

**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 on Tuesday, January 20, 2026 in the District Office.

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

1.1 Roll Call

High School Board members present: Brock Kaecker, Harold Albrecht, Cindy Hacker, Janice Campbell

High School Board members not present: Chad Deery, Reka Albrecht, Courtney Forristall

Administrator present: Superintendent Jennifer Donnelly, Principal Wilt

Board Secretary: Kelly Becker

Other attendees: Kristen Ryan, Megan Duffy, Mazey Sterling

1.2 Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Albrecht, seconded by Campbell to accept the Agenda as presented.

The vote was unanimous. Motion Carried.

II. CONSENT ITEMS IN ENCLOSED IN PACKET

2.1 Approved the minutes of the November 18, 2025 Regular Meeting as presented.

2.2 Approved the Treasurer's and Activity Account Reports (November/December) as presented.

2.3 Approved Payment of Bills \$26,863.28 (December) which were prepared on 1/13/26 at 11:46 PM and Payroll for 1/5/26 \$108,091.61

I added copies of these November items in your packets for you to review.

November Bills \$46,975.16 prepared on 12:23 PM and Payroll for 11/20/25 \$29,267.72 and 12/5/25 \$31,696.00.

Motion made by Albrecht, seconded by Hacker to approve consent items in packet as corrected.

Roll call: Yea: Albrecht, Hacker, Campbell, Kaecker

Nay: none. Motion Carried

III. PUBLIC SESSION

3.1 Public Session-Senior Mazey Sterling and Sponsor Megan Duffy were present to propose their Senior trip. Mazey went through the itinerary and cost with the Board. She also handed out information on the AirBnB they have chosen and the pontoon boat rental. The trip will be Tuesday, May 26th through Friday, May 29th which is after school is out.

IV. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

None

V. PRINCIPAL REPORT

- 5.1 Attendance Update: November attendance update: 93% with the year average 94.8%
December attendance update: 94.4% with the year average 94.7%
- 5.2 Blood Drive: On Friday, January 23rd, (pending weather) the National Honor Society is sponsoring a Red Cross Blood Drive. This is our second one for the year due to a shortage of blood at this time.
- 5.3 Middle School and High School Awards were held on Friday, January 16, 2026.
- 5.4 John Ourth Student Recognition Breakfast: Jillian Anderson and Mazey Sterling were chosen as the High School recipients. The event will be held at Streator High School on February 25th.
- 5.5 Sports Update: Girls BB is quickly approaching the end of their season. Regionals begin on February 14th. We have 2 girls participating in the Amboy Coop.
- 5.6 Homecoming is scheduled for the week of March 16th with the Homecoming Game being held on Friday, March 20th. The Homecoming Dance will be on Saturday, March 21st.

VI. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- 6.1 Enrollment: Pre-K thru 8: 85 students HS:19 students TOTAL-104 At the beginning of the semester, we had a 10th grader transfer to a different school leaving us at 18 high school students. This will be reflected in the enrollment report that will be in the February packets.
- 6.2 Mission, Vision and School Commitments: Stakeholder meetings were conducted on 9/30/25 and 10/29/25. Superintendent Donnelly went through a handout included in the packet to review the mission, vision and commitment statements that were developed. Pat Halloran will attend the February meeting to discuss the Board's role in the strategic planning process and to help us develop work tasks and specific areas of focus.
- 6.3 County School Facility Occupation Tax (One-Cent Sales Tax): Several Superintendents from Bureau County Schools met on December 10, 2025 to discuss the one-cent sales tax for Bureau County. Boards of Education that represent more than 50% of the student enrollment in a county may approve a resolution to place a County School Facility Tax question on the ballot. A majority of voters in the county are required to approve the tax. School districts can use the funds generated for school facility purposes and potentially school resource officers and mental health professionals. The estimated revenue for Ohio High School would be approximately \$9,350 per year. The superintendents in Bureau County have been asked to have discussions with our boards to gauge the level of support for the one-cent sales tax. The Board was not supportive of the County School Facility Occupation Tax.
- 6.4 School Maintenance Project Grant: Our School Maintenance Project Grant was approved. Superintendent Donnelly met with the architect to rework the proposal for the railing upstairs around the auditorium. Since this is the center of our school, Superintendent Donnelly would like the railing to be completely safe and look aesthetically pleasing. We are actively collecting proposals, and we'll move forward with scheduling the work included in the grant application.
- 6.5 USDA Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grant: Our Region Office of Education (ROE) is considering submitting a cohort application for this grant to cover 85% of the cost of the technology necessary to be part of the RISE Network. The RISE Network would allow us to partner with other districts and agencies to provide additional courses, virtual field trips, professional development, access to healthcare resources, etc. The estimated cost of equipment

