

The Blanchester Board of Education met in special session on Thursday, June 5, 2025 at 7am in the Board of Education Offices at 957 Cherry Street, Blanchester, OH 45107.

### **Meeting Called to Order**

### **Roll Call**

In attendance: Mike Williams, John Panetta, Kathy Gephart and Chris Baker

Absent: Jeremy Kaehler

Superintendent Randy Dunlap and Treasurer Alleyn Unversaw were in attendance along with the following who signed in for the meeting: Donna Gosney, Patty Reed and Candy Young.

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

### **Approval of Agenda**

Mrs. Gephart made the motion and Mr. Panetta seconded. All present voted to approve the agenda as presented.

### **Business of the Board**

Mr. Baker made the motion and Mrs. Gephart seconded the motion to accept all items included under Business of the Board.

- Approve the Warren County ESC Contract for Extended School Year Services for Occupational and Physical Therapy services during the summer-up to 10 hours.
- Approve the Southern Ohio ESC Provider Agreement for Summer Speech Language Pathologist Services.
- Approve the Southern Ohio ESC Governing Board of Education Contract for Services for the 2025-2026 school year.
- Approve MOU between Blanchester Local Schools and Sinclair Community College for College Credit Plus courses at the "default floor amount" as established by ORC 3365.07.
- Resolution to Declare Transportation Impractical for the 2024-2025 School Year. (packet)
- Approve the EPC 2025-2026 Liability, Fleet and Property Insurance Renewal Proposal for \$118,913.00
- Approve the FY 2026 Insurance Rates. (packet)
- Resolution to Waive Competitive Bidding and Authorizing Agreement With Forward Edge For the Middle School PA Intercom System Project Bases On An Urgent Necessity. (packet)
- Approve the quote from Forward Edge for the replacement of the Middle School PA Intercom System for \$173,781.30.

All present voted to approve Business of the Board.

### **Business of the Superintendent**

Mr. Baker made a motion and Mrs. Gephart seconded to approve the Business of the Superintendent.

**It is recommended that the following personnel be employed as listed, subject to maintaining appropriate Certification/Licensure. Salary will be based upon the adopted salary schedule and will reflect the appropriate steps for training and experience.**

- Certified Personnel
  - Transfers
    - Approve the voluntary transfer of Sherry Simmerman from Second Grade Intervention Specialist to Intervention Specialist-Resource Room-Multi Grade.
  - Certified Staffing
    - Approve the resignation of Jessica Todd from her first grade teaching position at the end of her current contract.

**It is recommended that the following supplemental contract be approved for the 2023-2024 school year and 2024-2025 school year:**

NAME	BUILDING	POSITION	PAYROLL
Shelly Pembleton	Putman	Music and Art Engagement Nights	\$200.00 per event

**It is recommended that the following contracts be approved for the 2025-2026 school year:**

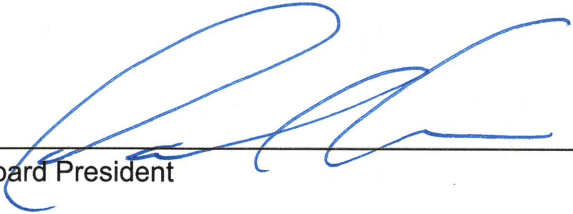

NAME	BUILDING	POSITION	STEP
Kayci Davis	Putman	First Grade Teacher	Teacher/Step 0

- Classified Personnel
  - Classified Staffing
    - Approve the resignation of Shelby Johnson from her 2nd shift custodial position at the MS effective June 13, 2025.

All present voted to approve the Business of the Superintendent.

**Adjournment**

Mr. Baker made the motion and Mrs. Gephart seconded the motion to adjourn. All present voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:06 am..

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Board President  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Treasurer

**Blanchester Local Board of Education**

**Resolution to Declare Transportation Impractical for the  
2024 – 2025 School Year**

**This resolution to declare transportation impractical for certain identified students is presented pursuant to the requirements of Ohio Revised Code §3327 and the procedures set forth by the Ohio Department of Education. The resolution follows careful evaluation of all other available options prior to consideration of impracticality.**

The Superintendent of Schools, Randy Dunlap, recommends that the board of education adopt the following resolution:

**WHEREAS** the student(s) identified below have been determined to be residents of this school district, and eligible for transportation services; and

**WHEREAS** after a careful evaluation of all available options, it has been determined that it is impractical to provide transportation for these student(s) to their selected school(s); and

**WHEREAS** the following factors as identified in Revised Code §3327.02 have been considered:

1. The time and distance required to provide the transportation
2. The number of pupils to be transported
3. The cost of providing transportation in terms of equipment, maintenance, personnel, and administration
4. Whether similar or equivalent service is provided to other pupils eligible for transportation
5. Whether and to what extent the additional service unavoidably disrupts current transportation schedules
6. Whether other reimbursable types of transportation are available; and

**WHEREAS** the option of offering payment-in-lieu of transportation is provided in Ohio Revised Code: Therefore, be it

**RESOLVED** that the Blanchester Local Board of Education hereby approves the declaration that it is impractical to transport the students identified herein and offers the parent(s)/guardian(s) of students named on the attachment, payment-in-lieu of transportation.

