Etzler in serving 100% of students across sports, extracurricular activities, and academics as well as middle of the road students, college bound students, and 2+2 candidates. In his experience, high schools have an at-risk population that, if provided with workforce skills, can go pretty far in their careers. Jim said that in his experience, Paulding is one of the top schools at serving all students. Jim has been working with Paulding EVSD since 2022 at Paulding High School and at the Paulding County Opportunity Center on programs for welding, construction basics, and certified manufacturing classes. In those programs, students can take welding 100 and 110 and earn a 6 Sigma Lean Yellow Belt and OSHA10 general industry credential. Students can also complete a pre-apprentice program that leads to a 12-point credential and credit towards graduation. Also with Jim was Staci Miller, welding instructor and PHS vocational agriculture instructor. The goal of these programs is to help students earn skills so they are ready to enter the workforce, ideally in Paulding County. These programs have also accepted students from Wayne Trace and

Vantage in addition to the students from Paulding.

- C. Jerry Stanford, Editor of the Paulding Progress, announced the Paulding Progress Athletes of the Year is being awarded to Blake Rhonehouse (male) and Estie Pease (female), both Paulding High School student athletes.
- D. Amber Gochenauer, Director of the Little Sprouts Learning Center, read the following statement:

Good evening, members of the School Board, Superintendent Etzler, and members of the community. My name is Amber Gochenour, and I am the Director of Little Sprouts Early Learning Center, a ministry of Paulding Church of the Nazarene. Alongside me tonight are some of our teachers and families, the true heart of our ministry. We'd like to thank you for allowing us to speak tonight. I have also brought along letters of impact from families who were not able to make it tonight.

We understand that the district is facing very difficult financial challenges following the recent levy failure. I know none of the decisions you have made or will make in the future are easy, and I appreciate the responsibility you carry in balancing the district's budget while continuing to serve students. Tonight, I am asking you to reconsider one specific aspect of the transportation change: the decision to discontinue bus transportation to our state licensed childcare center ministry. As a center serving dozens of district students, we believe this is different from an individual stop within the community. The loss of transportation for Little Sprouts has created an unexpected stress on students, working families, and our program as a whole. This fall, we will have around 40 school-age students that are affected by this change. For school-age families, our center serves as the bridge between the school day and their parents' workday. Parents rely on safe childcare with transportation to and from school so they can maintain employment, support their families, and provide stability for their children. Without transportation, many families will be left scrambling to find alternatives that simply do not exist within our district. Walking students from our center to school and back each day is simply not a safe or viable option. We have no safe sidewalks, and walking 40 small children a mile anywhere as a group is not realistic or safe. The thought of something terrible happening to one of our students if they should dart into traffic is incomprehensible. Additionally, as a non-profit organization, at this time we are not financially able to cover the cost of obtaining, operating, or maintaining transport vehicles.

For our center, the consequences of this decision are equally serious. Little Sprouts is heavily reliant on our school age program. School Agers represent about 30-40% of our student roster, and of those students, roughly 75% of them are from low-income families who utilize PFCC or CCVP childcare assistance programs offered by the state. Little Sprouts is the only licensed center in Paulding that accepts these assistance programs. The announcement of the loss of transportation is sending families scrambling to find safe and affordable alternatives that simply do not exist. Many parents are feeling forced to quit their jobs to stay home, as they will no longer be able to afford childcare. For Little Sprouts, this request is not about convenience. This is about maintaining a critical community service that supports students, working families, and the broader community. It is about supporting students in ways that are irreplaceable.

As you consider this issue, I ask you to think carefully about the students whose routines will be disrupted, the parents who may struggle to remain employed, and the community partnerships that help make our district a place where current and future families want to live and work. Thank you for your time, your service, and your consideration. I pray that we can work together to find a solution that is in the best interest of children.

5. Treasurer's Report

Julie Arend moved and Nicole DenHerder seconded a motion to adopt the following:

A. Regular Monthly Items

- (1) Approval of the May 19, 2026 Regular Board Meeting minutes and the May 27, 2026 Special Board Meeting minutes. (Attachment A)
- (2) Approval of financial reports and bills for May 2026 (Attachment B)
- (3) Approval of the amendment to the Iler Softball Field Endowment Fund (Attachment C)
- (4) Grant the Treasurer authority to amend FY 2026 Appropriations in accordance with budgetary compliance requirements for fiscal year end and report the results at the July Regular Board Meeting.

