

March 20, 2025

ASHTABULA COUNTY TECHNICAL & CAREER CENTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

The meeting of the Ashtabula County Technical & Career Center Board of Education was called to order by President Waid on March 20, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. in the Board Room of Building B.

Present: Debra Barrickman, Eric Nesbitt, William Niemi, Jamie Ortiz, Gus Saikaly, Harlan Waid, Supt. Wludyga, Treasurer Elly, Suzanne Pratt, Gavin Smith (Higley Construction), Brent Buehrer (Buehrer Group), Anna Deeter, Krista Shean, Chloe Thompson, Hailey Parker

Absent: Barbara Klingensmith

ADOPT AGENDA

It was moved by Mr. Niemi and seconded by Mr. Saikaly that the Board adopt the agenda for March 20, 2025.

ROLL CALL: Barrickman, yes; Nesbitt, yes; Niemi, yes; Ortiz, yes; Saikaly, yes; Waid, yes. Motion carried.

MEETING COMPLIANCE

Treasurer Elly certified Compliance with Meeting Requirements Rules.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

VISITORS/GUESTS

1. Suzanne Pratt, Visual Design & Imaging Instructor, gave a presentation with students Chloe Thompson and Hailey Parker. Chloe Thompson (Conneaut) will be attending Youngstown State University for Photography. She has been doing Work Based Learning with Kent State taking their commencement photos as well as birthday photos. Hailey Parker (Grand Valley) will be going to college in the fall to study Advertising and Communications. She has been doing Work Based Learning with Get Your Graphics.
2. Gavin Smith and Brent Buehrer gave the Board an update on the construction project.

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MINUTES

It was moved by Dr. Barrickman and seconded by Mr. Nesbitt that the minutes of the regular February meeting as sent to all board members prior to this meeting be approved and their reading be dispensed with.

ROLL CALL: Nesbitt, yes; Niemi, yes; Ortiz, yes; Saikaly, yes;
Waid, yes; Barrickman, yes. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORTS/BILLS

It was moved by Mr. Saikaly and seconded by Mrs. Ortiz that the financial reports for February including the following investments and items be approved:

A. Premier Savings Deposits

Premier Savings Withdrawal

RedTree Investment Group

2/28/2025 February Interest Added to Investments	\$19,951.88
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Star Ohio

2/28/2025 February Interest Added to Investments	\$25,062.74
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Average Interest Rate for February from Huntington Premier Savings:	2.069%
February Interest Earned from Premier Savings:	\$1,573.67

Total All Funds Invested as of 2/28/2025:	\$12,818,672.86
Interest Earned FTD as of 2/28/2025:	\$417,389.56

B. That Bills for February be approved. Vouchers were presented to Board members for their review.

ROLL CALL: Niemi, yes; Ortiz, yes; Saikaly, yes; Waid, yes;
Barrickman, yes; Nesbitt, yes. Motion carried.

APPROVE RESOLUTION FOR AMOUNTS AND RATES

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It was moved by Mr. Niemi and seconded by Dr. Barrickman that the Board approve the following:

C. Approve Resolution to Accept the Amounts and Rates as Determined by the Budget Commission and Authorize the Necessary Tax Levies and Certify them to the County Auditor for Fiscal Year Commencing July 1, 2025. (Enclosed)

ROLL CALL: Ortiz, yes; Saikaly, yes; Waid, yes; Barrickman, yes;
Nesbitt, yes; Niemi, yes. Motion carried.

APPROVE POWER 4 SCHOOLS RENEWAL AGREEMENT

It was moved by Mrs. Ortiz and seconded by Mr. Niemi that the Board approve the following:

D. Approve the Power 4 Schools Renewal Agreement beginning July 2025-June 2027. (Enclosed)

ROLL CALL: Saikaly, yes; Waid, yes; Barrickman, yes; Nesbitt, yes;
Niemi, yes; Ortiz, yes. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF NEW FUND

It was moved by Mr. Niemi and seconded by Mr. Saikaly that the Board approve the following:

E. Approve New Fund

1. Jacob Nurkka Scholarship Fund 007-9318

ROLL CALL: Waid, yes; Barrickman, yes; Nesbitt, yes; Niemi, yes;
Ortiz, yes; Saikaly, yes. Motion carried.

OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE (Enclosed)

Senator Bernie Moreno
Representative Fowler Arthur

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PERSONNEL

It was moved by Mr. Nesbitt and seconded by Dr. Barrickman that the following be approved:

1. Personnel – The Superintendent recommends the following personnel action:

a. Employment—Resignations (Enclosed)

1. It is recommended that the Board accept the resignation of Paul Stofan, Dean of Students, effective June 4, 2025, due to retirement.
2. It is recommended that the Board accept the resignation of Elizabeth Loomis, Head Cook, effective June 6, 2025, due to retirement.

b. Employment—Personnel (Enclosed)

1. It is recommended that Jeffrey Richards be extended a one-year, limited contract for the 2025-2026 school year as Pymatuning Valley Middle School Career Exploration/Google Apps Instructor at Class I, Step 0, pending proper certification and satisfactory criminal records background check and in accordance with the teacher's negotiated agreement and in accordance with the adopted salary schedule. (Resume Enclosed)

c. Employment—Workforce Development

1. It is recommended that Kayla Mook, yO! EMRP Coordinator, be issued a \$1,920.00 stipend for assistance with the housing stabilization program. All costs paid out of the yO!/GRIT funding.

ROLL CALL: Barrickman, yes; Nesbitt, yes; Niemi, yes; Ortiz, yes;
Saikaly, yes; Waid, yes. Motion carried.

FIELD TRIPS

It was moved by Mrs. Ortiz and seconded by Mr. Saikaly that the Board approve the following:

2. Out-of-County/State Field Trips

- | | | |
|---|----------------|-----------------|
| a. Precision Machining – Technology Show | April 2, 2025 | Cleveland, OH |
| b. Environmental/Natural Resources - Envirothon | April 9, 2025 | Shiloh, OH |
| c. Environmental/Natural Resources | April 11, 2025 | London, OH |
| – FFA ENR State Contest | | |
| d. Environmental/Natural Resources | April 17, 2025 | Painesville, OH |
| – Environmental Symposium | | |

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ROLL CALL: Nesbitt, yes; Niemi, yes; Ortiz, yes; Saikaly, yes;
Waid, yes; Barrickman, yes. Motion carried.

APPROVE PROGRAM/STUDENT JOB SITE

It was moved by Mr. Niemi and seconded by Dr. Barrickman that the Board approve the following:

3. Approve Program/Student Job Site

- a. It is recommended that the Board approve the Environmental/Natural Resources program to design and install updated landscaping around the Jefferson Historical Society building.

ROLL CALL: Niemi, yes; Ortiz, yes; Saikaly, yes; Waid, yes;
Barrickman, yes; Nesbitt, yes. Motion carried.

DONATIONS

It was moved by Mrs. Ortiz and seconded by Mr. Niemi that the Board approve the following:

4. Donations

- a. It is recommended that the Board accept the following donations. Letters of appreciation will be forwarded.
 1. The Spring Team donated \$350.00 for student training in the Precision Machining & Manufacturing program for the Robobot contest.
 2. Advanced Technology Corporations donated \$200.00 for student training in the Precision Machining & Manufacturing program for the Robobot contest.
 3. SparkForce donated the first \$1,500.00 installment for the Summer Manufacturing Camp grant. The final \$500.00 installment will be issued upon receipt of the final evaluation, which should be submitted within 30 days of the completion of camps.
 4. The family of Jacob Nurkka donated \$1,000.00 to start the Jacob Nurkka Automotive Technology Scholarship. This scholarship is only available to a senior in the Automotive Technology Program.
 5. An anonymous donation of \$82,000.00 was made for two Culinary Art Awards of \$1,000.00 each to be made to two students yearly as long as there are sufficient

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funds. The awards are The Chef David E. Bushey Culinary Arts Award & The Chef William T. LaTerz Culinary Arts Award.

6. The County Commissioners donated 115 iPads, 62 cases, 94 label printers, and 58 Wi-Fi Hotspots to the yO! Program to be used for educational and training purposes.
7. Ken Forging donated 23 computer monitors to be used for educational purposes in various Career Technical programs.

