

The following actions were taken by the Northwest Ohio Educational Service Center Governing Board at their regular meeting held September 23, 2025.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by President Kelly Hug. All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

• **Appointment of Treasurer Pro-Tem:**

- Approved Mr. Ross Stambaugh as Treasurer Pro Tem for the 9/23/2025 meeting.

REPORTS:

• **OSBA LEGISLATIVE LIAISON:** Mr. Brian Baker provided an update on recent legislative and advocacy efforts. He noted that while the Ohio General Assembly has only met as needed in recent weeks, it will return to a regular schedule in October. Several bills have been introduced, including the “Taxpayers Freedom Trilogy” (HB 420, 421, and 422). Collectively, these bills would: phase out continuing levies by 2030; allow voters to reduce unvoted property taxes by referendum; and raise the approval threshold for certain property tax measures, depending on the number of mills requested. These proposals could significantly impact school funding, and districts will want to monitor their progress closely.

Mr. Baker also reported on his recent advocacy work in Washington, D.C. He met with Senator John Husted and Representative Bob Latta to stress the importance of federal funding for IDEA, Early Childhood Special Education, Child Nutrition, eRate, Medicare/Medicaid, Migrant Education, and 21st Century programs. Mr. Baker was one of 35 Ohio delegates participating in these discussions.

Superintendent Weir thanked Mr. Baker for his commitment to advocacy and for strengthening relationships with Ohio’s congressional delegation.

• **CFO/TREASURER:** Mrs. Abby Lorenzen’s report was shared. This October, auditors from Clark, Schaefer, and Hackett will be on site to conduct our annual audit. Their fieldwork is expected to take about one week—significantly shorter than the typical 4–6 weeks for a state audit—though they will continue work off-site to finalize the report.

We’re pleased to share that NwoESC received FY25 wellness funds from the Northern Buckeye Health Plan (NBHP). This grant supports our employee wellness committee, annual programs, and incentive rewards. We have also received allocations for our IDEA-B Special Education and Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) consortium grants, as well as the Migrant Education Program Identification grant—important funding streams that help us serve students across our region.

At the recent OESCA conference, leadership attended a session noting that certain federal grants questioned this year may not be available—or could look substantially different—next year. While the federal budget is not yet set, we will continue to monitor developments closely and keep everyone informed.

OSBA Capital Conference arrangements have been made for those attending, and a reminder was shared that the Finance Committee will meet on Tuesday, October 28, 2025, at 5:40 p.m. in the Superintendent Conference room, prior to the regular board meeting.

• **DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL EDUCATION:** Mrs. Jill Gilliland shared several items. Our new Five Star Registration system for preschool enrollment has been launched. Teachers and supervisors attended virtual training to learn how to access student forms, and a built-in tech support button now assists parents directly. The platform replaces the old process of printing, scanning, and emailing multiple pages per child, saving significant time. Staff can easily print what they need, and the system automatically creates a concise emergency medical card for field trips while tracking annual medical statement expiration dates with automated reminders. Customization based on staff feedback over the summer ensured the system meets program needs, thanks to collaboration from Jessica Fredrick, Jackie Fouty, and J Nichols-Ewing.

At the OESCA Fall Conference, sessions focused on Ohio IDEA general supervision, monitoring plans for ESCs, and the capacity of ESCs to support state initiatives.

Finally, both NwOESC autism classrooms are currently at capacity, but plans are underway to open a new classroom at the IEC as early as January 2026. Districts seeking mid-year placements are encouraged to contact Jessie Curry to explore this opportunity.

•DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION, & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: Mr. Andy Hunter shared that the Ohio School Report Cards were released on September 15, with schools receiving performance data from the previous year. He noted that, for the first time, the College and Career Readiness component was scored. To help districts better understand this new measure, the ESC will host the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce on October 7 for training. Mr. Hunter also highlighted recent and upcoming evaluator trainings, including OTES 2.0 New Evaluator sessions held earlier this month, with OPES and OSCES trainings scheduled in October. He pointed out that these sessions ensure administrators are credentialed to complete evaluations effectively.

