



# MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
NORTHWEST LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
**Monday, March 10, 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: 130 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 RECOGNITION

### 5.1 Winter Competitive Music Group and Athlete Recognition

Director of Student Services Jake Kuhnline facilitated the recognition of the winter athletes and competitive music groups. The following students were recognized:

Anthony Abercrombie	Isaiah Freeland
Mcway Abraham	Roman Garr
Dora Akemon	Mckayla Geer
Braxton Alexander	Azariah Gervin
Avenley Ancell	Prince Gilbert
Esta Bahati	Haley Goodman
Ryan Bidleman	Kenya Gragston
Darion Blaine	Natalie Greenwell
Abrianna Bouldin	TJ Griffin
Kymari Brinkley	Morgan Hill
Marc Brogden	Kinxton Hill
Dasai Bronson	Delvin Holston
Alyssa Brooks	Madisyn Holt
Jackson Calloway	Braylon Howard
Sa'Mya Campbell	Graden Huchthausen
Regan Cappel	Mackenzie Huchthausen
Irene Chamagua Alfaro	Khalia Hughes
Donovan Chambers	Jackson Hunter
Flynn Chapin	Edina Ismael
Morgan Chatmon	Jordan Jackson
Kolten Conn	Janya Jackson
D' Asyia Cotton	Chris Johnson
Claire Detzel	Demarco Kates
Ethan Dixon	Alisah Kennedy
Mckayla Doyle	Owen Kennedy
Phil Emery	Jashika Kharka
Levi Engleman	Layla Klotz
Tanner Felix	Maxwell Kohler
Emelia Francis	Lily Kohler

Elena Lapid  
Areana Lazaro Betrez  
Vernon Leonard  
Samerra Lewis  
Eain Lightbourne  
Nick Livengood  
Calcha Lombe  
Issac Lopez de La Cruze  
Lilli Luhosky-Snyder  
Mario Lux Chacaj  
Ariyonah Lynch  
Zariah Martin  
Aari Onna McClendon  
Estefani Mena Pena  
Thounpagnarith Men-Chhim  
Alana Miller  
Christian Monroe  
Dallas Mooney  
Laylah Moore-Lammy  
Gabe Muskovin  
Paul Nerswick  
Liam Oswald  
Aubrey Pence  
Joseling Peralta  
Josey Peters  
Kaleb Peters  
Bently Pfaller  
Tobias Price  
Brycen Prybal

Cohen Ramey  
Norman Ray  
Diwash Rizal  
Jace Roberts  
Jaiden Rogers  
Amaje Rose Hill  
Miranda Rubio  
Gerardo Salgado  
Jordan Samuelson  
Landon Schlemmer  
Rylee Selmeyer  
DonAsia Sims  
Carson Singleton  
Daniel Sipe  
Christopher Slawnyk  
Kaydin Stevenson  
Sophia Stinebuck  
Faith Tangang  
Gabe Taylor  
Travontay Thomas  
Lloyd Trotter  
Landen Welch  
Andrew Williams  
Maddy Williams  
Mario Wisdom  
Emma Woodall  
Hunter Wyatt  
Mykel Youmans

## **6.0 SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

### **6.1 Student Presentation - The Northwest High School Book Club**

NWHS Principal Dr. Alex Shrewsberry introduced students from the Northwest High School Book Club. Students shared their experiences promoting literacy across our elementary schools and Houston Early Learning Center. The NWHS Book Club is sponsored by District Librarian Bethany Miller and Counselor Brittany Summers.

Junior Zuri Aguilar and Sophomore Hellen Lux Chacaj recently visited Pleasant Run Elementary to read with the English Language Learners in Spanish. The teachers remarked how much the elementary students opened up and participated while speaking their native language. It was a great opportunity to connect with the ELL students.

Junior Emma Alexander and Sophomore Kenya Gragston spoke about a recent visit to Houston Early Learning Center to read to the preschoolers. They really enjoyed getting the young students excited about reading and sharing some of their favorite books from when they were younger.

Juniors Madisyn Holt and Galya Allen shared that the Book Club recently hosted a Black History Month Read-In. The event was held on a conference night, they read books, made hand puppets and engaged the kids' imaginations. They really liked mentoring the younger students and look forward to hosting more book club events throughout the district in the future.

## **7.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES**

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

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

##### Northwest High School

- Five students received community shoutouts for coaching and supporting St. Bart's Elementary and Middle School Track Teams, they are Kevin Bolanos Gonzalez, Makaylah Jordan, Dashaun Wynn, Dion Weaver, Jr and Coreim McGinnis.
- Six girls qualified for Districts in wrestling based on their performance at sectionals: Esta Bahati, Edina Ismael, Kah'Mauri Bostic, Calcha Lombe, Miranda Mayorga Rubio, Sameera Lewis.
- Haley Goodman finished second in weekly voting for Girls Bowler of the Week through the Cincinnati Enquirer.
- Tanner Felix qualified for Districts in wrestling based on his second place finish at sectionals.
- Marc Brogden III qualified for Districts in wrestling based on his fourth place finish at sectionals.

##### Colerain Middle School

- Congratulations to the following students whose artwork will be on display in the Colerain Township Administration Building rotunda during the month of March: Noah Bogan, Josslyn Vaughn, Mia Mattan, Alanah Walter, Josephine Young, Elyana Hines, Brenden Nelson.

### Colerain Elementary

- The kindergarteners and their teachers hosted a royal tea party to celebrate the end of their CKLA kings and queens knowledge unit. The students and teachers loved this unit and hope to make the royal tea party an annual event.

### Monfort Heights Elementary

- The kindergarten students at Monfort Heights Elementary also recently completed the kings and queens knowledge unit in CKLA. They hosted a royal parade and attended a royal ball where they learned a dance and had a “royal” snack.

