OHIO COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL
BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
DISTRICT #505/TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2026/7:00 PM

A

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, Campbell, Reka, Forristall
High School Board members not present: Deery
Administrator present: Superintendent Jennifer Donnelly, Principal Wilt
Board Recording Secretary: Kelly Becker
Other attendees: Megan Duffy, Tina Anderson

1.2 **Approval of Agenda**
Motion made by Albrecht, seconded by Campbell to approve the agenda as presented. The vote was unanimous. Motion Carried.

II. CONSENT ITEMS IN ENCLOSED IN PACKET

2.1 Approval of Budget, Resolution Authorizing Permanent Interfund Transfers for Debt Service & Capital Projects Hearing, Regular Board meeting and approve/retain Closed Session minutes from September 22, 2026.
2.2 Approval Treasurer and Activity Account Reports
2.3 Approval of Payment of September Bills ($15,260.91) prepared on 10/13/26 at 4:06 PM, Additional bills ($460.82) prepared on 10/20/2026 at 2:06 PM and payroll ($73,868.72).
Motion made by Albrecht, seconded by Campbell to approve the consent items as presented.
Roll call; Yes; Albrecht, Hacker, Campbell, Reka, Forristall, Kaecker
Nay: none. Motion Carried.

III. PUBLIC SESSION

None

IV. OLD/NEWS BUSINESS

None

V. PRINCIPALS REPORT

5.1 Attendance Update: September Average was 95.8 and for the year 96.9
5.2 Parent/Teacher Conferences: Will be held Wednesday, October 28th and Thursday, October 29th from 3:15-7:00 PM.
5.3 Sports Update: Football and volleyball regular seasons are coming to an end. Playoffs and Regionals are around the corner.

VI. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

6.1 Enrollment: Pre-K thru 8: 85 HS: 22 Total: 107

6.2 Levy Information Handout: The combined rate for Ohio Grade School District #17 and Ohio High School District #505 for the 2025 levy was 5.19 which was a .10 reduction from the prior year. Based on information from the Bureau and Lee County Clerks, the Equalized Assessed Value (EAV) is estimated to increase by 2.03% for the 2026 Levy year. Four potential options have been calculated based on the estimates provided by the County Clerks for the Board to review. Truth in Taxation is not required for any of the recommended options unless the estimated EAV calculations increase significantly. See handout for detailed information including the 2025 rates of our neighboring districts. The High School Board expressed its desire to capture a tax rate of 3.30 for District #17, with the High School District #505 rate of 1.89, for a combined tax rate of 5.19. The combined rate of 5.19 is the target, but the actual tax rates may vary depending on the final levies and equalized assessed valuation (EAV).

6.3 Audit Update: The FY26 audit is not yet complete. The auditor anticipates completion by October 30, 2026. ISBE has been notified of the anticipated timeline.

6.4 School Maintenance Project Grant (SMPG) Update: The building committee recommended the following projects to be included in the FY27 SMPG:

- Tuckpointing/masonry work
- Replacing the ramp by the cafeteria. Our architect is working on the ramp design. Additionally, the board will need to pass a Resolution Authorizing Health/Life Safety Amendment For Ramp,
- Retaining Wall, Trench Drain And Guardrail Replacement. It is recommended that we have the required public hearing for this resolution before our regularly scheduled November board meeting.

6.5 County School Facility Occupation Tax Update: The Board must decide whether to pass a resolution to place the County School Facility Occupation Tax on the April 6, 2027 ballot. If Bureau County school boards representing over 50% of total student enrollment approve resolutions by January 19, 2027, the measure will automatically go to voters countywide. During initial discussions in January 2026, this Board leaned unsupportive to neutral, while the GS Board leaned neutral to supportive. Please note that even if our district does not pass a resolution, the tax question will still appear on the April ballot if the 50% enrollment threshold is met by other county districts. The Board indicated that they do not want to take action on a resolution.

6.6 Sierra Storm, High School Counselor, has submitted a leave request effective February of 2027-End of the 2026-2027 School Year.

6.7 Course Catalog: See the handout for the recommended Course Catalog updates and additions. Board member Reka asked if it would be possible to change the .5 credit per year for Band and Choir to a full credit to entice more students to participate.

VII. CLOSED SESSION

7.1 The setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the public Body. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(6)

VIII. ACTION ITEMS

8.1 Motion by Albrecht, seconded by Reka to approve the FY27 School Maintenance Project Grant Application.
Roll call; Yes; Hacker, Campbell, Reka, Forristall, Kaecker, Albrecht
Nay: none. Motion Carried.

8.2 Motion by Albrecht, seconded by Hacker to approve the Resolution appointing Dr. Sandra Malahy, Bookkeeper, as the IMRF Authorized Agent for the District.
Roll Call; Yes; Campbell, Reka, Forristall, Kaecker, Hacker, Albrecht
Nay: none. Motion carried.

8.3 Motion by Forristall, seconded by Campbell to accept Sierra Storm's Leave Request from~February 2027-End of the 2026-2027 School Year.
The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

8.4 Motion by Campbell, seconded by Reka to approve Course Catalog Updates and Additions.
The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

8.5 Motion by Albrecht, seconded by Forristall to approve the date and time (November 17, 2026 at 7:00 PM) for the following consecutive Meetings.

1. Truth in Taxation Public Hearing
2. Health/Life Safety Survey Amendment Public Hearing
3. Regular Board Meeting

IX. ADJOURNMENT

9.1 Motion by Forristall, seconded by Albrecht to adjourn this meeting at 7:55 PM.
The vote was unanimous, whereupon the meeting was declared adjourned.
Public meetings will take place on **Tuesday, November 17, 2026, starting at 7:00 PM** in the District Office in the following order:

1. Truth in Taxation Public Hearing
2. Health/Life Safety Survey Amendment Hearing
3. Regular Board Meeting

Brock Kaecker
Brock Kaecker
President

Kelly Becker
Kelly Becker
Secretary