



# MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
NORTHWEST LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
**Monday, March 24, 2025 (6:30 PM)**

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## 1.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

### 1.1 Pledge of Allegiance

Request all to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

## 2.0 Roll Call

### 2.1 Call of the Roll

#### BOARD MEMBERS

Nancy Slattery  
Chris Heather  
Jim Detzel  
Mark Gilbert  
Nicole Taulbee

Number in Attendance: 14 Guests

## 3.0 MISSION STATEMENT

### 3.1 Mission Statement

The Board President read the Mission Statement:

*The Northwest Local School District will create a responsive learning community where all students are valued, challenged, and guided along a pathway to success.*

## 4.0 APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

### 4.1 Motion to Adopt Agenda

The Board President recommended to adopt the agenda as presented.

#### ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Chris Heather**) Moved, Member (**Jim Detzel**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Board President recommends to adopt the agenda as presented'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **5** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried 5 - 0**

Nancy Slattery	Yes
Chris Heather	Yes
Jim Detzel	Yes
Mark Gilbert	Yes
Nicole Taulbee	Yes

## 5.0 SPECIAL PRESENTATION

### 5.1 Student Presentation - Butler Tech Criminal Justice

Criminal Justice instructors Tim Mintkenbaugh and Tricia Pasquel along with CHS senior Saniya Whaley and CHS Junior Syerra Bishop spoke about the Butler Tech Criminal Justice program. Both students really enjoy the closeness and family atmosphere of the program. It provides a great opportunity for students interested in entering law enforcement or the military after graduation. Every Wednesday the group does physical training. Throughout the year they do various labs and activities including a blood spatter lab, CPR certification, mock contraband searches and evidence processing. Students also have the opportunity to take field trips to places like the Hamilton County jail, sheriff's office, and coroner's lab. Some members of the program also participate in SkillsUSA competitions.

#### Discussion:

- **Ms. Slattery:** Do you get to do ride-alongs with local police departments?

**Ms. Bishop:** It's something I've asked Commander Pasquel about. We're hoping that's something we can get set up for next year.

- **Ms. Slattery:** Did you get to observe an autopsy at the coroner's office?

**Ms. Bishop:** No, because we're not of age but it was still interesting to see what we did.

- **Mrs. Taulbee:** What are the jobs that people come out of the program with?

**Ms. Bishop:** Most people go to the military or they go to a criminal justice program in college or the police academy.

### 5.2 Tour of the Butler Tech Bioscience Center

Principal Abbie Cook spoke briefly about the programs offered at the Butler Tech Bioscience Center. They currently offer programs in biomedical science, dental science, exercise science and healthcare science. They're in the process of expanding the facility to accommodate the addition of sophomores to the healthcare science program.

Several Butler Tech student ambassadors spoke about their experiences in the Butler Tech programs. They all really appreciate the opportunities that the programs afford them to explore possible career choices and get real world, hand-on experience. The students then led members of the Board of Education on a tour of the facility.

## **6.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES**

### **A) Student Achievement Liaison Report**

#### **6.1 Student Achievement Liaison Report by Board Representative**

##### Colerain High School

- Senior Maayaa (Enyonam) Nevis was selected as the Cincinnati Enquirer “Student of the Week” for the week of March 10th. Maayaa is one of the top students in her grade and at the school. So far this year she has earned Business Student of the Year, 1st place at DECA regionals for marketing communications, 2nd place at BPA regionals for interview skills and legal office procedures, and a superior rating at Solo and Ensemble. After school, she is involved in National Honors Society, Class Officers, Tennis, Swim, and Orchestra. In addition to her academic excellence and dedication to extracurriculars, she volunteers at the Cincinnati Museum Center and the Hamilton County Youth Court, and has interned at Young Entrepreneurs of Color and Dinsmore and Shohl.
- The Wind Symphony scored all 1’s (Superior Rating) in Class A at the recent Ohio Music Educator Association (OMEA) competition. Their next stop is the state competition.
- The Chamber Singers and Bass Choir music groups scored a 1 (Superior Rating) at OMEA and will also be headed to the State competition.
- The Treble Choir students earned a score of 2 (Excellent Rating) at the OMEA competition.
- Congratulations to Abrianna Bouldin for placing 8th at the Indoor State Track Meet this past weekend.

