

FINNEYTOWN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Regular Meeting, November 18, 2024
Brent Board Office Meeting Room
8791 Brent Drive
Cincinnati, OH 45231
Open Forum 6:00pm
Regular Meeting 6:30pm

The Finneytown Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, November 18, 2024, in the Brent Board Office Meeting Room, 8791 Brent Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45231. Ms. Lee, Ms. McMullen, Mr. Plaut, Mr. Rea and Mr. Reeb were present. The President called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

138-24 Ms. McMullen moved, seconded by Ms. Lee, that the Board approve the agenda as presented. The President declared the motion passed.

139-24 Mr. Rea moved, seconded by Ms. McMullen, the Board approved the minutes from the Regular Meeting of October 21, 2024 and the Special Meeting of November 12, 2024. The President declared the motion passed.

Administrative Report

ProAction Café Student Report

Dr. Laurie Banks, Superintendent and several high school students modeled a live ProAction Café hosted topic in which they discussed their ProAction café experiences and how it has impacted them.

Dr. Laurie Banks, Superintendent – discussed the following:

- Youth Advisory Council – The district's American Youth Foundation and Interact for Health grant has been renewed and been increased this year.
- Third Space – The district is piloting a new safe space afterschool student activity program for secondary campus students, which starts tomorrow.
- Restorative Peer Mediator Retreat – was hosted this past weekend; 14 new student peer mediators were trained.
- Staff Learning – Staff is meeting twice per month. Our focus is on partnering and small group work to observe each other and give feedback.
- OSBA Capital Conference – I attended. Highlights included: 1) hosting an Open Space session with Dan Joyner on the opportunities and obstacles in public education advocacy (as a result of session three additional open space session are being set up on this topic), 2) attending a Bringing Humanity into Leadership session based on the book, *Otherful: How to Change the World (and Your School) Through other People*. Our administrators will be reading this book.
- Key Communicators – Met last week. This group is a great forum for communication between the district and its support organization and community leaders.
- Winters Sports Kickoff – was held on November 7.
- Long Range Facilities Planning Team – A meeting is planned for November 20, 6-8pm.

- Neighborhood Bridges – We will be meeting with this organization, introduced to us by Cathy McNair, that partners with school districts across the state, acting as a broker to match very specific student needs with donors that are able to meet those needs.
- Consolidated School Report – This annual compliance report was recently submitted. Nutrition represents a component of this report. Tina Reynolds, Milford Food Service, Director of Nutrition Services, prepared information on our program for the report.

Mr. Grant Anderson, Director of Business Operations – provided the following Secondary Campus building project update:

- We are facing some budget challenges with the Secondary Campus building project.
- Our GMP (guaranteed maximum price) #2 bid came back much higher than expected.
- The district, the Ohio Schools Construction Commission (OFCC), the architect (Elevar) and the Construction Manager at Risk (Skanska) have been meeting over the past several weeks to identify cost savings possibilities.
- Heating Ventilation Air Conditioning (HVAC) for the project, which came back exceptionally high, has been a major area of focus. Significant savings (1.3 million) have been identified, but we're still not where we hope to be.
- Similar value engineering (VE) work is being done with the low bidders on all the bids to find savings, while maintaining high-quality construction.
- Aware of the construction inflationary trend, which has run over 40% since 2019, and with other major facility master plan projects in addition to the new grades 7-12 building planned, significant funding sources and amounts have been identified and set aside over the past four years to ensure these projects have a good chance to become reality.
- Budget challenges at several stages have impacted the construction timeline. At this point, we plan to put the revised project out for bid in February, with construction to begin in June and July. The building is expected to be completed in time for a 2026-27 mid-year move-in.
- The facilities master plan includes: a new 7-12 building, new softball field, new baseball field, and renovation of the gymnasium, performing arts center and 100-building.
- An investment to replace the gymnasium roof took place last year. A project to replace HVAC at the gymnasium and 100 building is in progress now and nearing completion.
- The district is also investigating an Advanced Energy Fund Grant, which provides a dollar-for-dollar match for facility renovation projects that produce electric and natural gas savings, to assist with identified facility master plan projects. These projects start at a \$500,000 with a \$250,000 local share.

Public Address

None

Review of Action Steps from last month

- 1) Finalize treasurer's evaluation – Done, except for final signature
- 2) Follow up with individuals that publicly addressed the Board during tonight's meeting – Done. Mr. Anderson made contact and addressed concerns.

- 3) Schedule a Personnel Committee meeting to review and discuss: 1) COG substitute pay, and 2) athletic supplementals – A Personnel meeting is scheduled December 2.

