FINNEYTOWN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Minutes of Special Meeting- Work Session, September 8, 2026
Brent Board Office Meeting Room
Special Meeting 4:30 PM

The Finneytown Board of Education met in special meeting/ work session on Tuesday, September 8, 2026, in the Brent Board Meeting Room, 8791 Brent Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45231. Ms. Catanzaro, Mr. Englemenan, Ms. Laird, Mr. Plaut, and Mr. Reeb were present. The President called the meeting to order at 4:35 pm.

086-26 Mr Plaut moved, seconded by Ms. Laird that the Board **Dispense with Opening Ceremonies, Waive the Reading of the Minutes, and Approve the Minutes from the Regular Meeting of August 17, 2026.** By consensus, the motion passed.

Work Session Discussion Topics

Beginning of the Year Measurements

The district's overall rating has declined from three stars in 2022-23 to a projected two and a half stars for 2025-26. While graduation rates remain high, this metric masks deficiencies in student readiness for post-secondary success. Persistent one-star ratings in early literacy and a failure to utilize assessment data for intervention has led to students being promoted without achieving proficiency. To address these systemic issues, the district is shifting its focus from serving merely as a "safe" alternative to becoming an academic powerhouse, discontinuing ineffective computer-based remediation in favor of a more consistent, state-sanctioned grade replacement policy. Concurrently, the district is implementing significant instructional and operational changes to improve accountability. Restorative practices are being discontinued to reclaim instructional time, literacy is now a universal responsibility integrated across all subjects, and administrators are required to conduct ten classroom walkthroughs weekly.

Board Self Evaluation

Members were tasked with completing an individual SWOT analyses of the Board. The responses will be compiled for review. Members were reminded to regularly study the strategic plan.

Discussion Regarding Weather Incident

A student made an unauthorized announcement encouraging others to leave campus due to heat, leading to some departures. The subsequent school cancellation was independently justified by a high heat index and staff shortages.

087-26 Mr. Engleman moved, seconded by Mr. Plaut that the Board enter **Executive Session** per ORC 121.22 section (G)(1) to discuss the "employment of a public employee."

RC: Ms. Catanzaro, Yes; Mr. Engleman, Yes; Ms. Laird, Yes; and Mr. Plaut, Yes. With all Ayes, the Motion passed.

The Board entered Executive Session at 5:49 PM.
The Board exited Executive Session at 6:19 PM.

088-26 There being no further business, Mr. Plaut moved, seconded by Ms. Catanzaro that the meeting be adjourned. By consensus the meeting adjourned at 6:20 PM.

Seth Plaut, President

ATTEST:

Anita E. Ruffin, Treasurer