Board of Education Regular Meeting (Tuesday, June 2, 2026)
Generated by Kimberly Grilli on Wednesday, June 17, 2026

Members present
LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Kathleen Walsh, John Kershner, Ashley Zimmer, Dionna Herbert

Meeting called to order at 6:33 PM

A. Opening Items

Procedural: 1. Call to Order at 6:33 pm - moment of silence for Miss Aliv'eyah Chandler and her mother Shalimar Green. So, if everyone could take a moment of silence, that would be great.

Action 2026-201: 2. Treasurer Pro-Tem
It is recommended to accept Mr. Kershner as Treasurer Pro-Tem for this Board meeting.

Motion by Kathleen Walsh, second by Dionna Herbert.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Kathleen Walsh, John Kershner, Ashley Zimmer, Dionna Herbert

Procedural: 3. Roll Call - All present

Procedural: 4. Pledge of Allegiance

Action 2026-202: 5. Adoption of Meeting Agenda
Move that the Board of Education approve the agenda with amendments

Motion by Kathleen Walsh, second by Ashley Zimmer.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Kathleen Walsh, John Kershner, Ashley Zimmer, Dionna Herbert

Action 2026-203: 6. Move that the Board of Education approve the addition of C3 - 2nd reading of IGCG-R; C4 - 1st reading of IGCG; C5 Resolution of the Board regarding application, questionnaires and alternate Board representation for Student Voice and Parent Voice Committees; C6 to cancel June 9, July 7 and August 11 Board Mtgs.

Motion by Ashley Zimmer, second by LaToya Dowdell-Burger.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Kathleen Walsh, John Kershner, Ashley Zimmer, Dionna Herbert

Action 2026-204: 7. Move that the Board of Education approve the moving of Executive Session to section D before the consent agenda.

Motion by John Kershner, second by Ashley Zimmer.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Kathleen Walsh, John Kershner, Ashley Zimmer, Dionna Herbert

B. Public Participation

Information: 1. Guidelines for Public Participation

- Rachel Cohen - I am an ELA teacher at South. Please consider what is best for students when making budget cuts and savings measures. Cutting positions that are student facing and that directly impacts the students will be detrimental to the district.
- Jane Deckard - I would like to address cost saving measures. I have heard rumors of Title I cuts, guidance, social workers and anything that is not legally required. Are all the admin and assistants legally required? You must consider what affects the least amount of students first. Students in elementary are building the foundation for the rest of the educational years. Classroom teachers can not do it all. Maybe before cutting teachers, not paying $5,000 for a survey of teachers would be cost saving.

C. Board Items - New Business

Discussion: 1. Evaluations of Superintendent and Treasurer

- Kathleen - I placed this item on the agenda because evaluations are one of the board's responsibilities and I thought it would be helpful to begin discussion discussing what processes we may want to use going forward. I'm not seeking action. This is just discussion, but my goal is simply to start a conversation and make sure all board members are included in the process. I'm looking at evaluation models. I've looked at a couple, one with the Ohio Department of Education Superintendent Evaluation System and the other for the model used by the Columbus City Schools. Both are similar, but the Columbus City School used the Ohio department of education system, but they have added a rubric. I like that. So tonight I just want us to start thinking about it, put it on the next agenda with some feedback from the board members on what they're looking at, what the superintendent and treasurer would think so we can work together and get this long task completed.
- LaToya - And so, with it being a discussion, is there anything you want to prepare and share with the board? I know in the past what we've always used. We do have two new board members here. Do you have the items that you reviewed? Will you be sending that out to the board?

- Kathleen - We have used the Ohio Department of Education Superintendent Evaluation System in the past.
- LaToya - No, It's OSBA.
- Kathleen - I know that I have not received a copy of the last evaluation that we did. So if I could have that sent to all board members either by the superintendent, that'd be great. So they have that and probably the 23 24 because we do have two new board members and I think it would be helpful. Not sure if those were all the same because from 22 23 to 23 24 I know the form changed between those two years. So, I think if we get all on the same page and start talking about what meeting we will do that, I assume it'll be like a work session type meeting would be the best way. But we'll put it on the agenda and share these. I'll share the two documents I have, of course, with the rest of the board and they can do their own research and look at different options. I think it would be helpful.
- LaToya - Just to provide context for our two new board members, We have two human capital managers on the team and at the time I was the only one. So I did reformat our board of education evaluation system for the superintendent, to read more corporate and reformat it. So there is an asterisk on the one that says reformatted by GMLS BOE which there was consensus for those board members that did attend to reformat that. So when you see that that's listed and this was sent out by former president Bower prior to his departure to all board members.
- Kathleen - Could you clarify who those two Human Capital members were, please?
- LaToya - Dionna Herbert is an HR chief as well as myself having the HR background to then make the modifications needed to ensure the evaluation aligns with more corporate and upcoming the standards that are currently out there because the way it reads is kind of dated so we just reformatted so it read a little bit differently to align with the evaluation system. I also verified with OSBA and our legal counsel.
- Kathleen - You'll share the OSBA model you're talking about?
- LaToya - You have all of that from last year, but I'll find it again and when it was sent to you.
- Ashley - With changing the evaluations, are you wanting to also revisit the policy we have in place? Do you want that to go to the policy committee for public input as well as staff input?
- John - I think that would be an excellent idea. I personally like to see and what I've seen in the past is that the superintendent's evaluation aligns more closely with the typical administration evaluations with the same type of ratings so that we have cohesion between the different offices. typically what I've seen and I think what is typical is each board member provides some type of rating. Whereas I think some of the last ones have turned more into a narrative and with less measurable items for goals and improvements, etc. I'd like to see something a more typical, I guess I would say, but a little more measurable. I think that's one of the things that I pulled from seeing not this immediate last one in November, but the prior was there were goals, but there weren't really what task conditions, standards, timelines, etc. So, I think some of the more standard forms might provide better formatting. I do think it would be great for the policy committee to get feedback on that, look at some models, and maybe come back with some ideas.
- Ashley - I'm looking at the treasures evaluation from last year because I asked both Jamie and Adam for it. So I actually do have copies of both of their last evaluations. And looking at it, it looks very well managed and thought out. It's actually quite detailed if you're looking at it. So I would recommend reviewing the last evaluation completed before we change anything that's in place, personally.
- LaToya - They are mirrored to be exact so that when you see Mr. Grube's it will align with that. We do that intentionally to ensure that both of our personnel that report to this body has the same infrastructure for their evaluation system.
- Kathleen - Would the rest of the board like to set a date to review and come to a consensus?
- Ashley - I don't think we need to set a date if you haven't looked at the last evaluation to see if anything needs to be changed. That seems redundant to set a date if you haven't seen the evaluation. You should review it before you make a decision. Just my personal opinion.
- LaToya - I agree
- Kathleen - That can be done before the meeting, of course. That would be part of the process.
- Ashley - But you haven't looked at it to see if you want to change anything. So why schedule a meeting that might not be necessary? It's a waste of time.
- Kathleen - So then do you want to use that evaluation form? Is that what you're saying? I mean, we need to set a date for the evaluation. We have to do that work session and we should do it twice a year. So we're at the halfway mark and it would be a good time to put that on the schedule.
- Ashley - Don't we have a work session supposed to be in the works with Mr. Fiji or Fuji, whatever the guy's name is.
- Kathleen - No we don't have one yet. He's coming June 9th. That's what our agenda prep is for.
- Ashley - So that's our second work session that we're supposed to have.
- Dionna - I think we should table this for another time to focus on time sensitive, more urgent matters. We're in a staffing crisis and we have budget reductions to consider.
- LaToya - I agree. We need to focus right now on the employment crisis. We're spending a lot of time with not even having any substantial recommendations for you to even have added this to the agenda without providing any of the examples that you mentioned. So, I'm with Dionna if we can move forward.

- John - And honestly, that's the purpose of our committees is to help gather data and expedite these things so we're not spending time in these meetings doing that. And I was just asking for clarification if it's okay for us to do that since the committee acts on the request of the Board if it's okay. We can address or at least look at that and gather information at our policy committee meeting at the end of the month and save the board time.

