

**VAN WERT CITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, July 22, 2026 – 5:00 p.m.
First Federal Lecture Hall - Niswonger Performing Arts Center
10700 State Route 118 South, Van Wert, OH 45891**

MINUTES

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call - **Time in: 5:00 p.m. Board Members Present - Anthony Adams, Greg Blackmore, Julie Burenga, Debby Compton. Others Present – Scott Truxell, Sam Shriver, Mark Bagley, Troy Bowersock, Bob Priest, Todd Keller, Haley Michaud, Chuck Rollins, Darla Dunlap, Noah Carter, Scott White.**
- II. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America – **Recited by attendees in unison**
- III. Vision / Mission – **Recited by Debby Compton**

Our Vision

In partnership with our community, Van Wert City Schools will ensure that all students develop the knowledge, skills, and attributes they need to thrive in post-secondary education, careers and civic life.

Our Mission

Van Wert City Schools will continue to be a source of Cougar Pride while providing each student a quality education through innovative instructional methods and technology.

26.07.049

- IV. Appointment of Scott White, Board of Education member, effective July 22, 2026, as follows:

Whereas a vacancy has been caused on the Board of Education by the resignation of Thaison Leaser due to non-residence; and

Whereas this Board of Education has the legal authority to fill a vacancy for the unexpired term thereof;

Now, therefore, be it resolved by a majority vote of all remaining Board of Education members of the Van Wert City School District that Scott White be and hereby is appointed to serve as a member of the Board of Education of this school district for the unexpired term ending on December 31, 2027.

Motion was made by Debby Compton and seconded by Greg Blackmore to appoint Scott White, Board of Education member, effective July 22, 2026, for the unexpired term ending on December 31, 2026. Vote: Anthony Adams, yes; Julie Burenga, yes Greg Blackmore, yes; Debby Compton, yes. Motion carried 4-0.

- V. Oath of Office administered by Treasurer, Troy Bowersock to appointed Board member, Scott White

VI. Public Participation - **None**

In order for the Board to fulfill its obligation to complete the planned agenda in an effective and efficient fashion, a maximum of thirty (30) minutes of public participation will be permitted at each meeting.

Each person addressing the Board will give his/her name and address. If several people wish to speak, each person will be allotted three (3) minutes until the total time of thirty (30) minutes is used. During the period, no person may speak twice until all who desire to speak have had the opportunity to do so. Persons desiring more time should follow the procedure of the Board to be placed on the regular agenda. The period of public participation may be extended by a vote of the majority of the Board.

26.07.050

VII. Set Agenda

Motion was made by Greg Blackmore and seconded by Julie Burenga to accept the July 22, 2026 Regular Meeting agenda as presented. Vote: Anthony Adams, yes; Julie Burenga, yes; Greg Blackmore, yes; Debby Compton, yes; Scott White, yes. Motion carried 5-0.

VIII. Educational Impact Presentation

A. Noah Carter – Indiana Air National Guard “call to duty” experience / Flag Presentation

IX. Treasurer’s Section

Business and Records - *Mr. Bowersock shared with the Board of Education the June financial statements, checks issued, summary of cash balances by fund, and monthly revenue and expenditure summary. Mr. Bowersock also reviewed with the Board of Education fiscal year 2026 year-end report information, fiscal year 2027 beginning of year preparations, and the Eggerss Stadium project budget.*

X. Assistant Superintendent’s Section - *Mr. Priest provided an update on maintenance projects that are underway this summer throughout the district including parking lot maintenance and masonry repairs/restoration. He also shared the recommendation from John Marquez, Food Services Director, to increase school lunch prices for the 2026-2027 school year. Lastly, Priest reviewed custodian/maintenance and transportation staffing for the 2026-2027 school year, and he highlighted the new bus routing and tracking software program, Bus Right, that will be implemented for the 2026-2027 school year.*

XI. Superintendent’s Section - *Mr. Bagley welcomed Scott White, newly appointed Board Member, to Van Wert City Schools, and he also provided an update on beginning of the school year preparations, on summer activities taking place throughout the district, and on staffing for the 2026-2027 school year. Bagley also reviewed Phase IV of the Eggerss Stadium restoration project and closed his report with a legislative update.*

XII. Board Member Section/Reports from Board Representatives (discussion only)

A. Vantage Board Report - *Discussed student enrollment information for the 2026-27 school year and provided an update on the Vantage Academy of Medical Careers renovation project.*

B. VWAPAF Report - *Reviewed 2026-2027 programming/schedule of events and ongoing financial planning efforts underway to address declining attendance and the resulting financial implications.*

- C. VWASIG - *Reviewed monthly financial information*
- D. Athletic Council - *No report*
- E. Safety Team - *Discussed the recent district Safety Team meeting and highlighted planning that is underway to “color code” maps in Navigate 360, the school safety and emergency management system.*

26.07.051

XIII. Consent Resolutions

Motion was made by Julie Burenga and seconded by Greg Blackmore to approve the consent items “A through R” as presented. Vote: Anthony Adams, yes; Julie Burenga, absent; Greg Blackmore, yes; Debby Compton, yes; Scott White, yes. Motion carried 5-0.

