



# **RAVENNA SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**

**February 26, 2024**

**Regular Meeting**

**5:30 p.m.**

**Ravenna High School**

## **Members of the Board**

Michael Wisniewski, President  
Patricia Denmsion, Vice President  
Pamela Nation Cahoun  
Joan Seman  
Michael Tontimonia

## **Administrators**

Dr. Laura Hebert, Superintendent  
Candi R. Lukat, Treasurer

**Ravenna School District  
Board of Education  
February 26, 2024  
Business Meeting - 5:30 p.m.  
Ravenna High School**

**Agenda Outline**

Dr. Laura Hebert, Superintendent

Candi R. Lukat, Treasurer

This Agenda has been annotated to help the public follow meeting activities.

**This meeting is a meeting of the Board of Education in public for the purpose of conducting the school district's business and is not to be considered a public community meeting. There is a time for public participation during the meeting as indicated in the agenda item.**

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**I. Call to Order**

*Call to Order represents the President's notification that the meeting is to begin.*

**II. Roll Call**

*Roll Call establishes that a legal quorum of members is present and Board business can be conducted.*

Michael Wisniewski - President  
Patricia Dennison - Vice President  
Pamela Nation Calhoun  
Joan Seman  
Michael Tontimonia

Introduction of Student Board Members of the Month by Mr. Wisniewski:

*Angelina Fuller - RHS  
Julius Maddox - BMS*

**III. Pledge of Allegiance**

**IV. A Moment of Silence**

**V. Additions or Corrections to Agenda****VI. Approval of Agenda****Resolution 24-2-****Moved by:****Seconded by:****Ayes:****Vote Count:****Motion Carried/Defeated****VII. Recognition of Public**

*Any person or group wishing to address the Board on agenda items is requested to register their intent with the Superintendent's secretary prior to the beginning of the board meeting. Persons are asked to give their name, address and telephone number; their group affiliation, if and when appropriate; and the topic to be addressed. Such requests shall be subject to the approval of the Superintendent and the Board President. Per Board Policy 0169.1: No participant may speak more than once on the same topic unless all others who wish to speak on that topic have been heard. All statements shall be directed to the presiding officer; no person may address or question Board members individually. Each statement made by a participant shall be limited to three (3) minutes duration.*

*\*Please note that since this is designated in board policy as a time for the public to provide comment, the Board of Education and the Superintendent will not respond to any comment during the meeting. We will, however, provide a written response to each member of the public who is recognized either by email or the US postal service.*

**VIII. Game Changer Awards Recognition**

*Staff: Mr. Harley Hall, Art Teacher, Ravenna High School  
Mr. Gary Smith, Custodian, Brown Middle School*

*Students: Scarlett Nickol, Ravenna Preschool  
Elijah Hamilton, West Park School  
Eli Holsopple, Willyard Elementary School  
Lillian Jewell, West Main Elementary School  
Joslyn Hawkins, Brown Middle School  
Hayden Handzo, Ravenna High School*

**\*\*\*\* Brief Recess \*\*\*\***

**IX. Treasurer Update****X. Superintendent Update****XI. Building Spotlight ~ Willyard Elementary School ~ Mr. Joseph Kuzior****XII. Department Spotlight ~ Special Services ~ Mrs. Jessica Haynes**

**XIII. Reports of the Board**

- A. **Maplewood Report** Mrs. Seman
- B. **Parks and Recreation Report** Mrs. Dennison

**XIV. Reports of the Treasurer**

**A. Financial Items For Approval**

**Resolution 24-2-**

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** ~ Ms. Lukat is recommending that the Board of Education approve the meeting minutes of the January 22, 2024 Business Meeting.
2. **GIFTS/DONATION(S):** ~ Ms. Lukat is recommending that the Board of Education accepts the donations listed below.