- LaToya - I'm not sure what you mean by gather, but I think that's where Dionna and I would say I am at as far as just saying let's just pause on all of it, including the policy piece until we're ready to move forward. I think Ashley's already stated until you've actually reviewed what's already been done. We really kind of should halt for a second and focus on these other matters that are more pressing.

Discussion: 2. Cost Saving Measures

- Kathleen - Since the treasurer is not present tonight, I do not believe a Board can have a meaningful discussion regarding specific reductions and recommendations. However, I do believe we can discuss what information the Board needs from

the treasurer and the superintendent moving forward and the process for evaluating any recommend future recommendations.

- LaToya - I think the first thing, and Jamie I would yield to you on this part, from the human capital management standpoint are vacancies that we have, where are they so the first thing so we're not cutting where we can look at attrition and then just look at what areas that is in versus it being student facing or not that would be very good to have a really solid human capital report also with projections on retirements. Do we have anyone speaking about retirement, planning on it? That is a very good starting point to look at. And I know since it's a discussion when looking at our cash flow and some of the things, I know we spent so much money on facilities and I'm just going to say it burns my bridges that we didn't get that levy for some buildings because we would have kind of alleviated some of that cost. So, now we are going to look at not only we've got to cut back, but we have buildings that we're going to have to keep patching because that levy did not pass. And we don't even know if that money will come back around to us. But just kind of want to put that out there for record and keep that in mind for all of our community. That we also have buildings that are aging and falling apart and where we're trying to patch things where we could have had some other options but that was the other thing I wanted to mention looking at just over time because I did reach out to Mr. Collier and looked at facilities, but the big thing is that human capital report and if you need anything, I'm pretty sure myself or Miss Herbert would be more than willing to assist until the incoming is present to assist you in pulling that report.
- John - I will add when I was on the board before the cost of an individual bus route was $55,000 and I know it's substantially more than that now. I also know that when you take areas like Independence Village, for some reason we're now busing out of that area to all three different middle schools and I believe that one of the lowest hanging fruits right now is the potential inefficiency of our transportation systems. And part of that is also busing kids away from their school and across town. And I think one of the first things we should be looking at is aligning the students with their neighborhood schools and transporting in ways that make sense and don't create tons of overlap and buses pulling in with just a handful of kids on them. That costs this district a lot of money. And when I was on the Board when we looked at routes, I found two different buses going down Marwick and I just said, "Why are two different buses going down Marwick?" - $55,000. And so I think transportation, and what we're paying for transportation, which is a really big number these days, is something we should look at where we can provide, I believe, better service for our students. Where possibly there are no families being split, neighborhoods being split unnecessarily. And I hope we can have a good look at that and see if there isn't a way to save money for the taxpayers while improving transportation for the students.

- Dionna - Two parts. First is to the superintendent. Is there a reason or are you aware of any instances where we've modified bus routes inefficiently or reasons why we may have exceptions to why certain kids are going to certain schools? Is this a capacity issue?

- Jamie - So, our current bus routes, and I hate to give the answer it's the way we've always done it, but our current bus routes were established before I came to the district and this is my eighth year. I think it was significantly before that and if you look at the patterns, I don't know if it made sense at the time, but it doesn't make a lot of sense now, so I would concur with what Mr. Kershner is saying in that there's an inefficiency of the routes. The other problem that we have is with small elementary schools, there's not a lot of range when you get low numbers or high numbers if you only have two or three sections for a grade level. And so you could have a student who moves in for the first day of school and there's no room at third grade in the building across the street. And so then we're busing that student to another school. That causes a lot of inefficiency with those intra district shuttles as well. Realistically, I think there are things we can do and we continue to work on to improve efficiency that we could do for next year. But I think some of the biggest changes that if the board wants to have discussion about this would be for the following year, which is also the time when our current contract, because right now we're kind of locked into a cost structure and a certain number of routes. So again, we're trying to be as efficient as possible, but if we're going to make significant changes, that could impact either a contract or however we would provide transportation in the future. And I think there could be significant savings there.

- John - Point of clarification, I believe the contract is per route and does not guarantee them a specific number of routes?

- Jamie - No, it's a total number of routes at a certain dollar amount.

- John - So you're saying even if we change walking distance, realign schools, for students to get to the school in their area that we don't have the power because of our contract to make efficiency changes under its current contract?

- Jamie - we could check with legal, but that would be my understanding that we're paying a flat rate for a set number of routes at this time.

- John - So, because I've read the contract, I want to make sure my reading comprehension is okay. If we can double check that with legal, because I know we have a per route cost and I would like to know it. It doesn't seem possible to have to lock in a specific number because if we have growth, they're going to have to add a route. Are they contractually bound to not add a route or was a minimum?

- Jamie - It was a minimum.

- Dionna - The second part and this is just something I want the Board as a body to consider and the superintendent as well. My personal experience is being bussed 40 minutes away from my neighborhood over to Independence. I grew up

on the southeast side of Columbus and the reason that they bussed us all the way over to Independence was to make sure that schools were more integrated and for experiences and exposure of students. So, when we say keeping people in their neighborhoods, it's triggering. And I just want to make sure we understand the importance of the overall school experience.

- John - I would also add that since that time, we've become more of a melting pot. So I think the population has rectified itself.

- Dionna - But it's like economic status, it's demographics, it's all types of things. Making sure we just have a good mixture of students and not overly saturated with only one type of student. I think it's very important for kids to be exposed with the world that they'll actually be living in.

- LaToya - Jamie, if I recall correctly, right before, maybe it was your second year as superintendent, as we had our enrollment, we sent letters unless you were at a certain level in that building to redirect those students to their feeder school. So that practice has still been happening where it could, so that is one measure that's already been in place because I wanted to make sure it's clear for the public that it's not that we haven't been efficient with our intra facility or intra districting. It was based off of space. But we ensured, even when it was that hard decision for someone who may be in second or third grade and they were at a school that wasn't their feeder school, letters were sent home to parents to try to get everybody back in the school that kind of connects so those routes were efficient. Right?

- Jamie - The answer to that is we told families that according to board policy, your homeschool, the one closest to you is a school where you should try to go as much as possible. I will tell you that last year, and I don't know if it's gone out yet just recently or will be going out, we allowed some students by geography to help us reduce some of our imbalance in buildings. So let's say it was a case where if every student in the Middle School Central attendance area went to Middle School Central it would be far beyond capacity and we would have to overflow to other buildings anyhow. So, we looked at students and geographically where they were to other buildings and we allowed them to go to the closer building where we would have had to have overflowed students to anyhow, to help us naturally balance that and the letter that's allowing them to stay there this year again because our current boundary lines don't necessarily also make sense from the number of students in the boundary. Of course, the number of students who live in a particular boundary changes over time with new homes and people moving in and things like that. So, there's always a balancing that we try to do and we're trying to let geography drive some of that back to Dionna's example. If there are some kids in the northern end of the district and we have room at North and not at Central and for whatever reason, it was a sign that that area had gone to Central, we've allowed some of those families to make a choice to go to the closer school to try to help us.

- John - The radius of MSC has a higher radius than MSN?

- Jamie - I believe so, yes. And keep in mind, Middle School North was, I'll say, artificially increased in size because we did, at one point, gifted services at Sedalia and Middle School North. And so kids from all over the district were artificially bussed to Middle School North and to Sedalia which is why the modules were added in Sedalia. And then when you balanced it out with the current boundaries actually it made Central overcrowd.

- John - When we were going through the building process and the schools were evaluated, middle school central was actually listed as the least utilized of its space. Does that make sense? Because that's our old high school, it has pretty substantial capacity. But who was it that did this? Was it not Cropper. Yeah, if you look at that, they actually said that building of our middle schools was the least utilized. So, that may actually be an example. The other thing I was going to state is we made the somewhat unprecedented change of a walking distance of only a half mile. And I think that might work in blacklick estates in some areas, but I think that also is something that can be looked at because obviously that creates busing situations we have never had before because it's never been that few hundred yards. So, that's another opportunity or issue that we could look at is that we only have currently a half mile walk, which is, a quarter of what the state allows.