- A. Accept the resignation of Emily Vondran from her position as kindergarten teacher, effective at the end of the 2025-2026 contract year as presented.
- B. Accept the resignation of Molly Baltzell from her position as elementary school intervention specialist, effective at the end of the 2025-2026 contract year as presented.
- C. Accept the resignation of Taylor Semer from her position as early childhood center paraprofessional, effective at the end of the 2025-2026 contract year as presented.
- D. Accept the resignation, due to retirement, of Diana Morrow from her position as social worker, effective October 2, 2026, as presented.
- E. Approve Robin Everett as a kindergarten teacher, pending all Board policies pertaining to Employment are met, effective the 2026-2027 contract year as presented.
- F. Approve Aliviah Bates as an early childhood center paraprofessional, pending all Board policies pertaining to employment are met, effective the 2026-2027 contract year as presented.
- G. Approve Mark Breece, elementary school custodial / maintenance worker, as head elementary school custodian, effective Monday, July 27, 2026, as presented.
- H. Approve Charles Berry as a custodial / maintenance worker, pending all Board policies pertaining to employment are met, effective August 10, 2026, as presented.
- I. Approve an overnight trip/stay as presented:
 - 1. High School Band Camp - 72 students and 12 adults to Huntington University, Huntington, IN; July 27-31, 2026, as presented.
- J. Approve an Interagency Agreement and Memorandum of Understanding between Council of Rural Services/Head Start, Crestview Local Schools, Delphos City Schools, Parkway Local Schools, Spencerville Local Schools, Van Wert City Schools, Van Wert County Board of Developmental Disabilities/Early Intervention, Western Buckeye Educational Service Center/Thomas Edison Preschool, and Lincolnview Local Schools for the 2026-2027 program year as presented.
- K. Approve Early Childhood/Elementary/Middle School/High School/School at the Goedde cafeteria prices for 2026-2027 school-year as presented.
- L. Approve the Student Activity Budgets for fiscal year 2027 as presented.
- M. Approve the minutes from the regular Board meeting held on June 24, 2026.
- N. Approve the minutes from the special Board meeting held on July 14, 2026.
- O. Approve the minutes from the special Board meeting held on July 15, 2026.
- P. Approve the monthly financial reports as presented by the Treasurer.
- Q. Approve the transfer of \$35,662.00 (10% of June 30, 2026 Athletic Department cash balance) from Fund 300-9210 to Fund 070-9210 (Athletic Department Capital Projects Fund).
- R. Acknowledge the following charitable groups, entities, and individuals for their generous donations to the Van Wert City Schools:
 - 1. United Way of Van Wert County - \$2,500.00 to Van Wert School at the Goedde
 - 2. United Way of Van Wert County - \$3,750.00 to Family and Children First

3. Van Wert City Schools Elementary PTO - \$1,515.84 to Van Wert Early Childhood Center Activity Fund
4. Van Wert City Schools Elementary PTO - \$1,515.84 to Van Wert Elementary School Activity Fund
5. Vancrest Health Care Center - \$500.00 to Cross Country Activity Fund
6. Aaron Mechling - \$2,000.00 to Boys Basketball Activity Fund
7. Randy Agler - \$1,000.00 to Boys Basketball Activity Fund
8. Andrew & Nichole Gearhart - \$500.00 to Boys Basketball Activity Fund
9. Rocky Top - \$250.00 to Boys Basketball Activity Fund
10. Foster Family Chiropractic LLC - \$250.00 to Boys Basketball Activity Fund
11. Joseph Gardner - \$100.00 to Boys Basketball Activity Fund
12. James & Cathy Sowers - \$500.00 to Eggerss Stadium Paver Tribute
13. Steven & Fran White - \$1,000.00 to Eggerss Stadium Paver Tribute
14. Dennis & Sharon Cummings - \$500.00 to Eggerss Stadium Paver Tribute
15. Eric & Melody McCracken - \$1,000.00 to Eggerss Stadium Paver Tribute
16. Troy & Leah Treece - \$1,500.00 to Eggerss Stadium Paver Tribute
17. Kirk & Patricia Adams - \$250.00 to Eggerss Stadium Paver Tribute
18. Lynda Purmort - \$250.00 to Eggerss Stadium Paver Tribute
19. John & Janet White - \$25,000.00 to Eggerss Stadium Project - Legacy Donation

XIV. Acknowledge notification from the City of Van Wert of a residential CRA application as presented:

A. Bowman Homes LLC, 390 W. Maple Ave., Van Wert

26.07.052

XV. Adjournment

Motion was made by Greg Blackmore and seconded by Debby Compton to adjourn the Meeting at 5:54 p.m. Vote: Ayes - 5; Nays – 0

Next Meeting Date

The next scheduled regular Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 26, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. The meeting will be in the First Federal Lecture Hall at the Niswonger Performing Arts Center.

Board President

Fiscal Officer