ROLL CALL: Ortiz, yes; Saikaly, yes; Waid, yes; Barrickman, yes;
Nesbitt, yes; Niemi, yes. Motion carried.

APPROVE YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES WORKSITE AGREEMENTS

It was moved by Mr. Saikaly and seconded by Mrs. Ortiz that the Board approve the following:

5. Approve Youth Opportunities Worksite Agreements

- a. The Superintendent recommends that the Board enter into an agreement to provide work experience for Youth Opportunities/TANF program students.

Bridge Street Art Works
Dr. Dolittle's House Wildlife Rehabilitation
Ducro Services
Lake Shore Concessions LLC
Samaritan House

ROLL CALL: Saikaly, yes; Waid, yes; Barrickman, yes; Nesbitt, yes;
Niemi, yes; Ortiz, yes. Motion carried.

6. Review Proposed 2025-2026 School Calendar – First Reading (Enclosed)

INVENTORY

It was moved by Mrs. Ortiz and seconded by Mr. Niemi that the Board approve the following:

7. Items to be Removed from Inventory (Enclosed)

We have several items of instructional nature, several pieces of equipment that are beyond repair or obsolete and no longer usable for instructional or for operational needs. It is the

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Superintendent's recommendation that since the aggregate valued amount of these items is below \$2,000.00 that the Board authorizes the removal of said items from the District's inventory and authorizes the Superintendent to dispose of or cannibalize said items.
(Enclosed)

ROLL CALL: Waid, yes; Barrickman, yes; Nesbitt, yes; Niemi, yes;
Ortiz, yes; Saikaly, yes. Motion carried.

APPROVE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT TUITION RATES

It was moved by Dr. Barrickman and seconded by Mrs. Ortiz that the Board approve the following:

8. Approve Workforce Development Tuition Rates for 2025-2026 (Enclosed)

- a. The Superintendent recommends that the Workforce Development tuition rates be approved.

ROLL CALL: Barrickman, yes; Nesbitt, yes; Niemi, yes; Ortiz, yes;
Saikaly, yes; Waid, yes. Motion carried.

9. New, Revised & Replacement Policies – First Reading (Enclosed)

LEGISLATIVE LIAISON REPORT

Mr. Niemi reported that the State House and Senate have been busy reintroducing legislation that didn't make it last time or introducing new legislation. Many of these will impact schools with the biggest one being the budget that Governor DeWine presented.

The House and the Senate will each come up with their own version.

Most public school districts will see a decrease in funding.

There is a bill talking about not giving the students free lunches.

A lot of the bills deal with property taxes.

We all need to be advocates and contact our representatives and express our concerns.

There still seems to be a big push for private schools and charter schools.

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Mr. Saikaly added that Dr. Howard Fleeter gave a presentation about how from 1975 to 2023 the burden of taxation has shifted from commercial to residential.

BOARD OF EDUCATION PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

Workshops, conferences, and professional meetings that need Board approval in accordance with Senate Bill 187.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. High School Enrollment Projections – Krista Shean provided a handout
2. Student Wellness & Success Funds Report – Mr. Wludyga provided a handout
3. SkillsUSA State Conference was Monday March 17th and Tuesday March 18th with the awards ceremony on Wednesday March 19th.

A-Tech won 3 of 6 Multimedia medals.

Bronze – Jefferson Multimedia, Edgewood Multimedia

Silver – Edgewood Multimedia


Gold – Chapter Display with the team of Thad Huya, Sarah Price, and Emma Hart-Wood. They will go to the National Conference in Atlanta in June.

The Environmental/Natural Resources Team placed 4th.


ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Saikaly and seconded by Mr. Nesbitt that the meeting be adjourned at 11:25 a.m. and the next Regular Meeting to be held on Monday, April 21, 2025, beginning at 10:00 a.m. in the Boardroom of Building B.

ROLL CALL: Nesbitt, yes; Niemi, yes; Ortiz, yes; Saikaly, yes;
Waid, yes; Barrickman, yes. Motion carried.



President



Treasurer