August 19, 2026

At 6:00 p.m. the Board held their Committee Meeting, briefly reviewing agenda items. The Board ended their Committee Meeting and entered Executive Session to discuss personnel. The Board exited Executive Session at 6:18 pm to start the Regular Meeting.

The Blacklick Valley School Board met in person in Regular Session at 6:19 p.m. for General Purposes in the Conference Room of the Blacklick Valley Jr. Sr. High School, 555 Birch Street, Nanty Glo, PA 15943 with Angela Villa, Board President, presiding and the following members present:

Michael Gdula, Elizabeth Kreashko, Larry Kupchella, Gregory O'Farrell, Shawn McMullen, Jeffrey Szymusiak, Joe Villa, and Don Thomas.

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Mr. William Kanich, Superintendent, Bethany Peracchino, Business Manager/Board Secretary, Ed Alexander, High School Principal, Tammy Boring, Elementary Principal, Nichole Kolarik, Special Education Coordinator, and the Nanty-Glo Journal.

Recognition of Guests- None.

Moved by Elizabeth Kreashko, seconded by Jeffrey Szymusiak, to approve the minutes from the June 24, 2026 Regular Meeting.

Voting on Motion:

Michael Gdula Voting Affirmatively

Gregory O'Farrell Voting Affirmatively

Elizabeth Kreashko Voting Affirmatively

Jeffrey Szymusiak Voting Affirmatively

Larry Kupchella Voting Affirmatively

Don Thomas Voting Affirmatively

Shawn McMullen Voting Affirmatively

Angela Villa Voting Affirmatively

Joe Villa Voting Affirmatively

Motion Carried

Moved by Michael Gdula, seconded by Elizabeth Kreashko, to approve the Treasurer's Reports for the months ending June 30, 2026 and July 31, 2026, respectively.

Voting on Motion:

Michael Gdula Voting Affirmatively

Gregory O'Farrell Voting Affirmatively

Elizabeth Kreashko Voting Affirmatively

Jeffrey Szymusiak Voting Affirmatively

Larry Kupchella Voting Affirmatively

Don Thomas Voting Affirmatively

Shawn McMullen Voting Affirmatively

Angela Villa Voting Affirmatively

Joe Villa Voting Affirmatively

Motion Carried

Moved by Don Thomas, seconded by Shawn McMullen, to approve the following motions:

Motion to approve the payment of the Regular Bills in the amount of **$160,436.90.**

Motion to approve the payment of the Cafeteria Bills in the amount of **$5,447.86.**
Motion to approve the estimated payment of the August 2026 Payroll in the amount of **$289,192.38**, and the estimated transfer of **$289,192.38** from the General Fund to the Payroll Account.
Motion to approve the estimated payment of the August 2026 Cafeteria Payroll in the amount of **$4,289.00** and the estimated transfer of **$4,289.00** from the Cafeteria Fund to the General Fund Account.
Motion to approve the Cafeteria Fund Reports for the months ending June 30, 2026 and July 31, 2026, showing balances of **$455,717.04** and **$444,682.05**, respectively.
Motion to approve the Athletic Fund Reports for the months ending June 30, 2026 and July 31, 2026, showing balances of **$2,009.09** and **$2,019.85,** respectively.
Motion to approve the June 30, 2026 Quarterly Student Activity Report.

Voting on Motion:

Michael Gdula Voting Affirmatively	Gregory O'Farrell Voting Affirmatively
Elizabeth Kreashko Voting Affirmatively	Jeffrey Szymusiak Voting Affirmatively
Larry Kupchella Voting Affirmatively	Don Thomas Voting Affirmatively
Shawn McMullen Voting Affirmatively	Angela Villa Voting Affirmatively
Joe Villa Voting Affirmatively	**Motion Carried**

Moved by Elizabeth Kreashko, seconded by Michael Gdula, to approve the bus drivers and bus routes for the 26-27 school year.

Voting on Motion:

Michael Gdula Voting Affirmatively	Gregory O'Farrell Voting Affirmatively
Elizabeth Kreashko Voting Affirmatively	Jeffrey Szymusiak Voting Affirmatively
Larry Kupchella Voting Affirmatively	Don Thomas Voting Affirmatively
Shawn McMullen Voting Affirmatively	Angela Villa Voting Affirmatively
Joe Villa Voting Affirmatively	**Motion Carried**

Moved by Elizabeth Kreashko, seconded by Michael Gdula, to approve the Blacklick Valley School District Panel of Physicians for Worker's Compensation- no change from 25-26.