Donor	Recipient	Amount
Marilyn Mayle	Ms. Kiser Class Supplies - WP	\$100.00
Ravenna Police Association	Ravenna Preschool Field Trip	\$250.00

3. **FINANCIAL REPORTS** ~ Ms. Lukat is recommending that the Board of Education approve the Treasurer’s Financial Reports for the month ending January 31, 2024.
  - Cash Position Report
  - Check Register Report
  - Budget Status Report
  - Bank Reconciliation

4. **APPROVAL OF THEN AND NOW PAYMENTS** - Ms. Lukat is recommending that the Board of Education approve the certification and availability of funds for the following expenditures:

Date Paid	PO#	Date of PO	Vendor	Amount	Invoice Date	Check #	
2/1/2024	24001162	01/26/2024	Applewood Centers Inc	\$10,013.49	1/8/2024	61338	2/26/2024

5. **APPROVAL OF OSU BROWN MIDDLE SCHOOL MASTER GARDENER GRANT** ~ Ms. Lukat is recommending that the Board of Education approve this grant, in the amount of \$499.22, which was awarded to Brown Middle School to be used for Mrs. Stefansic and Ms. McKenna’s classroom horticulture project.
6. **APPROVAL OF OSU RAVENNA HIGH SCHOOL MASTER GARDENER GRANT** ~ Ms. Lukat is recommending that the Board of Education approve this grant, in the amount of \$488.78, which was awarded to Ravenna High School to

be used for Ms. O’Donnell and Mr. Callihan’s classroom greenhouse project.

- 7. **APPROVAL OF PORTAGE COUNTY RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION GRANT** ~ Ms. Lukat is recommending that the Board of Education approve this grant, in the amount of \$500.00, which was awarded to Mr. Wunderle at Ravenna High School to be used for an educational unit on “Reacting to the Past”.

- 8. **ACCEPT TAX LEVY RATES FOR COUNTY AUDITOR** ~ Ms. Lukat is recommending that the Board accept the amounts and rates as determined by the County Budget Commission and further authorizing the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the County Auditor for collection.

**Moved by:**

**Seconded by:**

**Ayes:**

**Vote Count:**

**Motion Carried/Defeated**

**Resolution 24-2-**

- 9. **APPROVAL OF OHIO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEFICIT REDUCTION PLAN** ~ Ms. Lukat is recommending that the Board approve the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce Deficit Reduction plan which provides a written plan to avoid the FY2025 low balance fund and the FY2026 negative balance projected in the district’s October, 2023 Five Year Forecast of General Funds.

**Moved by:**

**Seconded by:**

**Ayes:**

**Vote Count:**

**Motion Carried/Defeated**

**XV. Reports and Recommendations of the Superintendent and Other Administrators**

**A. Business Recommendation**

**Resolution 24-2-**

- 1. **APPROVE MEMBERSHIP AGREEMENT – OHIO HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION (OHSAA)** – Dr. Hebert is recommending the Board authorize our 2024-2025 membership in the OHSAA:

**WHEREAS,** RAVENNA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT, District IRN 044685, of 534 Summit Street, Portage County, Ohio, has satisfied all the requirements for membership in the Ohio High School Athletic Association, a voluntary unincorporated association not-for-profit; and

**WHEREAS,** The Board of Education/Governing Board (“Board”) and its Administration desire for the schools with one or more grades at the 7-12 grade level under their jurisdiction to be voluntary members of the OHSAA;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION/GOVERNING BOARD** that all schools listed on the reverse

side of this card do hereby voluntarily renew membership in the OHSAA and that in doing so, the Constitution, Bylaws, Regulations, and Business Rules of the OHSAA are hereby adopted by this Board as and for its own minimum requirements as it pertains to, but not limited to, student eligibility, coaching requirements, and administrative responsibility. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Board reserves the right to raise the minimum standards as it deems appropriate for the schools and students under its jurisdiction; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the schools under this Board's jurisdiction agree to conduct their athletics programs in accordance with the Constitution, Bylaws, Regulations, Business Rules, interpretations and decisions of the OHSAA and cooperate fully and timely with the Executive Director's office of OHSAA in all matters related to the interscholastic athletic programs of the schools. Furthermore, the schools under this Board's jurisdiction shall be the primary enforcers of the OHSAA Constitution, Bylaws, Regulations, Business Rules and the interpretations and rulings rendered by the Executive Director's office. The administrative heads of these schools understand that failure to discharge the duty of primary enforcement may result in fines, removal from tournaments, suspension from membership and/or other such penalties as prescribed in Bylaw 11.

