

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE AUSTINTOWN LOCAL SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION PUBLIC MEETING**

Pursuant to its rules, the Austintown Board of Education of the Austintown Local Schools met at Austintown Fitch High School at 4:00 PM on August 20, 2026 for a Work Session and at 5:00 PM for the August Regular Session Board Meeting.

Board Members

Mrs. Kim Smrek, President
Mr. Don Sherwood, Vice President
Mrs. Katie Berdis, Member
Mr. Fred Marcum, Member
Mr. Harold Porter, Member

Administration

Timothy Kelty, Superintendent
Blaise Karlovic, Treasurer

2026-8/20-1 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM with Mr. Porter Absent.
Mrs. Berdis, Present; Mr. Marcum, Present; Mr. Porter, Absent; Mr. Sherwood, Present; Mrs. Smrek, Present

2026-8/20-2 Work Session

- Five-Year Forecast
- District Property

2026-8/20-3 Executive Session

Mr. Sherwood motioned to recess to Executive Session at 4:22 PM for the purpose to discuss Employment, appointment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, compensation of a public employee

Mr. Marcum seconded the motion and the vote resulted as follows:

Mrs. Berdis, Yes; Mr. Marcum, Yes; Mr. Sherwood, Yes; Mrs. Smrek, Yes. The motion carried (4-0).

The Executive Session ended at 4:54PM.

2026-8/20-4 Recall to Order

The Board returned to Regular Session at 5:00 PM.

2026-8/20-5 Agenda Approval

Mrs. Smrek moved to approve the agenda for the 8/20/2026 Board of Education Regular Session.

Mr. Sherwood seconded the motion and the vote resulted as follows:

Mrs. Berdis Yes; Mr. Marcum, Yes; Mr. Sherwood, Yes; Mrs. Smrek, Yes. The motion carried (4-0).

2026-8/20-6 Public Comments

None

2026-8/20-7 Treasurer's Consent Items

Mr. Sherwood moved upon the recommendation of the Treasurer to approve the Treasurer's Consent Items:

A. MINUTES

- Regular Session held on 6/29/2026

B. FINANCIAL REPORTS

- June, 2026 Monthly Financial/Expenditure Activity Report
- June, 2026 Month End Forecast Report
- July, 2027 Monthly Financial/Expenditure Activity Report
- July, 2027 Month End Forecast Report
- Purchase Orders over \$15,000 and transfers for the month as submitted

- C. Fiscal year 2026 purchases and sales of commercial paper and bankers acceptances through RedTree investments

D. DONATIONS

- a. \$1883 from Fitch Volleyball Boosters to Fitch Volleyball for Uniforms
- b. \$5,000 from the Austintown Eagles to Fitch High School

E. PROJECTIONS OF EXPENDITURES, REVENUES, AND FUND BALANCES

Upon the recommendation of the Treasurer, approve the submission and projections of expenditures, revenues, and fund balances for fiscal year 2027, and for the three succeeding fiscal years ending 2028, 2029, and 2030.

F. APPROVE THE DISPOSAL OF THE FOLLOWING ITEMS

<u>Tag Number</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Method of Disposal</u>
000302	Steam Jacket Kettle	Food Service	FHS	Scrap
000303	Steam Jacket Kettle	Food Service	FHS	Scrap

Mrs. Smrek seconded the motion and the vote resulted as follows:

Mrs. Berdis Yes; Mr. Marcum, Yes; Mr. Sherwood, Yes; Mrs. Smrek, Yes. The motion carried (4-0).

2026-8/20-8 Superintendent's Consent Items

M. Sherwood moved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the following items by consent action:

A. PERSONNEL

1. Resignations

- a. Holly Brady, AES Paraprofessional effective at the end of the 2025-2026 contract year, personal
- b. Malynda Carter, AIS Paraprofessional effective at the end of the 2025-2026 contract year, job change
- c. Gary Markulin, AES SPED Paraprofessional effective 8/3/26, personal
- d. Pamela Markulin, AES SPED Paraprofessional effective at the end of the 2025-2026 contract year, personal
- e. Cheryl Haid, AIS Child Specific Paraprofessional effective 26-27 school year, personal
- f. Hattie Shank, AMS SPED Paraprofessional effective 26-27 school year, job change
- g. Madison Schrader, AES Medical Assistant effective 26-27 school year, job change
- h. Joseph McMahon, AEA Fitch Intervention Specialist effective 2026-2027 school year, job change

2. Resignations for the Purpose of Retirement

- a. Joe Pawlen, Computer Technician, effective September 1, 2026, after 24 years of service with Austintown Schools
- b. Linda Driscoll, Bus Driver, effective December 31, 2026, after 14 years of service with Austintown Schools

3. OAPSE Appointments

- a. Shane Swope, AMS AM Custodian; 12-month, 8 hours per day, replacing Jaclyn Iagulli effective 8/10/2026