**ATTACHMENT TO RESOLUTION:**

<u>Student Name(s)</u>	<u>School(s) Selected and Grade(s)</u>	<u>Parent(s)/Guardian(s)</u>
1. Andy Cockerham	Wilmington Christian Academy	Billie Jo Cockerham(prior approved)
2. Penelope English	Milford Christian Academy	Robin English(prior approved)
3. Jordan Reece English	Milford Christian Academy	Robin English(prior approved)
4. Gage Sahadi	Milford Christian Academy	Melissa Sahadi(prior approved)
5. Logan Sahadi	Milford Christian Academy	Melissa Sahadi(prior approved)
6. Emma McCabe	Milford Christian Academy	Lisa McCabe(prior approved)
7. Josie McCabe	Milford Christian Academy	Lisa McCabe(prior approved)
8. Tegan L. Budai	St. Elizabeth Ann Seton	Tim Budai (prior approved)
9. Adelynn Boehl	Milford Christian Academy	Krista Boehl
10.Jace Center	Milford Christian Academy	Tara Center
11.Wyatt Center	Milford Christian Academy	Tara Center
12.Carson Powell	Milford Christian Academy	Caitlyn Powell
13.Roman Powell	Milford Christian Academy	Caitlyn Powell
14.Oliver Higginbotham	Milford Christian Academy	Carly Brown
15.Caylee Haines	Milford Christian Academy	Josh Haines

M.C. Baker introduced the following resolution and moved its passage:

**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

**WAIVING COMPETITIVE BIDDING AND AUTHORIZING AGREEMENT WITH FORWARD EDGE  
FOR THE MIDDLE SCHOOL PA INTERCOM SYSTEM PROJECT BASED ON AN URGENT  
NECESSITY**

The Superintendent recommends that the Board waive competitive bidding based upon urgent necessity and authorize an agreement with Forward Edge (the "Contractor") for the Middle School PA Intercom System Project ("Project"). The Superintendent requests authority to negotiate and execute an agreement with the Contractor for the work on the Project.

**Rationale:**

1. The Board has identified a need for the Project.
2. The PA Intercom System at the Middle School is a critical piece of building operations and is in need of replacement for the 2025-2026 school year. Bidding the work will delay Project completion, could result in higher costs, and will not guarantee that lower bids will be received for the work. Accordingly, this situation presents an urgent necessity under R.C. § 3313.46.
3. The District solicited and received three proposals from potential contractors for the Project. The Contractor submitted a proposal for the Project in the amount of \$173,781.30 (the "Contract Sum").
4. The Superintendent recommends the Board declare an urgent necessity in accordance with R.C. § 3313.46 and authorize the negotiation and execution of an agreement with the Contractor in an amount not-to-exceed the Contract Sum.
5. The Superintendent also requests authority for the Superintendent and Treasurer to enter into change orders on behalf of the Board in a total amount not-to-exceed 10% of the Contract Sum with the Contractor; change orders in excess of that amount will be brought to the Board for its approval.

**The Board of Education resolves as follows:**

1. Based upon the information provided and exercising the authority given in R.C. § 3313.46, the Board declares an urgent necessity and authorizes the Superintendent and Treasurer to work with legal counsel to negotiate and execute a contract and any supporting documents with the Contractor in an amount not-to-exceed the Contract Sum, and authorizes the Superintendent and Treasurer to execute any other documents necessary to effectuate the intent of this resolution.
2. The Board authorizes the Superintendent and Treasurer to execute change orders related to the Project in a total amount not-to-exceed 10% of the Contract Sum. If a change order exceeds this amount individually or in the aggregate, the change order will be brought to the Board for approval prior to the work being performed.

M.C. Gephart seconded the motion and, after discussion, a roll call vote was taken and the results were:

Ayes: 4 Nays: 0

The resolution passed.

**Southwestern Ohio Education Purchasing Council  
2026 Rate Information**



<b>District</b>	<b>Blanchester Local</b>	
<b>HEALTH PLAN</b>	<b>Anthem HDHP</b>	
<b>Renewal Date</b>	<b>1/1/2026</b>	<b>IRS mandates Single Deductible and Single OOP change to \$3,400 = .25 Discount from 2% renewal</b> <b>Renewal Rates 1/1/2026</b>
<b>Renewal</b>	<b>1.75%</b>	
<b>2 YR Loss Ratio</b>	<b>N/A - Immature</b>	
	<b>Current Rates 1/2025</b>	
Single	\$808.74	\$822.89
Family	\$2,332.70	\$2,373.52
<b>Delta Dental</b>		
<b>Renewal Date</b>	<b>1/1/2026</b>	
<b>Renewal</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	
	<b>Current Rates 1/2025</b>	<b>Renewal Rates 1/1/2026</b>
Single	\$37.49	\$37.49
Family	\$94.91	\$94.91
<b>VSP Vision</b>		
	<b>Option 1</b>	
<b>Renewal Date</b>	<b>1/1/2026</b>	
<b>Renewal</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	
	<b>Current Rates 1/2025</b>	<b>Renewal Rates 1/1/2026</b>
Single	\$7.89	\$7.89
Family	\$18.36	\$18.36
<b>Basic Life</b>		
	<b>Waiver of Premium</b>	
	<b>Current Rates 1/2025</b>	<b>Renewal Rates 1/1/2026</b>
	.11 cents per \$1,000	.11 cents per \$1,000

**Life Rates won't change until January 1, 2028**

*Any plan changes, please email Doug Merkle and Kendall Pollard*

**Please return by July 1, 2025**

**To accept these rates with no plan changes, please sign and date below**

By signing, we agree to the terms of the EPC Benefit Plan Agreement.

**Signature**

**Date**