Roll Call: Ayes – Arend, DenHerder, Manz, Saxton, Stoller
Nays – None.
Motion passed 5-0.

6. Administrators' Report

A. Superintendent's Report

- (1) Light/HVAC Project Update
- (2) Transfer for 2026-2027
 - a. Colton Bennett from 8th Grade Social Studies to 7th Grade Social Studies
 - b. Madison Etter from 7th Grade Reading to Junior High Intervention Specialist
 - c. Tanya Bok from 8th Grade ELA to 8th Grade Social Studies

7. JVS Report

8. Legislative Report

Recommendations by the Superintendent

9. Creation of New Teaching Position

Julie Arend moved and Joe Manz seconded a resolution to approve the creation of an Intervention Specialist position, with the initial placement in Paulding Middle School, effective for the 2026-2027 school year.

Roll Call: Ayes – Arend, Manz, DenHerder, Saxton, Stoller
Nays – None.
Motion passed 5-0.

10. Fall and Winter Athletic Ticket Prices

Nicole DenHerder moved and Julie Arend seconded a resolution to approve the following Fall and Winter Athletic Ticket Prices:

Athletic Ticket Prices (set by the GMC)

Varsity Events (Football, Volleyball, Basketball) - \$8 Adult/\$6 Student (no presale)

JH Events - \$5 Adult/\$3 Student

Fall 2026 Athletic Passes

Family Pass - \$200
 Adult All Sports - \$75
 Varsity Football - \$30
 Varsity Volleyball - \$30
 Student All Sports- \$20
 Student Athlete – FREE

Winter 2026-27 Athletic Passes

Family Pass - \$250
 Adult All Sports - \$100
 Adult Boys BB - \$70
 Adult Girls BB - \$65
 Student All Sports - 20
 Student Athlete – FREE

Roll Call: Ayes – DenHerder, Arend, Manz, Saxton, Stoller
 Nays – None.
 Motion passed 5-0.

11. Book Fees

Nicole DenHerder moved and Matt Stoller seconded a motion to approve the student fees as presented below and included in the board packet for review (Attachment D).

Listed below is a comparison of student fees for the last five years for grades K-8.

<u>Grade</u>	<u>2022-2023</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>	<u>2024-2025</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
K-2	\$60	\$60	\$60	\$60	\$60
3-6	\$55	\$55	\$55	\$55	\$55
Paulding 6-8	\$45	\$45	\$45	\$45	\$45

Middle School- There will be a \$20 materials fee for students enrolled in Vo-Ag and Industrial Arts class.

High School- A list of High School fees for the 2026-2027 school year was included in the board packet for review. (Attachment C)

Roll Call: Ayes –DenHerder, Stoller, Arend, Manz, Saxton
 Nays – None.
 Motion passed 5-0.

12. 2026-2027 Cafeteria Meal Prices

Matt Stoller moved and Nicole DenHerder seconded a motion to approve the student and adult meal prices for the 2026-2027 school year as presented.

	Free	Reduced	Paid
Elementary	\$0.00	TBD	\$2.65
Middle School	\$0.00	TBD	\$2.90
High School	\$0.00	TBD	\$3.10
Salad (hs/ms only)	\$0.00	TBD	\$3.40
Adult Breakfast			\$2.60
Adult Lunch			\$4.50
K-12 Breakfast	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
K-12 Breakfast (additional/second meal)			\$1.85

Roll Call: Ayes – Stoller, DenHerder, Arend, Manz, Saxton
 Nays – None.
 Motion passed 5-0.

13. High School Handbook Update

Julie Arend moved and Joe Manz seconded a resolution to approve the following change to Cell Phone/Smart Device Policy in the High School Handbook:

Remove: Cell phones must be stored in student's lockers during the school day. Students are allowed to have their cell phone during lunch. Students may also check their phones at their lockers in between classes.

Add: Cell phones, smart watches, and other smart devices must be stored in students' lockers during the school day. Students are NOT allowed to have their cell phone during lunch.

Roll Call: Ayes – Arend, Manz, DenHerder, Saxton, Stoller
Nays – None.
Motion passed 5-0.

14. Early Graduates

Nicole DenHerder moved and Julie Arend seconded a resolution to approve the graduation of Trenton Bail and Chad Long, Class of 2027, who met all of the Board adopted graduation requirements at the end of the 2025-2026 school year. (Attachment E)

Roll Call: Ayes – DenHerder, Arend, Manz, Saxton, Stoller
Nays – None.
Motion passed 5-0.