- b. Mary Hahn, AMS Sweeper-Cleaner; 9-month, 5.75 hours per day, replacing Mary Breckner effective 8/25/2026
- c. Michael Wilson, AMS Sweeper-Cleaner; 9-month, 5.75 hours per day, replacing Thomas Zetts effective 8/25/2027
- d. Jennifer Hughes, Special Education Paraprofessional at AMS; 9-month, 5.75 hours per day, replacing Kim Hall effective 8/24/26

4. OAPSE Transfers

- a. Lillie Marshall, Transfer from Bus Aide 3.5-hour position to AIS 5.75 Sweeper Cleaner position effective 8/25/2026
- b. Thomas Zetts, Transfer from AMS 5.75-hour Sweeper Cleaner to Fitch High School 5.75-hour Sweeper Cleaner effective 8/25/26

5. AEA Appointments

- a. Eric Diefenderfer, Science Teacher assigned to Fitch High School; Master's degree from Miami University; 20 years of teaching experience; Master's plus 30 Salary Column-Step 10 of the teachers' salary schedule; replacing Jolene Mang

B. NON-BARGAINING UNIT PERSONNEL

Attendance Coordinators: Title I Grant Funded at the rate of \$16.50 per hour limited to 5.75 hours daily not to exceed 166 days

- a. Charlotte Good, AES/AIS
- b. Barbara Tomic, AMS
- c. Deborah Hagerty, Fitch High School

Behavior Coach (K-5) -Title I Grant Funded at the rate of \$53,699

- d. Morgan Ainsworth

Falcon Fives PreKindergarten Program

- e. Rachel Mrazik , PreK Teacher at \$41,244
- f. Kristina Hawkins, PreK Teacher at \$26,480.64
- g. Michelle Burns, PreK Aide at \$12 per hour limited to 28.75 hours per week
- h. Ashley Byrd, PreK Aide at \$12 per hour limited to 28.75 hours per week
- i. Betsy Cercone, PreK Aide at \$12 per hour limited to 28.75 hours per week
- j. Donnajean Redeker, PreK Aide at \$12 per hour limited to 28.75 hours per week

H.O.P.E Online Program Support Staff

- k. Mary Ann Lemke, Instructional Assistant at \$16.50 per hour limited to 28.75 hours per week
- l. Kenneth Mills, Tutor at \$20 per hour limited to 28.75 hours per week
- m. Theresa Miller, Tutor at \$20 per hour limited to 28.75 hours per week

AES Grant Funded Title I Tutors at \$25 per hour, limited to 5.75 hours daily, not to exceed 173 days

- n. Katherine Buonavolonta
- o. Rae Jeanne Mollica
- p. Theresa Kelly
- q. William Baun

AES Instructional Support Staff

- r. Karma Minkewicz, AES Intervention Tutor at \$25 per hour, limited to 28.75 hours

per week

AIS Support Staff -Title I Grant Funded

- s. Isabella Cashioli, Instructional Assistant at \$16.50 per hour, limited to 5.75 hours per day not to exceed 173 days
- t. Dina Giambattista, Instructional Assistant at \$16.50 per hour, limited to 5.75 hours per day not to exceed 173 days
- u. Kristi McGivern, Instructional Assistant at \$16.50 per hour, limited to 5.75 hours per day not to exceed 173 days
- v. Michael Polder, PBIS Aide at \$16.50 per hour, limited to 5.75 hours per day not to exceed 173 days
- w. Timothy Ritter, Tutor at \$25 per hour, limited to 7 hours per day not to exceed 100 days

AMS Instructional Support Staff - Grant Funded

- x. John Peterka, Student Support Aide at \$25 per hour, limited to 28.75 hours per week
- y. Dora Zanni, Title I Tutor at \$25 per hour, limited to 5.75 hours per day not to exceed 173 days

Fitch High School Instructional Support Staff

- z. Kaden Crown, Special Education Teacher Assistant at \$20 per hour, 5.75 hours per day not to exceed 28.75 hours per week

Substitutes Non-Teaching

- aa. Gary Markulin - Paraprofessional
- bb. Gina Moorehead - Paraprofessional
- cc. Alexis Wokocha - Custodian

Summer Success By 6 Program Teachers at the rate of \$25 per hour; Grant funded by United Way

- dd. Megan Monaco
- ee. Maranda Callahan

C. LEAVE OF ABSENCE

- a. Melissa Vinarsky-Hoskins - Intermittent FMLA - effective 8/24/26
- b. January Nelson - FMLA Intermittent - Effective 8/26/26
- c. Joy Noble - Intermittent FMLA - effective 8/26/2026
- d. Donnamarie Shilling- Intermittent FMLA - effective 8/26/26
- e. Jennifer Houston - FMLA - effective 8/26/26-10/22/2026
- f. Mirajana Jelic - FMLA - 8/24/26-11/18/2026

D. ACADEMIC SUPPLEMENTALS-2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR- AEA PERSONNEL

The asterisk () denotes longevity percentage / two (**) denotes maximum longevity percentage*

FITCH

- a. Valarie Baiss, Academic Challenge Team Advisor - 3.5%**
- b. Gretchen Joyce, Advisor -American Sign Language - 3%*
- c. Melissa Janis, Advisor -Art Club - 4%*