### Pleasant Run Elementary

- Congratulations to the following students for their hard work in Reading, which has paid off in their improved skills: Suhana Darjee, Kayleigh Roberts, Bradley Carter, Lucy Fishbough, Bailey Thomas, Kris Frank, Angel Rosales, Onesime Mutapay, Londyn Sarver, and Jeremiah Dogan.
- Mrs. Cope has started the first “Knights On The Run” running club. This program is associated with the Flying Pig Marathon and the first year roster includes 50 students.

### Struble Elementary

- Students and teachers recently concluded the CKLA astronomy unit by making models of constellations and the solar system. Students also worked to write paragraphs describing what they would do if they were astronauts.

### Houston Early Learning Center

- Congratulations to the students who filled out their power cards by demonstrating how to be kind and safe at school.

## **B) Butler Tech Update**

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

Jim Detzel gave the Butler Technology update as follows:

Reminder that the next Board Meeting is at the Butler Tech BioScience center off I-75. If any BOE members would like a tour of the building that can be arranged.

## **C) Legislative Update**

### **7.3 Legislative Update by Board Representative**

Mark Gilbert gave the legislative update as follows:

House Bill 88 would require public schools to incorporate instruction on fentanyl awareness and abuse prevention from K-12 and require the BOE to designate one week of the school year as Fentanyl Poisoning Awareness Week.

House Bill 117 would require the Pledge of Allegiance to be recited at school everyday.

Senate Bill 93 declares the General Assembly's intent to establish a new school financing system that provides statewide per pupil funding payment to public and chartered non-public schools based on a single statewide property tax and increased state sales tax.

Senate Bill 107 would require candidates for a Board of Education to appear on the ballot with a party designation.

Senate Bill 113 would prohibit diversity, equity and inclusion in public schools.

## **8.0 PUBLIC PRESENTATION**

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

#### **8.1 Report from Any Employee Organization**

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

*Dr. Kayla Holloway, Dean of Students at Struble Elementary: I'm speaking in opposition of open enrollment, mainly from the point of thinking of our current families that are enrolled in our buildings. I feel like we are not currently meeting all of their needs. Our Best Point waitlist for continuing mental health services is a mile long and we don't have enough resources to support the current families. My fear is we won't have what we need to continue to support anyone. We want students to be sound academically, we want them here every day and on time but we also have to look at their mental health and our growing ELL (English Language Learner) population. While we have people in our building supporting those ELL students, I'm also thinking outside the box. How are we supporting those families? How are we getting them into our buildings and bridging the gap of getting them to belong to our*

*PTA and getting them in for our curriculum nights? We need our community members coming in to engage in our building and see what's going on.*

*Outside of just the needs of our families and our students, and needing resources to support how we grow them academically and mentally, I'm also looking at our current class sizes. When a teacher isn't here and a sub isn't available, we split and some of our classrooms are up to 28 students. How are we supporting our students and how are we providing for them the best that we can with what limited resources we have? I feel, from my end at Struble, that we are not providing to our current families. Being someone who lives in the district, is an employee of the district and a graduate of Northwest High School, I feel like we need to bridge that gap and make sure that everyone is being taken care of. We need to look at our future families. How are we supporting them? How are we bringing them in? How are we getting them to vote 'yes' to our levies? We need to be able to show them that we have the resources we need. Whether that's aid of any kind, assistance with clothing or with food, or the mental health resources that we need. I'm just wanting to make sure that our current families are taken care of, our future families are taken care of, and that we are bridging that gap to get all of our community in. Our families that show up, they show up but we need to reach those that may have a language barrier where they don't understand what we're doing. How are we supporting them and showing them that they're supported? I just want to make sure that we are taking care of our current families. Making sure we're taking care of our teachers in terms of class sizes. If we're going to open our doors I really hope there is a plan to help with the disciplinary aspect as well. I'm the only Dean in a building of 800 people and I need to make sure that it's going to be supported.*

## **B) Community Communications**

### **8.2 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.

## **9.0 APPROVAL OF SUPERINTENDENT'S CONSENT ITEMS**

### **9.1 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 (**Nicole Taulbee**) 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**

#### **9.2 Superintendent Consent Items**

##### Acceptance of Classified Resignations and Retirements

Bright, David - PRE - Cafe Assistant  
Effective: 5/31/2025 (Retirement)

Dickinson, Joy - CSO - Office Personnel  
Effective: 6/30/2025 (Retirement)

Hunter, Brandon - Transportation - Sub Van Driver  
Effective: 3/4/2025 (Personal)

Metz, Cynthia - CHS - Cafe Assistant  
Effective: 1/24/2025 (Personal)

Thomas, Navontay - CSO - Substitute Custodian  
Effective: 2/28/2025 (Personal)

Washington, Adolphus - CHS - ED Assistant  
Effective: 3/14/2025 (Position Elsewhere)

Approval of Administrative Resignation and Retirement

Kurt, Layla - CSO - Interim Supervisor III  
Effective: 7/1/2025 (Personal)

Approval of Certified Resignations and Retirements

Schnedl, Michelle - CE - 4th Grade  
Effective: 6/1/2025 (Revised Date)

Shuholm, Olivia - SE - Intervention Specialist  
Effective: 5/23/2025 (Relocating)

Acceptance of Extra Duty Resignations

Washington, Adolphus - CHS - Assistant Varsity Boys Basketball Coach, Step 2  
Effective: 6/30/2025

Washington, Adolphus - CHS - Assistant Varsity Football Coach (1/2), Step 1  
Effective: 6/30/2025

White, Paul - WOMS - 7/8th Grade Track Coach, Step 2  
Effective: 6/30/2024

Approval of Sub Van Driver at \$18.39 per hour - Effective 2/28/2025

Hunter, Brandon

Approval of Sub Bus Assistant at \$16.22 per hour - Effective 2/26/2025

Erickson-Cox, Lindsey

Approval of Classified Leaves of Absence

Andrews, Catherine - Transportation - Bus Driver  
Effective: 4/24/2024 (Intermittent)