15. FFA National Convention Trip

Matt Stoller moved and Julie Arend seconded a resolution to approve sending 12 students and two chaperones to Indianapolis, IN from October 20, 2026 to October 24, 2026. The cost of the trip is \$10,800, with students paying \$450 and the FFA Alumni paying \$450 per student. (Attachment F)

Roll Call: Ayes – Stoller, Arend, DenHerder, Manz, Saxton
Nays – None.
Motion passed 5-0.

16. FFA State Convention Trip

Nicole DenHerder moved and Joe Manz seconded a resolution to approve sending 20-25 students and four chaperones to Columbus, OH from May 5, 2027 to May 7, 2027. The cost of the trip is approximately \$9,000-\$10,500, with students paying \$300. (Attachment G)

Roll Call: Ayes – DenHerder, Manz, Arend, Saxton, Stoller
Nays – None.
Motion passed 5-0.

17. Income Tax Levy

Julie Arend moved and Nicole DenHerder seconded a motion to approve a resolution requesting certification of estimated tax rate for an income tax.

WHEREAS, Ohio Revised Code Section 5748.02 authorizes school districts to impose voter-approved income taxes upon their residents; and

WHEREAS, a resolution declaring the necessity to raise additional School District revenue must be passed and certified to the Tax Commissioner for the State of Ohio (the "Tax Commissioner") in order to permit the Board to consider the levy of an income tax and preserve the right to submit the question of levying such an income tax to the electors of the School District at the election to be held on November 3, 2026;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the Paulding Exempted Village School District, Paulding and Putnam Counties, Ohio, a majority of the members thereof concurring, that:

Section 1. Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 5748.02, the Board determines that it is necessary to raise annually the additional amount of \$2,294,302 (the "Specified Revenue Amount") by proposing the question at the election to be held on November 3, 2026 of levying an income tax on the school district income of individuals for the purpose of permanent improvements (the "Income Tax") for five years.

Section 2. The school district income that shall be subject to the Income Tax is the taxable income as defined in Ohio Revised Code Section 5748.01(E)(1).

Section 3. The Treasurer is directed to immediately certify a copy of this Resolution to the Tax Commissioner, not later than July 24, 2026, together with a request that the Tax Commissioner determine and certify to the Board (i) the property tax rate that would have had to be imposed by the School District in the current year to produce the Specified Revenue Amount and (ii) the income tax rate that would have had to have been in effect for the current year to produce an equivalent amount of money to the Specified Revenue Amount.

Section 4. It is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of this Board concerning and relating to the passage of this Resolution were taken in an open meeting of this Board, and that all deliberations of this 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.

Roll Call: Ayes – Arend, DenHerder, Manz, Saxton, Stoller
Nays – None.
Motion passed 5-0.

18. 2026-2027 Substitutes

Nicole DenHerder moved and Matt Stoller seconded a resolution to approve the attached list of substitute teachers and support staff, and to authorize the Superintendent to approve future additions for the 2026-2027 school year once all requirements have been met. (Attachment H).

Roll Call: Ayes – DenHerder, Stoller, Arend, Manz, Saxton
Nays – None.
Motion passed 5-0.

19. District Wellness Policy

Julie Arend moved and Nicole DenHerder seconded a resolution to approve the District Wellness Policy 8510. (Attachment I).

Roll Call: Ayes – Arend, DenHerder, Manz, Saxton, Stoller
Nays – None.
Motion passed 5-0.

Personnel Recommendations by the Superintendent

20. Head Girls Basketball Coach

Joe Manz moved and Julie Arend seconded a resolution to approve a one-year limited extracurricular contract for Matt Arellano, Head Girls Basketball Coach, for the 2026-2027 school year. Placement 17.5, 6+ years.

Roll Call: Ayes – Manz, Arend, DenHerder, Saxton, Stoller
Nays – None.
Motion passed 5-0.

21. Head Boys Basketball Coach

Nicole DenHerder moved and Julie Arend seconded a resolution to approve a one-year limited extracurricular contract for Logan Stoller, Head Boys Basketball Coach, for the 2026-2027 school year. Placement 17.0, 3 years.

Roll Call: Ayes – DenHerder, Arend, Manz, Saxton, Stoller
Nays – None.
Motion passed 5-0.