- d. Madeleine Clendenin, Advisor -French Club - 3%*
- e. Kira Mettillie, Advisor -German Club - 2%
- f. Lisa Costello, Advisor -Spanish Club - 2%
- g. Candace Carney, Advisor -Freshman Class - 4%**
- h. Rebecca Caruso, Advisor -Sophomore Class - 4%**
- i. Julie Williams, Advisor -Junior Class - 11%**
- j. Cara Carroll, Advisor -Senior Class - 11%*
- k. Jeremy McClaine, Band Director - 24%*
- l. Caleb Baldwin , Band Assistant Director - 11%
- m. John Anthony, Band Assistant Director/Rock Band - 5%
- n. Jeremy McClaine, Co-Orchestra Director (Grades 5-12) - 10%*
- o. John Martin, Co-Orchestra Director (Grades 5-12) - 7%
- p. Marissa Platton, Dramatics - 13%*
- q. Paul Farbman, Dramatics Assistant - 5%
- r. Steven Ward, Educators Rising - 5%**
- s. Krista McConnahey, Future Business Leaders - 4%
- t. Valerie Baiss, Interact Club Advisor - 4%
- u. Jared Hubicsak, Link Crew - 3%**
- v. Cynthia McCutcheon, Link Crew - 2%
- w. Kaitlin Slater, Link Crew - 2%
- x. William Fleming, Mock Trial Advisor - 5%**
- y. Marla Morton, National Honor Society Advisor - 9%*
- z. April King, RDE Advisor Gr. 9 - 6%**
- aa. Valarie Baiss, RDE Advisor Gr. 10 - 6%**
- bb. Heather Carcelli, RDE Advisor Gr. 11 - 5%
- cc. Jennifer Leugers, RDE Advisor Gr. 12 - 6%**
- dd. Theresa Dutton, Speech and Debate Head -18%*
- ee. Seth Steiner, Spirit Store Advisor - 4%
- ff. Leslie Busico, Student Community Relations - 5%**
- gg. Steven Ward, Talon Newspaper Advisor - 10%*
- hh. Allison Jones, Ticket Manager - 14%
- ii. Megan Klein, Vocal Music Assistant - 8%
- jj. William Klein, Vocal Music Director - 21%**

AMS

- a. John Martin, Band Director - 9%
- b. Ron Johnson, Drama Advisor - 6%**
- c. Michelle Porter, RDE - Gr. 6 - 5%
- d. Jolene Ross, RDE - Gr. 7 - 6%**
- e. Michelle Best, RDE - Gr. 8 - 6%**
- f. Kimberly Freisen, Student Council/Builders Club - 3%
- g. Megan Keown, Vocal Music Advisor - 11%*
- h. Michelle Best, Web - 3%**
- i. Ann Marie Martin-Gatchel, Web - 3%**
- j. Kari Knight, Web - 2%
- k. Jessica Tomic, Yearbook - 4%

DISTRICT WIDE

- a. Jason Freudenberg, District Ski Club - 11%*

- b. Gina Cardillo, District Falcon Media Coordinator - 15%**
- c. Kimberly Freisen, District Lead Mentor Teacher (Rep) - 15%**

E. AEA TEACHER LEADER SUPPLEMENTALS 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR

- a. Kristina Warga, Grade K ELA/Social Studies - 4.5%*
- b. Christine Pezzuolo, Grade K Math/Science - 4.5%*
- c. Megan Monaco, Grade 1 ELA/Social Studies - 4.5%
- d. Carli Cramer, Grade 1 Math/Science - 4.5%*
- e. Tami Franklin, Grade 2 ELA/Social Studies - 4.5%*
- f. Kristin Havaich, Grade 2 Math/Science - 4.5%*
- g. Anitra James, Grades K-2 Intervention Specialist - 6%*
- h. Alexis Kuhns, Grade 3 ELA/Science - 3.5%
- i. Joya Villani, Grade 3 Math/Social Studies - 4.5%*
- j. Alexander Miller, Grade 4 ELA/Social Studies - 3.5%
- k. Jodi Baylor, Grade 4 Math/Science - 4.5%*
- l. Jessica Emery, Grade 5 ELA/Social Studies - 4.5%*
- m. Alicia Burnfield, Grade 5 Math/Science - 4.5%*
- n. Stephen Krispinsky, Grades 3-5 Intervention Specialist - 6%*
- o. Michelle Best, Grades 6-8 ELA - 6%*
- p. Carlo Trafficante, Grades 6-8 Math - 6%*
- q. Adrienne Hetmanski, Grades 6-8 Science - 6%*
- r. Ronald Johnson, Grades 6-8 Social Studies - 6%*
- s. Kari Knight, Grades 6-8 Intervention Specialist - 6%*
- t. Heather Carcelli, Grades 9-12 ELA - 6%*
- u. Jared Hubicsak, Grades 9-12 Math - 5%
- v. Christopher Martini, Grades 9-12 Science - 5%
- w. Cara Carroll, Grades 9-12 Social Studies - 5%
- x. Kaitlin Slater, Grades 9-12 Intervention Specialist - 5%
- y. Kelly Mills, Grades K-12 Guidance - 6%*
- z. Krista McConnahey, Grades K-12 Comp Tech/Industrial Tech - 5%
- aa. Michael Hornyak, Grades K-12 Performing Arts/Art - 5%
- bb. Lisa Costello, Grades K-12 World Language - 6%*

