Approval date: February 16, 2026

**FENNVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS**
**BOARD OF EDUCATION**
**REGULAR MEETING**
**FEBRUARY 16, 2026**
**BOARD ROOM – 7:00 P.M.**
**MINUTES**

This meeting of the Board of Education, in public, is for conducting the School District's business and is not to be considered a public community meeting. There is a time for public participation during the meeting as indicated within the agenda.

## A. MEETING OPENING

### 1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Manuel Sanchez at 7:00 p.m.

### 2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

### 3. Roll Call

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Mr. Manuel Sanchez | Present | Mr. Ross Thiele | Absent |
| Mrs. Juliet Michele | Present | Mrs. Angie Pena-Smith | Absent |
| Mr. Paul Hapke | Present | Mrs. Natalie Bosby | Absent |
| Mr. Jayson Hicks | Present | | |

### 4. Additions to the Agenda

None

## B. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

## C. CONSENT AGENDA

*Motion by Michele, supported by Hicks to approve the agenda as presented.*

1. Approval of Agenda
2. Minutes for January 27, 2026, Organizational Meeting
3. Treasurer's Report for January 2026
4. Summary of Bills for January 2026
5. Approval of an overnight trip for the FHS Robotics Aerial Drone Team to attend the Miami Valley Aerial Drone competition in Xenia, OH on February 27 – 28, 2026

**Motion Carried: 4-0 Unanimous**

## D. STUDENT OF THE MONTH PRESENTATION (Sept – June)

- Fennville Elementary School –Maite Mrs. Ayotte
- Fennville Middle School – Landis Weimer by Mr. Grob
- Fennville High School – Cruz Medrano by Mr. Frens

## E. PRESENTATIONS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Superintendent Report – Mr. Lombard
   Agenda Action Items Update
   - Update provided on agenda items, including recent students' suspensions and expulsions.

Staffing Update

- Middle School Special Education Teacher vacancy remains open.
- Final interviews for the Food Service Director are taking place this week.
- Transportation Director screening interviews scheduled for February 23-27, 2026
- Student Count update provided for Fall 2024 and 2025, Spring of 2025, and projected Spring 2026 student count.
- Efforts are underway to secure additional funding to support hiring a CTE teacher.

Wellness Update

- Nate Bosch, Landscape Architect is the Project Lead
- Continued collaboration with teachers and Outdoor Discovery is underway to advance plans for developing outdoor learning spaces.
- Allison Best, Supervisor of Special Education, shared information about Unified Sports, which FPS has recently joined and received approval for.

Academics Update

- Agriscience Program Approved

Communication Update

- The district will receive 27L Funding for educator compensation distribution of the remaining amount for distribution after required retirement, Social Security, and FICA contributions are applied. Mr. Lombard is currently working with employee groups to negotiate and establish a Letter of Understanding (LOU) that will determine how these funds are allocated. These dollars are one-time funds, similar to a previous one-time allocation the district received a couple of years ago.
- The Board discussed whether to hold a committee meeting or a Work Session to review strategic plan and superintendent goals for 2026.
- The Board decided to schedule a Work Sessin on February 24, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.
- Kindergarten and Preschool Enrollment Night, March 3 from 1:00 – 7:00 p.m.
- Bond Work in the planning stages
    - Sitelogiq
        - Construction Manager, Time Stevenson
        - Design Team Lead, Bekki Jossart
        - 
        - Bond work is currently in the planning stages
        - The new roof on the old bus garage has been completed
        - A designated space will be created to house Agriculture program items
        - Middle School Cafeteria is currently in the planning and design phase
    - District Managed Funds
        - Classroom furniture for middle school and high school is currently a work in progress
        - Estimates and bids for door replacements are being gathered for planned summer 2026 work

**F. NEW BUSINESS**

**Informational/Discussion/Presentation Items**

**ACTION ITEMS:**

1. **MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS STUDENT DISCIPLINE**

*Motion by Hicks, supported by Michele to move into closed session.*

**Roll Call Vote:**

Ayes: Michele, Hicks, Hapke, Sanchez

Nays: None
**Motion Carried: 4-0 Unanimous**

*The Board moved into closed session at 7:31 p.m.*

**MOVED INTO OPEN SESSION**
*Motion by Michele, supported by Hicks to move into open session.*

**Roll Call Vote:**
Ayes: Michele, Hicks, Hapke, Sanchez
Nays: None
**Motion Carried: 4-0 Unanimous**

*The Board moved into open session at 7:51 p.m.*

2. **EXPULSION OF MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT A**
*Motion by Hicks supported by Michele, that the Board of Education expel middle school student A for the remainder of the 2025-2026 school year.*

**Roll Call Vote:**
Ayes: Michele, Hicks, Hapke, Sanchez
Nays: None
**Motion Carried: 4-0 Unanimous**

3. **EXPULSION OF MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT B**
*Motion by Hicks, supported by Michele, that the Board of Education expel middle school student B for the remainder of the 2025-2026 school year.*

**Roll Call Vote:**
Ayes: Michele, Hicks, Hapke, Sanchez
Nays: None
**Motion Carried: 4-0 Unanimous**

4. **EXPULSION OF MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT C**
*Motion by Hicks, supported by Michele, that the Board of Education expel middle school student C for the remainder of the 2025-2026 school year*.

**Roll Call Vote:**
Ayes: Michele, Hicks, Hapke, Sanchez
Nays: None
**Motion Carried: 4-0 Unanimous**

## G. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
None

## H. MEETING CLOSING
1. Comments from the Board Table
None

2. Adjournment
*Motion by Hapke, supported by Hicks to adjourn. (8:30 p.m.)*

Approval date: February 16, 2026

*Recorded by Executive Secretary, Marileen Pitts*

*Respectfully submitted by,*

_____
Angie Pena-Smith
Board Secretary