FINNEYTOWN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Minutes of Organizational Meeting
Brent Board Office Meeting Room 8791
Brent Drive
Cincinnati, OH 45231
January 12, 2026 6:30pm

The Finneytown Board of Education met in Organizational Meeting on Monday, January 12, 2026, in the Brent Board Meeting Room, 8791 Brent Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45231. Ms. Catanzaro, Mr.Engleman, Ms. Laird, Mr. Plaut, and Mr. Reeb were present. The President Pro Tempore called the meeting to order at 6:29 pm.

01-26 Mr. Plaut moved, seconded by Mr. Engleman, to dispense with the Opening Ceremony. All ayes; Motion passed.

02-26 Mr. Rea moved, seconded by Ms. McMullen to approve the Minutes from the Regular Meeting of November 10, 2025. Motion passed.

03-26 The Treasurer called for nominations for President of the Finneytown Board of Education. Mr. Engleman nominated Mr. Plaut. There being no further nomination, the Treasurer announced that nominations were closed. A vote was taken and the Treasurer declared Mr. Plaut President of the Finneytown Local Board of Education.

04-26 Mr. Plaut called for nominations for Vice President of the Board of Education. Mr. Engleman nominated Mr. Reeb. There being no further nominations, Mr. Plaut announced that the nominations were closed. A vote was taken and Mr. Plaut declared Mr. Reeb Vice President of the Finneytown Board of Education.

05-26 Ms. Laird moved, seconded by Ms. Catanzaro, to Waive Reading of the Minutes and approve the Minutes from the Regular Meeting of December 15, 2025 and the Special Meeting of December 23, 2025. With all Ayes, the motion passed.

06-26 Ms. Catanzaro moved, seconded by Ms. Laird that the Board approve the board meeting dates for calendar year 2026 and preview board meeting dates for 2027. With all ayes, the motion passed.

Calendar Year 2026	**Calendar Year 2027**
January 20 (Tuesday)	January 19 (Tuesday)
February 17 (Tuesday)	February 16 (Tuesday)
March 16 (Monday)	March 15 (Monday)
April 20 (Monday)	April 19 (Monday)
May 18 (Monday)	May 17 (Monday)
June 15 (Monday)	June 19 (Monday)
July 20 (Monday)	July 21 (Monday)
August 17 (Monday)	August 16 (Monday)
September 21 (Monday)	September 20 (Monday)
October 19 (Monday)	October 18 (Monday)
November 9 (Monday)	November 15 (Monday)
December 21 (Monday)	December 20 (Monday)

Unless otherwise announced, all meetings will be held at the Brent Board Office Meeting Room, 8791 Brent Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45231. The meetings will start at 6:30 p.m. with an Open Forum at 6:00 p.m.

Board Coordination Matters

Committee Assignments

Board members discussed and assigned board members to their selected committees, liaison roles, and school and community groups as follows:

Superintendent Committees

Long Range Facilities	Mr. Engleman, Ms. Laird
Policy	Ms. Catanzaro, Mr. Plaut
Strategic Planning	Ms. Laird, Mr. Plaut

Treasurer Committee

Finance	Mr. Engleman, Mr. Plaut

OSBA/ Liaison Roles

OSBA Delegate including Legislative and Student Achievement

Mr. Reeb, Ms. Laird

District Support Groups

Elementary PTA	Ms. Catanzaro
Secondary PTA	Ms. Laird
Boosters	Mr. Plaut
Finneytown Music Parents	Ms. Catanzaro
Finneytown Athletic Association	Ms. Laird
Finneytown Alumni Network	Mr. Engleman, Mr. Plaut

Community Groups

Springfield Township	Ms. Laird

Video recording Regular and Special Meetings

The board debated changing its meeting recording policy, which currently mandates recording all regular and special meetings, a reversal from an earlier decision to record only regular meetings. A proposal emerged to differentiate between regular, special, and "work sessions," suggesting that only the first two (where decisions are made) be recorded, with discretion given to the Superintendent and Board President for "work sessions." However, due to legal concerns about the term "work sessions" and the need for a new motion, the proposed change was retracted, and the further discussion was tabled until the next regular meeting.

07-26 Mr. Reeb moved, seconded by Mr. Engleman, 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 Resolution -IRS Mileage Reimbursement Rate*

The Board approved the following resolution:

Authorizing use of the IRS standard mileage rate for reimbursement of the cost of operating a personal automobile when used for approved school business purposes. The IRS standard mileage rate for business is based on an annual study of the fixed and variable costs of operating an automobile.

b) Approval of Resolution -Service Fund*

The Board approved the following resolution:

To establish a service fund for members of the Board of Education or their designated representatives to attend professional meetings or conferences in performance of their duties as representatives of the school district. Ohio Revised Code 3315.15 permits Board of Education to appropriate two dollars ($2.00) per child or $20,000, whichever is greater, to establish a service fund.

c) Approval of Resolution – Declaring Certain Public Funds to be Used for A Public Purpose*

The Board approved the following annual resolution for establishment of a Sunshine Fund:

The Board wishes to honor with plaques, pins, flowers, token retirement gifts and awards, and other amenities its staff, former Board members, and other non-employee persons.

The Board wishes to also honor staff, students, citizens, and advisory groups for their contributions with other appropriate recognition and authorizes administrators to purchase coffee, meals, refreshments, and/or other amenities to further the interests of the Finneytown Local School District.

The Board does hereby affirm that the expenses incurred as listed above do serve a public purpose. The Board affirms public purpose for the promotion of committees and subcommittees of the Board, community presentations, encouragement of non-employees to serve as volunteers, and further public purpose. The funds are available from interest earned from the Board's General Fund investment program.

The Board authorizes use of appropriation code 001-2310-880 in the amount of $3,000.00 be available for expenditure for the activities, functions, and items described above to promote public purpose as set by the Board. The President and/or designee will approve all expenditures from this appropriation account.

The information presented in this resolution conforms to and are consistent with the Ohio Attorney General's Opinion #82-006. This opinion reaffirms the prior opinion #81-057.

d) Approval of Investment of Inactive and Interim Funds*

The Board authorized the Treasurer to invest inactive and interim funds at the most productive interest rate whenever inactive and interim funds are available.

e) Approval of Temporary Employment of Personnel*

The Board authorized the Superintendent to temporarily employ personnel as needed. Such employments are to be presented for approval by the Board of Education at its next regular meeting.

RC: Ms. Catanzaro, Y; Mr. Plaut, Y; Ms. Laird, Y; Mr. Reeb, Y; and Mr. Engleman, Y. Motion passed.

08-26 Ms. Laird moved, seconded by Mr. Reeb, that the board enter Executive Session for the following matters:

1. In accordance with ORC 121.22(G)(3), in order to conference with attorney concerning pending or imminent court action, and,

2. In accordance with ORC 121.22(G)(1), in order to consider the employment and compensation of public employees of the district.

RC: Mr. Plaut, Y; Ms. Laird, Y; Mr. Reeb, Y; Mr. Engleman, Y; and Ms. Catanzaro. Motion passed.

Board entered Executive Session at 7:01 PM.
Board returned from Executive Session at 8:11 PM.

The next regular meeting of the Finneytown Board of Education will be held on January 20, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. in the Brent Board Office Meeting Room, 8791 Brent Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45231. Open Forum will begin at 6:00 pm.

09-26 There being no further business, Mr. Engleman moved, seconded by Ms. Laird, that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting adjourned at 8:12 pm.

Seth Plaut, President

ATTEST: Anita E Ruffin

Anita E. Ruffin, Treasurer