##### Pleasant Run Middle School

- Estrella Velasquez Miranda from Team Succeed was recognized. She asks insightful questions and does not settle for "average" grades. She is determined to complete her work with excellence and expects her teachers to help ensure she fully understands the material. She is a supportive and considerate classmate and willing to help others by explaining concepts they may not fully grasp. She has earned a 3.83 GPA after the first two quarters.

### White Oak Middle School

- Congratulations to the students who participated in the OMEA District 14 Honor Choir. These students were selected as among the 140 best choir students in Hamilton and Clermont counties. The following White Oak students participated in this year's Honor Choir: Sophia Bollmer, Lila Gehring, Kaylie Hadley, Chloe Howard, Erin Johnson, Sophia Linz, Molly Ritzi, Breanna Schaffer, Grant Schoenberger.

### Struble Elementary

- Mrs. Yeager's first grade students earned extra recess for displaying positive behavior in the cafeteria during the month of February. They enjoyed the extra time to play with their friends in the beautiful, sunny weather.

### Taylor Elementary

- Students are recognized monthly for their "Nacho Ordinary Work." Students receiving this award are treated to nachos at lunch on the last Friday of each month. Each grade had their own academic skill of the month.

## **B) Butler Tech Update**

### **6.2 Butler Technology Update by Board Representative**

Jim Detzel gave the Butler Technology update as follows:

William Sprankles, incoming Butler Tech Superintendent was present and introduced himself to the Board.

## **C) Legislative Update**

### **6.3 Legislative Update by Board Representative**

Mark Gilbert gave the legislative update as follows:

President Trump recently signed an executive order dismantling the federal Department of Education. The funds would be transferred to the states to distribute. We anticipate an update on state funding during the first week of April.

## **7.0 PUBLIC PRESENTATION**

### **A) Report from Any Employee Organization**

#### **7.1 Report from Any Employee Organization**

The Board President asked if there was a representative from any employee organization who wished to speak.

No one was present to speak.

### **B) Community Communications**

#### **7.2 Community Comments**

The Board President acknowledged audience members who completed a “Request to Address the Board” card and read the NWLSD Board Policy, Public Participation at Board Meetings (169.1), which can be viewed through the following link:

<http://go.boarddocs.com/oh/nwlsdhamiltonoh/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CJML8T555E8f>

*The Northwest Board of Education welcomes the opportunity to listen to Northwest Local School District resident’s comments, suggestions, and concerns on educational issues. It is important to remember that the Board conducts the meetings in public, but the meetings are not public forums. The intent of the meetings is to allow the Board to complete needed business. Per Board Policy (169.1), each submission will be given three (3) minutes to speak on agenda items of any topic during “Community Comments.” However, no more than fifteen (15) minutes will be devoted to public participation unless the Board votes unanimously to continue the discussion. No response to this submission will occur from any Board member or district administration during this time. Once the fifteen (15) minutes’ time frame is over, appropriate follow up by the district administration may occur at a later time if warranted.*

No one was present to speak.

## **8.0 APPROVAL OF SUPERINTENDENT’S CONSENT ITEMS**

### **8.1 Adoption of Superintendent’s Consent Items**

The Superintendent recommended the Board of Education approve the adoption of the superintendent's consent items as listed.

**ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**Chris Heather**) Moved, Member (**Mark Gilbert**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Superintendent recommends the Board of Education approve the adoption of Superintendent's consent items as listed'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **5** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried 5 - 0**

Nancy Slattery	Yes
Chris Heather	Yes
Jim Detzel	Yes
Mark Gilbert	Yes
Nicole Taulbee	Yes

**A) Personnel**

**8.2 Superintendent Consent Items**

Acceptance of Classified Resignations and Retirements

Anderson, Tina - Transportation - Casual Sub Bus Driver Effective: 8/1/2024	(Personal)
August, Sabrina - NWHS - Office Personnel 4 Effective: 3/21/2025	(Personal)
Croslin, Susan - TE - Intervention Assistant Effective: 8/1/2025	(Personal)
Gilliam, Antwan - TRANSP - Driver in Training Effective: 10/2/2024	(Personal)
Goldick, Robyn - SE - Title I Assistant Effective: 5/22/2025	(Retirement)
Hamilton, Tammy - PRE - Cafe Manager Effective: 4/10/2025	(Personal)
Murphy, Laurie - MHE - Office Personnel 5 Effective: 6/30/2025	(Retirement)
Pfeiffer, Jennifer - NWHS - Cafe Assistant Effective: 7/31/2025	(Personal)
Rod, Daniel - CHS - ED Assistant Effective: 3/19/2025	(Personal)