Davis, Tyeisha - PRE - MD Assistant  
Effective: 3/7/2025 (Intermittent)

Dean, Michele - Transportation - Office Personnel Effective: 2/25/2025	(Intermittent)
Evan, Patricia - Transportation - Bus Driver Effective: 2/17/2025	(Continuous)
Henry, Taunya - Transportation - Asst. Supervisor Effective: 1/31/2025	(Intermittent)
Hunter, Tokayus - Transportation - Bus Driver Effective: 3/5/2025	(Continuous)
Kendrick, Sharon - PRMS - ED Assistant Effective: 2/25/2025	(Intermittent)
Metz, Cynthia - CHS - Cafe Assistant Effective: 1/8/2025	(Continuous)
Rieger, Denise - CSO - Department Specialist Effective: 2/20/2025 - 8/20/2025	(Medical)

Approval of Certified Change of Status

Blair, Abigail - from Temporary Substitute Teacher, \$386.46 per day (128 days) to Teacher, Bachelor's with 11 years of experience, Step 12 (57 days) Effective: 2/27/2025	(License Issued)
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Approval of Certified Leaves of Absence

Erhardt, Hallie - PRMS - Teacher Effective: 1/28/2025	(Intermittent)
Linemann, Stephanie - OLG - Tutor Effective: 2/10/2025	(Continuous)
Long, Leslie - TE - Teacher Effective: 3/11/2025	(Continuous)

Approval of Home Instructors at \$30.00 an hour - Effective 2/1/2025

Beinkemper, Julie  
Smith, Emily

Approval of Summer Preschool Evaluations at \$30.00 an hour - Effective 5/24/2025

Bibb, Lydia  
Holt, Nancy

Hostler, Robyn

Approval of Science of Reading Stipends

Teresa	Maher	Pathway A
Christopher	O'Connell	Pathway A
Allison	Lackner	Pathway A
Lisa	Gillman	Pathway A
Jennifer	Mahlenkamp	Pathway A
Jennifer	Martini	Pathway A
Shelby	Stockmeier	Pathway A
Carrie	Dreyer	Pathway A
Megan	Losacker	Pathway A
Chelsea	Miller	Pathway A
Melissa	Pitzer	Pathway A
Catherine	Westrich	Pathway A
Kristie	Flannery	Pathway A
Rebecca	Werling	Pathway A
Deborah	Connelly	Pathway A
Kyra	Van Nimwegen	Pathway A
Stuart	Dapper	Pathway A
Jayne	Leinberger	Pathway A
David	Frey	Pathway A
Mary	Bernat	Pathway A
Dianne	Derrick	Pathway A
Lori	Helms	Pathway A
Lauren	Kresyman	Pathway A
Katie	Bordicks	Pathway A
Natalie	Crain	Pathway A
Nicole	Herbert	Pathway A
Zachary	Phelps	Pathway A
Emma	Zahneis	Pathway A
Carl	Huber	Pathway C
Jason	Johnston	Pathway C
Abrianna	Kidd	Pathway C
Meghan	Vigar	Pathway C
Bethany	Miller	Pathway C
Susan	Roebel	Pathway C
Mark	Tedesco	Pathway C
Baily	Hall	Pathway C

Shelly	Dunn	Pathway C
Jana	Lewis	Pathway C
Abigail	Hymer	Pathway C
Katelynn	Mrusek	Pathway C
Kristen	Bockhold	Pathway C
Bruce	Broxterman	Pathway C
Chelsea	Lehman	Pathway C
Jennifer	Dent	Pathway C
Dalton	McBeath	Pathway C
Kimberly	Heyob	Pathway D
Bailey A. Catherine	Hever	Pathway E
Douglas	Ficker	Pathway E
Abigail	Blair	Pathway E
Kathleen	Burbrink	Pathway E
Timothy	Seger	Pathway E
Melissa	Shimp	Pathway E
Rochelle	Grafft	Pathway E
Nicole	Forcum	Pathway E
Becky	Bridgman	Pathway E
Megan	Nairne	Pathway E
Clara	Nims	Pathway E
Nicole	Wodarski	Pathway E
Kimberly	Davis	Pathway E
Sugandh	Chaturvedi	Pathway E
Andrew	Mangold	Pathway E
Barbra	Gilker	Pathway E
Stacey	Behrle	Pathway E
Joseph	Davidson	Pathway E
Jay	Werling	Pathway E
Kimberly	Alford	Pathway E
Juliana	Norwell	Pathway E
Shency	Simon	Pathway E
Krista	Kirchgassner	Pathway G

Approval of Ohio Department of Education and Workforce Military Recruit Award Bonus - (District Reimbursement)

Riggs, Nathaniel

Approval of Substitute Rates of Pay through The Center for Collaborative Solutions for 2024-25

Long Term – Classified

Office Personnel Substitute - \$23.18 hourly

Resolution (#2519) of Job Abandonment

Resolution recognizing that Michael Maley has abandoned his position with the Northwest Local School District Board of Education effective March 28, 2025. The District has attempted to be in contact with Mr. Maley to have him fulfill his contractual duties to the Board. However, Mr. Maley has refused to fulfill such contractual duties. This job abandonment is not done with the consent of the Board of Education, and this resolution should not be seen as "consent" under RC 3319.15. This resolution is passed only to recognize the job abandonment so that the District administrative offices can do what is necessary to remove Mr. Maley from the District's employment rosters and other systems.