Voting on Motion:

Michael Gdula Voting Affirmatively	Gregory O'Farrell Voting Affirmatively
Elizabeth Kreashko Voting Affirmatively	Jeffrey Szymusiak Voting Affirmatively
Larry Kupchella Voting Affirmatively	Don Thomas Voting Affirmatively
Shawn McMullen Voting Affirmatively	Angela Villa Voting Affirmatively
Joe Villa Voting Affirmatively	**Motion Carried**

Moved by Elizabeth Kreashko, seconded by Michael Gdula, to approve the 25-26 budgetary transfers as listed:

- Transfer $714,543.94 from the Budgetary Reserve to Charter Costs ($31,489.94), Engineering Costs ($1,560.00), and Construction Project Costs ($681,494.00).
- Transfer $1,500.00 from Medical Nurse Equipment to Medical Nurse Supplies.
- Transfer $20,000.00 from Nursing Services Professional Services (subs) to Nursing Services Salaries for the hired LPN.
- Transfer $2,187.50 from Psych HS General Supplies and $2,87.50 from Psych Elem General Supplies to Psych Services ($4,375.00) for higher costs to the School Psychologist.
- Transfer $75,000.00 from Special Ed Student Transportation, $5,000.00 from Maintenance Supplies, $180,000.00 from IU8 Special Ed Services, and $59,994.17 from Vo-Tech Services to Maintenance Repairs ($191,916.82), Reg Ed Student Transportation ($83,217.12), Speech Professional Services ($2,471.47), Student Gas Transportation ($604.39), Business Dues and Fees ($246.94), Maintenance Utility Services ($30,512.78), Maintenance Natural Gas ($4,515.07), Elem Regular Ed Subs ($1,711.71), and HS Reg Ed Subs ($4,797.87).

Voting on Motion:

Michael Gdula Voting Affirmatively	Gregory O'Farrell Voting Affirmatively
Elizabeth Kreashko Voting Affirmatively	Jeffrey Szymusiak Voting Affirmatively
Larry Kupchella Voting Affirmatively	Don Thomas Voting Affirmatively
Shawn McMullen Voting Affirmatively	Angela Villa Voting Affirmatively
Joe Villa Voting Affirmatively	**Motion Carried**

Moved by Elizabeth Kreashko, seconded by Michael Gdula, to allow the Superintendent to utilize Virtual Instruction days as needed for the 2026-27 school year.

Voting on Motion:

Michael Gdula Voting Affirmatively	Gregory O'Farrell Voting Affirmatively
Elizabeth Kreashko Voting Affirmatively	Jeffrey Szymusiak Voting Affirmatively
Larry Kupchella Voting Affirmatively	Don Thomas Voting Affirmatively
Shawn McMullen Voting Affirmatively	Angela Villa Voting Affirmatively
Joe Villa Voting Affirmatively	**Motion Carried**

Moved by Elizabeth Kreashko, seconded by Michael Gdula, to approve the contract with Ignite for a Transition Coordinator in the amount of $62/hr. for a max of 14 hours per month.

Voting on Motion:

Michael Gdula Voting Affirmatively	Gregory O'Farrell Voting Affirmatively
Elizabeth Kreashko Voting Affirmatively	Jeffrey Szymusiak Voting Affirmatively
Larry Kupchella Voting Affirmatively	Don Thomas Voting Affirmatively

Shawn McMullen Voting Affirmatively | Angela Villa Voting Affirmatively

Joe Villa Voting Affirmatively | **Motion Carried**

Moved by Elizabeth Kreashko, seconded by Michael Gdula, to approve the agreement between the Blacklick Valley School District and Ignite Education Solutions for a seat in the Behavioral Classroom at Forest Hills Elementary School.

Voting on Motion:

Michael Gdula Voting Affirmatively | Gregory O'Farrell Voting Affirmatively

Elizabeth Kreashko Voting Affirmatively | Jeffrey Szymusiak Voting Affirmatively

Larry Kupchella Voting Affirmatively | Don Thomas Voting Affirmatively

Shawn McMullen Voting Affirmatively | Angela Villa Voting Affirmatively

Joe Villa Voting Affirmatively | **Motion Carried**

Moved by Michael Gdula, seconded by Gregory O'Farrell, to approve Melanie Nedrich as the Cross Country Coach at a 26-27 salary of $3,000.00.

