FINNEYTOWN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Minutes of Regular Board Meeting- May 18, 2026
Brent Board Office Meeting Room
8791 Brent Dr
Cincinnati, OH 45231
Open Forum 6:00 PM
Regular Meeting 6:30 PM

The Finneytown Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, May 18, 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 called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

045-26 Ms. Catanzaro moved, seconded by Mr. Plaut that the Board approve the **Agenda as amended to include Item 9 Authorization for treasurer to post public notice of public meeting to rehire retiree(s).** With all Ayes, the motion passed.

046-26 Mr. Engelman moved, seconded by Ms. Laird that the **Board Waive the Reading of the Minutes and Approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 20, 2026.** With all Ayes, the motion passed.

Administrative Report

PBL Showcase

The fourth annual Project-Based Learning (PBL) showcase was highly successful, marked by strong student participation, pride, and positive community engagement. Projects demonstrated collaboration, research, real-world problem-solving, and inclusivity, leading to student gains in communication, leadership, teamwork, and problem-solving skills. Future plans for the PBL showcase include continuing the evening timing, expanding student-led media production, and exploring longitudinal storytelling to track growth. The Black History Program saw improved production quality under evolving student leadership, despite a delayed March program. This initiative will transition from a single-month event to a year-round program, aiming to build frameworks for celebrating all school cultures. Niemah Williams (senior) and JJ Leta presented.

Discussion- Retirees/End of Year Celebration

The end-of-year- celebration will include recognizing retirees.

Discussion- Bi Monthly Pay Beginning January 2027

The district will transition to bi-monthly payroll in January 2027 to align with other local districts and maintain a competitive edge.

Facilities Update

Secondary building progress is on schedule, with the academic and gym roof decking complete. Extensive water/sewage pressure testing is underway, alongside designing specific band/orchestra rooms and athletic facilities that meet Ohio School Design Manual Standards for soundproofing. The PAC renovation architect selection is in process following the RFQ closure on May 18, 2026.

Public Address

Eadaoin Ilten urged alignment of district kindergarten cutoff policy with Ohio law (HB 114), requesting an official update ahead of school start and clarity on summer kindergarten camp communications.

Katrina Harrill raised concerns that extended school year (ESY) eligibility is being improperly limited to regression, contradicting policy and law that mandate individualized, multi-criteria IEP team determinations. Historical ESY placement rates of approximately 1% are significantly lower than benchmarks of 5–15%, with no on-record resolution made, and a plan to fully account for this year's ESY determinations.

Michael Hamel objected to the use of the term "human capital" when referring to students citing ideological and historical associations.

Board Coordination Matters

Ms. Laird reported that FMPA's spaghetti dinner fundraiser fell short of its financial goals and the band is seeing a significant increase in financial aid applications. The Elementary PTA's carnival was successful. They will provide bandanas for Field Day and distribute $5,000 in grants next year. The Policy Committee discussed kindergarten eligibility, an anti-harassment policy, and board-staff communications.

Ms. Catanzaro shared that Springfield Township discussed the continuance of the School Resource Officer program and celebrated a successful tire recycling day. The Finneytown Athletic Association noted that spring sports are concluding and requested more volunteers. Student Achievement highlighted senior Braylon Crawford's accomplishment in winning the Anthony Muñoz Straight A Scholarship.

Mr. Reeb shared that the board is currently engaged in a book study for professional development and has scheduled a retreat for July. Additionally, he noted, that Springfield Township is hosting a follow-up meeting on June 10 to address a proposed zoning change for a property on Winch Road. He also expressed his desire for implementing two full-time School Resource Officers, one for each campus, to proactively enhance safety.

Mr. Engleman reported that the District is working on transitioning to bi-monthly payroll and the Fan Finneytown Alumni Network is fundraising for a "legacy project." Additionally, he shared he will be absent from the June board meeting.

