

**OHIO COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL
BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT #505**

A

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Ohio High School District #505 was held Tuesday, March 17, 2026 at 7:00 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M.

1.1 Roll Call

High School Board members present: Kaecker, Albrecht, Hacker, Deery, Reka, Forristall

High School Board member not present: Campbell

Administrator present: Superintendent Donnelly, Principal Wilt

Board Secretary present: Kelly Becker

Other attendees: Megan Hellrung, Tina Anderson

1.2 Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Deery, seconded by Hacker to approve the agenda as presented.

The vote was unanimous. Motion Carried.

II CONSENT ITEMS IN ENCLOSED IN PACKET

**2.1 Approve Minutes from Regular and Closed Session (retain) meetings
February 18, 2026**

2.2 Approval of Treasurer's and Activity Account Reports

**2.3 Approval of Payment of February bills \$17,967.22 which were prepared 3/10/2026 @ 10:04 AM
and Payroll \$63,160.48.**

Motion made by Albrecht, seconded by Deery to approve consent items in packet as presented.

Roll call; Yes; Albrecht, Hacker, Deery, Reka, Forristall, Kaecker

Nay: none. Motion Carried.

III. PUBLIC SESSION

3.1 None

IV. OLD/NEWS BUSINESS

4.1 Mission, Vision and School Commitments: Pat Halloran is with us tonight to discuss the Board's Role in Strategic Planning.

I. Welcome & Introductions

II. Review of Mission, Vision, and School Commitments

III. Strategic Pillars: Review & Discussion

IV. Alignment and Feedback

- Discussion of alignment with Mission and Vision

- Initial Board feedback on proposed pillars

V. Strategic Planning Timeline & Next Steps

- March

- Board review and approval of strategic pillars
- Administrative team, Pat, and key staff develop goal statements, strategies and desired outcomes for each pillar
- April
 - Board review of goals, strategies, and desired outcomes
- June
 - Board approval of Strategic Plan including goals, strategies, and desired outcomes
- August
 - Launch the Strategic Plan to our community
 - Back-to-School theme: “Small School-Big Difference”
- September-October
 - Develop detailed work plan admin team and school staff
- November
 - Board approval of work plan

Superintendent Donnelly introduced Pat Halloran, who has been working alongside her and the Mission, Vision and School Commitments Committee (Small School–Big Difference). Mr. Halloran presented on the Board’s role in strategic planning.

The Board will vote tonight on the Strategic Pillars which are Teaching & Learning, Partnership & Innovation, and Student Experience. Ohio is a unique school that offers an opportunity to transform the student experience by identifying what works well and what needs improvement. Vice President Harold Albrecht spoke about the Strategic Plan, emphasizing its positive impact on students. He also expressed appreciation for the community’s ongoing support of both the students and the Board, which contributes to student success.

Mr. Halloran then reviewed the Strategic Planning monthly timeline and outlined next steps, noting that by November, the plans will begin to take shape.

Superintendent Donnelly emphasized the importance of developing leadership among high school students. She also expressed interest in expanding course offerings to include more hands-on learning opportunities and a wider variety of electives. Additionally, she suggested restructuring school events to better meet the needs of students.

V. PRINCIPAL REPORT

- 5.1 Attendance Update: This month, attendance went up to 96.8% with a yearly average of 94.314%.
- 5.2 PreACT/ACT: Grades 9, 10, and 11 will be taking the PreACT 9, PreACT and ACT respectively on April 10th. High School students will be allowed to leave after they complete their exams.
- 5.3 Reminder of Homecoming Week Schedule this week: 3/16/26. Students will participate in a week of homecoming activities with the entire community invited to attend the annual homecoming basketball game on Friday, March 20 at 6:00 PM. Bring the family for a night of fun! The Homecoming Dance will be held Saturday, March 21st from 8-10:30 PM.
- 5.4 Pastries with Parents: Was held on Friday, March 6th at 7:20 AM which was well attended.
- 5.5 Spring Break: Early dismissal on Friday, March 27th 2:00 PM kicks off spring break, with school back in session on Tuesday, April 7th, 2026.
- 5.6 Reminder Family Skate Night: Family Skate Night will be held on Thursday, March 20th. K-5 families will skate from 5-6 PM, and 6-12 grade families will skate from 6-7 PM. This is always a great family night!
- 5.7 Sports Update: One girl participating in track. The first meet was 3/12. One boy is participating in baseball. The first game was 3/16.
- 5.8 Congratulations to Jillian Anderson for being recognized as a DAR Good Citizen.

