

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of Norwayne Local School District
Board of Education
Regular Meeting

Held at 6:00 PM Norwayne Elementary School Library February 23, 2026

The February 2026 Regular Meeting of the Norwayne Local Board of Education was held on Monday, February 23, 2026 at Norwayne Elementary School. Having due notice the following board members were present: Doug Ingold, Kirk Gasser, Eric Graham, Rachael Ramsier and Angie Smith.

CALL TO ORDER - President Doug Ingold

Pledge of Allegiance (Official Opening of the Business Meeting)

Monthly Reports to the Board & Public

FFA - Novice Parli Pro Team conducted a mock debate about converting district water fountains to milk fountains, with one member humorously attempting to amend the motion to Mt. Dew. The presentation was well done and enjoyable, and the Board commended the students and advisors for their work.

Principal Vince Sette, Norwayne Elementary School

WELCOMING AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS - President Doug Ingold

The Norwayne Local Board of Education is pleased to officially welcome guests attending the meeting. Each guest is asked to identify him/herself to the Board by signing the meeting attendance sheet. Those who desire to address the Board under the 'Hearing of the Public' portion of the meeting agenda are asked to place an (X) beside their name.

The Board wishes to thank you for attending the meeting and for your interest in our schools. Those who have indicated their desire to address the Board may do so under Item III (Hearing of the Public). Per Board Policy BDDH.

The Board heard from April Buckingham, Vice President of the Music Boosters, who provided information about the first annual Jazz Show event planned for April. The event will serve as both a fundraiser and an opportunity to showcase students' hard work and musical talents.

2026-15 Smith moved and Gasser seconded the motion to move into executive session for the purpose of discussing the appointment, employment, and/or compensation of a public employee of official and personnel matters required to be kept confidential at 6:49 pm

Vote: Yes: Ramsier, Smith, Gasser, Ingold, Graham

2026-16 Ramsier moved and Gasser seconded the motion to reconvene the open meeting at 9:40 PM.

Vote: Yes: Smith, Gasser, Ingold, Graham, Ramsier.

2026-17 Smith moved and Gasser seconded the motion to adopt the February 23, 2026 agenda as modified.

Vote: Yes: Gasser, Ingold, Graham, Ramsier, Smith.

2026-18 Ramsier moved and Smith seconded the motion to approve the Treasurer's Business items as presented:

TREASURER'S BUSINESS - Nicole Peters

- A. Approve the minutes of the January 5, 2026 Organizational and Regular Board Meetings.

- B. Approve the January 31, 2026 Bank Reconciliation and Financial Reports:

Receipts: \$ 1,582,921.90

Expenses: \$ 1,437,964.76

- C. Accept the following donations:

Sam's Meat Shop	\$500	NHS Bowling Program
James & Susan Baker	\$500	NMS Washington DC Trip
Gary & Mary Besancon	\$250	NHS Boys Basketball Program
Marian Romich Memorial Fund, Tom Romich	\$500	NHS Drama Club; Bye, Bye Birdie
We Fund 4 U	\$3,133.60	NHS Boys Basketball Program
Loyal Order of Moose		
NHS Wrestling	\$1,000	
NHS Golf	\$1,500	
NES Teachers	\$3,500	
NHS Bowling	\$1,000	
NHS Drama Club	\$1,000	
NHS Cross Country	\$1,000	
NHS Boy's Track	\$1,000	
NHS Girl's Track	\$1,000	
STEAM Maker's Club	\$1,500	
NHS Baseball	\$1,000	
NHS Girls Basketball	\$1,000	
NHS Boys Basketball	\$267.13	
NHS Band	\$1,500	
Rene Eshler Scholarship	\$2,000	
Creston Moose Scholarship	\$4,000	
NHS Stadium Maintenance	\$1,500	
NHS Softball	\$1,000	
NHS Volleyball	\$1,000	
NHS Yearbook	\$1,000	
NHS Football	\$1,000	
NHS Boys Soccer	\$1,000	
NHS Girls Soccer	\$1,000	
NMS DC Trip	<u>\$4,132.42</u>	
	\$ 33,899.55	

- D. Approve the Resolution to accept the Certificate of Estimated Resources for FY27.

**RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE
BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES
AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR**

(CITY, VILLAGE OR LOCAL BOARD OF EDUCATION)

Revised Code, Secs. 5705.34, - 35

The Board of Education of the Norwayne Local School District School District, Wayne
County, Ohio, met in regular session on the 23rd day of February,
2026, at the office of the Norwayne Elementary School
with the following members present:

Kirk Gasser	✓
Eric Graham	✓
Doug Ingold	✓
Rachael Ramsier	✓
Angie Smith	✓

Rachael Ramsier moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, This Board of Education in accordance with the provisions of law has previously
adopted a Tax Budget for the next succeeding fiscal year commencing July 1st, 2026; and

WHEREAS, The Budget Commission of Wayne County, Ohio, has certified its action
thereon to this Board together with an estimate by the County Auditor of the rate of each tax necessary
to be levied by this Board, and what part thereof is without, and what part within, the ten mill tax
limitation; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the Board of Education of the Norwayne Local
School District, Wayne County, Ohio, that the amounts and rates, as determined by the Budget
Commission in its certification, be and the same are hereby accepted; and be it further

RESOLVED, That there be and is hereby levied on the tax duplicate of said School
District the rate of each tax necessary to be levied within and without the ten mill limitation as
follows:
and by it further

RESOLVED, That the Treasurer of this Board be and he is hereby directed to certify a
copy of this Resolution to the County Auditor of said County.

Angie Smith seconded the Resolution and the roll being called upon
its adoption the vote resulted as follows:

<u>Kirk Gasser</u>	<u>✓</u>	yes	<u>no</u>
<u>Eric Graham</u>	<u>✓</u>	yes	<u>no</u>
<u>Doug Ingold</u>	<u>✓</u>	yes	<u>no</u>
<u>Rachael Ramsier</u>	<u>✓</u>	yes	<u>no</u>
<u>Angie Smith</u>	<u>✓</u>	yes	<u>no</u>

Adopted the 23rd day of February 2026

Nicole A. Peters
Clerk of the Board of Education of the
Norwayne Local School District
District, Wayne, County, Ohio.

- E. Approve the February revision of the FY26 Forecast.
- F. Approve the Amended Appropriations and Amended Certificate of Estimated Resources for FY26.

VOTE: Yes: Ingold, Graham, Ramsier, Smith, Gasser.

PRESIDENT'S BUSINESS – Doug Ingold

- A. Announcements/Correspondence/Introductions/Recognition
 - On Friday, January 16th, during halftime of the Varsity Boys' Basketball game, two Distinguished Services Awards were presented to Mr. Earl Rupp and Mr. Winston Wyckoff, III, for their many years of dedicated service and leadership to our school district.
 - The 8th Grade Washington, DC Dinner and Basketball Event is scheduled for Friday, March 13, 2026. Dinner will be from 4:30-7:30 p.m. For further information, please see the Norwayne Middle School web page.
 - Norwayne Elementary had its annual Daddy-Daughter Dance on Sunday, February 15th at the elementary.
 - Our elementary school will be having its annual Spring Fling on Friday, March 20, 2026.