**Moved By:**

**Seconded By:**

**Ayes:**

**Vote Count:**

**Motion Carried/Defeated**

**Resolution 24-2-**

**2. APPROVE AGREEMENT BETWEEN STARK-PORTAGE AREA CONSORTIUM AND THE RAVENNA SCHOOL DISTRICT ~ Mr.**

Newcome is recommending the Board approve the agreement for Internet Services from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025.

**3. APPROVE BUS BID PARTICIPATION - Mr. York is recommending the Board approve the recommendation for the District to participate in the OSC Spring 2024 school bus bidding process.**

**4. APPROVE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING - Dr. Hebert is recommending the Board approve the memorandum of understanding with *Stark State College Credit Plus (CCP) Program* for the 2024-2025 school year that represents a reduced financial formula resulting in a cost savings benefit for our district's students who choose to take courses through Stark State College.**

**Moved By:**

**Seconded By:**

**Ayes:**

**Vote Count:**

**Motion Carried/Defeated**

**Resolution 24-2-**

**5. APPROVE OVERNIGHT/EXTENDED FIELD TRIP – Dr. Hebert is recommending the Board approve the request for an overnight/extended field trip: *William R. Day Civics Institute Museums Tour* ~ Mr. Lane is**

requesting Board approval for Matthew Wunderle’s proposal for an overnight trip to Cincinnati for the Holocaust and Underground Railroad Museums Tour on April 18-19, 2024. The financial responsibility will come from individual students and sponsor contributions as needed.

**Moved By:** **Seconded By:**  
**Ayes:**  
**Vote Count:**  
**Motion Carried/Defeated**

**Resolution 24-2-**  
**6. APPROVE PAYMENT-IN-LIEU OF TRANSPORTATION AGREEMENT ~**

This resolution to declare transportation impractical for certain identified students is presented pursuant to the requirements of Revised Code Chapter 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, Dr. Laura Hebert, recommends that the Board of Education adopt the following resolution:

**WHEREAS** the students 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 students to his/her selected school; 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 Revised Code:

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Ravenna Board of Education hereby approves the declaration of impractical to transport for the identified students, and offering parent payment in lieu of transportation in the amount of \$596.43 (state minimum) per child to be paid at the end of the 2023-2024 school year.

<u><i>Student Name</i></u>	<u><i>School Selected</i></u>	<u><i>Parent/Guardian</i></u>
<i>Laniya Caples</i>	<i>Miller South Performing Arts Akron</i>	<i>LaTasha Dukes</i>

**Moved By:** **Seconded By:**  
**Ayes:**  
**Vote Count:**  
**Motion Carried/Defeated**

**XVI. Personnel Considerations**

**Resolution 24-2-**

**A. Certificated**

1. **APPROVE MOVEMENT ON THE PAY SCALE/CERTIFICATED** – Mr. Ribelin is recommending the Board approve the following staff be moved on the pay scale due to completion of additional training, effective the second semester of the 2023-2024 school year:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Present Status</u>	<u>New Status</u>
<i>Taya Miller</i>	<i>B + 0</i>	<i>B + 20</i>
<i>Antonio Pereira</i>	<i>M +0</i>	<i>M + 10</i>

2. **EMPLOYMENT OF SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS** – Mr. Ribelin is recommending the following be hired as substitute teachers for the 2023-2024 school year at the rate of \$120.00 per diem.

