

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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Minutes of Buckeye Local Board of Education - Regular Meeting  
Held April 23, 2024 - 6:30 P.M. - Board Room - Braden Middle School

## REGULAR MEETING

### MEMBERS PRESENT

Shannon Pike, President  
Stephanie Patriarco, Vice President  
Gregory Kocjancic  
Chad Miller  
Roman Vencill

### MEMBERS ABSENT

Also present were Superintendent Patrick Colucci and Treasurer Kassandra Brand

### CITIZENS PRESENT

Jennifer Ranck, Jacob Ranck, Justin Ranck, Joseph Ranck, Tim Pike, Pam Pierce-Ruhland, Tracy DeLuca, Nikolas Rubesich, Timothy Neal, Alleen Santee, Charlie Harmon, Tia Woodard, Jeff Drake, Tashina Drake, Danielle Weiser-Cline, Jacob Tran, Amy Nguyen, Calvin Tran, Malachi Mendenhall, Christine Shinault, Charles Mendenhall, Clayton Ettinger, Erica Ettinger, Jim Ettinger, Bob Ettinger, Danyel Ryan, Michael Notar, Zachery Tieche

### MEDITATION

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

### COMMUNICATION/SPECIAL REPORTS

1. Danielle Weiser-Cline - Kingsville Public Library Quarterly Update
2. Buckeye's March Students of the Month

#### Thank you to our sponsors:

Ashtabula County YMCA  
Briquettes Smokehouse  
Kids Only Learning Center  
Cash America Pawn  
CompTech PCS  
Demshar Eaton CPA  
Glotzbecker's Service Center  
Alana and Chad Miller

Hoffmans Pharmacy  
Lakeview Federal Credit Union  
Melaragno HVAC  
Ringer Wholesale Imprints, Inc.  
Steak-n-Shake Ashtabula  
Thomas Fence Company  
Tony's Deli & Catering

#### Congratulations to the following students:

Jacob Ranck, 12<sup>th</sup> grade, Edgewood High School  
Jacob Tran, 7<sup>th</sup> grade, Braden Middle School  
Malachi Mendenhall, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, Kingsville Elementary School  
Clayton Ettinger, 5<sup>th</sup> grade, Ridgeview Elementary School

3. Zachery Tieche, Tremco Roofing Advisor

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**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION RELATED TO AGENDA ITEMS**

None.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

A letter from Pastor John Jones was presented to the Board.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

**Information**

Fiscal Year 2023 State Audit

Mrs. Brand, Treasurer, reviewed the 2023 State Audit. Clean audit with no findings for recovery. BLSD will receive Auditor of State Award.

**TREASURER'S REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

**29.24** It is the recommendation of the Treasurer that the Board approve the following items:

**Mr. Kocjancic moved and seconded by Mr. Miller to approve the following:**

Approval of Minutes

Approve the March BOE Regular meeting minutes as presented to the board on April 10, 2024.

Financial Reports

Approve bills paid in March and the financial reports as presented to the board on April 10, 2024.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Mr. Kocjancic, Mr. Miller, Mrs. Patriarco, Mr. Vencill, and Mrs. Pike  
Motion carried

**30.24** It is the recommendation of the Treasurer that the Board approve the following item:

**Mr. Kocjancic moved and seconded by Mr. Miller to approve the following:**

Student Activity Appropriation Adjustments

Approve the Student Activity appropriation adjustments in the amount of \$17,908.65.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Mr. Kocjancic, Mr. Miller, Mrs. Patriarco, Mr. Vencill, and Mrs. Pike  
Motion carried

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### **TREASURER'S REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS (CONTINUED)**

**31.24** It is the recommendation of the Treasurer that the Board approve the following items:

**Mr. Miller moved and seconded by Mr. Kocjancic to approve the following:**

#### MNJ Technologies and GreatWave Communications E-Rate Agreements

- GreatWave Communications - \$21,000 of E-rate Category 2 Managed Internal Broadband Services (MIBS) services and \$8,000 of installation of internal connections as presented in **Exhibit A**. The performance dates of this contract are 07/01/2024 through 06/30/2025.
- MNJ Technologies - \$100,800 of E-rate Category Two Internal Connections products and services, as presented in **Exhibit B**. This contract may commence as early as 04/01/2024 and shall terminate on 09/30/2025.