Board Coordination Matters

Board Member Reports

Mr. Reeb, discussed the following items:

- Capital Conference –
 - I attended this conference for the first time and found it to be a great learning experience and chance to network with other board members.

Ms. Lee, discussed the following items:

- Capital Conference – I attended some of the best sessions ever this year. Thanks to Ms. McMullen for suggesting a session schedule.
- Superintendent/Treasurer Evaluations – Ms. McMullen, Dr. Banks, Mr. Oliverio and me met to discuss and document the Superintendent and Treasurer evaluation process. I have quite a few notes and would like a special meeting to review and discuss with the entire Board for their feedback before finalizing and documenting for future boards, as needed.
- Finneytown Athletic Association – I was not able to attend the FAA meeting, which took place while I was at the Capital Conference.
- Finneytown Athletic Booster – The next meeting is November 20.
- Board Event Calendar – Advance online signup and attendance encouraged (limit 2 board members per event):
 - November 25 – Elementary Lunch with Staff Invite
 - December 4 – Orchestra Concert
 - December 6 – K-3 Family Event
 - December 10-12 – Art Show and Book Fair
 - December 11 – Band Concert
 - January 9 – ProAction Café

Ms. McMullen, discussed the following items:

- Finneytown Music Parents Association – I attended the recent meeting
 - Gift Card Fundraiser – a new online fundraiser is being launched where individuals can purchase gift cards, and a percentage of the sale goes back to the organization. For more information, contact Maggie Laird or April Bruder.
 - Voices of Harmony – will be performing this Friday at Florence. The event will feature a light show, ice skating, hot chocolate, train rides, and more. For each ticket purchased, \$3 will go back to FMPA.
 - Pancake Breakfast - a pancake breakfast will be hosted on December 14, from 9:00 AM to 11:30 AM.
 - Orchestra Camp – Mr. Geisel is facilitating a camp for orchestra students to work with professors from Northern Kentucky University.
 - Band of America Competition – Congratulations to the school's band for placing 11th in the nation—a significant achievement!

- Secondary PTA – Mr. Plaut and I both attended the PTA meetings this month.
 - Mayor of Finneytown – Congratulations to Digby, who took first place.
 - Wildcat Serve – Donations are being collected for the holidays to support families in need. Renee Heath is coordinating this initiative. Sign-up links are available on the PTA page for those interested in donating or volunteering.
 - Reflections – The last day to submit work for Reflections is this week. All submissions should be sent to Ms. Ficke for judging.
 - Secondary PTA will be reviewing grants on Tuesday, November 19, at 7:00 PM.
 - Primary PTA will host the second annual Winter Market on December 7 from 12:00 PM to 3:00 PM at Finneytown Elementary. The market will feature local vendors, food for purchase, gift wrapping (done by Student Council), raffles, and more.
 - Upcoming Events
 - Grandparents Day – November 26.
 - Conference Release Day – November 27.
 - Thanksgiving Break – November 28-29.
 - Extended Break Camp Opportunity - A special extended camp will be offered during the additional week of Christmas break. Kudos to Dr. Banks, the YMCA and Arts Connect for organizing the camp. Those interested in signing up should reach out to Dr. Banks, Missy Wash at the YMCA, or Arts Connect.
 - PBL Showcase – The PBL (Project-Based Learning) showcase for Mrs. Burwell's class was a successful event. Students were highly engaged, learning in an environment tailored to their interests. They brainstormed and created their own projects based on a list of topics.

Mr. Plaut, discussed the following items:

- OSBA Conference – I attended the OSBA Conference. The sessions provided valuable insights into state politics, policies affecting education, and how state-level decisions impact school districts.
- Finneytown Schools Educational Foundation (dba Finneytown Alumni Network) – Announced the next Alumni Weekend is scheduled to coincide with the 2025 Homecoming, with events beginning on September 25, 2025. Anyone interested in more details is encouraged to attend the next Alumni Meeting on January 9, 2024, at the Brent administrative building. It's open to all—attendance does not require alumni status.
- Bands of America Performance – I got the chance to watch the band perform. The students performed excellently. A special shout-out to Mr. Delaney and his team for their hard work and contributions. Please thank and congratulate them for their efforts and success when you see them.