- Ashley - I think something we can do right now, that's an issue in our district, is making sure that households go to one school and do not get separated. It's an ongoing issue, multiple parents experience it. I have the issue right now with my own kids going to two different schools. They are working to fix it, but that right there, two kids from one home to two different schools, it's stupid just to be honest. So, there's things we can do right now that will save money that does not possibly break a contract that we could take the time and effort to review to make sure our homes are not being split, because a lot of people don't know they can speak up and get their kids to the same school. This was also brought up at the parent advisory committee last the year before that there are plenty of people with that same issue.

- John - It also affects the kids' social life when you're on the same block with your friends and they're not going to school with you. That creates less opportunity I believe.

- Kathleen - So I think it sounds like we all agree transportation needs to look at as possible cost savings.

- Ashley - That's not transportation. That's your home school. Those are two different things. It's making sure our students are being placed in the correct schools versus anything to do with transportation. I'm saying if we look at the homes and where the students are enrolled, if we work at the district service center, us ourselves, do they work to evaluate where the kids are being placed and make sure they're being placed with their siblings? We will save money. And then the families will also be going to one school versus two different schools for two different events. It has nothing to do with the transportation. So, we're not going to possibly break a contract.

- Kathleen - I will say that the school boundary lines that you brought up, Jamie, when I looked at what Crocker gave us, the map was really old. And so I know those boundary lines haven't been redrawn for years. We got so many more developments right now than when those were drawn. That would be a really good item to look at, I think, to redrawing those boundary lines. The Refugee road, Chatterton Road didn't even go all the way through to Brice Road on the map that we have those boundaries drawn on. And that extension was done years ago, right? So I would say though for the record I would like a better financial understanding also. Can the administration provide a breakdown of district expenditures by major categories so the board can understand where resources are currently being allocated and what cost savings have been evaluated to date? Which options were considered but not recommended? We did get some recommendations in an email just so everybody knows but not just a few. What analysis has been done regarding discretionary spending, staff and student travel, reimbursements, transportation efficiency, which we covered quite a bit, outsource services, software and subscription costs, consultation contracts, administrative costs, vacancies, and attribution that you've talked about that and other administrative reduction. So for the purpose of reductions what is the estimated savings and what would be the impact on students and staff observations for recommendations? So some of the recommendations had to do with preschool. What is that impact going to be on students if we don't continue with the strict early childhood education right down the road in kindergarten and so those are my concerns and I think I would like to have those answered before I'm asked to approve any cuts to any of our options that are required by board policy.

- LaToya - So, we've got a lot that we've kind of discussed with the superintendent this evening and one, I think it's great that we're having the discussion, but I would like to ensure we give a true path forward for him and the treasurer. So, if we could itemize that. A lot of what you discussed though, Kathy, has been discussed every meeting, especially cost savings as well as we have our savings report that he provides often. So maybe a linear or aerial view of that could be provided. But if we could take those items before we leave this part of the discussion of the agenda and identify those in ranking order for him and the treasurer in his absence, because that was a lot of information. And so I've heard human capital transfers, relooking at where students are, and then you had your litany list there. So if we could kind of maybe give top three to begin because that list was very intrusive. So I would really like for us to kind of look at the low hanging fruit first. That'd be my suggestion so we could get something back like the human capital report, the student services report with students being in households. That way you can get something quicker, start moving and reviewing that first and then those other items. So, if we could collectively now provide that list and that way Mr. Treasurer could have that when he returns and they can work on that together to get that back to us. Just a suggestion.

- Dionna - It's my understanding, that we need to as a Board, to grant authorization for the superintendent to proceed forward. Him and the treasurer to dive into these areas of concern and to present us with a proposal. So I think before we end this discussion, if we could give a directive on what we want his next steps to be is the first step.

- Kathleen - I don't know what policy you're referencing.

- Dionna - For the record there's no policy that I'm referencing. I'm referencing the agenda prep meeting that we had that you were in attendance to.

- John - This might be a point of clarification, Dionna. There was a point in time where a motion was needed due to contractual obligations to the employees but that timeline ended June 1st, if that's what you're thinking of.

- Dionna - No, John, we had a meeting and when we planned this agenda, the discussion was that before the superintendent and treasurer feel that they have the authority to propose anything, they would like for the board to direct them to do so. That's all I'm stating.

- John - I got it. I would say that they have more information than we have. And I would ask that they start the conversation and then we react to that.

- Dionna - So in response to that, the only thing they would need is the green light to say move forward.

- John - Yes, absolutely. I think that should happen regardless.

- Jamie - I think you all know this, but I'll say it for the larger public. This all started, I think last October when Adam did his four-year forecast, and we found out that we were going to lose about $4.5 million in state funding. And Adam has been pretty consistent all the way through about that he would like to see us make the reductions of four and a half million. Now, Adam is a friend and a good guy. I love him, but he's a treasurer. So he sees things in numbers and charts

and columns and so I'm not saying that we shouldn't have done $4.5 million. When it comes down to trying to decide how do you get to that amount, that's when you look at things and try to make decisions. As time has progressed since then and when we first started having some conversations through February and March, that was a different picture than what it is now. We're in June now and I don't think we're asking to make any riffs or layoffs or anything like that. I think we're looking for just some direction about okay, do what you can do through attrition, through budget savings, through these things and efficiency to save what we can save this year because whatever we save and whatever the difference is between that amount and the four and a half million is going to get tagged on to next year when we have to do four and a half million plus that amount and just, I mean tonight's kind of a case in point a rumor gets out there's something about Title teachers, the turnout of people saying don't cut title and so I guess what I'm looking from the Board is that you do want us to go ahead and try to identify the saving measures that we can identify at this point. Again, not asking for a riff or anything like that, but it's do the saving measures that we can do, whether it's through attrition, whether it's through budgetary things, whether it's through as people leave, if we can restructure and reduce some things because when push comes to shove, you get down to the point where there is something eliminated that creates emotion and people are going to have feelings toward that. And I want to make sure that I understand because ultimately it's the Board's responsibility to that we have to provide fiduciary oversight and fiscal responsibility to operate the district. I want to make sure that Adam and I are putting plans together to meet your expectations. So, I don't necessarily need specific direction right now, but I guess we're looking for a nod that we should be trying to do or we can do to save the money we can save right now to lessen what we would potentially have to do next year.

- John -I'll just give my two cents. My grave concern and I guess I'll echo what I heard in this room today is we've seen vacancies happen and I've seen vacancies happen where I think we have bloat where maybe we have construction people on staff and we have no buildings under construction. Yet, when vacancies come up, we fill AO. but then when vacancies come from the bottom, we let them go. I will echo that if fat is to be trimmed I wanted from this building when I was on the Board before we were in that little dental office next to Mott's military museum and all the rest of the administrators were in the buildings that was only maybe 15 20 years ago and then we moved to a lease space and now we're in the castle so full of bodies. So when I hear about making cuts, there are people in this building and no disrespect to anybody that have a major impact to the education, but then there are people out there where I scratch my head and say, "What in the world does this do for the education of a child?" And so that's where I want to see the priority is where the rubber meets the road. We need as much ESL, as much math, and as much focus on AIDS and where the rubber meets the road more so than we have today. And I believe the big salaries at the top where they could function without it, where we used to function without it. I think that's certainly my priority. I've just watched, I know things have changed. There's more regulations and all that, but I've seen the growth at AO and it's monstrous. So, when you look at it, Jamie, from my standpoint, if you're going to say that when somebody leaves, treat it equally, top and bottom.

- Jamie -I agree. and I think we'd be happy to give a presentation to show where we have been making reductions and where we propose to make reductions. Just last meeting I made a proposal to combine two positions into one. There's been some reductions in administrative positions, but I'll let the facts speak for themselves.