Mr. Miller had questions about E-rate categories and what is covered. Mrs. Brand and Mr. Pike explained that the E-rate program makes telecommunications and information services more affordable for schools with funding from the FCC.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Mr. Miller, Mr. Kocjancic, Mrs. Patriarco, Mr. Vencill, and Mrs. Pike  
Motion carried

**32.24** It is the recommendation of the Treasurer that the Board approve the following item:

**Mr. Kocjancic moved and seconded by Mr. Miller to approve the following:**

#### Creation of Fund

Authorize the Treasurer to create the following fund and to establish necessary receipt and appropriation accounts for such fund:

- RefReps Officiating Education System 009-4590

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Mr. Kocjancic, Mr. Miller, Mrs. Patriarco, Mr. Vencill, and Mrs. Pike  
Motion carried

Edgewood Principal Mr. Notar noted that two students have already graduated from RefReps as OHSAA Officials.

**33.24** It is the recommendation of the Treasurer that the Board approve the following item:

**Mr. Kocjancic moved and seconded by Mr. Miller to approve the following:**

#### Ashtabula County Technical & Career Campus Registered Nurse Program Agreement

Approve the agreement between Ashtabula County Technical & Career Campus and Buckeye Local Schools to cooperate to provide a supervised learning experience for students in the adult Registered Nurse Program at A-Tech, as presented in **Exhibit C**.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Mr. Kocjancic, Mr. Miller, Mrs. Patriarco, Mr. Vencill, and Mrs. Pike  
Motion carried

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### **TREASURER'S REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS (CONTINUED)**

All Board Members said this is a great opportunity for students.

**34.24** It is the recommendation of the Treasurer that the Board approve the following item:

**Mr. Kocjancic moved and seconded by Mr. Vencill to approve the following:**

Workers' Compensation Service Contract

Authorize the Treasurer to enter into a one-year contract with Sheakley UniService, Inc. for the period of January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025, to provide workers' compensation services.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Mr. Kocjancic, Mr. Vencill, Mr. Miller, Mrs. Patriarco, and Mrs. Pike  
Motion carried

**35.24** It is the recommendation of the Treasurer that the Board approve the following item:

**Mr. Kocjancic moved and seconded by Mr. Miller to approve the following:**

Building Technicians Corporation Agreement

Approve the Article of Agreement between Building Technicians Corporation and Buckeye Local Schools for roofing repairs and replacement at Kingsville Elementary School and Edgewood High School, as presented in **Exhibit D**.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Mr. Kocjancic, Mr. Miller, Mrs. Patriarco, Mr. Vencill, and Mrs. Pike  
Motion carried

**36.24** It is the recommendation of the Treasurer that the Board approve the following item:

**Mr. Vencill moved and seconded by Mr. Miller to approve the following:**

Parking Lot Repairs Bid

Accept the parking lot repairs bid from All Ways Construction, LLC in the amount of \$479,086.72.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Mr. Vencill, Mr. Miller, Mr. Kocjancic, Mrs. Patriarco, and Mrs. Pike  
Motion carried

Mr. Vencill inquired if all parking lots would be done or sections. Mrs. Brand reviewed the plan per the bid and which sections will be replaced.

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### **TREASURER'S REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS (CONTINUED)**

**37.24** It is the recommendation of the Treasurer that the Board approve the following item:

**Mr. Kocjancic moved and seconded by Mr. Miller to approve the following:**

Equipment Disposal Requests

Approve the list of equipment to be disposed of, as presented in **Exhibit E**.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Mr. Kocjancic, Mr. Miller, Mrs. Patriarco, Mr. Vencill, and Mrs. Pike  
Motion carried

**38.24** It is the recommendation of the Treasurer that the Board approve the following item:

**Mr. Kocjancic moved and seconded by Mr. Miller to approve the following:**

Healthcare Process Consulting, Inc.

Approve the Medicaid School Program Service Agreement between Healthcare Process Consulting, Inc. and Buckeye Local Schools for an annual fee of \$14,500 for a period of three years, commencing on July 1, 2024 and ending on June 30, 2027, as presented in **Exhibit F**.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Mr. Kocjancic, Mr. Miller, Mrs. Patriarco, Mr. Vencill, and Mrs. Pike  
Motion carried

Mr. Miller asked for clarification on this program and what it entailed. Mrs. Brand answered that HPC serves as a third-party administrator to support our Ohio School Medicaid Program, documenting services, and submitting claims.