F. ACADEMIC & OTHER SUPPLEMENTALS-2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR- NON-AEA MEMBERS

FITCH

- a. Jennifer Cooley, Band Line/Woodwind Advisor -2%
- b. William Gonda, Band Percussion Advisor -3%
- c. Angel Owens, Spirit Club Advisor - 5%
- d. Peyton Kunkle (MVRCOG), Yearbook-Editorial/Business - 7%

G. ATHLETIC SUPPLEMENTAL POSITIONS (2026-2027 SY)- AEA MEMBERS

The asterisk () denotes longevity percentage / two (**) denotes maximum longevity percentage*

FITCH

- a. Nicole Fiddler, Tennis Assistant Girls Coach - 9%

AMS

- a. Melody Ward, Cross Country B/G - 11%*

H. ATHLETIC SUPPLEMENTAL POSITIONS ((2026-2027 SY)- NON-AEA MEMBERS

FITCH

- a. Kaden Crown, Football Defensive Assistant - 10%
- b. David Potkonicky, Soccer Boys Head Coach - 18%
- c. Nicholas Foley, Soccer Boys Assistant Coach - 11%
- d. Kara Garland, Soccer Girls Head Coach - 18%
- e. Brynn Sauline, Soccer Girls Assistant Coach - 11%
- f. Peyton Koszelak, Volleyball Assistant Coach - 11%

AMS

- a. Rocco Odom, Football Assistant - 5%

I. VOLUNTEERS- Athletic

- a. Jacob Kilroy
- b. Alie Ruheim
- c. Steve Zielinski

J. STUDENT TRIPS

- a. Who: High School Boys Cross Country Team (optional for all team members)
What: Boys Cross Country Team Camp
Where: Cuyahoga Valley National Park
When: 8/10/26 - 8/14/26
Transportation: Parents driving
Hotel: Camp Butler Bt St 2 Peninsula, OH 44264
Expenses: Booster Club, student self pay
Chaperone(s): Mike Dahmen
Contact: Mike Dahmen 330-246-0998
- b. Who: Girls Volleyball
What: Fitch Volleyball Lock In
Where: Fitch High School Gymnasium
When: 8/8/26-8/9/26
Chaperone: Kylee Herberger and Kaitlin White
Contact: Kylee Herberger 740-341-9195
- c. Who: Fitch Football
What: Football Camo
Where: Morehead State University
When: 7/24/26-7/25/26
Transportation: Vans
Hotel: Best Western Eagle Inn, 110 Toms Dr. Morehead, KY 40351
Expenses: Funded by the Fitch Football Boosters
Chaperone(s): T.J Parker, Cory Lanterman, Joe McMahon, Mark Deramo, CJ Martini, Andre Elliot
Contact: Mike Dahmen 330-246-0998

Mr. Marcum seconded the motion and the vote resulted as follows:

Mrs. Berdis Yes; Mr. Marcum, Yes; Mr. Sherwood, Yes; Mrs. Smrek, Yes. The motion carried (4-0).

2026-8/20-9

Mrs. Smrek moved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the 2-year contract for Colin Reidy, Athletic Trainer from 7/1/2026 to 6/30/2028.

Mrs. Berdis seconded the motion and the vote resulted as follows:

Mrs. Berdis Yes; Mr. Marcum, Yes; Mr. Sherwood, Yes; Mrs. Smrek, Yes. The motion carried (4-0).

2026-8/20-10 Agreement

Mr. Marcum moved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the agreement with Unyque Therapy Services to assign dedicated Registered Behavior Technicians (RBTs) to provide daily support within three designated kindergarten classrooms during the service period, August 31, 2026 through May 25, 2027, not to exceed \$80,000.00 to be paid from Title I.

Mrs. Smrek seconded the motion and the vote resulted as follows:

Mrs. Berdis Yes; Mr. Marcum, Yes; Mr. Sherwood, Yes; Mrs. Smrek, Yes. The motion carried (4-0).

2026-8/20-11 Agreement

Mr. Marcum moved, Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following contractual agreement with Bowling Green State University:

THIS AGREEMENT is made between Bowling Green State University ("BGSU"), through its College of Health and Human Services ("School") and Austintown Local School District ("Clinical Site"), this 18 day of August 2026 (the "Effective Date").

WHEREAS, the School offers various accredited health professional programs, identified in Exhibit A (each a "Program"), and desires to obtain field experience for students enrolled in the Program ("Students");

WHEREAS, the Clinical Site is willing to be a site for clinical education to Students; and

WHEREAS, the School and the Clinical Site desire to develop and implement a program of clinical education at the Clinical Site for Students, and to set forth in writing their agreements regarding the clinical education program.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing premises and the mutual agreements set forth herein, the parties agree to the following as presented.