**B) General Business**

**9.3 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>
HCESC	Additional SLP & OT to cover IEP services	1 year	not to exceed \$1,500.00/account
AltaFiber	Internet Service Connectivity - RENEWAL	5 years	5,125.00 /month (\$61,500 /annual)
SWOCA	SWOCA Internet Services - RENEWAL	5 years	77,687.50 / annual
Sinclair	Mou for CCP 25-26	1 year	0
Target Health Care	1:1 Nurse for student	1 year	\$43-LPN \$50-RN/hr
Princeton CSD	REVISED-Title 1 services provided to NW students attending St. Gabriel	1 year	\$873.50

Finneytown LSD	REVISED-Title 1 services provided to NW students attending St. Vivian	1 year	\$3,494.01
Cincinnati Public Schools	REVISED-Title 1 services provided to NW students attending: Cinti Otto Armleder, Clifton Christian, Corryville Catholic, NewPath Elem, St. Boniface, St. Catharine of Siena, St. Francis de Sales, St. Mary, The Children's Home of Cinti, Universal Muslim Academy	1 year	\$34,940.05
Winton Woods City Schools	REVISED-Title 1 services provided to WW students attending St. John	1 year	\$984.90
Winton Woods City Schools	REVISED-Title 1 services provided to WW students attending St. Ignatius	1 year	\$492.45
Winton Woods City Schools	Title 1 services provided to WW students attending OLG	1 year	\$1,477.34
HCESC	PBIS	1 year	\$6,390.00
Mt. Healthy City Schools	Title 1 services provided to Mt. Healthy students attending OLG & St. John	1 year	\$100,810.28 (OLG) \$18,015.78 (St. John)
Fairfield City School District	REVISED Title 1 MOU for Title I services provided to Fairfield City students attending OLG & St. John	1 year	\$1,288.80
<i>Paid for Auxiliary or Federal Non-Public grant monies.</i>			
<i>Additional cost to the current fiscal year's July 1st budget.</i>			

#### 9.4 Donations to Northwest Local School District

Below is a list of donations for Board approval.

Jennifer Hartley	Books	Pleasant Run Elementary	\$62.96
Charlotte Susong	Books	Pleasant Run Elementary	\$95.99
Amy Weisman	Books	Pleasant Run Elementary	\$156.00
Evelyn Gibfried	Books	Colerain High	\$347.00
TQL	Cosmetic updates to cafeteria	Colerain Middle	\$5,000.00

## 10.0 APPROVAL OF FISCAL CONSENT ITEMS

### 10.1 Adoption of Fiscal Consent Items

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

#### **ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member **(Jim Detzel)** 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

### 10.2 Minutes - Regular Meeting - February 24, 2025

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

### 10.3 Financial Reports of the Treasurer - January 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 - January*

All Funds Balance - \$92,449,456  
General Fund Unreserved Balance - \$20,124,523

	FYTD Actual	Estimate	%
Revenues	\$62,622,338	\$112,740,387	56%
Expenditures	\$60,564,809	\$111,582,752	54%

Investment weighted average return – 4.03%

List of monthly bills - routine, as well as, worker's comp excess cost, new SIS software implementation, UC collaboration, property/liability/fleet consultant, and auxiliary/grant fund payments.

**10.4 Accept, Approve Fund and/or Appropriate Fund**

Accept, Approve Fund and/or Appropriate Fund.

FUND/SCC	FUND NAME AND AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION/PURPOSE OF THE FUND
499 9503	SKILLS TRAINER PROJECT \$4,368.00	Job Coach/Skills Trainer Project (OH)Funds are available for up to 50 Ohio educational agencies as defined in Ohio Administrative Code 3301-51-01 (B) (18) to build capacity of new or current school personnel who are or will be acting as a job coach for a student with a disability while the student is working on a job site.

**10.5 Fund-to-Fund Transfer**

The Treasurer asked for approval to transfer \$1,169,941 from the Permanent Improvement Fund (003) to the OFCC Facility Maintenance Special Revenue Fund (034) as required by Resolution 2454, passed by the Board on 10/21/24.

**11.0 APPROVAL OF OTHER ITEMS**

**11.1 Open Enrollment Discussion**

The Superintendent opened the floor for a follow-up discussion about inter-district open enrollment. Board attorney, Erin Wessendorf-Wortman from Ennis Britton Co., LPA was available on-site to answer legal questions.

**Discussion:**

- **Mr. Heather:** So the public knows, we're not locked into this (open enrollment) for a lifetime if it's approved tonight. We can re-evaluate and change the policy after one year if it doesn't work out?

**Mrs. Wessendorf-Wortman:** Correct, you're allowed to set your open enrollment policy as you wish to in the future.

- **Mrs. Taulbee:** I just want to reiterate that numbers will be managed by grade and by school. We were ensured that overcrowding would not be a concern. The services that students require would be looked at and that we will not overcrowd those services. If we don't have a service that a child needs they would not be permitted to enroll. The policy will be looked at every year with the ability to revise it. That's just some of the things that maybe haven't been put out there enough.
- **Ms. Slattery:** There have been some discrepancies, we hear people say this district is doing this, or this other district is doing that. There's obviously a set of rules that all districts in Ohio need to follow, can you expand upon that?

**Mrs. Wessendorf-Wortman:** The Ohio Revised Code sets all of the policies and procedures that you're required to adopt and oftentimes, in the Ohio Administrative Code, it allows pieces that say you're allowed to operate within these parameters. Especially with open enrollment, there are aspects where the statute says you can do certain things in your policy but because you're a creature of statute, you can only do those things. It doesn't give you more flexibility than not. Now, does every district in the state of Ohio follow said thing to the T? No, they don't. But it does mean that it's not in alignment with statute and if someone were to challenge it, I can't promise people that they would win that argument because you're not acting in alignment with statute. That's always a battle that some districts have chosen to look for, and that's fine, but my personal opinion and my legal advice is always that the statute says here are your guard rails and we operate within those guard rails.

**Ms. Slattery:** So essentially there's no cherry picking which students you want. If you have the policy you take whoever comes, correct?

**Mrs. Wessendorf-Wortman:** Correct, whoever fits those parameters. Unless they have something where a student, for instance, needs a certain service on their IEP and you don't provide that or you are at capacity for what you already provide, you don't have to accept them.