*David Georgevich, Mai Abbassi*

**Moved by:** **Seconded by:**  
**Ayes:**  
**Vote Count:**  
**Motion Carried/Defeated**

**Resolution 24-2-**

**B. Supplemental Contracts**

1. **APPROVE EMPLOYMENT/ATHLETICS** – Mr. Lunardi is recommending the Board approve the following Coaching supplemental contracts for the 2023-2024 school year. The supplemental contracts below are subject to the collective bargaining agreement between the Ravenna Board of Education and the Ravenna Educational Association.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ASSIGNMENT</u>
<i>Earl (Lee) Lovejoy</i>	<i>Boys Baseball Head Coach - RHS</i>
<i>Matt Byers</i>	<i>Boys Baseball Asst Coach - RHS</i>
<i>Lauren Svoboda</i>	<i>Assistant Cheer Advisor - RHS</i>
<i>Samantha Fincham</i>	<i>Head Cheer Advisor - BMS</i>
<i>Chloe Kramer</i>	<i>Girls Softball Head Coach - RHS</i>
<i>Madison Raynard</i>	<i>Girls Softball Asst. Coach - RHS</i>
<i>Brittney O'Donnell (Kohanski)</i>	<i>Boys Tennis Head Coach - RHS</i>
<i>Laddie Fair</i>	<i>Girls Track Head Coach - RHS</i>
<i>DeMonte Powell</i>	<i>Boys Track Head Coach - RHS</i>
<i>Brad Hager</i>	<i>Boys Track Head Coach-BMS</i>
<i>Xavier McShan</i>	<i>Girls/Boys Track Asst. Coach - RHS</i>



**Dominic Jones**

**Girls/Boys Track Asst. Coach - RHS**

**C. Volunteers**

1. **APPROVE EMPLOYMENT/VOLUNTEERS** - Mr. Lunardi is recommending the Board approve the following volunteer positions for the 2023-2024 school year. This is pending a successful background investigation check.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ASSIGNMENT</u>
<i>Garrett Hickle</i>	<i>Baseball - RHS</i>
<i>James Lovejoy</i>	<i>Baseball - RHS</i>
<i>Andrew Kramer</i>	<i>Softball - RHS</i>
<i>Ryan O'Donnell</i>	<i>Boys Tennis - RHS</i>

**Moved by:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Seconded by:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Ayes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Vote Count:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Motion Carried/Defeated**

**D. Classified**

**Resolution 24-2-**

1. **APPROVE EMPLOYMENT/EDUCATIONAL AIDE** – Mrs. Haynes is recommending *Isaiah Calhoun*, be hired as *Educational Aide at West Main Elementary* effective *January 23, 2024*.

**Moved by:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Seconded by:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Ayes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Vote Count:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Motion Carried/Defeated**

**Resolution 24-2-**

2. **ACCEPT RETIREMENT RESIGNATION/EDUCATIONAL AIDE** – *Natalie Rogers, Educational Aide at West Main Elementary School* has submitted her retirement resignation effective the end of the 2023-2024 school year.
3. **ACCEPT RESIGNATION/EDUCATIONAL AIDE** – *Carly Richardson, Educational Aide at Ravenna High School* has submitted her resignation. Carly’s last day of work was *February 9, 2024*.
4. **APPROVE EMPLOYMENT/EDUCATIONAL AIDE** – Mrs. Haynes is recommending *Nayriah Ezell*, be hired as *Educational Aide at Ravenna High School* effective *February 1, 2024*.
5. **APPROVE UNPAID LEAVE OF ABSENCE** - It is being recommended to approve an Unpaid Leave of Absence for *LaMyra Luttrell, Educational Aide* at *West Main Elementary* from *March 4, 2024* through the end of the 2023-2024 school year.
6. **APPROVE UNPAID LEAVE OF ABSENCE** - It is being recommended to

approve an Unpaid Leave of Absence for *Trisha Sivley, Educational Aide* at *Wilyard Elementary School* effective *February 20, 2024* through the end of the 2023-2024 school year.

- 7. **APPROVE UNPAID LEAVE OF ABSENCE** - It is being recommended to approve an Unpaid Leave of Absence for *Debra Wyers, Bus Driver* from *January 29, 2024* through approximately *February 26, 2024*.
- 8. **APPROVE EMPLOYMENT/CUSTODIAN** – Mr. York is recommending *Zachary King*, be hired as *C-2 Custodian* at *Ravenna High School Stadium* effective *February 28, 2024*.
- 9. **ACCEPT RESIGNATION/CUSTODIAN** – *Martha Duncan, C-4 Custodian* at *Ravenna High School* has submitted her resignation. Martha’s last day of work will be *February 16, 2024*.
- 10. **APPROVE EMPLOYMENT/SUBSTITUTE EMPLOYEES** - The following is a list of employee(s) being recommended in the following substitute capacities. This request is pending a successful background investigation check.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Start Date</u>
<i>Sarah Laroche-Knapp</i>	<i>Secretary</i>	<i>February 12, 2024</i>
<i>Sarah Laroche-Knapp</i>	<i>Food Handler</i>	<i>February 20, 2024</i>
<i>Joshua McQuilkin</i>	<i>Custodian</i>	<i>February 23, 2024</i>