5. The Scholastic Book Fair is coming to both the elementary and middle school! The middle school will host it on February 9 – 12 during the school day in the NMS Lobby, with family shopping hours on Monday, February 9th, from 5 – 7 p.m. It will then travel to the elementary on March 2 – 6 during the school day, with family shopping hours on Tuesday, March 2nd, from 4 – 7 p.m. What a great opportunity to supply our children with books that they will enjoy!
6. Norwayne Players Present *Bye Bye Birdie* on Friday, March 6, and Saturday, March 7 at 7:00 p.m., as well as Sunday, March 8 at 2:00 p.m. Tickets are available online through our website or in the high school office during office hours.
7. Congratulations to the cast of “Bus Stop” for their “Excellent” rating at the Wayne County Play Festival that took place on February 3rd. Also, congratulations to Senior Roslyn Boden on receiving the All-County Cast Award. Well done to everyone involved. Thank you for representing our school so well!
8. The Norwayne JustWrite Team received 1st Place out at the Cloverleaf Regional Tournament on January 17th as they competed against teams from across northeast Ohio!!! The following students took home the following placement awards at the tournament: Noelle Wingate (14th), Kate Mazzaresse (7th), and Grace Conrow (2nd). All of the placers and most of the team qualified for the State Competition, which will take place at Bluffton University on Monday, May 18, 2026. Great Job and Best of Luck at State!!
9. The 2026 Tri-County High School Honor Bands Concert was supposed to take place on Sunday, January 25th at Ashland University, but was cancelled due to the weather. Norwayne had 8 students who were chosen to perform this year: Gwen Armstrong, Dillon Cutlip, Chloe Graves, Emma Neuhauser, Elizabeth Smith, Abby Wiles, and Levi Zollinger.
10. With the mention of our music department, Kent State University had its Annual Honors Band Concert on Saturday, January 10th. Norwayne had five students who participated: Liam Harte, Avery Marmet, Liz Neal, Emma Neuhauser, and Elizabeth Smith.
11. Congratulations to the 2025-2026 Norwayne Middle School Wrestling Team in winning the WCAL Championship!!! After winning the league championship last year for the first time in quite some time, Coach Nate Berry and the wrestlers did it all over again!!
12. Speaking of Congratulations, we would like to give a shout-out to our 7th-grade girls' basketball team, who brought home the gold, winning the WCAL Championship against Chippewa!!
13. We would like to recognize our Valorant Esports team, who has made it to the Northeast Regional Championship!! These athletes will represent our school in postseason competition against top teams across the region, with the opportunity to advance to the OHSAA Esports Ohio State Championship!! Team members are Travis Anderson, Danny Gill, Jadon Weyrauch, Corbin Bedlion, Mason Steiner, and Colton Csapo.

14. Recently, our Academic Challenge team took on Riverside and Sandy Valley and brought home the win! The team consists of Dillon Cutlip, Wyatt Bowman, Adon Lay, and Norwayne High School Coach Michelle Stoller.
15. Norwayne is excited to announce that we have started a wheelchair basketball team! This team will give students with physical disabilities an opportunity to play. The team will include students in grades 6 – 12. We currently have 10 athletes participating. Next year, Norwayne will join the other 13 teams in the league. A special “Thank You” to Adaptive Sports of Ohio for supplying our team with wheelchairs and other necessary equipment.
16. We would like to recognize our Athletic Director, Ben Kobus, for being selected and awarded the Tim Flannery Horizon Award. This prestigious award is presented to an active Athletic Administrator who shows professionalism and involvement in the profession and who makes a difference in their school district and league. That is a perfect definition of Mr. Kobus. We appreciate and congratulate him on this deserving award!
17. We have said it before, and we will say it again, there is no better time than now to be a Bobcat!! We are very proud of all of our students and all of their accomplishments!

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

2026-19 Gasser moved and Ramsier seconded the motion to approve the items in this Section.

- A. Buildings & Grounds Committee – Chairperson, Kirk Gasser
 1. Maintenance and repair projects are continually under review and recommendations (except for emergency repair situations) will be brought to the Board after bids and price quotes are received.
- B. Communications & One Needs Assessment (ONA) Committee – Chairperson, Rachael Ramsier
 1. The third quarter of the 2025-26 school year ends on Friday, March 20, 2026.
 2. Kindergarten Registration for the 2026/2027 School Year is scheduled for Monday, May 11th, and Tuesday, May 12th at the Norwayne Community Center. Families that have a child who will be 5 years old by August 1, 2026, can call the elementary at 330-435-6383 beginning March 1st to secure a screening appointment and information regarding enrollment through Final Forms.
- C. Transportation & Safety Committee – Chairperson, Angie Smith
 1. The Transportation Department is observing **Love the Bus Month** in February to recognize the essential role of school transportation and the dedicated staff who ensure students arrive at school safely each day. This observance highlights the connection between safe transportation and educational access and allows the community to show appreciation for our transportation team.
 2. Ohio Governor Mike DeWine and the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce Director Stephen D. Dackin announced the award of \$10 million in