Acceptance of Certified Resignations and Retirements

Edwards, Cereys - TE - 2nd Grade  
Effective: 8/1/2025 (Relocating)

Guarnieri, Kelli - WOMS - Intervention Specialist  
Effective: 8/1/2025 (Relocating)

Schwetschenau, Ellen - MHE - Intervention Specialist  
Effective: 6/1/2025 (Retirement)

Shuholm, Olivia - SE - Intervention Specialist  
Effective: 6/30/2025 (Revised Date)

Stroube, Maggie - CHS - Science (half-time)  
Effective: 5/31/2025 (Personal)

Thompson, Shannon - CHS - Science (half-time)  
Effective: 6/30/2025 (Personal)

Acceptance of Extra Duty Resignations

Arnold, Kevin - CHS - 9th Grade Boys Basketball Coach, Step 6  
Effective: 6/30/2025

Berry, Justin - CHS - Assistant Varsity Football Coach (½), Step 5  
Effective: 6/30/2025

Courtney, Shelby - CHS - Assistant Varsity Cross Country Coach, Step 3  
Effective: 6/30/2025

Gray, Gary - CHS - Assistant Varsity Girls Basketball Coach (½), Step 5  
Effective: 6/30/2025

Jenkins, Melanie - NWHS - Assistant Varsity Volleyball Coach, Step 1  
Effective: 6/30/2025

Johnson, Koury - NWHS - Assistant Varsity Football Coach, Step 5  
Effective: 6/30/2025

Myers, Michelle - MHE - KISR! Tutor, Step 2  
Effective: 7/1/2024

Approval of Sub Van Driver at \$18.39 per hour - Effective 3/4/2025

Jones, Tonya

Approval of Classified Changes of Status

Greene, Myron - from Bus Driver, Step 1 to Casual Substitute Bus Driver, Step 1 at Transportation.  
Effective: 3/10/2025

Hearston, Diana - from Driver in Training and Sub Bus Assistant, Step 1 (\$16.22) to Guaranteed Sub Bus Assistant, Step 1 (\$21.63) at Transportation.  
Effective: 3/10/2025 (District Needs)

Approval of Initial Classified Appointment

**Sparks, Heidi**  
Salary: Custodian II, Step 5  
Effective: 3/17/2025

Approval of Classified Leaves of Absence

Bostic, Charles - CSO - Maintenance Supervisor  
Effective: 1/27/2025 (Intermittent)

Henry, Vicki - TRANSP - Bus Driver  
Effective: 3/19/2025 (Intermittent)

Singely, Kimberly - PRMS - MD Assistant  
Effective: 2/3/2025 (Continuous)

Approval of Initial Certified Appointments

**O'Brien, Noah** (Replacement)  
Salary: Teacher, Bachelor's with 150 semester hours and 0 years of experience, Step 3  
Effective: 8/1/2025 Contingent upon issuance of a valid Ohio Teaching License

**Parker, Savannah** (Replacement)  
Salary: Teacher, Bachelor's with 150 semester hours and 0 years of experience, Step 3  
Effective: 8/1/2025 Contingent upon issuance of a valid Ohio Teaching License

Approval of Certified Leaves of Absence

Buelterman, Andrea - PRE - Reading Specialist  
Effective: 5/7/2025 (Continuous)

Cook, Sabrina - PRMS - Teacher  
Effective: 3/13/2025 (Intermittent)

Dubey, Kelli - CE - Reading Specialist  
Effective: 3/14/2025 (Continuous)

Kenney-Levin, Erin - CHS - Asst. Principal  
Effective: 4/1/2025 (Continuous)

Miller, Brian - CHS - Intervention Specialist  
Effective: 3/31/2025 (Continuous)

O'Connell, Christopher - SE - Teacher  
Effective: 3/11/2025 (Intermittent)

Wachter, Timothy - PRE - Teacher  
Effective: 4/1/2025 (Continuous)

Yelton, Jessica - SE - Teacher  
Effective: 3/28/2025 (Continuous)

Approval of Extra Pay for After School Tutoring at \$30.00 an hour - Effective 3/1/2025

Bernat, Mary

Approval of Home Instructor at \$30.00 an hour - Effective 3/1/2025

Geiger, Emily

Approval of Extra Duty Contracts for 2024-25 Effective 7/1/2024

**Pleasant Run Elementary School**

KISR! Tutor - Tiena Britton, Step 1

**Struble Elementary School**

KISR! Tutor - Kayla Holloway, Step 1 (additional contract)