Moved by: Seconded by:  
 Ayes:  
 Vote Count:  
 Motion Carried/Defeated

**E. Confidential:**

- Resolution 24-2-**
- 1. **APPROVE EMPLOYMENT/PAYROLL CLERK** – Ms. Lukat is recommending *Joy Schuyler*, be hired as *Payroll Clerk* effective *February 20, 2024*.

Moved by: Seconded by:  
 Ayes:  
 Vote Count:  
 Motion Carried/Defeated

**XVII. Recognition of Public**

*Any person or group wishing to address the Board on non-agenda items is requested to register their intent with the Superintendent’s secretary prior to the beginning of the board meeting. Persons are asked to give their name, address and telephone number; their group affiliation, if and when appropriate; and the topic to be addressed. Such requests shall be subject to the approval of the Superintendent and the Board President. Per Board Policy 0169.1: No participant may speak more than once on the same topic unless all others who wish to speak on that topic have been heard. All statements shall be directed to the presiding officer; no person*

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## **XVIII. Discussion with Student Board Members of the Month ~ Angelina Fuller and Julius Maddox**

## **XIX. Informational Items**

- *End of 3rd Nine Weeks ~ Friday, March 15, 2024*
- *Next Board of Education Meeting, Ravenna High School ~ Monday, March 25, 2024*
- *Good Friday ~ Friday, March 29, 2024*
- *Spring Break ~ Monday, April 1, 2024 through Friday, April 5, 2024 (includes Conference Comp Day)*
- *Calamity Day ~ Monday, April 8, 2024 ~ Solar Eclipse*

## **XX. Executive Session**

### **Resolution 24-2-**

*An "Executive Session", or private session of the Board is controlled by the "Sunshine Law" and may only be used for special purposes outlined in the law. No action can be taken by the Board during Executive Session.*

In accordance with Ohio Revised Code 121.22, the Ravenna Board of Education will go into Executive Session for the sole purpose of the consideration of any of the following matters:

- A. To consider one or more, as applicable, of the check marked items with respect to a public employee or official:
1.  Appointment
  2.  Employment
  3.  Dismissal
  4.  Discipline
  5.  Promotion
  6.  Demotion
  7.  Compensation of a public employee or official; or
  8.  Investigation of charges/complaints against a public employee, official, licensee, or regulated individual (unless public hearing requested).
- B. To consider the purchase of property for public purposes, or for the sale of property at competitive bidding, if premature disclosure of the information would give an unfair competitive or bargaining advantage to a person whose personal, private interest is adverse to the public interest.

- \_\_\_ C. Conference with an attorney for the public body concerning disputes involving the public body that are the subject of pending or imminent court action.
- \_\_\_ D. Preparing for, conducting or reviewing negotiations or bargaining sessions with public employees concerning their compensation or other terms and conditions of their employment.
- \_\_\_ E. Matters required to be kept confidential by federal law or regulations or state statutes.
- \_\_\_ F. Details relative to security arrangements and emergency response protocols for a public body or a public office, if disclosure of the matters discussed could be expected to jeopardize the security of the public body or public office.

**Moved By:**

**Seconded By:**

**Ayes:**

**Vote Count:**

**Motion Carried/Defeated**

**XXI. Adjourn or Recess**

**Resolution 24-2-**

**Moved By:**

**Seconded By:**

**Ayes:**

**Vote Count:**

**Motion Carried/Defeated**

*The Board may adjourn its meeting or recess it to a specific time and place or to the "Call of the Chair". If a meeting is recessed, it is still considered to be a part of the Regular Meeting.*