Ohio School Bus Safety Grants to 371 schools, districts, and county board of developmental disabilities statewide. Norwayne was one of those 371 schools being the recipient of \$50,187.00. These monies will help ensure safer travel for our students through safety upgrades to existing buses and the addition of advanced safety features on new buses.

3. Fleet & Maintenance Report: Bus Inspections were on February 18th for 10 buses. Isaac has been doing great, maintaining the fleet without much outside help. Drivers have been using the new bus garage for bus washing and enjoying washing in the heated barn, especially during this very cold winter.
4. We are pricing a new school bus purchase.

D. Policy Committee – Chairperson, Eric Graham

(Copies of all policy proposals are available for public review and/or input per Board Policy BFC.)

Policies on Second Reading/Adoption:

EBDE Procurement and Administration of Overdose Reversal Drugs DLC
 Expenses Reimbursements
 DLC-R Expenses Reimbursements

Policy on First Reading/Review: None at this time.

E. Audit/Finance/Technology Committee – Chairperson, Doug Ingold

1. The ACT testing of 11th-grade students will take place on Tuesday, February 24, 2026.
2. Vape sensors were recently updated in the high school.

F. Superintendent's Report – Kevin Leatherman

1. February 1st enrollment by building:

Elementary School	529 (+37 Preschoolers)
Middle School	313
High School	365
Career Center	<u>37</u>
Total	1,281

2. Approve Norwayne Local School District School Fees and Lunchroom Fees for the 2026-2027 School Year.
3. Other Reports, Information, or Items of Business:
 - a. Calendar choice for 2026-2027

Vote: Yes: Graham, Ramsier, Smith, Gasser, Ingold.

SUPERINTENDENT'S AGENDA – NEW BUSINESS – Superintendent Kevin Leatherman

2026-20 Graham moved and Smith seconded the motion to approve the superintendent’s agenda:

A. Personnel Matters –

Professional Staff

Breanna Robinson - Approve request for 6 weeks paid Maternity Leave as well as 2 weeks of unpaid FMLA.

Support Staff

Kim Suppes - Accept Letter of Resignation for Retirement effective June 13, 2026.

Supplemental Staff Contracts

Track

Middle School

Rodney Beckett – Throwing Coach

B. Professional and/or support staff professional leave requests (according to Board Policy GCBD):

<u>Employee</u>	<u>Conference</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Reg. Fee</u>
Jacob Morgan	OATCCC	1/30/26	\$90.00
Brian Miller	OETC	2/12/26	\$160.44

C. Reports from last month’s conference.

D. Adopt the resolutions for two Arts Education Programs for the month of March. Music in Our Schools Month’s theme is **“United Through Music”**. It is sponsored by the Ohio Music Education Association. The Ohio Art Education Association is sponsoring Youth Art Month with the theme of **“The World Needs Art”**.

E. Approve CCP Memorandum Of Understanding with the following Schools for the 2026-2027 School Year: The University of Akron and Stark State College.

F. Adopt the Resolution and approve 2026-2027 Membership in the Ohio High School Athletic Association.

VOTE: Yes: Ramsier, Smith, Gasser, Ingold, Graham.

ADJOURNMENT

The March Regular Meeting of the Norwayne Local Board of Education is scheduled to meet in the Norwayne High School Library on Monday evening March 23, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. Hearing of the Public 6:00 p.m.

2026-21 Graham moved and Gasser seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 PM.

VOTE: Yes: Smith, Gasser, Ingold, Graham, Ramsier.

Board President

Treasurer