- Ashley - I just emailed over a resolution from our April meeting that I personally think needs to be edited because some of the language in it I don't think is accurate. But if we want to give authorization for them to bring saving measures, I suggest we do something along the lines of this. Everyone should have it in your email. We can edit it as we all agree to move forward versus sit here having discussions that's going to go round and round and accomplish nothing to actually do something. Just my opinion.

- John - I just say point of order. This is the job of the administration and they do not need anything from us as far as it just is it's what they should be doing anyway and we could put

- Ashley - Our board attorney advised us to do this.

- John - Yeah, that was in the time of the riff, which that cycle has passed. And you're correct. They did mention that they gave the superintendent the ability to riff. I think we allowed that to pass intentionally, that timeline to pass intentionally, and now where we are today. And I think Jamie is prepared to bring us his recommendation. I'll also say I like the fact that the treasurer and the superintendent might not agree. I would like to see two different proposals. One from the bean counter and one from the education side that we can compare and make decisions where the rubber meets the road. I think it's good to have that friction. I hope there is friction between the accounting side and the education side because that's normal. It shows we're doing good business.

- Ashley - So, what are we going to do when they bring a presentation for budget cuts that no one agrees with? Do we go back to the drawing board just to go around and around and accomplish nothing? Just saying we've got to give some directive on what to do otherwise we are accomplishing nothing.

- Kathleen - So the administration has the day operation and I would think that they're doing all the cost savings they can all the time but they're saying now they got to cut some things down a little bit and it's their discretion. The board doesn't have the authority to change that unless it's a specific policy in the Board state law that says the Board has to approve

that. So I would hope that they would be looking at like I said discretionary spending and outsourcing and how many subscriptions do we have any overlap in any of our subscriptions or any of our subcontracts that are coming and to look at all those items. But honestly, that's our job is to let them do their job and then we look at what they've done. So, I would hope that their presentation would have a full gamut of costs that they're looking at, but for us to give them and say, "Hey, cut this much.

- Ashley - That is not what I was saying. I'm saying give suggestions on where you would like to see things cut. I personally don't want to see anything cut through the kids. I don't want to see teachers cut. I don't want to see a preschool close. I don't want to see any of the teachers that actually educate the children in the school cut. That's my personal opinion, right? So, I would say to Jamie, if you could start at the top and see where we could cut down and save money, that would be great. So, we don't come back here in a month or two and then you guys nitpick everything he does and then we have to go back to step one. Just being honest.

- John -Okay. So to that point, this is a discussion item if I'd shown up here believing there would be motions on the floor in this discussion item, then I would have prepared very specific examples.'t and I don't think it's fair now for me or any board member to try to pull it up.

- Ashley -I'm saying suggest areas of where you want to see cuts being done so they work towards what you want to see. So we don't keep going back and forth.

- LaToya - I think one we can have a discussion and still provide a direction. It doesn't always require an action item. I do think unfortunately with the climate of our Board that is the practice that we've had to have. I would think with this discussion from what I've heard, the Board collectively talk about human capital. So we're just seeing where they are. So I would also add when you're looking at that report when we're identifying those positions through attrition or those vacancies folks pending retirement identify is it student facing or not. So then that way we have identifiers on things when we're looking at personnel. So I do hear us say so if that could be some direction for you and the human capital manager that will address that. Then we've talked about transportation as a second item. Just looking at the routes and those things and our current contract with legal if we can make any amendments there. And the third thing that I've heard was the student services aspect where Miss Zimmer was speaking about making sure families are together. So if we can look at those top three areas first and of course when we are identifying any reductions with personnel identifying who's student facing and who's not and that could be the beginning but I also concur with her where we cannot impact student facing especially when we don't have the extra money as we used to have with the five-year budget plan that they had forever and I'm going to let that go. I'm going to get off my soap box on that. But since they made that change, we don't get to have those nice to haves anymore. So as many people who are in front of the children, we got to salvage as much of that as we can. If not all because we can't bring in this company or we don't have that extra money. Esser's gone and how we had the budget and we were working, we don't have that. So what I hear Miss Zimmer saying and all of us at least when you're looking at it and I think that's your lens anyway, you'll probably provide the report that's going to be most advantageous with student facing as a priority and then Mr. Collier is going to give us everything that's just dollars and cents. So if we could have that, I believe we would be okay with that to look at. Anyone have anything else to add? And then if you have any questions for Mr. Collier, reach out to the board members tonight who had specific ask, but I will provide mine to you and Mr. Collier in writing as well.

- Kathleen -And I would include in that discretionary spending be included. Look at our discretionary spending.

- John - I also know there is a surplus of cash with the state. Believe it's a billion dollars or so that I'm not sure what action the treasurer's office or the Board should take, but hopefully some of that money, there's I believe some people fighting to see some of that money distributed back to schools. So hopefully we can see an increase in funding through some of the surpluses at the state.

- Jamie - Mr. Kushner, are you talking about the Rainy Day fund.

- John - Yeah

- Jamie - Think there's multiple billion dollars.

- John - Yeah, It is. Yeah, they have a glut now because of a new law that was passed, I believe.

- LaToya - I would also like to then just yield to my colleagues that we get several emails from OSBA and things regarding a lot of the funding that our state legislators, they've sent an email out today because there's voting tomorrow about the changing and the evaluation of property. So there's another part as we're looking at cost saving measures that we can work beyond the Board and do our due diligence when resolutions are brought up about budgets and things like that be on one accord to hold our state elected officials who are putting these things in place that are hurting public education to speak up on that and we can do that collectively if we are really about public education and saving measures. But that's something that doesn't cost us anything but our time.

- Kathleen - Does anybody have any other input for this discussion item?
- Jamie - Yeah, this is helpful for me, and to Mr. Kershner's point, we should always be looking for ways to save money and if we can do things for efficiency, we do try to do that. When you start looking at if a person or some people leave, do we absorb those positions and restructure? What I was looking for the Board was to go ahead that we need to do some of those things and within the framework and I think we've talked about this before. Any savings we do, the ideal situation is to have the least impact on students, that we do that and prioritize those things. So that's helpful for me to know I was just kind of looking for the nod, the thumbs up that we can start to make some of those decisions and recommendation that it's going to be probably reduction of some type of service, but try to look at what can we do to take efficiency that's going to have the least impact. Now, we'll probably face different choices next year if something doesn't change. But again, this is kind of what I was looking for was just the nod to go ahead and do some of those things if we can bring things back to the Board.
- LaToya - One other thing we didn't talk about is innovation. So, we don't make things so we can't increase our revenue. So, what things do we have that we own that we can monetize off of? So, I would like to throw that out to you and you to throw out to your leadership to canvas to think about. We have property, we've got other things. Can we lease it? Can we something? Let's see where we can bring in other dollars as we're looking at the other things. But we do have things that are sitting idle that we can be innovative about and that this is a great opportunity to, do a think tank and maybe if you kind of do a inventory of things, throw that back at the Board so we at least can look at it and maybe we have some ideas to share with you and the treasurer to figure out other ways to bring in revenue to the district with this crisis of a budget.
- Kathleen - One comment on yours Jamie that kind of concerns me is I think you said the reductions of some types of services but not knowing what they are. So, I hope you're not talking services to our students or services that our teachers need to provide for our students and the best education. So, I appreciate you listening to us and keeping us in the loop and I would want to make sure the Board continues to stay in the loop where these are your decisions and most of them the Board can say we have a problem with that. As long as everything's following policy and you're not cutting anything that's required by policy, we should be okay. Some of the things we have aren't required by policy and those are the items that I would think would be looked at first.
- Jamie -And I do want to say this just tongue in cheek. This is a path a lot of times districts go down when you have these discussions like okay we realize we have to make cuts as long as and it's going to be people programs outside source services software and it's okay as long as it doesn't have any impact at all. Now I would like to say that if we make a reduction, if there's no impact then we should have reduced it. So, anything we do that we change or reduce, there's going to have some impact, but the goal would be to minimize that impact on students. So, it can't be both. We can't make reductions and not have any impact at all.
- Dionna - Just to be thorough, that also includes that Jamie will be able to engage with our unions and make sure that everyone's at the table and have a voice at the decisions or suggestions that are being presented.
- Kathleen - My understanding is you can always engage with the union, but the only time the board needs to approve it is if the process to starting a rift.
- Dionna - No, just stating for the record so that there's no confusion.
- Kathleen - Absolutely, he can do that.