Mr. Hunter further reported on several supports offered to area educators. He explained that the state's new K–12 Mathematics Plan was released this summer and emphasized that ESC math consultant Mike Altman is available to assist districts in implementing the framework. Mr. Hunter also noted ongoing RESA sessions for beginning teachers and thanked Jenna Storrer and Michelle Leatherman for their great work on the first presentation on classroom management. Finally, he shared that the department recently hosted a retirement planning session with STRS, which provided valuable financial guidance. Another training on retirement will take place this week, featuring a SERS session for employees who fall under that retirement system.

•DIRECTOR OF TECHNOLOGY & OPERATIONS: Mr. Chad Rex reported that this month marks the eighth year of collaboration with NWOCA/NBEC in facilitating professional network meetings for technology leaders across both memberships. These hybrid meetings, held on the third Friday of each month from September through May, continue to draw an average of 30 participants. He highlighted that over 200 technology requests have been resolved in the online system since August 1st and expressed gratitude to Corey Todd and Pat Turpening for their efforts.

Mr. Rex noted that the setup within ParentSquare has been completed to enable employee list imports and ongoing updates. He is now working through the internal setup to prepare for the rollout of this communication system organization wide. He also stated that the conference center's audio system required repair and confirmed that it is now fully operational, with discussions underway to explore enhancements to the space.

Mr. Rex shared that the professional network meetings for transportation and maintenance supervisors, now entering their third and second years respectively, have proven to be very successful. Based on participant feedback, some adjustments will be made this year to ensure the meetings are as productive and useful as possible.

Mr. Rex reported that the recent spot fire inspection at the IEC went very well. He also noted that the abandoned well on the IEC property has been capped and filled. He highlighted the continued contributions of Larry Davis in assisting with the NWOCA building renovation, as NBHP and Marathon's new spaces near completion.

Finally, Mr. Rex shared that door access upgrades to the main building's central core and ESC wing are being investigated.

•Approved the Following Consent Items:

- Minutes from the regular Board Meeting held August 26, 2025
- Financial Transactions – appropriation modifications, transfers and advances, and monthly financial reports.

•AGREEMENTS

Approved the following service agreements and MOUs:

-NwOESC to provide to Anthony Wayne Local Schools, Instructional Services at the Liberty Education Center for the 2025-26 academic year.

-NwOESC to provide to Anthony Wayne Local Schools, Hearing Impaired Classroom & Related Services for the period of 8/15/25-6/15/26.

-NwOESC to provide to Anthony Wayne Local Schools, Independence Education Center Services & Related Services for the period of 8/15/25-6/15/26.

-NwOESC to provide to Defiance City Schools, Roots Analysis Services for the period of 7/1/25-11/30/25.

-NwoESC to provide to Edgerton Local Schools/St. Mary Catholic School, Intervention Specialist and Title I Paraprofessional Services for the period of 8/1/25-6/15/26.

-NwoESC to provide to Edgerton Local Schools/St. Mary Catholic School, Occupational Therapy and Physical Therapy Services for the period of 8/1/25-6/15/26.

-NwoESC to provide to Edgerton Local Schools, Roots Analysis Services for the period of 7/1/25-11/30/25.

-NwoESC to provide to Hicksville Exempted Village Schools, OBI Instruction for the period of 7/1/25-6/30/26.

-NwoESC to provide to Holy Cross Catholic School, Occupational Therapist Services for the period of 8/15/25-6/15/26.

-NwoESC to provide to Holy Cross Catholic School, Physical Therapy Services for the period of 8/28/25-6/15/26.

-NwoESC to provide to Millcreek-West Unity Local Schools, Roots Analysis Services for the period of 8/14/25-12/31/25.

-NwoESC to provide to Montpelier Exempted Village Schools, Roots Analysis Services for the period of 7/1/25-11/30/25.

-NwoESC to provide to North Baltimore Local Schools, Visual Impairment (VI) Services for the period of 8/15/25-6/15/26.

-NwoESC to provide to St. Mary Catholic School, Intervention Specialist Services for the period of 8/1/25-6/15/26.

-NwoESC to provide to St. Mary Catholic School, Occupational Therapist Services for the period of 8/15/25-6/15/26.

-NwoESC to provide to Stryker Local Schools, Instructional Services at the Liberty Education Center for the 2025-26 academic year.

•Approve the following purchase:

-Interstate Migrant Education Council to provide to NwoESC (OMEC), Annual Participation Fees which are above the purchasing agent limit, with Title I-C Migrant (505-9250) funds.

