



Minutes of the Board of Education Regular Meeting of the Berea City School District held on Monday, August 14, 2023, at the Berea-Midpark High School ATLAS Room, 165 E. Bagley Rd., Berea, OH 44017, and shown remotely on YouTube at the following address:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2eDqel9zE2CFfmt6DakRiA/videos?view_as=subscriber

A. Opening Meeting

Members present: Farris Chapman Mack Postel Zirke
Time in: 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call A-1
[Minute 0:35](#)

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Pledge of Allegiance A-2
[Minute 0:45](#)

B. Public Participation

The names and topics of participating community members are as listed: James Grosh, Gender Ideology; Bruna Galati, Strategic Plan as it relates to FOIA.

Public Part.
B-1
[Minute 1:15](#)

C. Superintendent Recommendations

Mrs. Wheeler recognized Dr. Stropko and her staff, on the hiring of 27 new staff, who participated in Orientation today. This upcoming week's events include: Opening Day Convocation, fifth-grade WEB orientation At the middle school, ninth-grade LINK orientation at high school. The Titan Tailgate will be held Sept 1; staff members of the year will be recognized, and it will be also kindergarten night.

Supt. Update
C-1
[Minute 7:59](#)

Mr. Draves shared the Permanent Improvement Project Presentation. He presented projects that have been completed over the summer, and/or will be completed by the start of the school year.

Zirke moved and Mack seconded the recommendation to approve items C3-C29 of the consent agenda.

Ayes: Farris Chapman Mack Postel Zirke
Nays: None

Consent
Agenda C-2
23-0814-1968
[Minute 26:22](#)

Postel moved and Chapman seconded the recommendation to approve items C30-C33 of the consent agenda.

Ayes: Farris Chapman Mack Postel Zirke
Nays: None

Consent
Agenda C-29
23-0814-1969
[Minute 27:47](#)

Postel moved and Zirke seconded the recommendation to accept the contract from Gardiner Performance Solutions for HVAC improvements at the Board of Education as shown on the agenda.

Ayes: Farris Chapman - Abstain Mack Postel Zirke
Nays: None

HVAC
Improvements
C-34
23-0814-1970
[Minute 28:27](#)

Mack moved and Chapman seconded the recommendation to approve the agreement with Literary Purpose to Provide professional development training in specialized reading strategies for district tutors as shown on the

Literary
Purpose

agenda.
Ayes: Farris Chapman Mack Postel Zirke
Nayes: None

Agrmt. C-35
23-0814-1971
[Minute 29:04](#)

Chapman moved and Zirke seconded the recommendation to approve the resolution to retain Brindza, McIntyre & Seed, LLP as legal counsel as shown on the agenda.
Ayes: Farris Postel Zirke
Nayes: Chapman Mack

Legal
Counsel
Resolution C-36
23-0814-1972
[Minute 29:38](#)

Chapman moved and Postel seconded the recommendation to approve tuition-free 12th-grade student for the 2023-2024 school year as shown on the agenda.
Ayes: Farris Chapman Mack Postel Zirke
Nayes: None

Tuition-Free
Senior C-37
23-0814-1973
[Minute 35:47](#)

Mack moved and Postel seconded the recommendation to approve the quote from Royal Business Equipment For thirty (30) notebooks for use in art classes at Berea-Midpark High School as shown on the agenda.
Ayes: Farris Chapman Mack Postel Zirke
Nayes: None

BMHS Art
Notebooks
C-38
23-0814-1974
[Minute 36:20](#)

D. Treasurer Recommendations

Mrs. Wheeler provided Mrs. Rowe's update of the first month of the fiscal year.

Treasurer's
Update
D-1
[Minute 36:50](#)

Chapman moved and Zirke seconded the recommendation to approve items D3-D9 of the consent agenda.
Ayes: Farris Chapman Mack Postel Zirke
Nayes: None

Consent
Agenda D-2
23-0814-1975
[Minute 38:03](#)

Chapman moved and Mack seconded the recommendation to approve the distribution of change funds as Shown on the agenda.
Ayes: Farris Chapman - Abstain Mack Postel Zirke
Nayes: None

Change Funds
D-10
23-0814-1976
[Minute 39:07](#)

Chapman moved and Mack seconded the recommendation to approve the 2023-2024 Service Agreement Between PSI and the Academy of St. Bartholomew as shown on the agenda.
Ayes: Farris Chapman - Abstain Mack Postel Zirke
Nayes: None

St. Bart's
PSI Agreement
D-11
23-0814-1977
[Minute 39:51](#)

E. Regular Business

Zirke moved and Postel seconded the recommendation to approve the minutes from the July 10, 2023, Regular Meeting as shown on the agenda.
Ayes: Farris Chapman Mack Postel Zirke

Minutes
Approval E-1
23-0814-1978

Nayes: None.