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

#### **Information**

Mr. Colucci, Superintendent, will present information from the Coalition of Ohio Rural and Appalachian Schools (CORAS) on student cell phone usage in schools, as presented in **Exhibit G**.

Mr. Colucci stated that, due to the comment from the public meeting last month, this is a timely update. Braden Middle School Principal Mr. Rubesich will be updating the student handbook about student's needing a break from cell phones and the consequences for offenses. Edgewood High School Principal Mr. Notar stated that students can use cell phones during non-academic times such as lunch and between classes. Mr. Notar also has teachers researching student cell phone usage and mental health. Kingsville Elementary School Principal Dr. Neal and Ridgeview Elementary School Principal Mrs. DeLuca do not have issues with cell phones in their buildings but stated that they do have policies related to cell phones.

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## SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 39.24** It is the recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board approve the following items:

**Mr. Kocjancic moved and seconded by Mr. Miller to approve the following:**

### Administrative Contract Renewals

Re-employ the following individuals in accordance with Section 3319.02 of the Ohio Revised Code and issue a contract for a three-year period from August 1, 2024 to July 31, 2027:

1. Timothy Neal, Principal, Kingsville Elementary, \$96,720.02 base plus \$1,560.01 longevity.
2. Tracy DeLuca, Principal, Ridgeview Elementary, \$82,680.95 base plus \$4,680.02 longevity.
3. Ashley Brent, Assistant Principal, Braden Middle School, \$82,680.95 base.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Mr. Kocjancic, Mr. Miller, Mrs. Patriarco, Mr. Vencill, and Mrs. Pike  
Motion carried

- 40.24** It is the recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board approve the following item:

**Mr. Miller moved and seconded by Mr. Kocjancic to approve the following:**

### 2024-2025 District Calendar Amendment

Approve the amended 2024-2025 Buckeye Local School District Calendar, as presented in **Exhibit H**.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Mr. Miller, Mr. Kocjancic, Mrs. Patriarco, Mr. Vencill, and Mrs. Pike  
Motion carried

- 41.24** It is the recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board approve the following item:

**Mr. Kocjancic moved and seconded by Mr. Vencill to approve the following:**

### Board Policies - First Reading

Review the following board policies as presented to the board on March 20, 2024:

po0165	po0168	po2623	po2623.02
po3120.04	po4124	po5310	po8600
po8600.04	po8640	po8650	po8660

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Mr. Kocjancic, Mr. Vencill, Mr. Miller, Mrs. Patriarco, and Mrs. Pike  
Motion carried

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### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS (CONTINUED)**

Mr. Miller confirmed first reading is not final.

- 42.24** It is the recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board approve the following item:

**Mr. Kocjancic moved and seconded by Mr. Miller to approve the following:**

Coalition of Ohio Rural and Appalachian Schools (CORAS)

Approve the service contract with the Coalition of Ohio Rural and Appalachian Schools Legislative Co. and Sunday Creek Horizons for legislative research and educational public policy development for rural school districts, their respective teachers, and their respective school communities for fiscal year 2025, as presented in **Exhibit I**.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Mr. Kocjancic, Mr. Miller, Mrs. Patriarco, Mr. Vencill, and Mrs. Pike  
Motion carried

Mr. Colucci stated that fifty-one (51) superintendents are advocating for rural and Appalachian Schools.

- 43.24** It is the recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board approve the following item:

**Mr. Kocjancic moved and seconded by Mr. Vencill to approve the following item:**

Pay to Participate Fees

Approve the suspension of Pay to Participate Student Activity Fees for extracurricular activities beginning with the 2024-25 school year. The Board retains the right to reinstate these fees at any time.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Mr. Kocjancic, Mr. Vencill, Mr. Miller, Mrs. Patriarco, and Mrs. Pike  
Motion carried

- 44.24** It is the recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board approve the following item:

**Mr. Miller moved and seconded by Mr. Kocjancic to approve the following:**

Student Lunch Price Increase

Approve the recommendation to increase student lunch prices for the 2024-2025 school year, as presented in **Exhibit J**.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Mr. Miller, Mr. Kocjancic, Mrs. Patriarco, Mr. Vencill, and Mrs. Pike  
Motion carried

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### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS (CONTINUED)**

Mr. Vencill wants to see healthier lunches at the high school. Edgewood High School Principal Mr. Notar referenced an Edgewood High School presentation done by teachers regarding food service and students wanting more options. They will also meet with Food Service Supervisor Lisa Loomis to address. Mrs. Brand stated that as participants in the National School Lunch Program, school meals must meet nutritional requirements of a specific meal pattern provided by USDA.