•Approved resolution to appoint Brian Baker (Henry County), to the 4CCC Joint Vocational School District Board of Education for a three-year term of office to commence on January 1, 2026 and expire on December 31, 2028.

•Approved resolution to appoint Nona Rupp (Fulton County), to the 4CCC Joint Vocational School District Board of Education for a three-year term of office to commence on January 1, 2026 and expire on December 31, 2028.

•Approved Personnel Consent Items:

•LEAVES

FMLA and Disability

•RESIGNATIONS

Burill, Madelynn, Paraprofessional, Effective 8/14/2025

Short, Andrea, Paraprofessional, Effective 8/31/2025

•EMPLOYMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

CONTRACTS

Classified Limited

Name	Contract	Length
Bonner, Kimberly	CLASS-1 YR	9/4/2025-7/31/2026
Deangelis, Hannah	CLASS-1 YR	9/12/2025-7/31/2026

Certified Administrative Notice

Name

Hunter, Andrew

Classified Notice

Name

Radabaugh, Ian

Classified Notice

Name

Ayers, Kara

•Approve the following teaching assignments for staff in positions listed for the First Semester 2025-26:

Last Name	First Name	Position	Location
Ball	Madison	Intervention Specialist	Independence Education Center
Bidlack	Melissa	Intervention Specialist	Independence Education Center
Burke	Bobbi	Intervention Specialist	Patrick Henry Elementary School
Cardarelli	Mallery	Preschool Itinerant Intervention Specialist/Floating Teacher	Defiance Preschool
Elton	Grace	Intervention Specialist	Wauseon Elementary School
Hollenbeck	Courtney	Intervention Specialist	Holgate Elementary School
Klausing	Sandra	Preschool Intervention Specialist	Defiance City Schools
McBride	Tiffany	APE/Floating Teacher	NWOESC Multiple Locations
Richmond	Karlin	Intervention Specialist	Edon Elementary School
Rodger	Michelle	Intervention Specialist/HI	Archbold High School
Rodriguez	Jennifer	Intervention Specialist	Wauseon Middle School
Sevey	Winter	Intervention Specialist	Archbold Elementary School
Sidle	Shanna Cheyenne	Intervention Specialist/HI	NWOESC Multiple Locations
Thomas	e	Intervention Specialist	Wauseon Primary School
Wiemken	Nikki	Preschool Itinerant Intervention Specialist	Northeastern Local Schools

•Approved the following substitute teachers and paraprofessionals:

Substitute Paraprofessionals

Rita Bare, Kayla Briner-Byers, Amara Donnelly, Brittnay Fierros, Maria Glover, Sophie Graham, Madelyn Hasapes, Pyllis Johnson, Ashlynn Martin, Bethany Morgan, Courtney Pratt, Andrea Short

Substitute Teachers

Emma Bailey, Kalyn Baker, Rita Bare, Kailee Benner, Jenna Blair, Gabriella Bowers, Kayla Briner-Byers, Amelia Canales, Kiersten Cline, Molly Crall, Mackenzie Detmer, Samantha Doty, Shani Estep, Johnna Harper, Madelyn Hasapes, Aliese Hill, Mellaina Huffine, Charlene Johnson, Amy Lawson, William Linczer, Janette Lindsay, Ashlynn Martin, Rylee Miller, Shannon Miller, Katelyn Moreno, Bethany Morgan, Aimee Naveau, Natalie Nofziger, Steven Pieracini, Makenzie Prigge, Olivia Ricica, Zoey Ripke, Julia Rodriguez, Taylor Rogers, Angela Schuette, Andrea Short, Laura Sroufe, Sherry Starry, Elizabeth Steingass, Sara Stull, Brent Suffel, Ella Tassler, Taurean Villolovos, Lisa Yoder, Paul Yunker

•Approve the following 21st Century Staff:

21st Century Site Coordinators

Hicksville Elementary- Jackalyn Siebenaler

21st Century Teachers

Defiance Elementary- Cassie George, Jennifer Long, Sharon Waldron
Defiance Middle School- Nathan Headley, Jamie Knueven, Matt Manson
Hicksville Elementary- Carrie Bussing, Jackalyn Siebenaler, Amber Scranton, Kayla Vetter