Action 2026-205, Discussion: 3. 2nd read of IGCG-R and vote

Motion to approve IGCG-R

- Kathleen - Thank you, John. Item C3, second read of policy ICGCR. I see. So this is the policy that went to the board committee, the policy committee, and was it updated at the policy. Is there anything from the policy committee on this?
- John - Yeah, I will chime in. We had a committee meeting May 11th attended by Ashley and myself, Kim Robbins, Susan Murphy, Julie Sparrow, Amanda Bernowski, and Teresa Foster. All heavily involved in the preschool education process. We made red lines primarily at the direction of Amanda Bernowski to make some legal and language corrections. And I believe that is what Mrs. Zimmer has brought before us.
- Kathleen - So is this document different than the document we received at the last meeting?
- Ashley - We didn't have this document. So, I'm not sure what you're referring to.
- Kathleen - We did have this at the last meeting.

- Ashley - It was the first meeting in May that you requested it go to the policy committee. And we made the one minor change. So, it's different than the first meeting in May. It was not brought forward at the last meeting we were at.
- Kathleen - So what is that change?
- Ashley - Transportation for children and without disabilities shall be provided as required by law and when applicable in accordance with a student's individual education program IEP.
- LaToya - And when we did the original, I can't recall if legal counsel was included because I know OSBA has their standard policies. So, this one would go to our legal counsel to ensure I didn't know if it was routed yet. But I thought we did.
- Ashley - I think it was included with all of the policies back when we had all of them.
- LaToya - But with the change. I just want to make sure it's not gonna.. Okay, that's all.
- Kathleen - So, can you clarify what you said, please? Because Latoya says it's talking about route eight on my screen.
- LaToya - I just asked about the legal aspect and Ashley answered it. So, that's all.
- Kathleen - So, you were asking if the OSBA legal chamber this is that
- LaToya - No, I didn't ask that. I just asked about legal counsel in general and she responded and stated that this was a part of the bulk policies and I said okay that was all.
- Kathleen - Could you clarify which bulk policies Ashley please?
- Ashley - The January, February, possibly even into March cluster where we were going around and around with multiple legal councils looking at all different policies and getting five billion different answers.
- Kathleen - Thank you.
- John - So, if I may, the policy now reads, "Policy manual section one, instruction preschool program IGCGR active preschool program. The board of education may operate preschool programs designed to meet the needs of eligible children, including general education, integrated and special education classrooms in accordance with applicable state and federal laws and regulation. General education classrooms are those in which no more than 50% of enrolled students are children with disabilities. Integrated classrooms are those in which no more than 50% of the enrolled students have disabilities and children with and without disabilities learn together. Special education classrooms are those in which at least 51% of enrolled students have disabilities and receive specially designed instruction. All preschool classrooms are designed to meet the individual learning and development needs of all students to the best of our ability. Classroom staffing, lure, and case loads shall comply with the Ohio Administrative Code and standards established by the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce. Children are eligible for preschool if the child attains the age of three and meeting the applicable state eligibility requirements, including identification as a child with a disability when applicable and not yet obtained the age at which the child will be admitted in kindergarten. Children participating in the preschool program shall have been immunized in accordance with the requirements of the state board of education to prevent the spread of communicable diseases. Parents or guardians shall be permitted reasonable access to preschool program during operation hours in accordance with district visitation procedures and security protocols. Tuition and fees may be charged in accordance with a fee schedule approved by the board of education. Tuition rates shall be reviewed periodically and may be adjusted to remain reasonably aligned with the comparable neighborhood school district preschool programs and programs operating costs. Finally, transportation for children with and without disabilities shall be provided as required by law and when applicable in accordance with a student's individual education program.
- Kathleen - Does anything in this IGCGR policy prevent the school district from having a preschool program in the school district itself?
- Ashley - Did you just ask if the policy IGCGR is to prevent the school district from being at the school ourselves. We would outsource it or anything like that? Nothing prevents the preschool from operating just as it does today.
- Kathleen - All right.
- LaToya - I was going to say thank you for getting that together and working with the preschool staff and reaching out. Just want to tell you that, Thank you.

Motion by John Kershner, second by Ashley Zimmer.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Kathleen Walsh, John Kershner, Ashley Zimmer, Dionna Herbert

Discussion: 4. 1st read of IGCG

- Kathleen - And we're on to item C4, first read of the policy IGCG. So would either member from the policy committee wish to discuss the signing policy?
- John - Yes, there were only minor changes made to make a few items of language more correct and those are outlined and lined out in red and highlighted. And that was also addressed at the same meeting. Thank you. The resolution reads, "The board of education recognizes a need to provide a preschool program to eligible children residing in its district, including preschool children with and without disabilities, and has obtained a license to operate a preschool program. The preschool program shall be located in a facility that accommodates the enrollment of the program, supports the growth and development of children according to the program objectives, and meets the requirements of state laws and regulations. The preschool program is guided by curriculum, written policies, and regulations of the district that are consistent with applicable statutory requirements contained in state law. Resources of the preschool program include but are not limited to one staff, two accumulative records. Three, health and safety, four, admission, five, attendance and discipline, six sections and use of developmentally appropriate materials, equipment and resources that meet the intellectual, physical, and emotional needs of the preschool student. Seven, management of communicable diseases. And eight, transportation and community-based learning experience. Prospective employees who meet all ethical requirements established under state law. And then there are numerous legal references 330131 330153 3313646 Ohio revised code 332302 Ohio administrative code chapter 330137 33016909 and OAC 5180-2 and then we have cross references listed which I will not enumerate to our board policies and I move that we accept this as the first read since there have been substantial revisions.
- Dionna - Can I ask a question? Why don't we remove and homeless children?
- John - Why did we remove Amanda? Do you want to speak to that?
- Amanda - Great question. And that's because it's already covered under kids in general. So, what we didn't want to do was draw attention to the fact that they're homeless. Plus, we have Mckinney Vento that covers that anyway. So, it's kind of redundant.
- John - So, the answer is we took it out because Amanda said it was better to take it out. And thank you as well, Miss Bernowski, and our union as well.
- Kathleen - So, I noticed that in our cross reference that we don't have the programs with students with disabilities. Should that be a cross reference in this special ed program?
- Amanda - Can you clarify what you mean?
- Kathleen - So in the section where we have the cross reference of policies, we have policy like IGBA programs for students with disabilities. Would that be a cross reference for the preschool program as well?
- Amanda - Probably. Yes. It wouldn't deter anything, but yes, because we can add.
- Kathleen - So I think there's a couple of them. So could somebody look at those? Would you be willing to look at those?
- Ashley - I mean, we can take it back to the policy committee or if you'd like to some suggested additions, you could also do that and we could review it at the policy committee.
- John - So, the ask is to review what section of policy against this preschool program IGCG Cross reference. Yes. And you want to cross reference? You want us to check what cross reference or additional?
- Kathleen - There's one IGBA is one I know for sure and IGBAR if there's other ones I couldn't tell you. I haven't researched that far.
- Amanda - I think she's saying that anything that touches it needs to be cross reference to. That's just special ed related cross reference. So I have India Golf Bravo Alpha correct that you want to add to that potentially Kathy? I'm more than happy to look them up and send them over to Ashley. That would be great. And then we'll review those for next.

Action 2026-206, Discussion: 5. Resolution of Board of Education regarding applications, questionnaires, and alternative Board representation for the Student Voice and Parent Voice Committee's
Motion to approve the resolution that the Board regarding applications, questionnaires, and alternate Board representation for the Student Voice and Parent Voice committees.