Mr. Plaut reported that The Strategic Planning Committee is currently developing SMART goals and the Secondary PTA successfully organized after-prom events.

Board Retreat
A board retreat is scheduled for July 25, 2026, to focus on strategic planning.

Discussion to revise po0148.1
Mr. Plaut explained the revised policy (Policy 0148.1) improves accountability and establishes a clear process for staff to voice concerns without fear of reprisal. The Policy will be on the June Board Agenda.

Treasurer and Superintendent Evals
Mr. Plaut asked for volunteers to complete the evaluations for the Superintendent and Treasurer by the end of July.

Record Commission Meeting (Board Pres, Supt, Treasurer)
The Treasurer will meet with the Board President and Superintendent for the annual Records Commission meeting.

047-26 Mr. Engleman moved, seconded by Ms. Catanzaro that the Board adopt the **Treasurer's 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 April 30, 2026*

US Bank	0.09648%	$653,347.84
STAR Ohio (construction #1)	3.8000%	$4,436,836.86
STAR Ohio	3.8000%	$26,613,551.21
STAR Ohio (construction #2)	3.8000%	$3,366,212.88
STAR Ohio (OFCC local share)	3.8000%	$155,950.18
STAR Ohio (OFCC state share)	3.8000%	$4,447,506.38

c) Interest Earned on Depository and Investment Accounts as of April 30, 2026*

General Fund 001	$ 84,538.38
Construction Fund 004	$ 24,393.18
Classroom Facilities Fund 010	$ 9,844.83

d) Monthly Bond Project Spending and Commitment Report*

e) Approval of Advances Back to the General Fund* - FY26

It is recommended the Board approve the following advances back to the General Fund:

001-5220	General Fund	763,540.00
507-7420-922-9025	ARP ESSER	($763,540.00)

f) Approval of Resolution to Accept Amounts and Rates*

The Board approved the following resolution:

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION & AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR

O.R.C. Section 5705.34

WHEREAS, This Board of Education in accordance with the provisions of law has previously adopted a Tax Budget for the next succeeding fiscal year commencing July 1st, 2026; and

WHEREAS, The Budget Commission of Hamilton County, Ohio, has certified its action thereon to this Board together with an estimate by the County Auditor of the rate of each tax necessary to be levied by this Board and what part thereof is without, and what part is within the ten-mill limitation;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of Education of the Finneytown Local School District, Hamilton County, Ohio, that the amounts and rates, as determined by the Budget Commission in its certification, be and the same are hereby accepted;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That there be and is hereby levied on the tax duplicate of said Board of Education the rate of each tax necessary to be levied within and without the

ten-mill limitation as follows:

Fund	Tax Levy	2026 / 2027 Estimated Revenue
General	90.78	$ 12,642,031
Bond	4.40	$ 1,398,341
Permanent Improvement	1.50	$ 263,410
Maintain Classroom Facilities	0.50	$ 98,840

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Treasurer of the Board of Education be, and is hereby directed to certify a copy of this Resolution to the County Auditor of Hamilton County.

g) Approval of Payment- FY 26*

The Board approved payment of the following invoice representing purchases that were made prior to the issuance of a valid purchase order of the district:

DATE	VENDOR	AMOUNT
05/07/2027 (School Safety Advising)	Hamilton County ESC	$4,700

RC: Ms. Catanzaro, Yes; Mr. Engleman, Yes; Ms. Laird, Yes; Mr. Plaut, Yes; and, Mr. Reeb, Yes. With all Ayes, motion passes.