- **Ms. Slattery:** Do you have the questions from the prior meeting? Can you review those for us?

**Mrs. Wessendorf-Wortman:** The first question was: Will students and families meet with the district prior to enrollment? In terms of the policy and in terms of statute, there's no legal guard rails around that but in terms of an application process, that's not going to happen based on the way the open enrollment policy is now. Once they are accepted, I would imagine that they would have meetings with your administration for enrollment, class choices, or familiarity with the building if they would want to.

**Ms. Slattery:** So you cannot interview the student or family before choosing them?

**Mrs. Wessendorf-Wortman:** Correct. When we're going through the things that can't happen it's because there are factors listed in statute that you can consider and so if statute says you can, that means anything else you can't.

The second question was: When offered, is there a specific timeline to accept the spot? That's not in statute so typically district policies have a deadline for which you extend open enrollment until and it's for the following school year. That's a pretty typical process. If you have a deadline in your process it becomes easier to say listen, you're after the deadline and we're not extending any more applications.

**Mrs. Taulbee:** So you can have that deadline date in your policy?

**Mrs. Wessendorf-Wortman:** Correct.

- **Mr. Gilbert:** How many school districts does your firm represent?

**Mrs. Wessendorf-Wortman:** Over 160.

- **Mr. Gilbert:** Have you seen any situations where a school district started open enrollment and it was a nightmare? Can you share any pitfalls? I'm not so much worried about the things that we think we can control, it's the things that get us from behind that maybe we're not aware of.

**Mrs. Wessendorf-Wortman:** The things that come to the lawyers are always the legal battles. Some districts have had the battle over, hey I chose to make my parameters or my criteria about things that aren't in statute and sometimes districts are willing to have that battle. I've had more of the liability about denial of application processes for students with disabilities - do you have that service or not have that service. Also, if you have a deadline in place, let's say you have a May 1st deadline for applying for open enrollment for the following school year, if you don't follow that deadline then it's worthless. Those are more of the legality pitfalls. Anecdotally, in the classrooms and in the buildings, people don't come and tell me those pieces. It's more we have a lawsuit or a threatened lawsuit that tends to be where people call us.

- **Mrs. Taulbee:** I think it's important to know that we can set the number around what our buildings can hold. The amount of kids that we would even be able to accept at any said building will keep us from getting into a situation that would overcrowd. I looked at numerous Ohio school districts that have open enrollment policies and many of them have deadlines of acceptance, along with criteria that they use, similar to what was prepared for us. Many of their policies look the same and many of the staff that I reached out to that work in other districts have said that they have not seen overcrowding and that the policy can be there to protect you and help you with students that may be lying about their address. Those are just a few of the things that I've looked at.
- **Ms. Slattery:** Amy (Wells) can you comment on the funding again for the students coming through open enrollment? How much we're funded versus how much it will cost?

**Mrs. Wells:** We're funded at around 25% per pupil this year, it's around \$2,400 per student. A new student coming in would get us about \$19 for every other student that we currently have plus the additional amount per student. As mentioned in the November forecast, we're headed towards the guarantee so when we're on the guarantee, additional money coming in per student just reduces the amount of the guarantee but the total net effect is the same, no new dollars. As far as the amount it would cost, this would depend on if we added services over and above what we were already having for general operations.

- **Ms. Slattery:** It just looks to me like overall, in the state of Ohio open enrollment peaked in like 2021 and since then it has declined. According to the Fordham Institute that's because it's no longer a very financially viable system based on what our state school funding is. There were 83,000+ districts with open enrollment in 2021 and it's down to around 77,000 in 2024. I think some schools have just stopped doing it because of the financial piece.

I feel like most of the driving force behind this is for high school athletics and high school athletics are wonderful. Any extracurricular curricular activity is wonderful, it keeps a kid coming to school, keeps them engaged. But we have eight other schools in the district and so I don't feel like the football team at one school should take precedence over all the other schools. I think if there's a student who wants to play football at Colerain High School, we live in a mobile society - there are apartments and houses and condos available. Move or rent within the district. Do whatever you need to do if it's that important to you and your family to be here. But we don't know what the funding is going to be from the state. I don't think we're in a good position to choose to do open enrollment. I think we are dollar short and a day late on that. I think the schools that were doing this years ago were doing it with good financial incentive, but we don't have that. Plus, as the Dean at Struble Elementary noted earlier tonight, we have more non-english-speaking students. We don't know what those numbers are going to be and how many more students are going to be on IEPs and we need to take care of those students in our community first. I think that's the most important thing and I just in good conscience don't feel like this is good for the entire district. I hope Colerain athletics does beautifully, I hope they do wonderfully. I hope the new football coach does a great job but he hasn't even had the chance yet to play a game with his team and we're already trying to add another variable in by trying to get athletes from other areas. I just don't feel like this is really a good plan for the entire district.

**Mr. Heather:** I kind of have a different attitude on that. 20 years ago as a side job I'd create highlight videos for high school kids and I was amazed how many kids I did for Colerain who lived in West Chester or other communities and had apartments or lived with their aunt or uncle or somebody else. Colerain football has lost 26 straight games and that's not something that as a former athlete I'd be like, I want to transfer there. That might have been a factor years ago, I just don't think now somebody would want to transfer specifically for football. I want to see Coach Stevens win but this isn't the state championship Colerain from 20 years ago. I would vote no if it wasn't for the fact that we can try it for one year and if it doesn't work out then next year we vote no and we cancel it. I think that the fact that seven of the nine other GMC schools have open enrollment, there's something to be said to at least

try it. We might regret it, but on the other hand it might be something that's good and I'm willing to give it a one-year trial.

