

ACCESS Council

Area Cooperative Computerized Educational Service System

Regular Assembly Meeting

9:00 a.m. Friday, April 10, 2026

M-I-N-U-T-E-S

A regular meeting of the Assembly of the ACCESS Council of Governments was held at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, April 10, 2026.

Dr. Mook called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. The following members were present by roll call. A quorum was reached.

Austintown Local Schools –
Beaver Local Schools – Eric Lowe
Boardman Local Schools – A.J. Ginnetti, III
Campbell City Schools – Mathew Bowen
Canfield Local Schools – Ben Marko
Columbiana County Career & Technical Center – Ryan Rotuna
Columbiana County ESC – Marie Williams, Lucas Cooper, Joe Warchol
Columbiana Exempted Village – Dr. Don Mook, Chris Earl
Crestview Local Schools – Charlene Mercure
ESC of Eastern Ohio – Dr. Traci Hostetler, Andrew Velchek, Cole Ackerman
Jackson Milton Schools –
Leetonia Local Schools –Jennifer Coldsnow
Lowellville Schools – Christine Sawicki, Tyler Noble
Poland Local Schools – Janet Muntean
Sebring Local Schools – Dawn Welsch, April Habberger, Danton Blackburn
South Range Local Schools – Mario Nero
Springfield Local Schools – Rachael Smith
Struthers City Schools – Pete Pirone
United Local Schools – Melissa Baker
Wellsville Local Schools – Maia Amato, Kevin Ryan Jackson
West Branch – Adam Fisher
Western Reserve Schools – Stephanie Appel
Youngstown City Schools –

Also attending:

Southern Local Schools –
Lisbon Local Schools – Joe Siefke, Jennifer Coldsnow
Utica Shale Academy –
Kevin Homistek, Executive Director, ACCESS
Brian Stidham, Treasurer, ACCESS
Aaron Merlino, Director of Technology, ACCESS

Diane Fabian, Director of Student Services & State Reporting
Staff Members, ACCESS

Dr. Don Mook welcomed the assembly and started the meeting at 9:02 am.

Motion 26-01 - Approve Agenda

Ms. Smith moved and Mr. Pirone seconded a motion to approve the agenda. Approved by unanimous voice vote. Motion carried. Dr. Mook declared the motion approved.

Motion 26-02 – Approve Minutes

Ms. Smith moved and Ms. Welsch seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the October 2025 Regular Assembly Meeting. Approved by unanimous voice vote. Motion carried. Dr. Mook declared the motion approved.

Motion 26-03 - Financial Report

Mr. Ginnetti moved and Ms. Mercure seconded a motion to approve the financial report. Mr. Stidham reviewed the March 2026 Financial Report. Mr. Stidham reviewed all funds and unique expenditures for FY2026. He also provided an overview of projections for FY2027.

FY2026 Projections All Funds

▪	Beginning Balance	\$2,838,046.41
▪	Revenues	\$4,359,863.40
▪	Expenses	\$3,869,572.48
▪	Projected Ending Balance	\$3,328,337.33
▪	Less Fiber Fund	\$ 801,150.83
▪	Unreserved Ending Balance	\$2,527,186.50

Key Items

- Forecast projects no changes to the current fee structure.
 - Transition of maintenance agreement with ark effective October 1, 2024
 - Security requirements may dictate additional expenditures
 - Increases from Software/Maintenance providers
 - Health insurance holidays or premium cost increases

Approved by unanimous voice vote. Motion carried. Dr. Mook declared the motion approved.

Student Services Update

Ms. Fabian provided updates to Student Information and EMIS reporting including information on the following items:

- EMIS Year End Data Review for FY26 LRC – Open Work Sessions
 - Dates were shared in previous emails from Diane – 4 sessions will be scheduled in June 2026: 6/3, 6/10, 6/11, 6/24
 - Superintendents are asked to register your team members

- Reminder emails to be sent out to the districts that have yet to register
- State of Ohio chronic absenteeism dashboard screenshots
- Overview of ACCESS student staff participation in EMIS & Frontline advisory groups

Network & Security Services

Mr. Merlino shared information regarding the following.

- Storage and Disaster Recovery upgrades
- Patch Management solutions
- Information Security overview and policy check
- MFA coming to Student SIS application
- Security awareness training – TechGuard
- HB96 reporting requirements

Guest Speaker: Dr Heidi Orvosh, Instruction & Technology Integration Specialist at Northern Buckeye Education Council. NBEC/NWOCA is one of our peer ITC's in Northwest Ohio serving school districts in Defiance, Erie, Fulton, Henry, Lucas, Williams, and Wood counties. She provided an overview of practical strategies, tools, and implementation steps to support effective and responsible use of AI in educational settings.

ACCESS Board Membership – Expired Terms – Caucus

Expired Terms for the following current members

Rachael Smith (2024-2026) – Mahoning County Superintendent

Dawn Welsch (2025-2027) – Mahoning County Treasurer

Dr. Don Mook (2024-2026) – Columbiana County Superintendent

Eric Lowe (2024-2026) – Columbiana County Superintendent

Mr. Pirone, Ms. Smith, and Dr. Mook were unanimously recommended to continue serving on the ACCESS Board of Directors, representing their counties, for the term FY 2026 through 2028.

Mr. Ginnetti and Ms. Coldsnow are full time board members representing their respective counties.

Alternate Board Members (1 year term) – no voting rights unless there is no quorum and filling in for a full Board member in their absence from their respective county. Can be either a superintendent or treasurer. Term, July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027

Jennifer Coldsnow – Columbiana County Treasurer – full time replacing Ms. Mercure.

A.J. Ginnetti – Mahoning County Treasurer – full time replacing Ms. Welsch.

Charlene Mercure – Columbiana County Treasurer

April Haberger – Mahoning County Treasurer

ESC Designees were also chosen: Dr. Hostetler for Mahoning County, and Ms. Williams for Columbiana County

Motion 26-04 - Adjournment

Mr. Ginnetti moved and Ms. Williams seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Dr. Mook declared the meeting adjourned at 11:00 am

The foregoing is a correct record of the proceedings of the ACCESS Assembly Meeting held on April 10, 2026.

Chairman

Date

Secretary

Date