048-26 Ms. Catanzaro moved, seconded by Mr. Plaut that the Board **Authorize and Direct the Treasurer to place a Public Notice of Intent to Rehire** in the Cincinnati Enquirer, no later than May 20, 2026, which reads substantially as follows:

> The Finneytown Local School District Board of Education hereby gives public notice in accordance with Section 3307.353 of the Ohio Revised Code that Jen Dinan, who is currently employed by the Board of Education as Assistant Superintendent and Michelle Yauss, who is currently employed by the Board Education as Intervention Specialist (St. Xavier), will be retired and seeking re-employment with the Finneytown Local School District in the same position following their service retirement.
> The Board of Education will hold a public meeting on the issue of re-employing the above-named persons at a meeting to be held on June 22, 2026 at 8 a.m. at the Brent Administrative Office, located at 8719 Brent Drive, Cincinnati, Ohio.

RC: Mr. Engleman, Yes; Ms. Laird, Yes; Mr. Plaut, Yes; and, Mr. Reeb, Yes; and, Ms. Catanzaro, Yes. With all Ayes, motion passes.

049-26 Mr. Reeb moved, seconded by Mr. Plaut that the Board adopt the **Superintendent's 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) Acknowledgement of Resignations*

b) The Board acknowledged the following resignations, which have been previously accepted by the Superintendent:

Macy Bruner	ELA Teacher effective June 30, 2026	(personal)
Julia Burchwell	Intervention Specialist effective June 30, 2026	(personal)
Krystalyn Goodson	Payroll Specialist effective May 1, 2026	(personal)
Amanda Stevenson	Intervention Specialist effective June 30, 2026	(personal)

c) Approval of Contracts – One Year Limited Certified*

The Board approved one year limited contracts for the following returning certified staff members, effective August 17, 2026 through May 27, 2027:

Kathryn Abney
Brendan Arndt
David Backer
Shannon Backer
Kristin Barnes
Jennifer Bayless
Lindsey Brinkman
Autumn Christensen
Shannon Cleghorn
Juliah Crepage
Angela Creutzinger
Marina Deters
Sarah Diaz
Rebecca Facktor
Phil Farr
Kayla Fields

Kerry Finley
Kelley Fitzpatrick
Elizabeth Florea
Calista Flores
Lydia Ford Alston
EmilyFroehlich
Samuel Fronk
Queylah Gaines
Megan Geis
Daniel Geisel
Matthew George
Charles Grosser
Michael Grote
Carrie Hamsher
Haley Hansberry
Vanius Horton
Heather Howard
Jeannette Jinkinson
Ben Johnston
Megan Kelly
Melissa Knueven
Sophia Long
Madeline Matson
Ariel McCoy
Allison McCrea
Kevin McCrea
Teyah McEntush
Brenna Miller
Megan Murphy
Matthew Nichols
Alexander Okonta
Kaitlyn Pitchford
Elizabeth Proctor
Braden Pruski
Grace Rambo
Scott Reisbord
Nancy Rouse
Johnsthan Schramm
William Seger
Caroline Slone
Janelle Sowders
Nicholas Sparrow
Amanda Stevenson
Angeline Trombley
Lilly Volz
Lynn Volz
Amanda Vordenberg
Julie Vorwerck-Ficke
Tristan Walker
Max Wildenhaus
David Wolferst
Tonya Zerkle

d) Approval of Contracts – One Year Limited Classified*

The Board approved one year limited contracts for the following returning classified staff members, effective July 1, 2026 through June 20, 2027:

Amy Abell
Joshua Hargrove
Mariah Rucker
Brenda Silva

e) Approval of Contracts – Two Year Limited Classified*

The Board approved two year limited contracts for the following returning classified staff members, effective July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2028:

Martina Champion
Kiez Gordon
Leslie Grevas

Chelsey Smith
Joe Vlachos
Evan Vonderahe

f) Approval of Contracts – One Year Retired/Rehired Classified*

The Board approved one year limited contracts for the following returning retired/rehired classified staff members, effective July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027:

Sandy Haskin

g) Approval of Supplemental Rate Correction- Athletic Supplemental 2025-2026*

The Board approved the following adjusted supplemental pay rates, effective August 11, 2025 through June 30, 2026:

Dave Wolferst	Head Varsity Softball Coach	$5,490.00

h) Approval of Supplemental Rate Correction- Academic Supplemental 2025-2026*

The Board approved the following adjusted supplemental pay rates, effective August 11, 2025 through June 30, 2026:

Kayla Fields	Elementary Choir Director	$2,428.00

i) Approval of Pay Rates for Exempt Employees*

The Board approved the following pay rates for exempt staff members, effective July 1, 2026:

Chris Callahan	**$32.04/hr.**
LaTora Gooden	**$35.10/hr.**
Patti Schnur	**$27.75/hr.**
Kelli Coffey	**$60,639.00**
Elizabeth Jungkunz	**$65,194.00**
Amy Klosterman	**$61,868.00**
Melissa Read	**$59,043.00**
Joe Vlachos	**$84,579.00**

j) Approval of Payment – Classified Staff Members*

The Board approved payment to the following classified staff member who will perform duties outside of the regular work schedule, effective August 1, 2025 through July 31, 2026:

Misty Alcorn	Summer School	$18.00/hr.
Mariah Rucker	Summer School	$18.00/hr.

k) Approval of Payment - Classified Staff Member*

The Board approved payment to the following classified staff member who will perform duties outside of the regular work schedule, effective August 11, 2025 through June 30, 2026:

Misty Alcorn	Detention Monitor/ Apex/Tutoring	$19.00/hr.

l) Approval of Payment – Certified Staff Members*

The Board approved payment to the following certified staff member who will perform duties outside of the regular work schedule, effective August 1, 2025 through July 31, 2026:

Sara Diaz	Summer School	$26.00/hr.
Ben Johnston	Summer School	$26.00/hr.
Will Seger	Summer School	$26.00/hr.

m) Adoption of New / Revised Policies*

The Board adopted the following new/revised policies, which were presented for consideration at the regular meeting of the Board on April 20, 2026:

3130	**ASSIGNMENT AND TRANSFER**
3213	**STUDENT SUPERVISION AND WELFARE**
4122	**NONDISCRIMINATION, EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY, AND ANTI- HARASSMENT NONDISCRIMINATION**
4123	**SECTION 504/ADA PROHIBITION AGAINST DISABILITY DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT**
4162	**DRUG AND ALCOHOL TESTING OF CDL LICENSE HOLDERS WHO PERFORM SAFETY-SENSITIVEFUNCTIONS AND ARE SUBJECT TO DOT TESTING**
4162.01	**DRUG AND ALCOHOL TESTING OF EMPLOYEES WITHOUT CDL LICENSES WHO TRANSPORT STUDENTSIN ALTERNATIVE VEHICLES (Non-DOT Testing)**
4213	**STUDENT SUPERVISION AND WELFARE**
5130	**WITHDRAWAL FROM SCHOOL**
5136	**PERSONAL COMMUNICATION DEVICES**

n) Consideration of New / Revised Policies*

The Board considered the following new/revised policies, which will be presented for final adoption at the next regular meeting of the Board:

0148.1	**Board Staff Communications**
0168	**MINUTES**
1422	**NONDISCRIMINATION, EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY, AND ANTI-HARASSMENT**
1613	**STUDENT SUPERVISION AND WELFARE**
1623	**SECTION 504/ADA PROHIBITION AGAINST DISABILITY DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT**
2260	**NONDISCRIMINATION AND ACCESS TO EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY**
2260.01	**SECTION 504/ADA PROHIBITION AGAINST DISCRIMINATION BASEI ON DISABILITY**
2266	**NONDISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF SEX IN EDUCATION PROGRAMS OR ACTIVITIES**
2430.02	**PARTICIPATION OF COMMUNITY/STEM SCHOOL STUDENTS IN EXTRACURRICULAREXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**
2431	**INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS**
3122	**NONDISCRIMINATION, EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY, AND ANTI- HARASSMENT**
3123	**SECTION 504/ADA PROHIBITION AGAINST DISABILITY SCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT**

o) Approval of Graduation Class of 2026

The Board approved the Finneytown High School Graduation Class of 2026 (see attached roster), pending successful completion of all requirements.