**Ms. Slattery:** My reservation with that is if we get a sophomore standout football player and he's from out of the district, where is it that we're not going to be pressured that we need to keep this student because he's doing wonderful things? Then, we have to do open enrollment again for another year and then somebody else comes and they're really good and then we're forced to do it another year. Because I truly believe the driving force behind this is athletics. How do we say okay well, that student was really good for the football team but this isn't working well overall for the district we're not going to do open enrollment anymore and then that student can no longer come back. Where do we get rid of that pressure?

**Mr. Heather:** It's a valid point, absolutely a valid point Nancy but if the kid really wants to play here then there's ways of finding housing within the district.

**Ms. Slattery:** Exactly, that's what I said. So technically we don't need open enrollment because if you're really so motivated that you want to play on a particular high school's team or middle school's team, it's a mobile society and you can move.

- **Mr. Gilbert:** One of the concerns that I have is, listening to Miss Holloway speak and we have subject matter experts in the building, is that sitting up here we don't really know what the climate is inside the buildings. We only know what we're told. I got quite a bit of contact today about people opposed to open enrollment and I always like to see buy-in across the board because we're all in this thing together so that gives me some reservation. I'm not against open enrollment but there's also another side of it, this is just another variable that is a potential risk down the road. I don't know if we want to take that calibrated risk.

**Mrs. Taulbee:** I would counter that with, if we told all of the staff that last meeting we were voting to spend \$3,500 on a book that we could put together ourselves then we probably would get feedback on that too. Everybody has opposition and pros and cons to everything that we vote on.

**Ms. Slattery:** I feel like the mistake here is we really didn't do community engagement on this issue. I had mentioned trying to do a survey and people weren't fond of that, which I understand, but then maybe if we really wanted to see what the community thought we should have had Schoolhouse Talks or we should have had opportunities to meet with a board member, but we really didn't do that. We didn't discuss it with the staff here at the schools, we didn't discuss it with the people who live in the community, we didn't discuss it with the parents who already have kids in this school. We just neglected all that and decided well, we're going to vote on this. We don't want to lose the kids that are already here and what if they are very much opposed to open enrollment? I know you have to do what you think is best for the district but I don't believe open enrollment is what's best for the district. I think it's also important to hear what people's concerns are and I think we just jumped right over that step. We didn't even put it out there.

- **Mr. Detzel:** Darrell (Yater), what is your recommendation? What do you think about the open enrollment?

**Mr. Yater:** I know there's been a lot of conversation around how we can control parameters and our attorney has been very clear on what those parameters are and how we can say no. We can look at our space. The one variable that is different for our district than some of the other districts that might have open enrollment is that our mobility rate is around 15%. We have a lot of families moving in and out so although we can cap open enrollment when students apply and we can look at our limitations and our space at that point, once we start the school year and a student is open enrolled, they are in for the entire school year. We can't remove them for any reason. We enroll students on a daily basis up through May, it's a revolving door. So although we can set those parameters, those class sizes fluctuate on a daily basis from the first day of school to the last day of school. There will be, as Dr. Holloway mentioned, variability with those class sizes as we go through the year that are out of our control because we can't predict the ongoing enrollment cycle. That is one of the risks that we would need to consider with our open enrollment policy.

**Mrs. Taulbee:** So you look at trends and set numbers lower than that, correct?

**Mr. Yater:** Yes, and the way we staff right now is to look at our class sizes and staff based on that. If we look at making open enrollment caps lower than that class size, we can adopt an open enrollment policy but I'm not sure that we're going to have anyone admitted because we staff at such a level that our classrooms don't start the year with a lot of open space.

## 11.2 Open Enrollment Policy

The Inter-District Open Enrollment Policy was presented for approval. It was presented for information at the February 24th meeting.

### ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Nicole Taulbee**) Moved, Member (**Chris Heather**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the Inter-District Open Enrollment Policy as listed'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **4** Nay:

**1.** The motion **Carried 4 - 1**

Nancy Slattery	No
Chris Heather	Yes
Jim Detzel	Yes
Mark Gilbert	Yes
Nicole Taulbee	Yes

### 11.3 Preschool English Language Arts Textbook Adoption

The Curriculum Department, in collaboration with the teachers and administrator at Houston Early Learning Center, recommended the following instructional resource for adoption for the 2025-26 school year:

Joyful Discoveries  
The Center for the Science of Reading at Mount St. Joseph University  
Copyright, 2019

The resource was made available for parents and families to review on Thursday, February 20th.

This resource is on Ohio's approved list of instructional materials and is aligned to the Science of Reading. The resource will be purchased using the Ohio High Quality Instructional Materials (HQIM) grant that Northwest Local was awarded at the end of the 2023-24 school year.

#### **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 PS ELA 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

## 12.0 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AND OR DISCUSSION

### 12.1 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 these items for information only and will request Board of Education approval at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

## **12.2 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 3/10/2025.

The Curriculum Department presented this item for information only and will request Board of Education approval at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

## **12.3 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 only and will be brought back for Board of Education approval at the next regularly scheduled meeting. Materials will be made available for parents and families to preview at each of our elementary school buildings.

#### **12.4 School Year 2026/2027 Calendar**

In accordance with the District's ongoing commitment to keep the community up-to-date with the school calendars, the 2026/2027 School Calendar was presented for information. It will be presented for approval at the next regular Board meeting.

#### **Discussion:**

- **Mrs. Taulbee:** I noticed the two hour delays are included in this calendar. How many more years will we do those before it comes back up?

**Mr. Yater:** The two hour late starts are negotiated in the teachers contract. Their current contract doesn't expire until the 2026-2027 school year, it's a three-year contract.

