EAST KNOX BOARD OF EDUCATION **REGULAR**

August 13, 2026, East Knox Elementary, 6 pm

A. Call to Order

The President, Ms. Bush, called the meeting to order, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Roll Call

The President called the roll:

Mr. Joshua Beltz, here
Ms. Lindsay Bush, here
Mr. Alan Huffman, here
Mr. Randy Reese, here
Mrs. Melissa Tomlinson, here

C. Approval of the Agenda

Recommendation to approve the agenda as presented.

26-068 MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED
Mr. Reese moved and Mr. Huffman Tomlinson seconded the motion to approve the agenda.
Roll call: All Present-Yes. Motion carried.

D. Public Participation

Please see Board Policy #0169.1

- None

E. Treasurer Report

- DPIA (Disadvantaged Pupil Impact Aid)
  - $593, 000 in FY27 (not new money)
  - Need to show the spending of these restricted funds in an allowable manner, partner with an outside organization (Knox ESC), and post to our website
  - Instructional Assistant and other Title I teacher expenses no longer funded by Title I, School nurse less restricted wellness funds, elementary and high school social worker, high school counselor, and School Resource Officer (general fund portion)
- FY26 financial audit and GAAP financial statements are under way
- Budgetary Amendments
  - Forecast now has to match budgets for current year
  - Capital Projects amendment is for playground equipment that was originally budgeted for in FY26, but contract has been delayed until FY27
  - Federal grant corrections due to misinformation regarding which fund to use
- Financial Forecast Overview
  - Review the packet labeled August 2027 Financial Forecast
  - Excess of revenues over expense for FY27 is estimated to be $1.4 million with the start of deficit spending in FY28
  - Revenues

- Tax revenues are estimated to decline by $1 million or about 10% due to property tax reform credits to taxpayers and the elimination of the emergency levy
- Other revenue estimates are lower due to projections of interest earnings
- Revenue is unpredictable at this time due to property tax reform and the implications not being fully certain at this time

- Expenses
  - FY25 expenses spiked due to a $12.5 million transfer to the 070 fund for Capital Projects and $350,000 to 035 Severance Fund (Page 14)
    - Unspent 070 funds can be transferred back to 001 General Fund, if needed
  - Future salary costs maintain current staffing including positions added, but these costs can be controlled in the future if needed if enrollment decline trends continue (Page 15)
  - Benefits are higher than normal in FY27 due to premium holiday in 2026 that saved approximately $165,000 (Page 16)
  - Purchased services consist of Knox ESC costs (aides, Knox Learning Center, preschool, related services), tuition to other districts and entities for special education contracts, utilities, technology support services, School Resource Officer services (Page 17)
- Summary
  - 271 days cash on hand at the end of 2030 and the recommendation at minimum is 90 days cash
  - Although there is projected deficit spending in the forecast, a cash balance of $12.3 million is maintained at the end of the forecast
  - District enrollment in the future is a determining factor of future expenses, but not revenue (Page 9)

F. Treasurer Recommendations

Recommendation to approve the minutes of July 9, 2026, regular meeting.

Recommendation to approve the July 2026 Financial Report as presented.

Recommendation to approve the proposal for consulting services from Julian and Grube from July 1, 2026-June 30, 2027, for an annual cost of $3,780.

Recommendation to approve the proposal from Julian and Grube for preparation of Schedule of Expenditures of federal awards for fiscal year 2026-2028 for $900/year.

Recommendation to approve the financial forecast as presented and authorize the treasurer to submit it to the Department of Education and Workforce by the August 31, 2026 deadline.

Recommendation to accept the engagement letter and fee for audit services from the Auditor of State’s Office (AOS) for the financial audit for fiscal year ending June 30, 2026.

Recommendation to accept the following donations:

To	Amt.	From/For
EK Athletic Department	$1,000	EK Athletic Boosters backdrop contribution
EK Athletic Department	$450	EK Athletic Boosters Gatorade package
EK Athletic Department	$1,250	OHSSA Athletic Department

Recommendation to approve the FY27 Budgetary Amendments as follows:

001	General Fund	$279,867.93
572	Title I Disadvantaged Children	($145,346.64)
536	Title I School Improvement A	$165,000.00
070	Capital Projects	$469,663.00

26-069 MOTION TO APPROVE THE ABOVE RECOMMENDATIONS
Ms. Bush moved and Mr. Reese seconded the motion to approve the above recommendations.
Roll call: All Present-Yes. Motion carried.