22. Head Girls Wrestling Coach

Joe Manz moved and Julie Arend seconded a resolution to approve a one-year limited extracurricular contract for Jim Pumphrey, Head Girls Wrestling Coach, for the 2026-2027 school year. Placement 14.0, 1 year.

Roll Call: Ayes – Manz, Arend, DenHerder, Saxton, Stoller
Nays – None.
Motion passed 5-0.

23. Head Boys Wrestling Coach

Julie Arend moved and Matt Stoller seconded a resolution to approve a one-year limited extracurricular contract for Eli Jimenez, Head Boys Wrestling Coach, for the 2026-2027 school year. Placement 14.5, 4 years.

Roll Call: Ayes – Arend, Stoller, DenHerder, Manz, Saxton
Nays – None.
Motion passed 5-0.

24. Nicole DenHerder moved and Julie Arend seconded a resolution to approve the following personnel items for the 2026-2027 school year, except as noted, pending records:

- A. Accept the resignation of Olivie Mengerink, Paulding Middle School Intervention Specialist, effective at the end of the current contract year. She will have served the district for 2 years.
- B. Accept the resignation of Thomas Bidlack, Bus Mechanic, effective July 31, 2026. He will have served the district for 30 years.
- C. Approval of a one-year limited contract for Brady Karzynow, Paulding Elementary Teacher, effective for the 2026-2027 school year. B and 0 years.
- D. Approval of a one-year limited contract for Sue Riethman, HS/MS 3-hour cook/server, effective for the 2026-2027 school year. Step 0.
- E. Approval of a one-year limited contract for Angela High, HS/MS 3-hour cook/server, effective for the 2026-2027 school year. Step 0.
- F. Approval to compensate Brett Foster, HS Guidance Counselor at the current tutor rate for the extra time spent outside of school hours while covering the responsibilities of the 9th/10th Guidance Counselor during her maternity leave.
- G. Approval of the following one-year limited extracurricular contracts, effective for the 2026-2027 school year:

Sandy Arellano	Junior Class Advisor (decorating)	4.5, 4 years
Sandy Arellano	Junior Class Advisor (fundraising)	4.5, 3 years
Sydney Kill	FFA Advisor	4.5, 0 years
Emily Taylor	5 th /6 th Volleyball	2.0, 2 years
Kelly Pracht	JV Volleyball	9.0, 2 years
Baylee March	Freshman Volleyball	8.5, 1 year
Leigha Egnor	Volleyball Assistant	Volunteer

- H. Approval of the following extended days for the 2026-2027 school year:

Brett Foster	HS Guidance Counselor	20 days
Jacee Reineck	HS Guidance Counselor	20 days
Alex Arellano	MS Guidance Counselor	10 days
Deedi Miller	Preschool Coordinator	20 days
Staci Miller	HS Vo Ag/FFA	40 days
Sydney Kill	HS Vo Ag/FFA	20 days
John Kennedy	Industrial Technology	10 days

- I. Approval of the resignation of Jared Renollet, MS custodian, effective June 26, 2026. He has served the district for 1 year.
- J. Approval of a one-year limited contract for Maelee Carlisle, Paulding Elementary 2nd Shift Custodian, effective August 1, 2026. Step 0
- K. Approval of a one-year limited contract for Jordan Wilhelm, Junior High 2nd Shift Custodian, effective August 1, 2026. Step 0

Roll Call: Ayes – DenHerder, Arend, Manz, Saxton, Stoller
Nays – None.
Motion passed 5-0.

25. Executive Session

Joe Manz moved and Nicole DenHerder seconded a motion to hold an executive session to consider the employment and compensation of public employees or officials.

Roll Call: Ayes – Manz, DenHerder, Arend, Saxton, Stoller
Nays – None.
Motion passed 5-0.

Time In: 7:01 p.m.

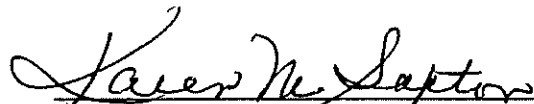
Time Out: 8:11 p.m.

26. Adjournment

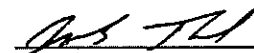
Nicole Denherder moved and Julie Arend seconded a motion to adjourn.

Roll Call: Ayes – DenHerder, Arend, Manz, Saxton, Stoller
Nays – None
Motion passed 5-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:11 P.M.



President



Treasurer/CFO