- Kathleen - We're on to item C5. Groveport Madison local school board district board of education regarding application questionnaires and alternate board representation for the parent voice committee and student voice committee. So I'm not sure what this is. That's the first I've seen added.
- Ashley - It's making it so that we put the application or questionnaire process out to students and parents for the committees we established at the beginning of this year as well as appointing alternate representation from the board to those committees. So if someone is unable to attend, we have an alternate in place.
- Kathleen - So, has the committee met and come up with a form to recommend to the board?
- Ashley - It would be the same form we've used for prior committees that are similar.
- LaToya - I agree with the recommendation to keep the same that we already have and it's already loaded in the final form. So, I concur with that to maintain the same form.
- John - Could you clarify for me, LaToya, is this the form or you're saying one already exists so we don't need to create that?
- LaToya - We already have one that's already loaded in Final Forms. So when parents are doing a recertification registration, they have the opportunity to complete that. So we did that about a year or so ago. So we weren't having an additional link to go out. They're already in this place in final forms, onetop, one shop.
- John - And is that correct? This is a new one.
- LaToya - That is just a resolution. I believe what Miss Zimmer was trying to do is to get some movement on these committees. And so this was just kind of to make it official to give us an author that we're putting what we voted on into work is what I'm getting from this resolution. Am I correct, Miss Zimmer? Yes. So when I'm reading it is just to make sure that on this day we are now moving forward. It gives the authorization collectively from the board for the superintendent and it to reload in the final forms, update the names to the new titles of the committee since we've changed that the beginning of the year. That's what I'm reading. Let me know if I'm interpreting this correctly, ma'am.

- Ashley - That's exactly correct. And appointing an alternate so if someone is unable to attend a meeting, we have someone available to attend. Yep. I think it looks good. Thank you for this.
- LaToya - And I think this is good to kind of make sure we keep our students at the forefront with all the other things, we've got going on. We kind of get busy with this part, but still want to make sure we hear from our students and parents. So, thank you for that, ma'am.
- John - So, these have been identified as board committees?
- LaToya -Yes, sir. They were voted on already. That's correct.
- John - So then I don't believe I'm just going to question the logic in assigning the duties of development and implementing necessary procedures, form, timelines, and guidelines to carry out the intent of this resolution to the superintendent as I believe that would muddy the water between this being a board committee and actually administrative committee. But I would like time to be able to look into that because I'm not sure the answer and I'm just now seeing this form.
- LaToya - I think how I'm interpreting it. You're on line correct, Mr. Kersner? could you restate that for me?
- John - I said you're on line four of the resolution
- LaToya - So how I'm interpreting this is just to ensure that because it does cross because the board has a committee but we need the support of the administration to get the final forms and all of that. So that is all. That line is how I am interpreting that the superintendent designate is authorized to develop and development and implement any necessary procedures i.e. the comm's plan to roll out the forms i.e to collect the documentation or information through final forms i.e for it to provide us with the report and the applications are his secretary as we've done in the past in based off of this resolution. That is how I'm reading line item four
- John - I agree with the concept. I guess my question should there be language at the direction of the committee or at the direction of the board so we're not crossing over into lines the lines between what is a board committee and what is a administrative committee.
- LaToya - I don't think we need to in the resolution because that would be already identified in policy. So it would be redundant.
- John - That's what I haven't had time to look at this at all. I'm just now seeing it. I would like time to get guidance to see that make sure that we're on the right side of everything by way of board policy, open meetings, etc. because I just have a minor concern that we're blurring the lines between an administrative committee, which this typically would be anyway, and a board committee, which we have made this.
- LaToya - So, I would like to make a motion to, approve the resolution item C5 of the Groveport Madison Local School District Board of Education resolution regarding applications, questionnaires, and alternate board representation for the parent voice committee and student voice committee.
- Kathleen - And I will make a motion to postpone this item until the next regular scheduled board meeting so this was just presented. We didn't have 48 hours to review this document. So that will give members the chance to which I think Mr. Kersner said he had some concerns with so I make a motion to postpone to the next regular scheduled board of education meeting. Is there a second?

Action 2026-207: 6. Move to appoint Ms. Dowdell-Burger as the alternate Board member for the Middle Student Voice Committee

Motion by Dionna Herbert, second by Ashley Zimmer,
Final Resolution: Motion passes
Yes:LaToya Dowdell-Burger, John Kershner, Ashley Zimmer, Dionna Herbert, Kathleen Walsh

Action 2026-208: 7. Move to appoint Ms. Herbert as the alternate Board member for the High School Student Voice Committee

Motion by LaToya Dowdell-Burger, second by John Kershner
Final Resolution: Motion passes
Yes:LaToya Dowdell-Burger, John Kershner, Ashley Zimmer, Dionna Herbert, Kathleen Walsh

Action 2026-209: 8. Move to appoint Ms. Zimmer as the alternate Board member for the Elementary Student Voice Committee

Motion by Dionna Herbert second by LaToya Dowdell-Burger
Final Resolution: Motion passes
Yes:LaToya Dowdell-Burger, John Kershner, Ashley Zimmer, Dionna Herbert, Kathleen Walsh

Action 2026-2010: 9. Move to appoint Dionna Herbert as the alternate Board member for the Parent Voice Committee

Motion by Ashley Zimmer, second by LaToya Dowdell-Burger
Final Resolution: Motion passes
Yes:LaToya Dowdell-Burger, John Kershner, Ashley Zimmer, Dionna Herbert, Kathleen Walsh

Action 2026-211: 10. Move to change the word Superintendent to Board or Designee

Motion by John Kershner, second by Kathleen Walsh
Final Resolution: Motion Fails
No:LaToya Dowdell-Burger, John Kershner, Ashley Zimmer, Dionna Herbert, Kathleen Walsh

Action 2026-212: 11. Move to postpone the approval of this resolution until the next regular scheduled board meeting to give members an opportunity to review

Motion by Kathleen Walsh, second by John Kershner
Final Resolution: Motion Fails
Yes: Kathleen Walsh

No:LaToya Dowdell-Burger, John Kershner, Ashley Zimmer, Dionna Herbert

Motion by LaToya Dowdell-Burger, second by Dionna Herbert.
Final Resolution: Motion Fails
Not Present at Vote: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Kathleen Walsh, John Kershner, Ashley Zimmer, Dionna Herbert

Action 2026-213: 12. , Discussion: 6. Cancelling the June 9th, July 7th, and August 11th Board meetings
Motion for the Board to cancel June 9th, July 7th and August 11 Regular Board Meetings

- Ashley - Ms. Dowdell-Burger said she was not able to attend the next meeting if I'm not mistaken and then the July 7th one is very close to the holiday. And then August 11th is our first day of school. So it logically made sense just to cancel them in my opinion.
- John - I don't disagree with this. However, June 9th was when Mr. Fuji was going to come in and present. I think we kind of agreed that he did a good job last time. I think we're all on the same page with using him. So, as part of this, could we just authorize the Board president to work with the treasurer to authorize him and then for the treasurer to reach out to the board and see if we can agree on a date? Would that be okay so that we don't disturb his plan on coming in? Could we just authorize that now so we don't sidetrack him and side rail him for months?
- Ashley - My personal opinion is I don't care if we reach out to him. I just want to know what the cost is before we commit to anything.
- John - I think we already set a not to exceed number.
- Jamie - I don't recall that there was one for me. What's that? I don't recall discussing one. Maybe that was directly with him.
- Ashley - I mean, I would be fine if Kathy reached out to him, got a figure, and had Adam or Jamie reach out to all of us so we're in agreement with the dollar amount before moving forward. if everyone's in agreeance with that.
- Jamie - Am I misremembering? did we have a dollar amount?
- John - I thought we did a not to exceed, but I could be remembering wrong.
- LaToya - I don't recall a dollar amount, but if we could just get an estimate as Miss Zimmer stated
- John - We do have a board development fund specifically for this that more than covers anything we're going to incur.
- Kathleen - You could do a not to exceed amount because like you said, we do have that discretionary fund for the board just for this purpose. But we've been trying to coordinate Jamie and I have been working to coordinate with Mr. Fuji since March. And he's had dates that had to be cancelled because of whatever reason. And I just think it's really unprofessional to say, "Hey, we're going to cancel you again." Not to mention, we made a commitment to the community and to do a work session for our long-term and our short-term goals.
- Ashley - It looks like we discussed it on the February 10th meeting and we did not set a dollar amount or anything along those lines that I can see just for the record.
- John - Thank you. So, we have a motion on the floor for C6. Ashley, you made that motion, correct?
- Ashley - No, I was just discussing the rationale behind