Resolution (#2520) to Hire for Non-Licensed Coaches Effective 7/1/2024

WHEREAS, a vacancy exists in the positions of:

- 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Softball Coach - CHS
- Assistant Varsity Baseball Coach (½) - CHS
- Assistant Varsity Baseball Coach - NWHS
- Assistant Varsity Track Coach - NWHS

WHEREAS, the positions have been offered to the current employees of the Northwest Local School District who have a license issued under Section 3319.22 of the Ohio Revised Code and no such person whom the Board of Education considers to be qualified for the positions have applied

for and accepted the positions; and

WHEREAS, the positions have been advertised as available to any individual not employed by the Northwest Local School District who has a license issued under Section 3319.22 of the Ohio Revised Code, and no such person whom the Board of Education considers to be qualified for the positions have applied for and accepted the positions; and

WHEREAS,

Allen Jr., Derrick - NWHS - Assistant Varsity Baseball Coach, Step 5  
DeLeon, Michael - CHS - Assistant Varsity Baseball Coach (½), Step 5  
Henry, Madison - CHS - 9th Grade Softball Coach, Step 1  
Thompson, Elaina - NWHS - Assistant Varsity Track Coach, Step 4

who do not hold licenses issued pursuant to Section 3319.22 of the Ohio Revised Code, have applied for the positions, and the Board of Education has determined that they are qualified for the positions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that they be employed in the positions for the 2024-2025 school year in accordance with the pupil activity contract attached hereto and incorporated herein.

IT IS FOUND AND DETERMINED that all formal action of this Board concerning or related to the adoption of this Resolution was adopted in an open meeting of this Board, and all deliberations of this Board and any of its committees that resulted in such formal actions were adopted in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all applicable requirements of the Ohio Revised Code.

Approval of Volunteers for 2024-25

Allensworth, Kalayah - SE	Leazer, Tiffany - SE
Brand, Tacarra - SE	Mercurio, Misty - SE
Cheney, Alysha - SE	Parrish, Debra - SE
Collins, Kayla (Ranford) - SE	Potter, Tori - SE
Colson, Bethany - SE	Powell, Taylor - SE
Delmoral, Briana - SE	Prom, Ranny - SE
Dillingham, Bethanie - SE	Saunders, Brandee - SE
Gravitt, Jamie - SE	Schock, Jenny - SE
Hampton, Jacob - SE	Stansbury, Karen - CE / CMS
Hudgins, Derrell - SE	Strader, Antonio - SE
Kellogg, Ayesha - SE	Watkins, Janiesha - SE
Kistler, Kayla - SE	Wright, Sequoya - SE

Approval of Behavior Specialist Revised Job Description

Job description can be viewed as an attachment in ESB.

Approval of Behavior Specialist Revised Salary Schedule

Salary schedule can be viewed as an attachment in ESB.

**B) General Business**

**8.3 Vendor Contracts**

In compliance with ORC 3313.33; attached is a list of vendor contracts for Board approval.

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Length</u>	<u>Total</u>
Cincinnati United Soccer Club	Stadium and practice field rental agreement	3 years	\$102,000 (Paid to District)
SchoolLinks	College and Career Readiness Platform - Student licenses	2 years	1st yr - \$19,189.00 2nd yr - \$19,773.75
<i>Paid for Auxiliary or Federal Non-Public grant monies.</i>			
<i>Additional cost to the current fiscal year's July 1st budget.</i>			

**8.4 Donations to Northwest Local School District**

Below is a list of donations for Board approval.

Side by Side	Books donated to school library	Taylor Elementary	120 books worth - \$1,428.00
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**9.0 APPROVAL OF FISCAL CONSENT ITEMS**

**9.1 Adoption of Fiscal Consent Items**

The Treasurer recommended the Board of Education approve the adoption of fiscal consent items as listed.

**ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member **(Chris Heather)** Moved, Member **(Mark Gilbert)** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Treasurer recommends the Board of Education approve the adoption

of fiscal consent items as listed'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **5** Nay: **0**.  
The motion **Carried 5 - 0**

Nancy Slattery	Yes
Chris Heather	Yes
Jim Detzel	Yes
Mark Gilbert	Yes
Nicole Taulbee	Yes

### **9.2 Minutes - Regular Meeting - March 10, 2025**

The minutes may be viewed on the ESB online attachment with today's date.