p) Approval of Student Fees - 2026-2027*

The Board approved the following Student Fees for the 2026-2027 school year:

Secondary Campus

Seventh Grade **$75.00**
ID, assignment books, bus trips, media center supplies and consumable classroom supplies

Eighth Grade **$75.00**

ID, assignment books, bus trips, media center supplies, and consumable classroom supplies

Ninth Grade **$105.00**
ID, school planner, bus trips, media center supplies and consumable classroom supplies

Tenth Grade **$105.00**

ID, school planner, bus trips, media center supplies and consumable classroom supplies

Eleventh Grade **$95.00**
ID, school planner, bus trips, media center supplies and consumable classroom supplies

Twelfth Grade **$80.00**
ID, school planner, bus trips, media center supplies and consumable classroom supplies Additional /

Optional Fees:

Student Parking Pass **$55.00**

Additional charges may apply for other materials and events including, but not limited to:

Field Trips
Lost Books
Media Center Fines
Book Rebinding Fees
Advance Placement Testing
Yearbook
Memory Book
Summer School
Summer Sports Camps
Sporting Event Admission
Musical/Play Admission
School Dances
Prom/Homecoming Tickets
Band Camp

Elementary
Full-Day Kindergarten **$40.00**

Consumer supplies (such as paper), items for projects, subscriptions (magazines), assemblies, art and science supplies

First Grade **$25.00**
Consumable supplies (such as paper), items for projects, subscriptions (magazines), assemblies, art and science supplies

Second Grade **$25.00**
Consumable supplies (such as paper), items for projects, subscriptions (magazines), assemblies, art and science supplies

Third Grade **$30.00**
Consumable supplies (such as paper), items for projects, subscriptions (magazines), assemblies, art and science supplies

Fourth Grade **$30.00**
Consumable supplies (such as paper), items for projects, subscriptions (magazines), assemblies, art and science supplies, recorders for music

Fifth Grade **$35.00**
Consumable supplies (such as paper), items for projects, subscriptions (magazines), assemblies, art and science supplies, assignment and vocabulary books

Sixth Grade **$55.00**
ID, assignment books, bus trips, media center supplies and consumable classroom supplies

RC: Ms. Laird, Yes; Mr. Plaut, Yes; Mr. Reeb, Yes; and, Ms. Catanzaro, Yes; and, Mr. Engleman, Yes. Motion passes.

050-26 Mr. Reeb moved, seconded by Mr. Plaut that the Board **approve the Resolution for Bonus Payment to staff exempt of FEA and FASP Agreements:**

WHEREAS, the Board has agreed to award all members of the Finneytown Education Association and the Finneytown Support Staff Association with a bonus payment by the last pay of the 2025-2026 contract year, provided they complete the full 2025-2026 contract year; and

WHEREAS, the Board also wishes to award this bonus to all administrators, confidential employees, and supervisory employees; and

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

The Board hereby states that it will award all administrators (excluding superintendent and treasurer), confidential employees, and supervisory employees with the same bonus payment given to FEA and FASP employees

RC: Mr. Plaut, Yes; Mr. Reeb, Yes; and, Ms. Catanzaro, Yes; and, Mr. Engleman, Yes. Motion passes.

The next regular meeting of the Finneytown Board of Education will take place on Monday, June 15, 2026 in the Brent Board Office Meeting Room, 8791 Brent Drive Cincinnati, OH 45231. Open forum will begin at 6:00pm.

051-26 There being no further business, Ms. Catanzaro moved and Mr. Plaut seconded that the meeting be adjourned. By consensus, the meeting adjourned at 8:18 PM.

Seth Plaut, President

ATTEST:

Anita E. Ruffin, Treasurer