Motion by John Kershner, second by LaToya Dowdell-Burger.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Ashley Zimmer, Dionna Herbert
No: Kathleen Walsh, John Kershner

D. Executive Session

Action 2026-214: 1. Motion to Enter at 8:40 pm Reconvene at 9:36 pm
It is recommended that the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education enter executive session to consider the investigation of charges or complaints against a district employee or official pursuant to ORC 121.22(G)(1) and to confer with the Board's attorney concerning disputes involving the public body that are subject to pending and imminent court action, if applicable, pursuant to ORC 121.22 (G)(3). The Board further acknowledges that no formal action or volte will be taken in executive session and that any subsequent Board action will occur in open session.

Motion by Kathleen Walsh, second by John Kershner.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Kathleen Walsh, John Kershner, Ashley Zimmer, Dionna Herbert

E. Consent Agenda

Action 2026-215: 1. Approve Administrative Personnel Items
Resolution: The Superintendent recommends that the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education approve the following Administrative Personnel Items:

Motion by LaToya Dowdell-Burger, second by Ashley Zimmer.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Kathleen Walsh, John Kershner, Ashley Zimmer, Dionna Herbert

2. Approve Certificated Personnel Items
Resolution: The Superintendent recommends that the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education approve the following Certificated Personnel Items:

Motion by LaToya Dowdell-Burger, second by Ashley Zimmer.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Kathleen Walsh, John Kershner, Ashley Zimmer, Dionna Herbert

3. Approve Non Certificated Personnel Items
Resolution: The Superintendent recommends that the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education approve the following Non Certificated Personnel Items:

Motion by LaToya Dowdell-Burger, second by Ashley Zimmer.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Kathleen Walsh, John Kershner, Ashley Zimmer, Dionna Herbert

4. Approve GMHS Basketball Field Trips
Resolution: The Superintendent recommends the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education approve the GMHS Basketball Trips.

Motion by LaToya Dowdell-Burger, second by Ashley Zimmer.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Kathleen Walsh, John Kershner, Ashley Zimmer, Dionna Herbert

5. Approve Payment-In-Lieu Transportation Reimbursement
Resolution: The Superintendent recommends that the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education approve payment-in-lieu of transportation reimbursement. The Ohio law allows for public school districts to determine the impracticality of transporting resident students attending schools not located within the district after consideration of a number of factors. Upon that determination, the school district is permitted to offer payment-in-lieu of transportation to the parent/guardian. The Transportation Department has completed studies and residents in affected areas will be offered payment-in-lieu of for the 2025-2026 school year. The initial list of families being offered payment-in-lieu-of transportation is attached as Executive Content since it lists students' names.

Motion by LaToya Dowdell-Burger, second by Ashley Zimmer.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Kathleen Walsh, John Kershner, Ashley Zimmer, Dionna Herbert

F. Consent Agenda Pulled Items

G. Superintendent's Agenda

Action 2026-216: 1. Approve Special Education Contracts
The Superintendent recommends the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education approve the attached special education contracts.

Motion by LaToya Dowdell-Burger, second by Ashley Zimmer.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Kathleen Walsh, John Kershner, Ashley Zimmer, Dionna Herbert

Action 2026-217: 2. Approve Contract with Teachtown
The Superintendent recommends the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education approve the attached contract with Teachtown.

Mandy: Teachtown is a separate curriculum from what the rest of our kids get because a chunk of our kids are served OS alternative assessment and they are not on the same standards as the rest of the kids. We also have a large subsection of our kids who don't meet the qualification to be alternatively assessed but are still very very low and under the old standards would be alternatively assessed. So they have to have access to a general ed curriculum. They are not able to access CKLA the way that all of our other kids are able to access it. So we have to provide them a different type of lens. This contract will actually be less next year because we won't be buying books for the first time. We won't have the exorbitant shipping costs from shipping books. We won't have the PD because we're going to do train the trainer PD and then we won't have an integration cost. So, it actually ends up being more than what I'm currently paying, but what I'm currently paying for what's called unique learning systems, our passage rate for alternative assessment is zero. Meaning that the kiddos, so most likely you would assume they're multiple disabilities types kiddos. So those kids in those class take a different type of test that are like the regular special ed kids. They don't take an OST, they call it alternative assessment. That passage rate should be about the same, if not better, actually, as the kids who take the regular OST that have an IEP. It's zero. A couple of causes would be obviously the curriculum that we had is not user friendly. The teachers don't like it. It's clunky. So, we actually piloted this right after Christmas break with preschool and everybody else. We used it that way to make sure that they were going to use it because I'm not using it day-to-day, right? We want to make sure the accessibility is there for kids as well as the staff. so, there's the curriculum product we had itself. Plus, to be very honest, the way that we were doing our learning centers, we had kids too far in the gamut for teachers to be able to effectively teach. So if I have a kiddo in a learning center and they're on the alternative standards, they have this curriculum. But if I have kids in that same learning center who are not on alternative standards, I have this curriculum. It does not make any sense to expect our teachers to teach two vastly different types of kids, do different curriculums in a class and it be done well. So we're working to remedy all those things. And part of it was they felt like they didn't have the stuff that they needed to reach those other types of kiddos who are never going to be able to pass that test or going to struggle and things like that. So this all started out of a response to what the teachers were asking for.

Motion by LaToya Dowdell-Burger, second by Ashley Zimmer.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Kathleen Walsh, John Kershner, Ashley Zimmer, Dionna Herbert

Action 2026-218: 3. Approve Contract with Franklin County Truancy Intervention/Prevention Program
The Superintendent recommends the Groveport Madison Schools approve the attached contract with the Franklin County Truancy Intervention/Prevention Program (TIPP).

Motion by Ashley Zimmer, second by LaToya Dowdell-Burger.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Kathleen Walsh, John Kershner, Ashley Zimmer, Dionna Herbert

Action 2026-219: 4. Approve Contract with EPS
The Superintendent recommends the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education approve the attached contract with EPS.

Motion by LaToya Dowdell-Burger, second by Ashley Zimmer.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Kathleen Walsh, John Kershner, Ashley Zimmer, Dionna Herbert

Action 2026-220: 5. Approve SRO MOUs with Groveport Madison Police Department and Madison Township Police Department
The Superintendent recommends the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education postpone the attached SRO MOUs with Groveport Madison Police Department and Madison Township Police Department to July 14th.

Motion by Ashley Zimmer, second by LaToya Dowdell-Burger.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Kathleen Walsh, John Kershner, Ashley Zimmer, Dionna Herbert

Action 2026-221: 6. Approve Rental Agreement with Pitney Bowes
The Superintendent recommends the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education approve the attached rental agreement with Pitney Bowes.