### **9.3 Financial Reports of the Treasurer - February 2025**

In accordance with Section 3313.29 of the Revised Code of the State of Ohio, record needs to be made that the Treasurer submitted a financial statement of receipts, expenditures, balances and investments in the regular funds of the Board of Education for the period of the fiscal year 2025.

#### *Monthly Finance and Investment Report - February*

All Funds Balance - \$115,791,504  
General Fund Unreserved Balance - \$42,010,004  
*(received 1st half taxes)*

	FYTD Actual	Estimate	%
Revenues	\$91,597,572	\$112,740,387	82%
Expenditures	\$69,209,660	\$111,582,752	62%

Investment weighted average return – 4.15%

List of monthly bills - routine, as well as, Catastrophic Plan renovations, ThoughtExchange, CHS water/sewer line, storage containers, data cabling, OSBA membership, and auxiliary/grant fund payments.

### **9.4 FY25 Quarterly Appropriation Resolution**

**TEMPORARY APPROPRIATION RESOLUTION (#2521)**  
**Local Board of Education**  
**Rev.Code Sec. 5705.38**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the Northwest Local School District, Hamilton County, Ohio, that to provide for the current expenses and other expenditures of said Board of Education, during the fiscal year, ending June 30, 2025 the following sums be and the same are hereby set aside and appropriated for the several purposes for which expenditures are to be made and during said fiscal year, as follows:

<u>FUND TITLE</u>	<u>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</u>
001 GENERAL FUND	109,967,114.99
002 BOND RETIREMENT	3,921,110.30
003 PERMANENT IMPROVEMENT	13,569,755.81
004 BUILDING	22,288,229.00
006 FOOD SERVICES	5,870,061.47
007 SPECIAL TRUST	513,091.18
008 FOUNDATION	31,500.00
009 UNIFORM SCHOOL SUPPLIES	644,150.07
010 FACILITIES	34,312,295.89
018 PRINCIPAL	1 35,050.35
019 LOCAL GRANTS	39,300.00
024 EMPLOYEE INSURANCE SELF INSURED	200,000.00
027 WORKER COMPENSATION	590,684.20
034 FACILITIES	-
035 SEVERANCE	1,600,000.00
200 STUDENT MANAGED ACTIVITIES	199,200.00
300 EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES	1,311,932.02
401 AUXILIARY SERVICES	2,128,643.20
439 PUBLIC SCHOOL PRESCHOOL	669,488.88
451 DATA COMMUNICATIONS	19,000.00
461 VOCATIONAL EDUCATIONAL AWARENESS	6,000.00
467 STUDENT WELLNESS & SUCCESS	579,073.07
499 MISC STATE GRANTS	141,957.83
507 SCHOOL EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND	516,362.54
516 IDEA/PARENT MENTOR	3,078,913.51
536 TITLE I SUPPLEMENTAL	7,670.03
551 TITLE III	120,305.73
572 TITLE I - DISADVANTAGE CHILD	3,629,601.97
584 TITLE IV	318,931.89
587 IDEA PRESCHOOL SPEC ED	50,183.63
590 TITLE II-A	502,329.83
599 MISC FEDERAL GRANTS	-
GRAND TOTAL ALL FUNDS:	\$206,961,937.39

## Discussion:

- **Mrs. Taulbee:** What is the process for when things go over budget?

**Mrs. Wells:** The budgets are set at the beginning of the year and they cannot enter anything that exceeds the budget. If something arises that is a necessary expense and there is no budget remaining, then we would have to look district-wide at all the budgets that are remaining to see if there is a possibility to move money in order to stay within our general fund 3% cap that we have in our 5-year forecast.

- **Mrs. Taulbee:** How do you weigh where the money would come from to cover different things?

**Mrs. Wells:** I would bring up suggestions and work with the team to figure out what priorities are. I certify the funds, I don't spend the funds. I work with the whole team to determine what the priorities are and where things need to shift.

- **Mrs. Taulbee:** Is that something that frequently happens throughout the year?

**Mrs. Wells:** Over budget seldom, if ever happens. We stay within our budget.

- **Mr. Heather:** In regards to the 4.15% investment returns, where do you typically invest the money? What sort of bonds or CDs or stocks?

