

**OHIO COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES  
DISTRICT #505/TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2025/7:00 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, Campbell, Reka, Forristall

**High School Board members not present:** Hacker, Deery

**Administrator present:** Superintendent Jennifer Donnelly, Principal Wilt

**Board Recording Secretary:** Kelly Becker

**Other attendees:** Kristen Ryan

**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 Approved Minutes from September 16, 2025 Regular Board Meeting & retain Closed Session per President Kaecker's recommendation.

2.2 Approved of Treasurer's and Activity Account Reports from September.

2.3 Approved of Payment of September bills (\$24,387.85) prepared on 10/15/2025 at 11:36 AM and Payroll (\$140,280.81).

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

Roll call; Yes; Albrecht, Campbell, Reka, Forristall, Kaecker

Nay: none. Motion Carried.

**III. PUBLIC SESSION**

None

**IV. OLD/NEWS BUSINESS**

4.1 Janice Campbell asked what had been decided about the new tractor for snow removal. Superintendent Donnelly said she had gotten another bid as advised by the Board in the September meeting and it was much higher than the one she presented last month, so it was determined to move forward with purchasing the tractor from Ladd Farm Mart.

**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 22nd and Thursday, October 23rd from 3:15-7:00 PM.

5.3 Sports Update: Football and volleyball regular seasons are coming to an end. Senior Night for volleyball was last night for our Senior player Jilliean Anderson.

Playoffs and Regionals are around the corner for both Football and volleyball. We have 2 students signed up for wrestling, 1 boy out for basketball and 2 girls signed up for basketball.

## VI. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

6.1 Enrollment: Pre-K thru 8: 85 HS: 19 Total: 104

6.2 Levy Information Handout (E) The combined rate for Ohio Grade School District #17 and Ohio High School District #505 for the 2024 levy was 5.29 which was a .07 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 1.94% for the 2025 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. See handout for detailed information including the 2024 rates of our neighboring districts. The Board advised on what they would like Superintendent Donnelly to move forward with.

6.3 Audit Update: The FY25 audit is not yet complete. The auditor anticipates completion by November 15, 2025. ISBE has been notified of the anticipated timeline.

6.4 School Maintenance Project Grant Update: Application opens October 16, 2025 and is due by January 30, 2026. The Building Committee met on October 15, 2025 to determine which projects to include in the School Maintenance Project Grant Application. Superintendent Donnelly went through the Building Committee's Recommendations and the board agreed to proceed with the Building Committee's recommendations.

6.5 Updated 25-26 Seniority and RIF List : They are in your packet for Review. Approval of these items is recommended in Action Items..

6.6 Mission/Vision Update: A group of 9 stakeholders met on September 30, 2025 and worked together to generate a draft mission statement for our school. At the next stakeholder meeting on October 29, 2025, the goal is to finalize our mission statement and generate vision statements for both districts.

- Mission: Defines our purpose, guiding principles and how we intend to operate in the present
- Vision: Defines our long-term aspirations and our desired future state.

6.7 Food Service Update: Mrs. Carr has been offering more hot breakfasts which have been well received. We have an existing Food Service Agreement with Princeton Elementary Schools (PES), and they are having some difficulty storing the extra items Mrs. Carr has been requesting. We are able to join the LaSalle County Area Purchasing Cooperative and have the extra food delivered directly to us. It is possible that working through the Cooperative next year could be a better option than continuing the Food Service Agreement with PES since we would receive the same discounts and all food would be delivered directly to us. The first step is to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with LaSalle County Area Purchasing Cooperative which is listed in the Action Items.

6.8 Graduation: The last day of school without snow days will be May 20th with a noon dismissal. Graduation is normally the Saturday before that last day which would be Saturday, May 16, 2026 (Finals would be the week before). Grade School Graduation will be held at 1:00 PM and High School Graduation will be at 2:00 PM.

6.9 Prom: Prom is being held on Saturday, May 2nd, 2026 at the Livengood Barn in Chadwick, IL. Dancing, dinner and after-prom will be at the Barn. The "After Prom" will be at the same location, in a separate building, and will consist of various yard games and a fire pit for s'mores. Chad Deery will be the DJ. Times are yet to be determined as well as the theme and the catering. It is recommended that the Board approve the charter bus for transportation in the Action Items.

## VII. CLOSED SESSION

No need to go into the Closed Session.

## VIII. ACTION ITEMS

- 8.1 Motion by Campbell, seconded by Albrecht to approve graduation to be held on Saturday, May 16, 2026 at 2:00 PM.  
The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.
- 8.2 Motion by Reka, seconded by Courtney to approve Board/Superintendent Expectations.  
The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.
- 8.3 Motion by Campbell, seconded by Albrecht to approve the 2025-2026 Seniority List.  
The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.
- 8.4 Motion by Reka, seconded by Albrecht to approve the 2025-2026 RIF List.  
The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.
- 8.5 Motion by Forristall, seconded by Reka to approve the FY26 School Maintenance Project Grant Application.  
Roll call; Yes; Campbell, Reka, Forristall, Kaecker, Albrecht  
Nay: none. Motion Carried.
- 8.6 Motion by Albrecht, seconded by Forristall to approve Jennifer Donnelly and Jason Wilt as authorized signers on behalf of the district with Heartland Bank and Trust.  
Roll Call; Yes; Reka, Forristall, Kaecker, Albrecht, Campbell  
Nay: none. Motion carried.
- 8.7 Motion by Campbell, seconded by Rela to approve payment of \$1,600.00 to Green River Lines for prom transportation.  
Roll call; Yes; Forristall, Kaecker, Albrecht, Campbell, Reka  
Nay: none. Motion Carried.
- 8.8 Motion by Forristall, seconded by Campbell to approve an Intergovernmental Agreement with LaSalle County Area Purchasing Cooperative.  
Roll call; Yes; Kaecker, Albrecht, Campbell, Reka, Forristall  
Nay: none. Motion Carried.

## IX. ADJOURNMENT

- 9.1 Motion by Forristall, seconded by Reka to adjourn this meeting at 7:51 PM. The vote was unanimous, whereupon the meeting was declared adjourned. The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be held November 18, 2025 at 7:00 in the distinct office.

Brock Kaecker  
Brock Kaecker  
President

Kelly Becker  
Kelly Becker  
Secretary