**45.24** It is the recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board approve the following items:

**Mr. Kocjancic moved and seconded by Mr. Miller to approve the following:**

Accept Gifts

1. Accept a donation from the Buckeye Vocal Music Association (BMVA) to the Edgewood Choral Department to be used toward the purchase of a new keyboard in the amount of \$200.00.
2. Accept a donation from East Ashtabula Educational Assistance Corp. to Edgewood High School in the amount of \$2,000.00 for 2 - \$1,000.00 scholarships to EHS Seniors in accordance with the scholarship requirements.
3. Accept a donation from KMB Photography, Inc. to the BLSD Athletic Department in the amount of \$119.55.
4. Accept a donation from Playon Sports to the BLSD Athletic Department in the amount of \$42.65.
5. Accept a donation from Alana and Chad Miller for Student of the Month in the amount of \$85.38.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Mr. Kocjancic, Mr. Miller, Mrs. Patriarco, Mr. Vencill, and Mrs. Pike  
Motion carried

Mr. Colucci issued a thank you for the generous donations.

### **PERSONNEL**

It is the recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board approve the following Personnel items:

**46.24 Mr. Kocjancic moved and seconded by Mr. Miller to approve the following items:**

**Certified Staff:**

Certified - Tutor

Alexis Nelson, Home Instruction Tutor, Braden Middle School, for no more than 5 hours per week, tutor rate of pay \$25.51/hour, effective April 15, 2024.



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## PERSONNEL (CONTINUED)

### Certified - Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA)

Sarah Wittreich, Guidance Counselor at Ridgeview Elementary, effective April 16, 2024, for no more than 12 work weeks in a 12-month period.

### Certified - Resignations

1. Nicole Kray, National Honor Society, Edgewood High School, resignation effective at the end of the 2023-24 school year.
2. Holly White, Student Council Co-Advisor, Kingsville Elementary, effective at the end of the 2023-24 school year.

### Certified - Technology Substitute

Whereas, the Board of Education hereby employs Gregory Stolfer, Jr. as a Technology Substitute for the 2024-2025 school year at a rate of \$20 per hour for a total of 150 hours, not to exceed \$3,000.

### Certified - Non-Renew Permanent Substitute Teachers, effective June 30, 2024

Kira Campbell  
Tawnya Smith  
Patti Stauffenegger

### Certified - Non-Renew Tutor Contracts, effective June 30, 2024

Tonya Belnap-Tiscenko	Pamela Poff	Kimberly Weeks
Bethany Juncker	Carrie Rhodes	
Jennifer Myers	Shelby Schwotzer	
Julie Oberg	Tawnya Smith	

### Non-Certified/Non-Employees - Extracurricular and Special Fee Assignments

## **SUPPLEMENTAL RESOLUTION TO APPOINT NON-CERTIFIED/ NON-LICENSED NON-EMPLOYEE(S) TO SUPPLEMENTAL POSITION(S)**

**WHEREAS**, the Buckeye Local Board of Education strives to appoint qualified certified/licensed employees to fulfill supplemental contracts; and

**WHEREAS**, the board has offered the following supplemental position(s) to certified/licensed employee(s) of the district; and

**WHEREAS**, no such employee(s) qualified to fill the position(s) has accepted it; and

**WHEREAS**, the position(s) was then advertised to certified/licensed individual(s) who are not employed by the board; and

**WHEREAS**, no such person(s) qualified to fill the position(s) has accepted it; and

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## PERSONNEL (CONTINUED)

**WHEREAS**, the board has deemed the following non-licensed/non-certified individuals identified below as qualified to fill the supplemental position(s);

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Buckeye Local Board of Education, in compliance with O.R.C. 3313.53(D), awards the following supplemental contract(s), for the school year indicated below, to the following person(s):

Name	Position	Year	Start Date	Yrs Exp	Salary
Jay Bowler	Head Boys Basketball	2024-25	11/1/24	7+	\$6,755.40

### **Classified Staff:**

#### Classified - Appointment

Richard Burnheimer, Bus Mechanic for the District, 8 hours per day, Step 6 of 9, \$20.71/hour, effective April 22, 2024.