**Mrs. Wells:** We can't do stocks because the Ohio Revised Code determines what type of products we can invest in. Most of it is T-bills and notes. We also have commercial paper because that allows us to get a shorter term with higher interest. Right now the higher interest rates are shorter term but we ladder them. We do what we can short term but also invest in the longer term. They're laddered up to five years.

## 10.0 APPROVAL OF OTHER ITEMS

### 10.1 2025-26 AP Statistics and AP US History Textbook Adoptions

The Curriculum Department, in collaboration with the teachers and HS administrators, recommended the following instructional resources for adoption for the 2025-26 school year:

AP Statistics

Course #3405

The Practice of Statistics for the AP Course, 7th Edition

Bedford, Freeman & Worth (BFW)

2024

The resource was made available for parents and families to review on March 10, 2025.

AP US History  
Course #5409  
The American Pageant AP Edition, 18th Edition  
Cengage  
2024

The resource was made available for parents and families to review on March 10, 2025.

The Curriculum Department presented this for information at the March 10th meeting.

**ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member **(Mark Gilbert)** Moved, Member **(Jim Detzel)** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the 2025-26 AP Statistics and AP US History Textbook Adoptions as listed'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **5** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried 5 - 0**

Nancy Slattery	Yes
Chris Heather	Yes
Jim Detzel	Yes
Mark Gilbert	Yes
Nicole Taulbee	Yes

**10.2 2025-26 Middle School Science Resource Adoption**

The Curriculum Department, in collaboration with the teachers, instructional coaches and middle school administrators, recommended the following instructional resources for adoption for the 2025-26 school year for science in grades 6, 7 and 8.

Newsela Science  
Publisher: Newsela Inc.  
(c) 2024

Gizmos Interactive STEM Simulations and Virtual Labs  
Publisher: Explore Learning  
(c) 2025

These resources were made available for parents and families to review on March 10, 2025. The Curriculum Department presented this item for information at the March 10th meeting.

**ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**Chris Heather**) Moved, Member (**Jim Detzel**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the 2025-26 Middle School Science Resource Adoption as listed'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **5** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried 5 - 0**

Nancy Slattery	Yes
Chris Heather	Yes
Jim Detzel	Yes
Mark Gilbert	Yes
Nicole Taulbee	Yes

**10.3 2025-26 Elementary Math Textbook Adoption, Phase 2**

The Curriculum Department, in partnership with the elementary school teachers and administration, recommended adoption of Into Math for implementation in grades K and 1, beginning with the 2025-2026 school year. Into Math is currently already being used in grades 2-5.

Textbook: Into Math (Grades K and 1)  
Publisher: HMH  
Copyright: 2020

HMH's Into Math supports students as they develop their conceptual understanding and grow into procedurally fluent mathematicians. Lessons begin with the opportunity for students to express what they already know and challenge themselves with what might be coming next. Question prompts throughout lessons check understanding and motivate students to start conversations about mathematics using mathematical language. The progression of topics forms coherent learning arcs designed to build a foundation of conceptual understanding before teaching procedures. Opportunities for application are found throughout, and an emphasis is placed on connections between concepts and skills.

This item was presented for information at the March 10, 2025 meeting. Materials were made available for parents and families to preview at each of our elementary school buildings.

**ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**Mark Gilbert**) Moved, Member (**Nicole Taulbee**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the 2025-26 Elementary Math Textbook Adoption, Phase 2 as listed'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **5** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried 5 - 0**

Nancy Slattery	Yes
Chris Heather	Yes
Jim Detzel	Yes
Mark Gilbert	Yes
Nicole Taulbee	Yes

**10.4 School Year 2026/2027 Calendar**

The School Year 2026/2027 Calendar was presented for approval. It was presented for information at the March 10th meeting.

**Discussion:**

- **Mr. Heather:** Many years ago the break at Christmas time was renamed the holiday break and that didn't go over so well. Now it's called winter break. My personal feeling is that it's right at Christmas time and I know it's maybe getting into the minutia here, but I'm just wondering how the other board members feel about titling it what it really is. It's Christmas break instead of winter break. Winter actually hasn't even started at that point. Is there anybody who'd like to comment about that or is everybody happy just calling it winter break?

