

**OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
OTTO-ELDRED BOARD OF EDUCATION**

The regular meeting of the Otto-Eldred Board of Education was held in the Otto-Eldred High School Library on Tuesday, January 13, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. The meeting was called to order by President, Cynthia Murphy.

The meeting began with everyone present saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

BOARD MEMBERS: Lindsey Anderson, Lance Baker, Lisa Beaver, Robert DeLong, Jeannine Gray, Erikka Henretta, Cynthia Murphy, Nate Rodgers

ABSENT: Jolene Schuessler

ADMINISTRATION: Matthew D. Splain, Superintendent; Nicholas J. LaBella, High School Principal; Nichole M. Garthwaite, Elementary Principal; Jodi L. Flexman, Business Manager/Board Secretary

ABSENT: Lindsay A. Burns, Director of Student Services / Special Education

FACULTY/STAFF: Ashley Shanahan, Brandon Witmer

VISITORS: Daphne Knapp, Chris Snow, Wanda Stebbins

REPORTERS: None

Minutes **Motion:** It was moved by Lance Baker, seconded by Erikka Henretta, to approve minutes of the regular meeting held on Tuesday, December 2, 2025. All present voted yes.

At this time, the Board provided time for public comment. No public comment was given.

Lindsay Burns, Director of Student Services/Special Education, arrived at 6:45 pm.

Treasurer's Report **Motion:** It was moved by Lance Baker, seconded by Nate Rodgers, to approve the November 2025 and December 2025 treasurer's reports as presented. All present voted yes.

Bill List **Motion:** It was moved by Lance Baker, seconded by Robert DeLong, to approve the December 2025 and January 2026 General Fund bill list as presented. All present voted yes.

Cafeteria Report **Motion:** It was moved by Lisa Beaver, seconded by Robert DeLong, to approve the November 2025 and December 2025 cafeteria reports as presented. All present voted yes.

The Schedule of Accounts and Athletic Fund reports for November 2025 and December 2025 were presented to the Board for their information.

Mr. LaBella shared the faculty, and staff handled the previous week very well when dealing with a difficult situation, District Choir was held in Meadville and several students moved on, District Band auditions will be held on Feb 4-6, 2026, and both boys' and girls' basketball teams are vying for NTL crowns.

Mrs. Garthwaite relayed the upcoming in-service planning, Winter testing begins in 2 weeks, Read Across America Week will be the week of March 2, and several PITT students are coming in for observations.

Mr. Splain reviewed information on the McKenny-Vento monitoring for Mrs. Burns, PCCD grant funding is in process, the district could see funds for PreK Counts, and there are a few upcoming projects that will be discussed later.

There are several policies listed that are available for the first and second reading/review.

Personnel **Motion:** It was moved by Lisa Beaver, seconded by Erikka Henretta, to approve Mrs. Darian Richardson as a Behavior Specialist at the Elementary School. Starting salary will be \$24,800. All present voted yes.

**At 7:03 p.m. the board went into executive session to discuss personnel matters.
At 7:19 p.m. the board came out of executive session**

Personnel **Motion:** It was moved by Lisa Beaver, seconded by Erikka Henretta, to approve the following substitute employees for the 2025-2026 school year:
Substitute Teachers: Katelyn Rhinehart, Abigail Mainville, Leah Perry
Substitute Paraprofessionals: Leah Perry
Pending receipts of certifications, clearances, and any other necessary documentation. All present voted yes.

Supplemental **Motion:** It was moved by Erikka Henretta, seconded by Lisa Beaver, to approve the following supplemental positions:
Track and Field Head Coach: Mike Miller
Softball Volunteer: Katelyn Rhinehart, Marty Bechelli
Track and Field Volunteer: Mikah Watkins
Pending receipts of certifications, clearances, and any other necessary documentation. All present voted yes.

The Head Football Coach supplement position decision was tabled until next meeting

Graduation Plan **Motion:** It was moved by Erikka Henretta, seconded by Lisa Beaver, to approve the graduation plan for a high school student. All present voted yes.

**School Board
Member**

Motion: It was moved by Lisa Beaver, seconded by Erikka Henretta, to approve the resignation of Mrs. Jolene Schuessler's board seat in Otto Township. All present voted yes.

Financial Planning

Motion: It was moved by Jeannine Gray, seconded by Lisa Beaver, to approve the contribution to SHRIT to eliminate the current dental debt that has accumulated over the past several years. Payment will be \$75,000. All present voted yes.

Field Trip

Motion: It was moved by Lisa Beaver, seconded by Nate Rodgers, to approve the following field trips and conferences:

PMEA Crescendo Virtual Student Conference

Date: 01/27/2026, Location: O-E Cyber Commons

Chaperones: Daniels/DeCorte/Barrett

Students: 3, Estimated Cost: \$30.

IU9 Reading Competition

Date: 02/05/2026

Location: Fretz Middle School, Bradford, PA

Chaperones: A. Woodruff, Students:6, Estimated Cost: \$14.28

DCNR Environmental Quiz Bowl

Date: 02/27/2026

Location: Benezette-Elk Visitors Center, Chaperones: Daniels,

Students:8, Estimated Cost: \$222.30

2025 Special Olympics

Date: 04/29/2026

Location: Bradford Area High School, Chaperones:

Sherwood/Clark + 3, Students:14

Estimated Cost: \$262.47

All present voted yes.

Adjourn

Motion: It was moved by Lisa Beaver, seconded by Lance Baker, to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 PM. All present voted yes.

Respectfully submitted,



Jodi L. Flexman

Business Manager/Board Secretary