Mrs. Smrek seconded the motion and the vote resulted as follows:

Mrs. Berdis Yes; Mr. Marcum, Yes; Mr. Sherwood, Yes; Mrs. Smrek, Yes. The motion carried (4-0).

2026-8/20-12 Agreement

Mrs. Smrek moved, Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the following contractual agreement with TRAVCO Behavioral Health, Inc:

The Business Associate: **Austintown Schools** and **Travco Behavioral Health, Inc.** hereby enter into an agreement whereby Austintown Schools contract Travco Behavioral Health, Inc. to provide Outpatient Counseling Services for the students and families of Austintown Schools.

Furthermore, the Business Associate:

1. Acknowledges that in receiving, transmitting, transporting, storing, processing, or otherwise dealing with any information received from Travco Behavioral Health, Inc. identifying or otherwise relating to the patients at Travco Behavioral Health, Inc. ("protected information") it is fully bound by the provisions of the federal regulations governing the Confidentiality of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Patient Records and Mental Health records 42 C.F.R. Part 2, and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), 45 C.F.R. Part 142, 160, 162, and 164, Whereas, certain individually identifiable health information may only be used or disclosed (HIPPA) Public Law 104-191) Privacy and Security Regulations (45 CFR Part 164) the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act ("HITECH" Public Law 111-005) and all related regulations, and in accordance with the terms of this agreement and may not use or disclose the information except as permitted or required by this Agreement or by law;
2. Agrees to resist any efforts in judicial proceedings to obtain access to the protected information except as expressly provided for in the regulations governing the Confidentiality of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Patient Records and Mental Health Patient Records, 42 C.F.R. Part 2; refer to bullet #1
3. Agrees to use appropriate safeguards to prevent the unauthorized use or disclosure of protected information;
4. Agrees to report to Travco Behavioral Health, Inc. any use or disclosure of the protected information not provided by this agreement of which it becomes aware;
5. Agrees to ensure that any agent, including a subcontractor, to whom the Business Associate provides the protected information received from Travco Behavioral Health, Inc., or created or received by the Business Associate on behalf of Travco Behavioral Health, Inc. agrees to the same restrictions and conditions that apply through this agreement to the Business Associate with respect to such information;
6. Agrees to provide access to the protected information at the request of Travco Behavioral Health, Inc. or to an individual as directed by Travco Behavioral Health, Inc., in order to meet the requirements of 45 C.F.R. 164.524 which provides patients with the right to access and copy their own protected information; refer to bullet #1
7. Agrees to make any amendments to the protected information as directed or agreed to by Travco Behavioral Health, Inc. pursuant to 45 C.F. R. 164,526; refer to bullet #1
8. Agrees to make available its internal practices, books and records, including policies and procedures, related to the use and disclosure of protected information received from Travco Behavioral Health, Inc., or created or received by the Business Associate on behalf of Travco Behavioral Health, Inc., to Travco Behavioral Health, Inc., or the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services for the purposes of the Secretary determining Travco Behavioral Health, Inc.'s compliance with HIPAA; refer to bullet #1
9. Agrees to document disclosures of protected information and information related to such disclosures, as would be required for Travco Behavioral Health, Inc. to respond to a request by an individual for an accounting of disclosures in accordance with 45 C.F.R. 164.528; refer to bullet #1

10. Agrees to provide Travco Behavioral Health, Inc. or an individual, information in accordance with paragraph (9) of this agreement to permit Travco Behavioral Health, Inc. to respond to a request by an individual for an accounting of disclosures with C.F.R. 164.528; refer to bullet #1

Agreeable Termination:

Either party may terminate this agreement with a 30-day written notice:

Travco may terminate this agreement if it determines that the Business Associate has violated any material term;

Upon termination of this agreement for any reason, the Business Associate shall return or destroy all protected information received from Travco Behavioral Health, Inc., or created or received by the Business Associate on behalf of Travco Behavioral Health, Inc. This provision shall apply to protected information that is in the possession of subcontractors or agents of the Business Associate. The Business Associate shall retain no copies of the protected information.

In the event that the Business Associate determines that returning or destroying the protected information is infeasible, the Business Associate shall notify Travco Behavioral Health, Inc. of the conditions that make return or destruction infeasible.

Upon notification that the return or destruction of the protected information is infeasible, the Business Associate shall extend the protections of the Agreement to such protected information and limit further uses and disclosures of the information to the purposes that make the return or destruction infeasible, as long as the Business Associate maintains the information.

Mrs. Berdis seconded the motion and the vote resulted as follows:

Mrs. Berdis Yes; Mr. Marcum, Yes; Mr. Sherwood, Yes; Mrs. Smrek, Yes. The motion carried (4-0).