**Mr. Gilbert:** I'm fine with it being winter break. It doesn't matter, it's what everyone else wants to do.

**Mrs. Taulbee:** We have fall break, winter break and spring break. I don't look any further into it.

**Mr. Heather:** It was just a thought.

**ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**Mark Gilbert**) Moved, Member (**Nicole Taulbee**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the School Year 2026/27 Calendar as listed'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **5** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried 5 - 0**

Nancy Slattery	Yes
Chris Heather	Yes
Jim Detzel	Yes
Mark Gilbert	Yes
Nicole Taulbee	Yes

## 11.0 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AND OR DISCUSSION

### 11.1 2025-26 Textbook Adoptions - HS Chemistry and HS Physics

The Curriculum Department, in collaboration with the high school science teachers and building administrators, recommended the following textbooks for use in the identified science courses, beginning with the 2025-26 school year:

Courses: Advanced Chemistry #4301, Honors Chemistry #4302  
Textbook: Experience Chemistry  
Publisher: Savvas  
(c) 2021

Courses: Advanced Physics #4404, Honors Physics #4403  
Textbook: Experience Physics  
Publisher: Savvas  
(c) 2022

A parent review opportunity for these instructional materials was provided as required by board policy.

This item was presented for information only and will be brought back to the Board of Education for approval at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

### 11.2 Neola Board Policies Updates

The following 26 new, revised, or rescinded Neola Board Policies were presented for information, they will be presented for approval at the next regular board meeting.

po0131.1	po0171 RESCIND
po 1422.01 NEW	po2260.02
po2271	po2340
po2430.02	po2431
po2460	po5120
po5131 RESCIND	po5136.01

po5223	po5330
po5350	po5460
po5610	po5751
po57803.01 NEW	po6151
po6460	po7421 NEW
po7440.01	po8142
po8452	po8500

## 12.0 SUPERINTENDENT’S UPDATE

### 12.1 Superintendent's Update

Superintendent Darrell Yater presented the Superintendent’s Update as follows:

First, I want to extend a thank you to the Bioscience Center and the staff here for being gracious hosts, as well as Waycross and our tech department who have always been able to make magic work and set up anywhere we go. We appreciate that. A followup on the open enrollment that was approved at the last meeting; we've been working internally to solidify the operation of that policy. We also have an intra-district open enrollment policy that allows families inside the district to request schools other than their home school so we've been merging this with that process and making sure that our internal constituents are able to get their requests processed before open enrollment. Inter-district open enrollment will open April 21st through May 16th for families out of the district to request enrollment into the district. Notification of acceptance will be in the first week of June. We will have the application materials, resources and frequently asked questions on the enrollment page of the district website. We will announce that more publicly through social media once we get closer to that timeline.

Next week is spring break so students are not in session March 31- April 4. When we come back from spring break we enter into the state testing window. We want to reaffirm to our families that when we come back from break that those good test taking strategies are in place. We want students to get a good night sleep, good breakfast and make sure that students are showing up on time so that they don't miss the testing

window. Our teachers and staff have done a great job preparing our students for this and we know that they will do amazing on those state tests.

Lastly, we are in the season where we do a lot of celebration of staff and at our next meeting we'll be celebrating all of the T in PTA winners. There's a second award that happens every spring and it's a regional award in Hamilton County called the Celebrate Excellence Award. Each district nominates an outstanding educator and this year's district-wide Celebrate Excellence Award winner is preschool teacher Nancy Holt. I don't know that you can say preschool without Nancy Holt. It was great to see her celebrated by the staff for all of the great things that she does to really make preschool a unique place for kids and staff. We're excited to celebrate her and she will be celebrated at the next meeting along with the T in PTA award winners.

### **Discussion:**

- **Mrs. Taubee:** Thank you for giving us more information about open enrollment. So we can expect more information and an FAQ soon?

**Mr. Yater:** We'll put that on the enrollment page with the application so that it's all in one place. As families have questions they can go there and find that information. As we've been getting questions we've been gathering them so we can build that.

- **Mrs. Taulbee:** Then the other thing is something I sent you an email about and we can't go into details here but with an incident that happened at Struble Elementary, I think a letter should have gone home to parents about that incident. I think anytime something happens, whether it's on the news or not, a letter should go home to our parents that we are aware of a situation and that we take it very seriously.

**Mr. Detzel:** What vehicle did that happen on? We didn't own that vehicle.

**Mr. Yater:** It was a third party vendor.

**Mr. Detzel:** Well Channel 9 News did the story on it, I don't know if you saw that, and they had a picture of our bus acting like it happened on our bus. I think that was such BS and they should have to retract that. It was a third party transportation vendor.