[Minute 40:27](#)

Mack moved and Postel seconded the resolution to appoint Cori Farris as the Capital Conference Delegate
And Heather Zirke as the alternate as shown on the agenda.

OSBA Council
Delegate E-2

Ayes:Farris Chapman Mack Postel Zirke

23-0814-1979

Nayes: None

[Minute 41:04](#)

The legislature is on summer recess.

Legislative
Update
E-3

[Minute 41.26](#)

Mrs. Zirke reported on the Education Foundation; the Foundation gave over \$55,00 to 41 seniors in May, five students still have to claim scholarships. Mrs. Zirke will also be serving on the Governance Committee for the Foundation. In addition, she expressed her support for Cori Farris receiving OSBA's Recognition Award. She Noted Kathy McFarland, the new Executive Director for OSBA, will be attending our November 6, Be A Titan Meeting. Mrs. Zirke is also the student achievement liaison for the board to OSBA. Their most recent newsletter reported on a survey indicating superintendent stress in the U.S. compared to other working adults and the most common source of stress is the intrusion of political issues into schooling.

Comm. Rpts.
E-4

[Minute 41:48](#)

Mr. Postel announced the new Vet Tech Clinic at Polaris is almost complete. He reported Polaris has a lot of new teachers and staff this year and is expecting continued turnover in the next few years.

Mrs. Farris reported on the Transportation Concern Committee meeting. Currently, there are 66 bus routes in our district and 66 drivers; some shifting around could happen if there is a change in personnel. Last year's redefined walking zones have helped, but even with that, there was a staggering percentage of mechanics that spent time driving buses instead of actually working on buses and secretaries with their CDL driving buses. Drivers will fill out an input form after the first week of school, to report on items on their routes that can be changed for the better. Also, Transportation staff will be participating in Professional Development in regard to bus conduct to help the communication among the drivers, administration, and parents.

Mrs. Farris reviewed the Board Chat that takes place before board meetings. In the past year and a half, three People Have attended on three different occasions. She questioned if it should continue to be offered. Mr. Postel stated he thought there was a lack of interest and doesn't think it's a wise use of time, and that there are other

Board Cmnts.
E-5

[Minute 50:40](#)

avenues in which the public can address the board. Mr. Mack thinks it is a good opportunity to give people and would rather make it available. Mrs. Zirke doesn't think 30 minutes before a meeting is too much and doesn't mind doing it. If there is some issue, it's good to have. Mrs. Chapman thinks it should stay because that's a place where someone can have a conversation with a board member. Mrs. Farris concluded that they would continue the rotation.

Mrs. Farris also wanted to discuss the one board meeting per month and how they feel about it. Mrs. Farris said she feels disconnected from the business of the district, and noted the agendas are packed. It's very compartmentalized, but she feels personally disconnected. Mrs. Chapman feels the same. She doesn't think they've had enough presentations or staff and student recognition. Mrs. Zirke also feels a little disconnected but feels the information in one meeting is the same. She is not convinced to add additional meetings. Mr. Mack agrees on the efficiency of one and thinks it's flowing pretty well. Mr. Postel thinks one meeting is sufficient. It was decided to continue with one meeting a month and discuss it again at the end of the year.

F. Executive Session

Chapman moved and Zirke seconded the recommendation to move into Executive Session for consideration Of the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of an employee Or official.

Ayes: Farris Chapman Mack Postel Zirke
Nays: None

Executive
Session
G-1
23-0814-1980
[Minute 58:13](#)

G. Adjournment

Zirke moved and Postel seconded the recommendation to adjourn the meeting.

Ayes: Farris Chapman Mack Postel - Zirke
Nays: None

Time adjourned: 7:50 p.m.

Adjournment
H-1
23-0814-1981

Date of Approval: Sep 12, 2023 Approved: *Corinne A. Jarvis* Attest: *Julia Lowe*