### **13.0 SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE**

#### **13.1 Superintendent's Update**

Superintendent Darrell Yater presented the Superintendent's Update as follows: We were contacted by the science department from the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce last week. They noticed that we had significant achievements in grades five and eight and reached out to us to talk about what we're doing with science education to get the results that we have. Statewide, they were not seeing the high achievement that we have here in Northwest. We were able to sit with them and talk through some of the things that we attributed to the success. We have dedicated science instruction and the innovative curriculum resources that our teachers are using focus on conceptual understanding, not just memorizing a lot of facts. Conceptually understanding how and why things work and the professional collaboration that our teachers have, not just within a building but across the entire district, creates that success. We are really looking at best practices and using data to drive instructional

strategies. I just want to call out the incredible work that is happening in the science departments because we are being recognized not just locally, but at the state level for things that they might be able to take and use in other districts to replicate what we're seeing here in Northwest.

I also want to give a huge shout out to our food services department. We had an onsite review from the USDA to review the entire food service operation. They went to two of our schools, Pleasant Run Middle School and Northwest High School, and literally stood in the kitchen and watched our staff work during breakfast and lunch. We got some incredibly positive feedback from the USDA consultant about the professionalism of our staff, the expertise of our staff, and the operations of our staff. They give you a lot of technical assistance and support but the overall positive feedback about our food services operation was incredible. I know there was a lot of stress on those two cafeterias and they were top notch so I want to congratulate them.

Jim (Detzel) already mentioned that our next board meeting on March 24th is going to be at the Butler Tech Bioscience Center. The Board has made a commitment to go to one of our Butler Tech partner sites once a year so this is not anything out of the ordinary. It's a great opportunity to actually see some of the sites that our students have access to that we don't see on a regular basis.

Lastly, Amy and I wanted to give an update on the state budget process. The governor has submitted his proposal for the budget, it then goes to the House and they have committee hearings. They will come out with their version of the bill and then it'll go to the Senate. The Senate will then come back with what they think the state budget bill should be. At that point it'll go to a conference committee and out of that we'll get the final state budget. This process starts in February and doesn't end until June. So currently, as introduced by the governor, the budget does continue the Fair School Funding Formula phase-in, however, he is not updating the base cost inputs. It's basically taking a formula and updating one side of the formula but not the other and by doing that it makes our district look wealthier than it is. We currently are getting about 25% state share for the education of students. The state formula says this is how much it costs to educate a student, then they look at the local capacity and say this is how much the community should be paying. Whether the community is paying that or not, the state only pays what they think they should. This formula takes us from where we currently are and reduces the state share even farther. In 2015 the state was providing 40% of the cost to educate a child in Northwest, this formula will move that down to 10%, which puts us in alignment with Indian Hill and Sycamore with the amount of State funding that we'll get per student. We are obviously concerned about the way this budget is written. We are really proud of the fact that, as a district, we're not only being recognized statewide for some of the things we're doing in science but when they look at fiscal sustainability and fiscal responsibility they compare other districts around the region to us. The 3% partnership the board has committed to says that we will not

increase growth as an institution more than 3% per year and when you look at the last 14 years we've only grown 1.5% per year for annual growth. It's an amazing commitment to fiscal responsibility. We are consistently one of the lowest per pupil expenditures in Hamilton County and still getting some really good results. We are currently building a new Colerain Elementary with no additional bond, it is completely funded through the district and the state.

We have continued to be fiscally responsible, stretching a three-year levy to eight years; however, the state budget does create a lot of challenges for us. Right now the House and its committees are discussing this bill so it's an ideal time for us to engage with legislators. We want to have influence over the final substitution bill from the house side as it goes into the Senate. Later this week we're going to be sending information out to our staff and our community educating them on where we are in the budget process and the things that are really important that we need to advocate for so that legislators are not only hearing from Amy and myself but hearing from our staff, our board, and our community. All of those voices can hopefully move the needle on some of these issues so that we continue to be funded at a sustainable level moving forward. Again, this is a two-year process so we're going to do all this work now and then two years from now we're going to do it again. Amy anything that you want to add?

#### **Discussion:**

- **Mrs. Wells:** While we continue to have conversations with our legislators, they also look at us as “well, you're just wanting more money”. It's going to be more powerful to hear from our staff and our community as to what our school district is giving them, examples of what our needs are, and helping them understand who we are at Northwest.

**Mr. Detzel:** As I understand this, come June 30th when they put that budget out there we could get cut a couple million dollars so we need to be prepared. If we get cut \$2 million, how are we going to do that? We're going to have to cut jobs and I think the public and the teachers in the district need to realize this is something that could happen very quickly. I think the more that the public, the teachers and everybody call these representatives and tell them, look you're not taking care of us at all, all you're doing is cutting us. What'd you say earlier? That 10 years ago, their share was 40%? Now they only want to give us 10%. I mean that's ridiculous! How can you run a district if you don't know how much money you're getting from the state? June 30th the budget comes out and we won't know until July 1st (when our new fiscal year begins) how much money we get or lose.

**Mr. Yater:** And that's one of the things that we're going to continue to ask our community to share. There's a lot of needs at our buildings and we're trying to allocate resources to the needs but when the state continues to fund us like Indian Hill and Sycamore it is difficult.

The needs of our district are very different. We are going to require additional support services and resources and that's something that we're going to continue to advocate for.

**Mrs. Taulbee:** I shared that Harrison's Treasurer went and spoke (at the Capitol) how do you get invited to do that and speak about these issues?

**Mrs. Wells:** They put out a call to action and asked who would like to speak but they only take so many. We can also submit a written testimony, which we have done so our voice is out there as well. We continue to meet with our legislators in person and one-on-one.

## 14.0 OTHER BOARD ITEMS

### 14.1 Board Members' Comments

**Mr. Detzel:** Our representatives are Cindy Abrams in the house and Bill Blessing in the Senate and that's who we need to talk to. If we just sit back and do nothing then we're just going to accept that they're going to cut our money. I guarantee you, they're not giving us any more money. I've been doing this for 20 years, I know how these guys operate. They're going to cut money out of our district and the sooner that the public and the teachers and administrators and everybody realize that, the better it's going to be. We're going to have to come up with a plan quickly if they cut a bunch of money. That's what it comes down to. I don't want to be the bearer of bad news but it is what it is. I've never seen them give us more money, it's always cutting more money.