**Mr. Yater:** There was a press release from the police department and then we issued a press release to the media with clarifying information. Our PR person did reach out to all the news stations who misrepresented it to call that out.

**Mrs. Taulbee:** But communication to our parents should be first, for sure. As a parent, that is key.

## 13.0 OTHER BOARD ITEMS

### 13.1 Board Members' Comments

**Mr. Detzel:** Thank you Abbie Cook for being such a great host for our board meeting here tonight. I think it's important that our community gets to see what our kids have the opportunity to do through Butler Tech and the facilities they have access to. I think it's a good thing that we at least come out here once a year and I appreciate the board voting to do so. I want to thank the kids for presenting tonight and the student ambassadors for taking us around and showing us the Bioscience Center. I really appreciate that.

**Mr. Heather:** I wanted to thank Butler Tech back in the day we had to decide between Great Oaks and Butler Tech and I see after tonight, and every time we come here, that we made the right choice. This is a wonderful facility and I thank the staff and students for their tours and their time. I'd like to also thank Sandy Petrou, she was our booster president up until today at Colerain High School. That's almost a full-time job and you don't get paid. The CHS Booster Gala that we had last week raised about \$47,000 towards the new fieldhouse. It should be built and ready to go by the beginning of the new school year. It's going to be a wonderful facility and it's going to put us on par with the other schools in the GMC.

**Mrs. Tauble:** First thing I'd like to do is remind all of our parents that we're on a two-hour late start tomorrow so just a reminder that all the buses will be on a 2-hour delay. Thank you to our student ambassadors here at Butler Tech for hosting us and thank you to the gala committee. It was an awesome evening and a lot of blood sweat and tears went into that event so I want to recognize them for all their hard work.

**Mr. Gilbert:** This was great. I enjoyed the presentation this evening with the two groups of kids and the ambassadors. From somebody who's been in the medical field for over 30 years, the language and the maturity of these kids is way ahead of the curve. You would be able to tell if one of these individuals ended up in a doctor's office, they would outshine anybody coming in at an entry level. It's very very impressive. And other than that I'd like to wish everybody a safe spring break.

**Ms. Slattery:** Last week I got to visit the Northwest Butler Tech facilities with the construction site and the cosmetology lab and they were quite impressive. The mini houses they were building in construction were completely awesome and the students seem to be very knowledgeable about that. The cosmetology lab looked just like a first class salon, it looked wonderful. Then to come out here tonight and see the facilities here, I felt like I've died and gone to heaven. I wish when I was studying that we had had those kinds of models and simulations available instead of walking out every day smelling like formaldehyde. These kids are lucky to have these things. I also got to ride the school bus route 38 with one of our drivers, Grace, last week. It was quite impressive and a really nice experience. The kids from all three schools, Colerain Elementary, Colerain Middle School and St. Bernards were polite, lovely children. There was a real

respect for Grace and you could see the kindness and love she has towards them. It was a very nice visit and I really appreciate what the bus drivers do. Thank you to the ladies tonight who presented from criminal justice and also the ones who presented for the biomedical program. I think it was wonderful and so glad we got the opportunity to come out here.

## **14.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION**

### **14.1 Executive Session**

The Superintendent recommended the Board of Education approve the motion to move into executive session to consider the following:

1. The discipline of a public employee or official
2. Disputes which are the subject of pending or imminent court action

#### **ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member **(Chris Heather)** Moved, Member **(Jim Detzel)** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Superintendent recommends that the Board of Education approve the motion to move into executive session as listed'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **5** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried 5 - 0**

Nancy Slattery	Yes
Chris Heather	Yes
Jim Detzel	Yes
Mark Gilbert	Yes
Nicole Taulbee	Yes

The Board approved a motion to move into executive session at 8:00 PM.

### **14.2 Return from executive session**

The Board returned from executive session at 8:24 PM.

## **15.0 ADJOURNMENT**

### **15.1 Board President Called for Adjournment**

The Board President asked for a motion and second for adjournment.

**ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**Mark Gilbert**) Moved, Member (**Jim Detzel**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion ‘The Board President recommends to adopt the agenda as presented’. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **5** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried 5 - 0**

Nancy Slattery	Yes
Chris Heather	Yes
Jim Detzel	Yes
Mark Gilbert	Yes
Nicole Taulbee	Yes

**The meeting ended at 8:25 PM.**

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**President**

**Attest**

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**Treasurer**