2026-8/20-13 Agreement

Mr. Sherwood moved, Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the following contractual agreement with Ronald Stewart and Associates, LLC.:

Section 1. SERVICES

The consultative services to be performed include the training and support of district personnel in the management and administration of entitlement grant funds available under Every Student Succeeds Act and organized by the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce electronic application for funds. Further the consultation will provide program and budgetary matters as indicated below:

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| Title I: | Improving the Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged |
| Title I: | Sub Part A: School Improvement |
| Title II-A: | Preparing, Training, and Recruiting High Quality Teachers and Principals |
| Title III: | Limited English Proficiency |

Title IV-A: Well Rounded Student

IDEA-Part B: Special Education supplemental education funds

ECSE: Early Childhood Special Education

The Consultant will not provide direct supervision to district personnel.

The Consultant will provide a conceptual basis for federal education program funding including federal laws, regulations and guidance provided by the U.S. Education Department.

The Consultant will provide the framework from which the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce approves the entitlement grants.

The Consultant will provide support and implementation services of the current FY27 electronic application for funds and its component parts including the District/School Improvement Plan, Schoolwide Plan and Compliance Reports. Consultation will also be provided for equitable nonpublic school services. Other consultation activities will be provided within the context of this agreement through mutual examination of needs.

The Consultant will also provide coordinating services in the fiscal/program management of the CCIP and the coordination necessary for the Treasurer to fulfill fiduciary responsibilities to the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce, Auditor of State and the federal Office of Inspector General as well as other agencies and entities.

The Consultant will also conduct onsite district training to provide perspectives on actual operating dynamics in selected school districts as it relates to federal and state compliance requirements.

All information shared of a confidential nature remains between the parties to this agreement.

Services may be performed onsite and off-site.

Travel expenses for mileage, food and lodging expenses ARE waived.

Section 2. PAYMENT FOR SERVICE

The fee for services is \$850.00 per consultative day not exceed a total of \$17000.00 (20 days). The district will be billed at the conclusion of the month(s) in which services are provided.

Mrs. Smrek seconded the motion and the vote resulted as follows:

Mrs. Berdis Yes; Mr. Marcum, Yes; Mr. Sherwood, Yes; Mrs. Smrek, Yes. The motion carried (4-0).

2026-8/20-14 Resolution

Mrs. Smrek moved, Approve the resolution declaring transportation impractical for the following identified students for the 2026-2027 School Year:

This resolution to declare transportation impractical for certain identified students is presented pursuant to the requirements of Ohio Revised Code §3327 and the procedures set forth by the Ohio Department of Education. The resolution follows careful evaluation of all other available options prior to consideration of impracticality.

The Superintendent of Schools Tim Kelty recommends that the board of education adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS the student(s) identified below have been determined to be residents of this school district, and eligible for transportation services; and

WHEREAS after a careful evaluation of all available options, it has been determined that it is impractical to provide transportation for these student(s) to their selected school(s); and

WHEREAS the following factors as identified in Revised Code §3327.02 have been considered:

1. The time and distance required to provide the transportation
2. The number of pupils to be transported
3. The cost of providing transportation in terms of equipment, maintenance, personnel, and administration
4. Whether similar or equivalent service is provided to other pupils eligible for transportation
5. Whether and to what extent the additional service unavoidably disrupts current transportation schedules
6. Whether other reimbursable types of transportation are available; and

WHEREAS the option of offering payment-in-lieu of transportation is provided in Ohio Revised Code: Therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the Austintown Board of Education hereby approves the declaration that it is impractical to transport the students identified herein and offers the parent(s)/guardian(s) of students named on the attachment, payment-in-lieu of transportation.

ATTACHMENT TO RESOLUTION:

New for the 2025/2026 school year

Student First	Student Last	Parent(s)	School	Grade
Jimena	Little	John & Telyia Little	Akiva Academy	1

Previously Determined Impractical for 25/26:

2026/2027 school year

Student First	Student Last	Parent(s)	School	Grade
Joshua	Lehman	Tina & Patrick Lehman	Heartland Christian	10
Teigan	Sabel	Craig & Tahnee Sabel	Heartland Christian	3
Zayne	Sabel	Craig & Tahnee Sabel	Heartland Christian	2
Isabella	Skaggs	Heather & Brian Skaggs	St. Charles	6

Theona	Skaggs	Heather & Brian Skaggs	St. Charles	3
Gabriella	Francis	Kayla Francis	Heartland Christian	2
Jimena	Little	John & Telyia Little	Akiva Academy	2
Anabell	Ellis	Amanda Ellis	Heartland Christian	9
Grace	Ellis	Amanda Ellis	Heartland Christian	7
Martin	Ellis	Amanda Ellis	Heartland Christian	2
Dani	Ferrell	Donna Ferrell	Akiva Academy	8
Isabella	Green	Angela Green	Heartland Christian	5
Richard	Green	Angela Green	Heartland Christian	11
Vincent	Green	Angela Green	Heartland Christian	3
Christiana	Hunter	Christina Hunter	Heartland Christian	9
Quintin	Hunter	Christina Hunter	Heartland Christian	11
Andrew	Rosta	Jane Mackey	Montessori of Mahoning Valley	4
Colton	Sinn	Caitlin Sinn	Heartland Christian	4
Dominic	Vitullio	Dominic Vitullio	Heartland Christian	2
Olivia	Vitullio	Dominic Vitullio	Heartland Christian	11
Abigail	Corll	Cheryl & David Corll	ACLD	5
Elijah	Fortner	Lacie Grobosky	Akiva Academy	6
Emma	Sterchi	Michelle Sterchi	Heartland Christian	1