G. Building Report Updates & Athletics

- Elementary Building – Principal Moreland
  - Thank you to parents and community for a wonderful open house and the first day of school.
  - Planning for after school tutoring in the near future at the request of the teachers.
  - Elementary fundraising to start in August with Stoller Fundraiser – 40% profit.
- Jr./Sr. High Building – Vice-Principal Guilliams
  - Review of the athletic report for A.D. Bailey Sprague
  - Thank you to the custodians, food service, technology department and secretary/guidance office for a great start to the year.
  - Rise Digital display boards around the district for communication and messaging.
  - Band movie night tomorrow night with donations and concessions available
- Athletic Department – L. Bush read the update from Mr. Bailey Sprague regarding fall sports, OHSAA update.

H. Superintendent Report and Board/Community Discussion

- Mr. Baird - Updates/Discussion Items
  - Mr. Baird reviewed the mobility legislation that originally failed by OHSAA vote of principals and was then put in legislation.
  - Playground construction will start on Monday, August 17th with a contracted completion date of October 31, 2026.
  - After school tutoring to be on the September board agenda.
  - Review of new staff training, staff professional days to start the year, thanked the board for funding Dr. Glanton, his expertise in student behavior regulations.
  - Safety training was provided on the third PD day which included training from the Knox County Sheriff's office and implementation of RAPTOR.

    Melissa Tomlinson asked about Busright software and the implementation of using the app for parents

- Mr. Baird indicated that feature will be ready for parents when it can be rolled out appropriately.

I. Superintendent Recommendations

Recommendation to approve the teleservices agreement with ProCare Therapy for a musical therapist at a rate of $105 per hour on an as needed basis for the 2026-2027 school year.

Recommendation to declare, after examination of existing school bus routes, time schedules, student residence location, school location, and available school conveyances, and upon establishing the students eligible to receive transportation in accordance with section 3327.01 of the Ohio Revised Code and State Board Standards, Edb917.02, and district board policy, as declared by board resolution that such service by the school. Conveyance is “impractical” and hereby agrees to pay the provider of transportation of students in lieu of providing such service, and amount of thirty-five cents ($0.35) per mile or other amount negotiated by the transportation supervisor and approved by the superintendent, that the student attend classes for the 2026-2027 school year.

Recommendation to approve the bus routes as presented for the 2026-2027 school year.

Recommendation to waive the collection of instructional school fees, for all students K-12, for the 2026-2027 school year.

Recommendation to approve the agreement with PowerSchool for SchoolMessenger Core services from September 14, 2026-September 13, 2027, for $2,675.

Recommendation to approve the following no cost change orders:

GHM, Inc.	Change order 001	Substantial Completion Date Change due to bid extension
GHM, Inc.	Change order 002	Substantial Completion Date Change due to change in drainage and other design changes

Recommendation to approve the Title I Letter of Understanding agreement for the 2026-2027 school year between the Knox ESC, Mount Vernon CSD, Clear Fork Valley LSD, East Knox LSD, and St. Vincent de Paul School.

Recommendation to approve the purchase of 50 additional Digital Social Studies Curriculum student licenses from TCI for grades 9-12 for $4,600.

Recommendation to approve the Cheerleading overnight field trip to Ashland, July 29, 2026.

Recommendation to approve the shared service agreement with Knox County Career Center for CBI Instructional Services for the 2026-2027 school year.

Recommendation to approve the contract extension with Thyssen Krupp for elevator maintenance at the elementary through June 30, 2030.

Recommendation to approve the estimate from RCI Mechanical Inc. to Replace a bad section of sewer in front of the high school, cost $27,740.

26-070 MOTION TO APPROVE THE ABOVE RECOMMENDATIONS
Mr. Huffman moved and Mrs. Tomlinson seconded the motion to approve the above recommendations.
Roll call: All Present-Yes. Motion carried.

J. Personnel—(Subject to proper placement on the salary scale, contingent upon favorable report from the BCI/FBI, and receipt of proper certification.)

Recommendation to approve the resignation from Benjamin Thompson, classroom teacher, effective at the end of 2025-2026 contract year.

Recommendation to approve the resignation from Abigail Cummins, Junior Class Advisor, for the 2026-2027 school year.

Recommendation to approve the memorandum of agreement between Sheri Ryals, the EKEA, and the East Knox Board of Education regarding salary placement.

Recommendation to approve the memorandum of agreement between Elizabeth Pozderac, the EKEA, and the East Knox Board of Education regarding salary placement.

Recommendation to approve the following for limited one-year contracts for the 2026-2027 school year:

Kaden Arnold	BA, Step 0
Zackary Schreiner	BA/150, Step 6
Angela Arbogast	MA, Step 8

Recommendation to approve the move on the salary scale for Jessica Bookmyer from MA to MA+15, Step 11.

Recommendation to approve the move on the salary scale for Elizabeth Pozderac from MA to MA+15, Step 26.