Voting on Motion:

Michael Gdula Voting Affirmatively | Gregory O'Farrell Voting Affirmatively

Elizabeth Kreashko Voting Affirmatively | Jeffrey Szymusiak Voting Affirmatively

Larry Kupchella Voting Affirmatively | Don Thomas Voting Affirmatively

Shawn McMullen Voting Affirmatively | Angela Villa Voting Affirmatively

Joe Villa Voting Affirmatively | **Motion Carried**

Moved by Michael Gdula, seconded by Gregory O'Farrell, to approve Stephanie Fye as a substitute cleaner at a starting rate of $12/hour, pending receipt of all clearances.

Voting on Motion:

Michael Gdula Voting Affirmatively | Gregory O'Farrell Voting Affirmatively

Elizabeth Kreashko Voting Affirmatively | Jeffrey Szymusiak Voting Affirmatively

Larry Kupchella Voting Affirmatively | Don Thomas Voting Affirmatively

Shawn McMullen Voting Affirmatively | Angela Villa Voting Affirmatively

Joe Villa Voting Affirmatively | **Motion Carried**

Moved by Michael Gdula, seconded by Gregory O'Farrell, to approve the resignation of Sarah Dumm, Elementary Teacher, effective 7/31/26.

Voting on Motion:

Michael Gdula Voting Affirmatively
Gregory O'Farrell Voting Affirmatively
Elizabeth Kreashko Voting Affirmatively
Jeffrey Szymusiak Voting Affirmatively
Larry Kupchella Voting Affirmatively
Don Thomas Voting Affirmatively
Shawn McMullen Voting Affirmatively
Angela Villa Voting Affirmatively
Joe Villa Voting Affirmatively
Motion Carried

Moved by Michael Gdula, seconded by Gregory O'Farrell, to approve the transfer of Marcy Repine from Special Education Teacher to First Grade Teacher.

Voting on Motion:

Michael Gdula Voting Affirmatively
Gregory O'Farrell Voting Affirmatively
Elizabeth Kreashko Voting Affirmatively
Jeffrey Szymusiak Voting Affirmatively
Larry Kupchella Voting Affirmatively
Don Thomas Voting Affirmatively
Shawn McMullen Voting Affirmatively
Angela Villa Voting Affirmatively
Joe Villa Voting Affirmatively
Motion Carried

Moved by Michael Gdula, seconded by Gregory O'Farrell, to approve the involuntary transfer of Marcy Repine from First Grade Teacher to Special Education Teacher.

Voting on Motion:

Michael Gdula Voting Affirmatively
Gregory O'Farrell Voting Affirmatively
Elizabeth Kreashko Voting Affirmatively
Jeffrey Szymusiak Voting Affirmatively
Larry Kupchella Voting Affirmatively
Don Thomas Voting Affirmatively
Shawn McMullen Voting Affirmatively
Angela Villa Voting Affirmatively
Joe Villa Voting Affirmatively
Motion Carried

Moved by Gregory O'Farrell, seconded by Don Thomas, to approve the hiring of Lena Howard as an Elementary Teacher at a starting salary of $35,000.00.

Voting on Motion:

Michael Gdula Voting Affirmatively
Gregory O'Farrell Voting Affirmatively
Elizabeth Kreashko Voting Affirmatively
Jeffrey Szymusiak Voting Affirmatively
Larry Kupchella Voting Affirmatively
Don Thomas Voting Affirmatively
Shawn McMullen Voting Affirmatively
Angela Villa Voting Affirmatively
Joe Villa Voting Affirmatively
Motion Carried

Moved by Gregory O'Farrell, seconded by Jeffrey Szymusiak, to approve the resignation of Victoria Clark, paraprofessional, effective 7/15/26.

Voting on Motion:

Michael Gdula Voting Affirmatively
Gregory O'Farrell Voting Affirmatively
Elizabeth Kreashko Voting Affirmatively
Jeffrey Szymusiak Voting Affirmatively
Larry Kupchella Voting Affirmatively
Don Thomas Voting Affirmatively
Shawn McMullen Voting Affirmatively
Angela Villa Voting Affirmatively
Joe Villa Voting Affirmatively
Motion Carried

Moved by Gregory O'Farrell, seconded by Jeffrey Szymusiak, to approve the resignation of Lila Clark, paraprofessional, effective 7/15/26.

