ACCESS Council

Area Cooperative Computerized Educational Service System

Regular Assembly Meeting

9:00 a.m. Friday, November 13, 2026

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

DRAFT to be approved at Spring 2027 meeting

A regular meeting of the Assembly of the ACCESS Council of Governments was held at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, November 13, 2026.

Dr. Mook called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m. The following members were present by roll call. A quorum was reached.

Austintown Local Schools –
Beaver Local Schools – Stacy Williams
Boardman Local Schools – A.J. Ginnetti III, Chris Rhodes
Campbell City Schools – Mathew Bowen
Canfield Local Schools – Ben Marko
Columbiana County Career & Technical Center – Maia Amato, Ryan Rotuna
Columbiana County ESC – Marie Williams
Columbiana Exempted Village – Dr. Don Mook, Kathy Davies
Crestview Local Schools – Charlene Mercure
ESC of Eastern Ohio – Dr. Traci Hostetler, Andrew Velchek, Cole Ackerman
Jackson Milton Schools – Sean Sich
Leetonia Local Schools – Jennifer Coldsnow
Lowellville Schools – Christine Sawicki
Poland Local Schools – Andy Tommelleo
Sebring Local Schools – April Habeger, Danton Blackburn
South Range Local Schools – Dean Pagnotta
Springfield Local Schools – Rachael Smith
Struthers City Schools – Pete Pirone, Ryan Cene
United Local Schools – Melissa Baker
Wellsville Local Schools – Kyle Exline
West Branch – Matt Manley, Lucas Cooper
Western Reserve Schools – Stephanie Appel
Youngstown City Schools –

Also attending:

Southern Local Schools – Greg Sabbato
Lisbon Local Schools – Jennifer Coldsnow
Utica Shale Academy –
Kevin Homistek, Executive Director, ACCESS
Brian Stidham, Treasurer, ACCESS

Aaron Merlino, Director of Technology, ACCESS
Staff Members, ACCESS

Dr. Don Mook welcomed the assembly and started the meeting at 9:07 am.

Motion 26-01 - Approve Agenda
Ms. R. Smith moved and Mr. P. 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
Dr. T. Hostetler moved and Mr. A. Tommelleo seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the April 2026 Regular Assembly Meeting. Approved by unanimous voice vote. Motion carried. Dr. Mook declared the motion approved.

Motion 26-03 - Financial Report
Mr. A. Ginnetti moved and Ms. C. Mercure seconded a motion to approve the financial report. Mr. Stidham reviewed the October 2026 Financial Report. Mr. Stidham reviewed all funds and unique expenditures for FY2027. He also provided an overview of projections for FY2028.

FY2026 Projections All Funds

Beginning Balance	$4,059,779.55
Revenues	$4,339,077.04
Expenses	$4,246,492.58
Projected Ending Balance	$4,152,364.02
Less Fiber Fund	$ 901,150.83
Unreserved Ending Balance	$3,251,213.19

Key Items

- Forecast projects no changes to the current fee structure, but some variables exist that may have an impact on our finances:
  - Erate Funding
  - Actual costs for upcoming projects/purchases
  - 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.

Motion 25-04 – Approve Menu of Services Fees for FY28
Ms. M. Baker moved and Ms. C. Mercure seconded a motion to approve the FY28 Menu of Services and Fees. Approved by unanimous voice vote. Motion carried. Dr. Mook declared the motion approved.

Administrative Updates
Mr. Homistek provided an update on the ACCESS Site Review that was held in October, 2026.
Mr. Homistek provided an update on the ACCESS fiber overlash project that was recently completed.
Mr. Homistek provided an update on the ACCCESS Customer Service survey results.

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

- School Year Initialization for 2027-2028
- Civil Rights Reporting for 2025-2026 school year data runs from 12/7/26-3/5/27
- Created Attendance reports in StudentInformation > Analytics Hub (chronic absenteeism)
- Participating in the ODEW EMIS Focus Group monthly
- Trainings and worksessions
- FY26 Graduation Cohort overrides completed by ODEW
- HB455 and Grade Level 23 – impacts FY26 Graduation data on FY27 LRC
- Federal Child Count closes 12/18/26
- Exiting Student Follow-up – initial window closes 1/5/27
- Staff Vacancy record
- Teacher Licensure: impacts ESSA and LRC
- ODEW Teacher Licensure Course Status Search Tool

Network & Security Services
Mr. Merlino shared information regarding the following.

- Escalating Phishing Threat
    - AI Sophistication is exponentially multiplying the phishing threat
    - Overview of sample phishing messages being received
    - Online tools available to everyone making phishing easier to do
    - Steps to combat phishing
- Managed Methods upcoming renewal
    - Managed Methods refresher
- Abnormal anti-phishing email tool overview and discussion. Possible consortium purchase for Spring 2027 Assembly approval
- HB96 reporting requirements

Motion 26-05 - Adjournment
Mr. P. Pirone moved and Ms. R. Smith seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Dr. Mook declared the meeting adjourned at 10:07 am

The foregoing is a correct record of the proceedings of the ACCESS Assembly Meeting held on November 13, 2026.

_____	_____
Chairman	Date
_____	_____
Secretary	Date

DRAFT