VI. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

- 6.1 Enrollment: Pre-K thru 8- 85 students HS: 18 students TOTAL-103
- 6.2 Staffing: We have updated our job descriptions for our Main Office Assistant and Bookkeeper positions in anticipation of those openings. Mrs. Hughes (Main Office Assistant) anticipates she'll be student teaching in January of 2027 and Mrs. Fehlhafter (Bookkeeper) will retire in February of 2027. We would like to start a new Main Office Assistant in December of 2026 to allow for training. I would like to post the Bookkeeper opening soon so we can potentially start someone in July of 2026 at the beginning of FY27 to allow time for training, and so they become familiar with FY27 finances.
- 6.3 Building Project Update: Initial masonry work will begin over spring break so they can prepare molds for the decorative work above the entry doors. The balcony railing design has been finalized and the completed project should look very similar to our existing railing with increased height. All projects are anticipated to begin in early June. We received an estimate of over \$60,000 to replace the railings around the exterior window wells. We also received an estimate for \$4,295 to remove the rust, prime with rust inhibitive epoxy metal primer and paint with a topcoat finish. I would recommend moving forward with the painting option.
- 6.4 Teacher Negotiations start in April with our first meeting on April 9, 2026 at 4:00 PM.

VII. CLOSED SESSION

- 7.1 Security procedures, school building safety and security, and the use of personnel and equipment to respond to an actual, a threatened, or a reasonably potential danger to the safety of employees, students, staff, the public, or public property. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(8)
- 7.2 The setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the public body.
(5 ILCS 120/2(c)(6))

CONVENE TO CLOSED SESSION

Motion made by Deery, seconded by Albrecht to convene to Closed Session at 7:33 P.M.

The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

ROLL CALL

High School Board Members present: Kaecker, Albrecht, Hacker, Deery, Reka, Forristall

High School Board members not present: Campbell

Administrators present: Superintendent Donnelly, Principal Wilt

Secretary present: Becker

RECONVENE TO REGULAR SESSION

Motion by Forristall, seconded by Reka to reconvene to regular session at 7:57 P.M.

The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

ROLL CALL

High School Board Members present: Kaecker, Albrecht, Hacker, Deery, Reka, Forristall

High School Board members not present: Campbell

Administrators present: Superintendent Donnelly, Principal Wilt


Secretary present: Becker

VIII. ACTION ITEMS


- 8.1 Motion by Hacker, seconded by Forristall to approve IHSA membership for 26/27
The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.
- 8.2 Motion by Deery, seconded by Albrecht to approve Ohio High School as a
school-wide Title I school. This is needed for grants.
The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.
- 8.3 Motion by Hacker, seconded by Forristall to approve Ohio High School Comprehensive
Consolidated Plan. This is needed for grants.
The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.
- 8.4 Motion by Reka, seconded by Hacker to approve Strategic Plan Pillars.
The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.
- 8.5 Motion by Albrecht, seconded by Deery to approve updated job descriptions for Main Office
Administrative Assistant and Bookkeeper.
The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

X. ADJOURNMENT

- 9.1 Motion by Deery, seconded by Forristall to adjourn this meeting at 8:00 PM. The vote
was unanimous, whereupon the meeting was declared adjourned. The next regularly
scheduled meeting will be **Tuesday, April 21, 2026 @ 7:00 PM** in the District Office.



Brock Kaecker
President



Kelly Becker
Secretary