Voting on Motion:

Michael Gdula Voting Affirmatively
Gregory O'Farrell Voting Affirmatively
Elizabeth Kreashko Voting Affirmatively
Jeffrey Szymusiak Voting Affirmatively
Larry Kupchella Voting Affirmatively
Don Thomas Voting Affirmatively
Shawn McMullen Voting Affirmatively
Angela Villa Voting Affirmatively
Joe Villa Voting Affirmatively
Motion Carried

Moved by Gregory O'Farrell, seconded by Jeffrey Szymusiak, to approve the resignation of Olivia Short, paraprofessional effective immediately.

Voting on Motion:

Michael Gdula Voting Affirmatively
Gregory O'Farrell Voting Affirmatively
Elizabeth Kreashko Voting Affirmatively
Jeffrey Szymusiak Voting Affirmatively
Larry Kupchella Voting Affirmatively
Don Thomas Voting Affirmatively
Shawn McMullen Voting Affirmatively
Angela Villa Voting Affirmatively
Joe Villa Voting Affirmatively
Motion Carried

Moved by Gregory O'Farrell, seconded by Jeffrey Szymusiak, to approve the hiring of Cheyenne Markel as a paraprofessional at a starting rate of $12/hour, pending receipt of all clearances.

Voting on Motion:

Michael Gdula Voting Affirmatively
Gregory O'Farrell Voting Affirmatively
Elizabeth Kreashko Voting Affirmatively
Jeffrey Szymusiak Voting Affirmatively
Larry Kupchella Voting Affirmatively
Don Thomas Voting Affirmatively

Shawn McMullen Voting Affirmatively | Angela Villa Voting Affirmatively

Joe Villa Voting Affirmatively | **Motion Carried**

Moved by Gregory O'Farrell, seconded by Jeffrey Szymusiak, to approve the hiring of Stan Pisarski as a paraprofessional at a starting rate of $12/hour, pending receipt of all clearances.

Voting on Motion:

Michael Gdula Voting Affirmatively | Gregory O'Farrell Voting Affirmatively

Elizabeth Kreashko Voting Affirmatively | Jeffrey Szymusiak Voting Affirmatively

Larry Kupchella Voting Affirmatively | Don Thomas Voting Affirmatively

Shawn McMullen Voting Affirmatively | Angela Villa Voting Affirmatively

Joe Villa Voting Affirmatively | **Motion Carried**

Moved by Gregory O'Farrell, seconded by Jeffrey Szymusiak, to approve the hiring of Major Frank McGuire as a paraprofessional at a starting rate of $12/hour, pending receipt of all clearances.

Voting on Motion:

Michael Gdula Voting Affirmatively | Gregory O'Farrell Voting Affirmatively

Elizabeth Kreashko Voting Affirmatively | Jeffrey Szymusiak Voting Affirmatively

Larry Kupchella Voting Affirmatively | Don Thomas Voting Affirmatively

Shawn McMullen Voting Affirmatively | Angela Villa Voting Affirmatively

Joe Villa Voting Affirmatively | **Motion Carried**

Moved by Gregory O'Farrell, seconded by Jeffrey Szymusiak, to approve tenure for the following teachers:

Stephanie Carney, Elementary Teacher
Noah Kanich, Elementary Guidance Counselor
Samantha Karabinos, Elementary Teacher
Tanner Pershing, Elementary Physical Education Teacher
Madalyn Moore, High School Mathematics Teacher
Victoria Sobecky, Elementary Teacher
Angela Pinto, High School Special Education Teacher

Voting on Motion:

Michael Gdula Voting Affirmatively | Gregory O'Farrell Voting Affirmatively

Elizabeth Kreashko Voting Affirmatively | Jeffrey Szymusiak Voting Affirmatively

Larry Kupchella Voting Affirmatively | Don Thomas Voting Affirmatively

Shawn McMullen Voting Affirmatively | Angela Villa Voting Affirmatively

Joe Villa Voting Affirmatively **Motion Carried**

Moved by Gregory O'Farrell, seconded by Jeffrey Szymusiak, to approve the hiring of Melanie Nedrich as Assistant Varsity Girls Basketball Coach at a salary of $4,686.00.