New for the 2026/2027 school year

Student First	Student Last	Parent(s)	School	Grade
Louis	Ciccone II	Michael & Emily Ciccone	Holy Family	K
Elyse	Little	John & Teliya Little	Akiva Academy	K
Rowen Corvvus	Apalsch Welch	Miriam Apalsch	Montessori of Mahoning Valley	1

Mr. Marcum seconded the motion and the vote resulted as follows:

Mrs. Berdis Yes; Mr. Marcum, Yes; Mr. Sherwood, Yes; Mrs. Smrek, Yes. The motion carried (4-0).

2026-8/20-15 Liability Insurance Policy

Mr. Sherwood moved, Upon the recommendation of the Treasurer, to approve the Work Risk Management Cyber Liability Insurance Policy for \$8,398, effective 7/1/2026 to 6/30/2027.

Mrs. Smrek seconded the motion and the vote resulted as follows:

Mrs. Berdis Yes; Mr. Marcum, Yes; Mr. Sherwood, Yes; Mrs. Smrek, Yes. The motion carried (4-0).

2026-8/20-16 Administrative Salary Schedule

Mr. Sherwood moved, Upon the recommendation of the Treasurer, to approve the Administrative Salary Schedule for the 2026-2027 school year as presented.

Mrs. Smrek seconded the motion and the vote resulted as follows:

Mrs. Berdis Yes; Mr. Marcum, Yes; Mr. Sherwood, Yes; Mrs. Smrek, Yes. The motion carried (4-0).

2026-8/20-17 Fleet, Liability, and Property Insurance

Mr. Marcum moved, Upon the recommendation of the Treasurer, to approve the fleet, liability, and property insurance through Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council effective 7/1/2026 through 6/30/2027 with a total premium for full year coverage of \$239,249.

The breakdown is as follows:

Fleet: \$59,812

Property: \$102,877

Liability: \$76,560

Mrs. Smrek seconded the motion and the vote resulted as follows:

Mrs. Berdis Yes; Mr. Marcum, Yes; Mr. Sherwood, Yes; Mrs. Smrek, Yes. The motion carried (4-0).

2026-8/20-18 Food Service

Mrs. Smrek moved, Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve meal prices for the 2026-2027 school year as follows:

School	Breakfast	2nd Breakfast	1st Lunch	2nd Lunch
Austintown Fitch High School	Free	\$2.50	Free	\$3.75
Austintown Middle School	Free	\$2.50	Free	\$3.50
Austintown Intermediate School	Free	\$2.50	Free	\$3.50
Austintown Elementary School	Free	\$2.50	Free	\$3.50
Austintown E-Learning	Free	—	—	—
Austintown Local Preschool	—	—	Free	—
	Breakfast	Lunch		
Adult Meals	\$3.50	\$6.00		

Mrs. Berdis seconded the motion and the vote resulted as follows:

Mrs. Berdis Yes; Mr. Marcum, Yes; Mr. Sherwood, Yes; Mrs. Smrek, Yes. The motion carried (4-0).

2026-8/20-19 Handbook

Mrs. Smrek moved, Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the Austintown Local Preschool Handbook for the 2026-2027 school year.

Mrs. Berdis seconded the motion and the vote resulted as follows:

Mrs. Berdis Yes; Mr. Marcum, Yes; Mr. Sherwood, Yes; Mrs. Smrek, Yes. The motion carried (4-0).

2026-8/20-20 Memorandum of Understanding

Mrs. Smrek moved, Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following Memorandum of Understanding between the Austintown Local School District and the Family Recovery Center:

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is entered into by and between the Family Recovery Center (hereinafter referred to as "FRC") and Austintown School District (hereinafter

referred to as "the School District"), for the purpose of outlining roles, responsibilities, and expectations in implementing vaping intervention services for students within the School District.

1. Purpose

The purpose of this MOU is to establish a collaborative relationship between FRC and the School District to provide effective, timely, and student-centered vaping intervention services as an alternative to suspension or to improve student wellbeing.

2. Responsibilities of the School District

The School District agrees to:

- **Parent/Guardian Notification:** The School District is responsible for notifying the parent or guardian of the student of the services being provided.
 - FRC will provide a parent/guardian notification letter to the School District at the beginning of each year. **The School District will provide a signed copy of the parent/guardian notification letter to FRC** prior to scheduling intervention.
 - **Screening:** As a part of the intervention process, FRC may provide a brief screening for mental health or substance use disorders. For positive screens, **FRC will provide a referral letter to the School District** to disseminate to the parent or guardian.
- **Notification of Attendance:** At least **one hour prior to the scheduled intervention time**, the School District will contact the designated FRC representative to confirm whether the student is present or absent.
 - If the student is absent, FRC and the School District will coordinate to reschedule the session at the earliest available convenience.
- **Student Information:** Upon scheduling the intervention, inform the FRC representative of the **student's full name and grade level**.
- **Scheduling Considerations:** Ensure that the **day and time scheduled for the intervention** are finalized in consideration of the student's class schedule, school activities, and extracurricular commitments. Once FRC is on-site and the student is present, the intervention time is considered **nonnegotiable**.
 - If rescheduling is necessary due to any conflict, the School District will inform FRC at least **one hour prior to the scheduled time**.
- **Private Setting:** The School District will provide an appropriate and private setting for the one-hour intervention to ensure confidentiality and effectiveness of the program.
- **Repeat Offenders:** Acknowledge that the vaping intervention program is intended as an **alternative to suspension** and is designed for **one intervention per student per school year**.
 - If a student commits subsequent infractions, FRC will not repeat interventions. Alternatively, the School District may refer youth to FRC for **Chemical Dependency Counseling**, which is not provided through the Prevention Education Department.

- **Cost:** For schools in Mahoning County, all services provided by FRC are **\$28 an hour**.
 - In the event that the School District does not notify the designated FRC representative of a student absence/cancellation within the specific timeframe, the service charge will still be applied.

3. Responsibilities of Family Recovery Center

FRC agrees to:

- **Provide Qualified Personnel:** Intervention services will be provided by qualified FRC personnel who are certified by the Ohio Chemical Dependency Professionals Board.
 - All personnel have passed applicable background checks
- **Evidence-based Programming:** Intervention programs provided by the FRC Prevention Education Department follow evidence-based strategies and curricula to provide the most effective programming for students.
- **Confidentiality:** FRC will maintain student confidentiality and follow all applicable privacy regulations and internal documentation policies.
 - FRC adheres to **mandated reporting guidelines regarding suspected abuse or neglect**
 - In the event of **suspected suicide risk or self-harm**, the FRC representative will inform the **School District's principal and guidance counselor and follow the internal reporting procedures** as established by the School District
- **Rescheduling:** FRC will coordinate rescheduling promptly when notified of a student absence or scheduling conflict
- **Frequency of Services:** Mandatory vaping interventions will be conducted in 2-4 sessions, each session lasting between 30-50 minutes. Vaping cessation services will be conducted in 8-10 sessions, each session lasting between 30-50 minutes.
- **Screening:** As a part of the intervention process, FRC may provide a brief screening for mental health or substance use disorders.
 - For positive screens, **FRC will provide a referral letter to the School District** to disseminate to the parent or guardian.
- **Short-term Intervention:** programming through FRC Prevention Education is short-term and educational and does not act as a form of treatment or diagnosis. Furthermore, FRC does not guarantee cessation with interventions.
 - Prevention interventions are not intended to take the place of clinical counseling
- **Certificate of Completion:** FRC will provide a certificate of completion to the student and the school for their record.

4. Term and Termination

This MOU shall be effective as of the date of signature by both parties and shall remain in effect until terminated by either party with **30 days written notice**.

5. Agreement

By signing below, both parties acknowledge their understanding of and agreement to the terms outlined in this MOU.

Mrs. Berdis seconded the motion and the vote resulted as follows:
Mrs. Berdis Yes; Mr. Marcum, Yes; Mr. Sherwood, Yes; Mrs. Smrek, Yes. The motion carried (4-0).

2026-8/20-21 Public Meeting for September, 2026

Mr. Sherwood moved for the following day, date, time, and location for the September, 2026 Board of Education meeting to take place:

Work Session: September 16, 2026 at the BOE Office Conference Room beginning at 5:00 PM

Regular Session: September 16, 2026 at Austintown Middle School beginning at 7:00 PM

Mrs. Smrek seconded the motion and the vote resulted as follows:
Mrs. Berdis Yes; Mr. Marcum, Yes; Mr. Sherwood, Yes; Mrs. Smrek, Yes. The motion carried (4-0).

2026-8/20-22 Treasurer's Comments

N/A

2026-8/20-23 Superintendent's Comments

Mr. Kelty thanked the Austintown Eagles for their donation. Mr. Kelty also thanked Kathy Zatchok for going above and beyond her job in assisting a field trip at Kennywood.

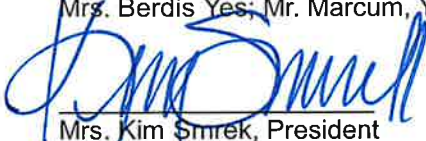
2026-8/20-24 Board Comments

None

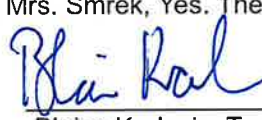
2026-8/20-25 Adjournment

Mr. Sherwood moved to adjourn at 5:09PM.

Mrs. Berdis seconded the motion as the vote resulted as follows:
Mrs. Berdis Yes; Mr. Marcum, Yes; Mr. Sherwood, Yes; Mrs. Smrek, Yes. The motion carried (4-0).



Mrs. Kim Smrek, President
Austintown Board of Education



Blaise Karlovic, Treasurer
Austintown Board of Education