**Mr. Gilbert:** Thank you to all the student athletes that came today and the fine arts students. These are my favorite meetings. I want to thank the coaches, definitely Dexter (Carpenter) who is passionate about girls wrestling. I'm glad to see that worked out. To our staff who's concerned about this open enrollment, I will personally promise you that we will keep an eye on this and if it fails, as a Board we will do something about that if it does bring on less than desired outcomes that we didn't foresee. I'm starting to see the signs in the front yards for class of 2025 which means we're coming toward the end of the year here, hopefully everybody finishes strong.

**Mrs. Taublee:** This is not a vote that I take lightly. I did not vote for open enrollment for Colerain football, never was that any part of the research that I did. I think every district should have some sort of policy set around their enrollment and so I promise as Mark (Gilbert) said, to keep an eye on that and to be diligent in supporting what our District's needs are. I want to congratulate all of the athletes, the band members and book club that came. And especially to those students that support our teams. They are there setting up every day, cleaning up and not participating in the actual event but I thought that was awesome that we recognize them as well.

**Mr. Heather:** Congratulations to all the students that we saw tonight. I do enjoy meeting them and shaking their hands and getting to know them a little bit. I have a question for

Darrell (Yater), where are we with the awning for Colerain High School? In the rain that thing just leaks like crazy. It sounds like the boosters are willing to pay for half and strangely enough what we spent on the book for board members would pay for the other half. I guess everybody has different priorities but there's some donations that have come in. Could you give us an update on that?

**Discussion:**

**Mr. Yater:** So everyone's aware, the boosters reached out because the awning at the front of Colerain High School needed to be power washed, painted and improved. They provided some information about how much that would cost. As a district, we currently are dealing with multiple facility issues at Colerain High School as well as facility issues districtwide. We currently, until the end of the year, won't know if we have extra money that we could apply to that. There was some talk about them donating some of that money. If they have the full amount to donate, we would be able to move forward with that but otherwise we need to wait until the end of our fiscal year to see if we have the funds to allocate to that project based on our districtwide facility needs. It's not a no, it's just that we have to wait and see at this point.

**Mr. Detzel:** How many bids did they get and have we seen the bids? The email I saw said \$6,600. Where are the bids? Because as a school district, don't we have to put this out to bid if we were going to move forward with a project?

**Mr. Yater:** We would have to have multiple bids and go through a process in order to do that. We would not have to do a full RFP because of the amount of the project.

**Mrs. Taulbee:** What's the amount for bids, everything?

**Mrs. Wells:** \$75,000 is the formal bid but we do get multiple quotes for things that are lower cost.

**Mrs. Taulbee:** I'm not just speaking on this project, I'm just asking, but do you have a timeline that you try to get things done from when you get a quote to a job being done?

**Mr. Yater:** It depends on the availability of the contractor. Right now we're gearing up for our summer improvement projects and looking into next fiscal year and all the things that need to be done this summer to prepare for the opening of school. We're still dealing with some of the leaks and improvements from water damage that we've been mitigating and we are still working through. Until we get closer to the end of the year we just won't know if the money is there to even meet the other half of what the boosters are willing to put up. It's not a no, it's just we have to wait and see at this point.

**Mr. Heather:** How much money's left in the board fund?

**Mr. Wells:** A couple thousand dollars.

**Mr. Heather:** Is it inappropriate for me to make a motion here that we take that money, since we were throwing around \$3,200 a couple weeks ago, that we take that money for this project?

**Ms. Slattery:** I don't think it's an urgent matter and I don't really feel like board member comment time is the time for us to start bringing up new topics of conversation.

**Mr. Heather:** We've done that before, I've brought up motions. I've been on the board 16 years.

**Ms. Slattery:** I don't know that that's appropriate.

**Mr. Heather:** Nobody's ever made an issue of it before. I just want to get it done, we're going into the rainy season. I'm just asking if it's appropriate to make a motion to take the funds...

**Mr. Detzel:** It's not proper because we haven't even got the bids. We don't even know what the process was. The boosters bring one company that gave a bid, I don't let's see the other bids and see if we're comparing apples to apples.

**Mr. Yater:** As a district we're trying to look at mitigating needs districtwide and we have other buildings that have things that are leaking and other issues. We're trying to look at the big picture. We just won't be able to make a decision about that from District funds until we get closer to the end of our fiscal year.

**Mrs. Wells:** It's not a proper public purpose for the board service fund expenditures.

**Mr. Heather:** I was just asking, I just want to get it done because it is awful. There was even talk of just tearing it down, it is certainly not a good reflection on our district.

**Mrs. Slattery:** The best part of every board meeting is the students. I really enjoyed the Northwest High School book club. That is really a wonderful activity that they're doing and it's great to see that they're taking their skills, sharing those with younger students and becoming good citizens of the community. I know this could be a difficult transition for us with the open enrollment. Hopefully if the teachers or staff have questions, please reach out and ask someone in the administration who has the knowledge in that area to address those issues. We as board members don't have the kind of knowledge about the curriculum programs, the IEPs and all the other facets that go into that. You can certainly send us something but that would need to be forwarded to the appropriate party. I know there will be some questions about it and a lot of people will be upset

initially but it is what it is and we move forward and do the best we can. But please, if you do have questions, don't rely on Facebook, don't rely on social media. Please take it to the proper authorities, someone in the administrative offices that can address the concern appropriately.

## 15.0 ADJOURNMENT

### 15.1 Board President Called for Adjournment

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

#### **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

**The meeting ended at 8:31 PM.**

Agenda item attachments are saved in PDF format and are viewable by the public. Waycross community media video tapes Board meetings. Taped meetings are available on-line at [www.waycross.tv](http://www.waycross.tv)

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**President**

**Attest**

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**Treasurer**