Mr. Rea, discussed the following items:

- Arts Connect *Finding Nemo* – I attended the Arts Connect presentation of *Finding Nemo* at the PAC (Performing Arts Center). The students thoroughly enjoyed performing in the larger theater and did a fantastic job, and Arts Connect was appreciative of the partnership that made the event possible.
- Legislative Updates

- Religious Expression Days – A new bill under discussion would require schools to have a policy regarding religious expression days.
- House Bill 445 – This bill proposes allowing students to leave school during specials classes for religious education. It’s important to note that if the bill passes, the school would need to offer this option for all religions. This bill is expected to pass, based on current discussions.
- Minimum Teacher Salary – A bill is being considered that would increase the minimum salary for starting public school teachers in Ohio to \$50,000 per year. Ohio currently ranks below the national average for teacher salaries.
- Senate Bill 104 (Bathroom Ban) – This bill, which the Governor is expected to sign, addresses bathroom access. Can I get answers to the following questions for our next meeting:
 - Do our elementary school bathrooms currently comply with the law, considering they are non-gendered?
 - If the law is passed, will our current policy be exempt, or will changes need to be made?
 - What are the plans for restrooms at the new secondary campus?
 - Do we have access to any feedback from students or community on discussions related to potential restroom policy changes?

Since we are a school that says we are for all students, then we should be working towards that. On this one, I won’t agree to disagree and will be fighting to include everyone.

140-24 Mr. Plaut moved, second by Ms. Mullen, that the Board adopt the “Consent Calendar” as follows:

Action by the Board of Education in adoption of the “Consent Calendar” at this point of the agenda means that all items appearing with an asterisk (*) after the title constitute the “Consent Calendar” and are adopted by one single motion, unless a member of the Board of Education or the Superintendent requests that any such item be removed from the “Consent Calendar” and voted upon separately.

a) Monthly Financial Report*

b) Depository and Investment Balances as of October 31, 2024*

U.S. Bank	0.0890%	\$ 235,118.43
U.S. Bank (construction fund)	0.5800%	\$ 2,851,647.80
STAR Ohio (construction #1)	5.0400%	\$ 2,050,025.30
STAR Ohio	5.0400%	\$ 27,850,556.47
STAR Ohio (construction #2)	5.0400%	\$ 3,224,341.27
STAR Ohio (OFCC state share)	5.0400%	\$ 4,075,879.12

c) Interest Earned on Depository and Investment Accounts as of October 31, 2024*

General Fund	\$ 121,400.78
Construction Fund	\$ 13,813.13

d) Monthly Bond Project Spending and Commitment Report*

[See attachment]

e) Approval of Five Year Forecast*

The Board approved the Five Year Forecast.

f) Approval of Transfer* - General Fund to the Capital Projects Fund FY25

The Finneytown Board of Education approved the following transfer made from the General Fund (001) into the Capital Projects Fund (070) for the purpose of accumulating resources for the acquisition, construction and improvement of fixed assets in accordance with Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.13(C).

001-7200-910	General Fund	\$1,000,000.00
070-5100-9024	Capital Projects Fund	\$1,000,000.00

The Capital Projects Fund transfer represents district support for masterplan renovation and new construction projects designed to complement funded portions of the district's facilities master plan out of current year general fund operating surplus dollars. The anticipated 10-year costs are \$6,000,000.00.

RC: Ms. McMullen, yes; Mr. Rea, yes; Mr. Reeb, yes; Ms. Lee, yes; Mr. Plaut, yes. The Board President declared the motion passed.

141-24 Mr. Rea moved, second by Ms. McMullen that the Board adopt the Resolution Requesting Authorization from the County Auditor to Submit a Modified Tax Budget:

WHEREAS, Section 5705.28 of the Ohio Revised Code requires a board of education to adopt an annual tax budget on or before January 15th for the next succeeding fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, Section 5705.281 of the Ohio Revised Code authorizes the county budget commission to waive the requirement that a school district adopt a tax budget as provided under Section 5705.28 of the Ohio Revised Code, and instead authorize the board of education to provide such information to the county budget commission as may be required by the commission to perform its duties under Chapter 5705 of the Ohio Revised Code; and

WHEREAS, the Hamilton County Auditor has informed the Board of Education of the Finneytown Local School District (the "Board of Education") that it is required to pass a Resolution authorizing the Treasurer of the Board of Education to make a request to waive the requirement of the adoption of a tax budget, and instead request to file a modified tax budget in accordance with Section 5705.281 of the Ohio Revised Code; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has utilized a modified tax budget in prior years and believes that its continued use is advantageous since it provides additional information on the long-term financial plan of the District and utilizes a format that has become familiar to the Board of Education and its community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Finneytown Local School District Board of Education as follows:

SECTION I: The Treasurer of the Board of Education is hereby authorized and directed to request the ability to file a modified tax budget for the 2025/2026 fiscal year. The Treasurer shall make said request by sending a letter addressed to the Hamilton County Budget Commission and including a copy of this Resolution with his letter.