Motion by John Kershner, second by Kathleen Walsh.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Kathleen Walsh, John Kershner, Ashley Zimmer, Dionna Herbert

H. Reconvene in Open Session

I. Action Items Resulting from Executive Session

J. Board member comments

- Jamie - I do have a comment. And I know I'm not a board member. Nate and I visited Canal Winchester City Council chambers and saw their AV system and we've seen what they have and we're still waiting to get some information from the tech director there. But I guess what we're thinking is, we know we need to do it for in here and executive session room and we want to basically put a scope of work together to go out to bid because we need to do this for accommodation. Yes, we're going to be spending some money. But we think it's important to do this so people can hear and be able to interpret what's going on. And so I guess I'm seeing some nods here, but we're looking for that direction and clarification to go ahead and move forward to do that.
- Nate - When I spoke with Mr. Brown, he was going to send me the company that they consulted with to build that proposal. He's the tech director over at Canal City.
- John - The company that they consulted with to build the proposal for Canal Winchester?
- Nate - Yes.
- John - That's what I sent you.
- Nate - Right. I was going to reach out to that company to have them help expand that proposal to fit our space. And ask if that is an appropriate next step.
- John - So, I'm confused. Technology Service Pros is my company. So, you're going to ask them if I can develop a spec?
- Nate - When you and I spoke with Steve, you said that you didn't build the proposal. You put the system in.
- John - You misunderstood that. The entire system was mine. What I was expressing to you was I had nothing to do with who they selected for closed captioning. The entire system is my build, but I gave you the scope already. And I'm happy to help. But you can't hire me obviously.
- Nate - So, I misunderstood. I thought there was a third party that they had worked with.
- John - No. You have the equipment list, you have the scope, and I'll be happy to help in any way I can.
- Kathy - We're gonna have real time captioning. Is that what you're saying?
- Nate - Yes
- John - Their closed captioning works way better and it's just a matter of the system working way better. That's all it is. They're using YouTube close captioning just like we are, but it works better because people are speaking more clearly, I think, and the mic system.
- Kathy - Does it identify the speaker, have punctuation, not be a wall of text?
- John - Yeah
- Jamie - One thing I'll just say, and this is certainly not my area of expertise. They have a screen at each station and there's a ledge which I'm assuming that ledge helps with the directional sound part of this.
- John - No, the sound is coming off of the backside of big ceiling speakers aimed out towards the audience.
- Jamie - No, I don't mean projecting mean the mics picking up the sound. Do we need to have a larger ledge? Does that any impact at all?
- John - I just think the system has better feedback control and higher gain before feedback.
- LaToya - I want to say thank you for offering the moment of silence, Miss Walsh, for the family of our student. We got an email tonight too. And I wanted to thank our district and those social workers that volunteered to provide those resources. And a shout out to the community leader Miss Addie Redd who has been doing some great work with it's a

summer camp along with Change City Church and Multiply. So, in the unfortunate tragic passing of one of our students, we have had some things going on in the Independence Village area and wanted to give a kudos and a thank you first to our social workers and staff for resources that they've put together and are constantly putting together to support our students and families. Second to Miss Addie Redd who is a community member out in Independence Village doing the work with our students as well and the families in that community and the Change City church who has offered a camp there which I stopped by today. We also had some educators out there wrapping their arms around the students. So, I mean, their time off, so the fact that they still showed up was huge. And I want to thank them as and this is what it looks like when everyone chips in and wanted to just mention that. I did reach out to the Columbus City Council as well as I believe there's a bridge that can be built between the school and other municipalities where our students and families live. So I have reached out to city councilman Mr. Shannon Harden, council president, as that is his district as well to see what we could talk about, resources and things like that, as well as our state rep and the county commissioners. So that way we can have a comprehensive wraparound, not just like a drop in and just be gone, because this could have a long-term effect for those families with this being at the beginning of the summer. So I just wanted the rest of the Board to know of my efforts and feel free yourselves to reach out to those same parties. Many hands make labor light. That's an old African proverb. And I think the more of us that speak out and use our voice beyond the Board here as elected officials to collaborate with those other elected officials, we can get our students and families what they need across all municipalities. So, I just wanted to provide that input to the rest of the board. And thank Mr. Grube and our incoming student services director, Mr. Martin on the work that they're doing and the work that they've currently done.

- Ashley - With regards to the possible changes, are we able to apply for any grants to help offset the cost of that? Hearing speakers and all that stuff.
- Jamie - I can certainly look. It's maybe unique enough that it would qualify for some funding.
- Ashley -That's what I was thinking. To try and offset the cost a little bit. And then at the first May meeting, I was not able to attend, but I had sent a request to all the board members to request to meet with a parent in our community in executive session. And so I just want to go on record requesting to have that meeting at the next board meeting if possible unless anyone objects.
- LaToya - I don't have an objection. And thank you for sending your email.
- Kathleen - Any other comments?
- Dionna - I'll try to make it brief. So, I want to piggyback what Latoya said about the tragic loss within our community. It impacted me. I didn't know the student personally, but my players on my team actually was friends with the young lady. And seeing the impact on their faces impacted me tremendously. And having the thought of what that family is experiencing is just unimaginable. So, my heart goes out to them and prayers for their strength. Switching gears a little bit, since we haven't been here for a few weeks, graduation was lit. Enjoyed seeing the family celebrate those accomplishments. And it doesn't bother me the exaggerated celebration because we don't know what it took for that child to cross that stage. And it takes dads, grandfathers, neighbors, cousins, aunts, uncles, brothers, sisters. It takes a whole village to make sure we're putting our kids in a position to be successful. So kudos to all the families and all our graduates. It was just good seeing the joy that they had. That's it. And just the flag that the district is giving out free lunch for those that may need it. So just putting that on the radar to take advantage of that resource.
- Ashley - We also received an email at the beginning of the board meeting asking if we could attend the celebration of our student. So, I would appreciate if we could come together as a group and all attend.
- LaToya - I forwarded it to you too because I think it just came to the Board, Jamie. So then that way you have that. I also wanted to piggyback on what Miss Herbert said about graduation. And this year since it's my third time or so, I actually took a different seat and I took video and pictures of watching the teachers and the educators who were selected to give the diploma. And I went back and watched those and just wow. It was a different view to see. They were just as excited if not more than the student receiving their diploma. And that's who Groveport is. And I think that just kind of took me back to when I graduated and what I went through. I was that student that had to have everybody get me through and then do the whole army thing. But I just think it was really good to see that and experience that and I wanted to get that over to Ty. So, I think that's another way when we go out and do recruitment, that is what people need to see, that part where our educators are connecting with those students when they're graduating. And then lastly, I have a list of things that I've compiled because I have little smaller kids and the summer reading is kicking off and they have these great ways to do things electronically. We've got the Canal branch that's open and their kickoff celebration at the main library is June 6, this Saturday. And I've went inaugurally because of my mom when I was a little kid and I volunteered at the library because I love books. So, I wanted to make sure that we knew that. And then also the Gateway Film Center. If you have a library card, Sundays, free movies at one, you can get up to four tickets on one library card. And so as long as you have a Columbus card, you can go to the Gateway Film Center. And I know transportation may be a challenge for some of us, but I just wanted to at least put it out there so someone can make it. It's a free way to do something with your kids. I know times are tough, money's tough, gas is high. Trillion dollars for some gas right now, but it's not going to cost you to go to the movies to see some great shows. They got Burn Gully, some old ones, Iron Giant and I think it's running all the way through the summer. So, I just wanted to put that out there. And shout out to Donna and Larry James Foundation and the Board at the Gateway Film Center for partnering with Columbus City, the Columbus Library.
- Ashley - Pizza Hut has a reading program and if you read, you get a free pizza each month. Personal pizza. Hamilton Road participates too. Just throwing it out.
- LaToya - They probably need to get just Ty to reach out to the moms here on the Board so we could give him a good list of stuff to put out. Seriously because we're doing it for our kids and I don't know if it's getting out there and we can make sure the families know of all the free opportunities and things that they can get even the library thing is free to sign up online. You don't have to go into the branch anymore and get your little paper and go in and get it stamped. It's all electronic through your library card and you set up your account. It kicks off on the 13th if I'm not mistaken, the actual the points and stuff, but you can sign up now. But the big kickoff in Canal has a celebration. There's individual small kickoffs as well throughout the county.

K. Adjournment

Action 2026-222: 1. Motion to Adjourn
Adjourn at 11:10 pm

Motion by Kathleen Walsh, second by LaToya Dowdell-Burger.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Kathleen Walsh, John Kershner, Ashley Zimmer, Dionna Herbert