#### Classified - Substitutes

1. Natasha Hibbard - Administrative Assistant, Cafeteria
2. Michael Ochoa - Student Worker
3. Brittany Stacy - Administrative Assistant, Cafeteria
4. Lexi Terrano - Student Worker
5. Mason Thorrr - Student Worker

#### Classified - 2024 Summer Food Service Program

Stacy Conrad - Manager, \$20.00/hour

#### Food Service Workers - \$15.00/hour

1. Shauna Blizzard
2. Jean Conrad
3. Darla Helfer
4. Tawnya Kiser
5. Nicole Paul
6. Beverly Pierce
7. Debbie Turner (as needed)
8. Dan Varkett
9. Tanya Zimmerman

#### One-Year Temporary Non-Bachelor's Substitute Teaching License 2023-2024 School Year

In accordance with the passage of Senate Bill 1 of the 134<sup>th</sup> General Assembly, the Ohio Department of Education has been granted the authority to issue a one-time, non-renewable One-Year Temporary Non-Bachelor's Substitute Teaching License for

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**PERSONNEL (CONTINUED)**

the 2023-2024 school year to applicants who do not hold a post-secondary degree but meet the employing school or district's educational requirements with board approval.

Kevin Brown - effective April 3, 2024

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Mr. Kocjancic, Mr. Miller, Mrs. Patriarco, Mr. Vencill, and Mrs. Pike  
Motion carried

*All personnel appointments are contingent upon possessing or obtaining the appropriate certification/licensure, validation, and/or permit as required by law and board policy, as well as satisfactory physical examination, criminal background check and/or current CPR training where applicable.*

It is the recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board approve the following Personnel item:

**47.24 Mr. Kocjancic moved and seconded by Mr. Miller to approve the following items:**

Classified - Non-Renew Tutor Contract, effective June 30, 2024  
Christy Vencill

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Mr. Kocjancic, Mr. Miller, Mrs. Patriarco, and Mrs. Pike  
Abstained: Mr. Vencill  
Motion carried

It is the recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board approve the following Personnel item:

**48.24 Mr. Kocjancic moved and seconded by Mr. Vencill to approve the following items:**

Certified - Non-Renew Tutor Contract, effective June 30, 2024  
Jacqueline Allenbaugh

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Mr. Kocjancic, Mr. Vencill, Mr. Miller, and Mrs. Patriarco  
Abstained: Mrs. Pike  
Motion carried

**VISITOR PARTICIPATION RELATIVE TO NEW ITEMS**

Pam Pierce-Ruhland spoke about the potential effect on students of eliminating study halls. She would like parents to be surveyed before a change is made. Edgewood High School Principal Mr. Notar stated that Edgewood is keeping study halls but revamping to better serve and support our students.

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## **OTHER BUSINESS – FYI**

Mr. Colucci gave an update on restroom divider quotes from last month's regular board meeting. More information to come as the district receives quotes.

Mr. Notar stated that close to 400 students/parents were in attendance at the Father Daughter Dance. He thanked Thomas Clark for DJ services and photo booth services.

## **49.24 EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Mr. Kocjancic moved and seconded by Mr. Miller to enter into executive session at 7:48 P.M.**

For the discussion of personnel - appointment, employment of public employees/officials, and investigation of complaints.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Mr. Kocjancic, Mr. Miller, Mrs. Patriarco, Mr. Vencill, and Mrs. Pike  
Motion carried

Executive session ended at 8:32 P.M.  
Open session reconvened.

## **50.24 ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Kocjancic moved and seconded by Mr. Miller to adjourn this regular meeting at 8:32 P.M.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Mr. Kocjancic, Mr. Miller, Mrs. Patriarco, Mr. Vencill, and Mrs. Pike  
Motion carried

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
SHANNON PIKE  
PRESIDENT

\_\_\_\_\_  
KASSANDRA BRAND  
TREASURER