SECTION II: The Treasurer of the Board of Education is hereby authorized and directed to do all things necessary to ensure the Board of Education may utilize the modified tax budget for the 2025/2026 fiscal year.

SECTION III: It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Board concerning or related to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Board, and all deliberations of this Board and any of its committees

that resulted in such formal actions were adopted in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all applicable requirements of the Ohio Revised Code.

RC: Mr. Rea, yes; Mr. Reeb, yes; Ms. Lee, yes; Mr. Plaut, yes; Ms. McMullen, yes. The Board President declared the motion passed.

142-24 Ms. McMullen moved, second by Mr. Plaut that the Board approve the following resolution Requesting the County Auditor to Make Advance Payments of Taxes Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code §321.34

WHEREAS, the Ohio Revised Code allows a taxing authority to request payment from the County Auditor funds derived from taxes or other sources to the County Treasurer, which may be held on account of a local subdivision;

Therefore, be it resolved by the Finneytown Local School District, Ohio:

SECTION I: That the Auditor and the Treasurer of Hamilton County in accordance with Ohio Revised Code Section 321.34, be requested to draw and pay to the Finneytown Local School District Board of Education upon the written request of David Oliverio, Treasurer, to the County Auditor, funds due in any settlement of collection year 2025 derived from taxes or other sources, payable to the County Treasurer, to the account of the Finneytown Local School District, and lawfully applicable for the purposes of the 2025 or 2026 fiscal year.

The County Auditor is further requested to determine and separately identify that portion of the total amount requested which is payable to the general fund, bond retirement fund (by authorizing bond issue), permanent improvement fund and classroom facilities maintenance fund on the payment advice.

SECTION II: That the Treasurer of the Finneytown Local School District shall forward to the County Auditor a certified copy of this Resolution.

RC: Mr. Reeb, yes; Ms. Lee, yes; Mr. Plaut, yes; Ms. McMullen, yes; Mr. Rea, yes. The Board President declared the motion passed.

143-24 Mr. Plaut moved, second by Mr. Reeb that the Board adopt the "Consent Calendar" as follows:

Action by the Board of Education in adoption of the "Consent Calendar" at this point of the agenda means that all items appearing with an asterisk (*) after the title constitute the "Consent Calendar" and are adopted by one single motion, unless a member of the Board of Education or the Superintendent requests that any such item be removed from the "Consent Calendar" and voted upon separately.

a) Approval of Treasurer's Office support Pay Rate FY24*

The Board approved the following Treasurer's Office support pay rate for FY24:

Larry Loos **\$25.00/hr.**

b) Approval of Treasurer's Office support Pay Rate FY25*

The Board approved the following Treasurer's Office support pay rate for FY25:

Larry Loos **\$25.00/hr.**

c) Approval of Contracts – Supplemental 2024-2025*

The Board approved the following supplemental contracts, effective August 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025:

Daniel Geisel Orchestra Director \$2,435.00

Megan Kelly Art Teacher \$500.00

d) Approval of Payment – Certified Staff Members*

The Board approved payment to the following certified staff members who will perform duties outside of the regular work schedule, effective August 1, 2024 through July 31, 2025:

Maddelyn Matson 3 Extended Days

e) Approval of Substitute Teachers Provided by Comprehensive Substitute Solutions*

The Board approved the following substitute teachers who are employed by Comprehensive Substitute Solutions and may be assigned to fill absences for the Finneytown Local School District, effective November 13, 2024:

Alcorn, Briona	Evans, Patricia	Lyons, Dayonna
Amann, Michael	Falhaber, Leslie	Madriz, Gabriela
Baker, Tyler	Fischoff, Ann	Madry, Thomas
Baldock, Jason	Fisk, Summer	Martin, Artis
Bellamah, Christopher	Fowler, Niah	Mason, Ebony
Besl-Ali, Carley	Fromme, Ashley	Maxam, William
Binford, Cornelia	Garner, Noah	Meder, Hannah
Blanks, Earl	Gentry, Jennifer	Meier, Paulette
Blyberg, Zachary	Giffin, David	Miday, Nicole
Bonifas, Elizabeth	Gorby, Lily	Miles, Linda
Brewer, Valeri	Gray, Kiara	Mobley-Brown, Sheryl
Brinkman, Rosa	Green, Keaira	Namenyi, Tytus
Burkhardt, Heather	Haarlammert, Stephanie	Nashid, Wadeeah
Buskirk, Delores	Hall, Dennis	Nienaber, Jennifer
Campbell, Emily	Hardy, Diane	Page, Candace
Cargile, Kaneatra	Harris, Dominique	Periferaki, Despina
Casada, Abigail	Hartman, Ronald	Phipps, Marilyn
Chaffer, La'shawntay	Haugan, Andrea	Pickett, Jonathan
Champion-Hughes, Bianca	Hawkins-Hyde, Kellie	Pittman, Felicia
Chandler, Cyndi	Hess, Leanne	Pollington, Connie
Chapple, Keariah	Horton, Vanuis	Potensky, Chris
Clark, Sterling	Howard, Elaine	Powell, Christina
Coleman, London	Howard, Savannah	Price, Tanya
Colvin, Gayle	Hunter, Toccara	Redburn, Jalen
Cook, Gary	Jaccobs, Corey	Reppart, Jackson
Copeland, David	Jackson, Shirley	Rice, Alisha
Davis, Gordon	Jones, Brianna	Richey, Sheila
Davis, Rollins	Jones, Darrell	Robinson, Marilyn
Demus, Clemon	Jones, Trevor	Ruffner, Sara
Dunigan, Janee	Kahle, Anna	Schnur, Bethany
Duskin, Deemiah	Karle, Gail	Schuster, Jason
Espel, Linda	Kaufman, Fletcher	Sfarnas, Jim
Evans, Deborahgh	Kelley-Gerton, Lisa	Shaw, Phyllis
	Lalley, Teresa	Simpson, Estacia

Smith, Kimberly
Stevenson, Alisha
Still, Cameryn
Tennyson, Emma
Thomas, Jenna
Thomas, Nyla
Thompson, Saige
Tigert, Aaron

Tirschek, Katelin
Tubbs, Quinetta
Turner, Alisha
Tyree, Alfred
Walker, Kimberly
Walton, Ronald
Ward, Nicole
Washington, Autumn

Watkins, Aimee
Weiler, Michael
Weirich, Helen
Winter, Stephany
Wise, Donnise
Yisrael, Nesyah
Zupon, Lisa

f) Adoption of Resolution – Approval of Service Fund Payment*

The Board approved payment from the Service Fund, per ORC 3315.15, for the appropriate expenses incurred by district board members attending the OSBA Capital Conference and Trade Show on November 10-12, 2024.

g) Acceptance of Donations*

The Board accepted the following donation(s):

A cash donation of \$200.00 to the Finneytown High School Art Department from Conover Family Dental Inc., 9312 Winton Rd, Cincinnati, OH 45231 on October 22, 2024.

RC: Ms. Lee, yes; Mr. Plaut, yes; Ms. McMullen, yes; Mr. Rea, yes; Mr. Reeb, yes. The Board President declared the motion passed.

Review of Action Steps

- 1) Create a board member sign up for the Finneytown Elementary Lunch with Staff Invite and preannounce this event to staff – Dr. Banks
- 2) Schedule a Finance Committee to follow up on five year financial forecast targets – Dr. Banks, Mr. Oliverio
- 3) Schedule a special board meeting to finalize documentation for the Superintendent and Treasurer Evaluation Process – Ms. Lee, Dr. Banks
- 4) Send the Treasurer Evaluation out for signature – Mr. Rea
- 5) Provide, by the next meeting, answers to Mr. Rea's questions regarding Senate Bill 104 – Dr. Banks.

144-24 Mr. Plaut moved, seconded by Ms. McMullen, that the Board move to Executive Session, in accordance with Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(4), in order to prepare for negotiations or bargaining sessions with employees concerning compensation and other terms and conditions of employment

and

in accordance with Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(1), in order to consider the employment and compensation of public employees.

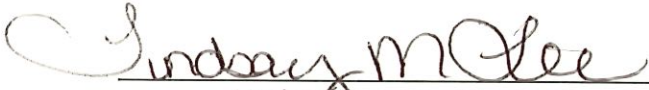
RC: Mr. Plaut, yes; Ms. McMullen, yes; Mr. Rea, yes; Mr. Reeb, yes; Ms. Lee, yes. The president declared the motion passed.

The board entered executive session at 7:40pm.

The board exited executive session at 8:41pm.

The next regular meeting of the Finneytown Board of Education will take place on Monday, December 16, 2024 at 6:30pm in the Brent Board Office Meeting Room, 8791 Brent Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45231. Open forum will begin at 6:00pm.

145-24 There being no further business, Ms. McMullen moved, seconded by Mr. Plaut, that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 8:41pm.



Lindsay Lee, President

ATTEST:



David L. Oliverio, Treasurer