is \$40,000-\$55,000 so if the grant is awarded, our cost would be \$6,000-\$8,250. It is anticipated there will be a cost of approximately \$5,000 (split between all districts who opt in) to hire a professional to assist with the grant application. The superintendents of ROE #28 have been asked to have discussions with our boards to gauge our interest in pursuing this grant. The Board is interested in Superintendent Donnelly moving forward with this process.

- 6.6 Administrator Evaluations: It's that time again for both the annual Superintendent and Principal Evaluations. Board members were asked to complete Superintendent Donnelly's evaluation and submit it to the Board president. Superintendent Donnelly will complete Mr. Wilt's evaluation.

VII. CLOSED SESSION

- 7.1 The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, specific individuals who serve as independent contractors in a park recreational, or educational setting, or specific volunteers of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee, a specific individual who serves as an independent contractor in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or a volunteer of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. However, a meeting to consider an increase in compensation to a specific employee of a public body that is subject to the Local Government Wage Increase Transparency Act may not be closed and shall be open to the public and posted and held in accordance with this Act. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)

CONVENED TO CLOSED SESSION

Motion made by Hacker, seconded by Albrecht to convene Closed Session at 7:41 P.M.
The vote was unanimous: Motion carried.

ROLL CALL

High School Board Members present: Kaecker, Albrecht, Hacker, Campbell
High School Board members not present: Chad Deery, Reka Albrecht, Courtney Forristall
Administrator Present: Superintendent Donnelly
Board Recording Secretary: Kelly Becker

RECONVENE TO REGULAR SESSION

Motion by Hacker, seconded by Albrecht to reconvene to regular session at 8:00 P.M.
The vote was unanimous: Motion carried.

ROLL CALL

High School Board Members present: Kaecker, Albrecht, Hacker, Campbell,
High School Board members not present: Chad Deery, Reka Albrecht, Courtney Forristall
Administrator Present: Superintendent Donnelly
Board Recording Secretary: Kelly Becker

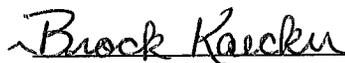
VIII. ACTION ITEMS

- 8.1 Motion by Albrecht, seconded by Hacker to approve Transportation Director/Bus Driver/Custodian Contract with Trisha Maynard effective August 1, 2026.
Roll Call; Yes; Hacker, Campbell, Kaecker, Albrecht
Nay: none. Motion carried.

- 8.2 Motion by Albrecht, seconded by Campbell to approve Class of 2026 (Seniors) Trip (Branson, MS) after school is out.
The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.
- 8.3 Motion by Hacker, seconded by Albrecht to approve Mission, Vision and Commitment Statements.
The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.
- 8.4 Motion by Hacker, seconded by Campbell to approve the second and reading of Policy Updates October 2025, Press Issue 120.
The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.
- 8.5 Motion by Campbell, seconded by Hacker to approve the Six Month Review of Closed Session minutes and to continue to retain (per Superintendent Donnelly recommendation).
The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

X. ADJOURNMENT

- 9.1 Motion by Hacker, seconded by Campbell to adjourn this meeting at 8:05 PM. The vote was unanimous, whereupon the meeting was declared adjourned. **The next regularly scheduled meeting will be Tuesday, February 17, 2026 at 7:00 PM in the District Office.**



Brock Kaecker
President



Kelly Becker
Secretary