21st Century Transportation Coordinator

Defiance Elementary- Sandra Fackler
Defiance Middle School- Sandra Fackler

21st Century Program Assistant

Defiance Elementary- Amanda Kennedy
Defiance Middle School- Devon Johnson, Michelle Scott
Hicksville Elementary- Tamarah Chamul

21st Century Specialized Education Assistant

Defiance Elementary- Nickole Valle

•Approved the following Van Drivers:

Substitute Van Drivers:

NwOESC - Lisa Ball, Jestine Curry, Kristie Nofziger, Amanda Ream

•Approve the following Student Teachers/Interns/Volunteers:

Savage, Madison, Field Experience as a University of Toledo student, Fall 2025, Placed with Mary Beth Beck
Schweer, Briahna, Field Experience as a University of Toledo student, Fall 2025, Placed with Mary Beth Beck
Sintobin, Brooke, Field Experience as a Bowling Green State University student, Fall 2025, Placed with Christi Ranzau

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- 05/06/2025 NwOESC Business Advisory Council Review of Quarterly Meeting Minutes - The Northwest Ohio ESC Business Advisory Council (BAC) recently approved the minutes from its May 2025 meeting, Highlights from that meeting included a showcase of Pettisville Schools' Robotics, Automation, and Additive Manufacturing program, an introduction to Fulton County's new Economic Development Director Jim Wyse, and Bryan City Schools' annual CEO Day.
- NwOESC Business Advisory Council Plan - NwOESC Business Advisory Council Plan for 2025-26 has been developed and submitted to ODEW. All 23 member districts and Four County Career Center are part of our BAC. The initiatives for the school year remain consistent with year's past and include Business and Education Spotlights, Educator Bootcamp, and expansion of Advanced Manufacturing Consortium efforts.
- The OESCA Annual Recognition Awards Brunch will be held on 11/17/2025 at the Hilton Columbus Downtown, in conjunction with the OSBA Capital Conference.
- The ESC District 2 vacancy and appointment process was discussed. Dr. Christine Smallman is slated for this appointment, which is anticipated to be made in January 2026 for a 2-year term.
- There will be no NwOESC Board meeting on November 25, 2025.

•**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:** Superintendent Kerri Weir highlighted several key items. The Administrative Team is in the process of developing annual departmental priorities to guide the 2025–26 school year. A working draft is underway and will be shared with the Board in the coming months for review and input.

On September 11, the Four County Suicide Prevention Coalition, Northwest Ohio ESC, and the Four County ADAMhs Board hosted the fifth annual Suicide Awareness Breakfast at the ESC. Nearly 130 participants attended, including community agency speakers and student panelists from Archbold, Four County Career Center, and Patrick Henry. Attendees also participated in creating short "4YourMentalHealth" videos—a community initiative that airs weekly to share practical mental health tips. NwOESC was honored to provide both the venue and breakfast for this important event.

The Northern Buckeye Health Plan (NBHP) will meet later this month to establish 2026 rates for health, dental, and vision insurance for consortium members. Additional information will be provided as it becomes available.

On September 16, Advanced Rehabilitation Technology (ART) in Bryan hosted the first quarterly NwOESC Business Advisory Council (BAC) meeting of the year. Members learned about ART's mission and vision, toured

their facility and equipment, and observed their specialized coating process. This event underscored the importance of connecting business and education through partnerships that support workforce development. Special thanks were extended to Mike Remer, ESC Career Coach/Business-Education Liaison/BAC Co-Chair; Andy Hunter, ESC Director of Professional Development, Curriculum & Instruction/BAC Co-Chair; and Dustin Schlachter, ART CEO, as well as the ART team members, for making the experience possible. The Fulton County Superintendents also provided an update on the Future of Fulton County initiative, which engages students in hands-on experiences with local businesses as a pathway to graduation. Additionally, the presence of Ashley Aston, Northwest Regional Representative for U.S. Senator Jon Husted, and Lori Brodie, Northwest Ohio District Director for Senator Husted, was greatly appreciated.

•**Adjournment:** As all the business of the evening was complete the meeting adjourned at 6:52 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Board will take place on Tuesday, October 28, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at the Northwest Ohio Educational Service Center, 205 Nolan Parkway, Archbold, OH 43502.