Recommendation to pay a stipend to the following for completion of Orton-Gillingham training:

Kay Fetters	$2,100
Keara Latham	$2,100
Ron Fannin	$2,100

Recommendation to approve the following supplemental contracts for 2026-2027 school year:

Gage Steinmetz	Head Baseball Coach	Step 2
Andrew Link	Junior High Football Coach	Step 0
Fawnda Bible-Stahl	Fall Facilities Manager	$1,221
Janey Smith	Majorette Advisor	Step 0
Kadden Lester	Asst. Football Coach	Step 0
Darrick Faucett	Fall Strength Conditioning Coach	Step 0

Recommendation to approve the following volunteer coaches for 2026-2027 school year:

Kevin Gallwitz	Junior High Football
Jesse Wolford	Junior High Football
Darrick Faucett	HS Football

Recommendation to pay the following teachers, for 3 hours, for Professional Development (Building Leadership Planning-BLT) during the summer of 2026, upon completion of work and submission of time sheets:

Tisha Mickley-Melick
Curtis Belcher
Lisa Downes
Jessica Eaton

Recommendation to set the following substitute rates for non-teaching personnel effective August 13, 2026:

Substitute Custodian, Aide, Cook, Maintenance, Secretary	$14.00 per hour
Substitute Bus Driver	$18.00 per hour
Bus Driver/Van Driver Extra Trip	$15.00 per hour

Recommendation to approve the following as van drivers for transportation for the 2026-2027 school year

Rich Baird
Jennifer O'Hara
Melissa Moreland
Ben Snedeker
Debra Burden
Megan Bullock
Amber Carpenter

Recommendation to approve the unpaid leave of absence request from August 10, 2026-March 12, 2027, for Hailey Filicky, classroom teacher.

Recommendation to approve Chris Doolittle as an Academic Coach/School Improvement Consultant for the Jr./Sr. High School, at $50.00 per hour on an as needed basis for up to 675 hours (90 days). This is funded by the School Improvement Grant.

Recommendation to approve hourly pay to Abigail Grandstaff-Beale for up to 60 hours as the 504 Plan Coordinator.

Recommendation to approve Jasmine Amyx as a long-term substitute for a teacher on medical leave beginning August 10, 2026, at $150 per day.

Recommendation to approve Christina Wythe as a long-term substitute for a teacher on leave beginning August 10, 2026, at $150 per day.

Recommendation to approve Tom Holton as a substitute bus driver, effective 2026-2027 school year.

Recommendation to approve the Separation Agreement with Dr. Benjamin Snedeker as presented.

Recommendation to approve unpaid leave of absence request from Cynthia May for August 10 & 11, 2026.

Recommendation to approve the Knox County Educational Service Center board approved substitute teachers for the 2026-2027 school year as follows:

Sarah Adams
Jasmine Amyx
Anna Annett
Robert Arnold
John Baugher

Andrew Beatty
Cadence Brooks
Lewanne Bursinger
Peggy Campbell
Cliff Carpenter
Susan Clarke
Dallas Cornett
Addie Cunningham
Kenneth Eash
Richard Ellis
Cheryl Feasel
Phillip Gantt
John Gibson
Lois Grant-Gertel
David Gregg
Jean Guerin
Daniel Hamman
Erica Hauke
Lois Jacobs
Steven Klein
James Long
John Maher
Thomas McCauley
Susan Moorhead
Gabriel Morse
Terry Nixon
Christopher Phillips
David Randall
Janell Baker-Reynolds
Bryce Rinehart
Isabelle Risko
Tyler Scott
John Tucker
Amanda Welsh
Christina Wythe

26-071 MOTION TO APPROVE THE ABOVE RECOMMENDATIONS
Ms. Bush moved and Mr. Reese seconded the motion to approve the above recommendations.
Roll call: All present – Yes. Motion carried.

Recommendation to authorize the treasurer to pay a $1,000 retention incentive to any non-teaching or administrative employee who completed a full contract year of service (credit for full year for retirement purposes) for the 2025-2026 school year and remains employed during the 2026-2027 school year on the second pay in October.

26-072 MOTION TO APPROVE THE ABOVE RECOMMENDATION
Mr. Huffman moved and Mrs. Tomlinson seconded the motion to approve the above recommendation.
Roll call: Mr. Reese – Abstained. All others present – Yes.
Motion carried.

Recommendation to approve the following as a volunteer van driver for transportation for the 2026-2027 school year:

Lindsay Bush

26-073 MOTION TO APPROVE THE ABOVE RECOMMENDATION
Mr. Beltz moved and Mr. Reese seconded the motion to approve the above recommendation.
Roll call: Ms. Bush – Abstained. All others present – Yes. Motion carried.

K. Adjournment

Recommendation to adjourn the meeting at 6:48 p.m.

26-074 MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING
Mr. Huffman moved and Mrs. Tomlinson seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:48 p.m.
Roll call: All Present-Yes. Motion carried.

L. Visitors

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President Treasurer