Voting on Motion:

Michael Gdula Voting Affirmatively
Gregory O'Farrell Voting Affirmatively
Elizabeth Kreashko Voting Affirmatively
Jeffrey Szymusiak Voting Affirmatively
Larry Kupchella Voting Affirmatively
Don Thomas Voting Affirmatively
Shawn McMullen Voting Affirmatively
Angela Villa Voting Affirmatively
Joe Villa Voting Affirmatively **Motion Carried**

Moved by Gregory O'Farrell, seconded by Jeffrey Szymusiak, to approve the resignation of Brian Gibson as Assistant Quiz Bowl Advisor, effective 7/20/26.

Voting on Motion:

Michael Gdula Voting Affirmatively
Gregory O'Farrell Voting Affirmatively
Elizabeth Kreashko Voting Affirmatively
Jeffrey Szymusiak Voting Affirmatively
Larry Kupchella Voting Affirmatively
Don Thomas Voting Affirmatively
Shawn McMullen Voting Affirmatively
Angela Villa Voting Affirmatively
Joe Villa Voting Affirmatively **Motion Carried**

Moved by Gregory O'Farrell, seconded by Jeffrey Szymusiak, to approve the retirement of Shannon Tomlinson, High School Special Education Teacher, effect January 1, 2027.

Voting on Motion:

Michael Gdula Voting Affirmatively
Gregory O'Farrell Voting Affirmatively
Elizabeth Kreashko Voting Affirmatively
Jeffrey Szymusiak Voting Affirmatively
Larry Kupchella Voting Affirmatively
Don Thomas Voting Affirmatively
Shawn McMullen Voting Affirmatively
Angela Villa Voting Affirmatively
Joe Villa Voting Affirmatively **Motion Carried**

Moved by Gregory O'Farrell, seconded by Jeffrey Szymusiak, to approve the resignation of Samantha Karabinos as Elementary Reading Competition Advisor effective immediately.

Voting on Motion:

Michael Gdula Voting Affirmatively
Gregory O'Farrell Voting Affirmatively
Elizabeth Kreashko Voting Affirmatively
Jeffrey Szymusiak Voting Affirmatively

Larry Kupchella Voting Affirmatively
Don Thomas Voting Affirmatively

Shawn McMullen Voting Affirmatively
Angela Villa Voting Affirmatively

Joe Villa Voting Affirmatively
Motion Carried

Moved by Gregory O'Farrell, seconded by Jeffrey Szymusiak, to approve the Kyle Link as a volunteer Junior High Football pending receipt of all clearances.

Voting on Motion:

Michael Gdula Voting Affirmatively
Gregory O'Farrell Voting Affirmatively

Elizabeth Kreashko Voting Affirmatively
Jeffrey Szymusiak Voting Affirmatively

Larry Kupchella Voting Affirmatively
Don Thomas Voting Affirmatively

Shawn McMullen Voting Affirmatively
Angela Villa Voting Affirmatively

Joe Villa Voting Affirmatively
Motion Carried

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORGANIZATION:

Nichole Kolarik, Special Ed Coordinator, stated that the District held ESY in June and July over the summer. We had 3 teachers who ran it and it went very well. The kids had fun and learned a lot. Also, Noah Kanich has been working with Nichole and Tammy to upgrade the Life Skills autistic classroom at the Elementary School and everyone is excited for kids to come back and see the classroom. She wanted to thank Noah for all his hard work on the project.

Tammy Boring, Elementary Principal, stated that she wants to thank the District for continuing the STEM program over the summer at the Elementary. It's a great program for the kids and it is much appreciated.

Ed Alexander, High School Principal, stated that we are starting school next week. He said that everyone is ready and excited to be back. He also wanted to extend thanks to Tim and the Maintenance staff for all the hard work they did painting and taking care of the High School over the summer.

Moved by Jeffrey Szymusiak, seconded by Shawn McMullen, to adjourn the meeting.

Voting on Motion:

Michael Gdula Voting Affirmatively
Gregory O'Farrell Voting Affirmatively
Elizabeth Kreashko Voting Affirmatively
Jeffrey Szymusiak Voting Affirmatively
Larry Kupchella Voting Affirmatively
Don Thomas Voting Affirmatively
Shawn McMullen Voting Affirmatively
Angela Villa Voting Affirmatively
Joe Villa Voting Affirmatively
Motion Carried.

The meeting adjourned at 6:26 p.m.

Bethany Peracchino

Bethany Peracchino, Board Secretary