

The North Fork Board of Education met in Regular session on Monday, January 13, 2025, at Utica Senior High School, 260 Jefferson Street, Utica, OH 43080.

The meeting was called to order by President Cooperider at 6:09 p.m.

The following members were present at roll call: Mrs. Jordan Atherton, Mrs. Barbara Bruce, Mrs. Farrah Cooperider, Dr. Rob Krueger and Mrs. Debra Paxton.

## **RECOGNITIONS**

School Board Recognition Month

## **REPORTS:**

1. **Superintendent** – Mr. Hartley – Calamity Day reminder; Discussions with the Superintendent; School Board Recognition Month
2. **Treasurer** – Mrs. Breehl – State Budget

## **WORK SESSION**

1. NEOLA Additions/Revisions

### **Second Reading**

2265 Protections of Individual Beliefs, Affiliations, Ideals, or Principles of Political Movements and Ideology (Program)

## **HEARING OF THE PUBLIC**

Public comment was requested and the following responded:

- None

## **AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS**

- None

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- None

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **2025-01-0007**

Mrs. Paxton moved, seconded by Dr. Krueger, that the Board waive the reading of and approve the minutes of the December 16, 2024, Regular Meeting.

Yea: Mrs. Paxton, Dr. Krueger, Mrs. Atherton, Mrs. Bruce, Mrs. Cooperider – 5

Nay: - 0

The president ruled the motion carried.

### **2025-01-0008**

Mrs. Bruce moved, seconded by Mrs. Atherton, that the Board approve the following personnel actions:

#### **Certified**

- 2.1 Approve the Licking Regional Educational Service Center Certificated Substitute List No. 8 for the 2024-2025 school year.

#### **Extra Service/Supplemental**

- 2.2 Rescind the contract approved on October 21, 2024, for Mark Smith as Assistant Track Coach.

#### **Classified**

- 2.3 Accept a letter of resignation from Leisa Kain, food service server, effective the end of the day on January 8, 2025.

#### **Non-Degree Substitutes**

- 2.4 Approve the following as a non-degree substitute for the 2024-2025 school year pending proper certification and background checks:

Collin McCullough

Yea: Mrs. Bruce, Mrs. Atherton, Mrs. Cooperider, Dr. Krueger, Mrs. Paxton – 5

Nay: - 0

The president ruled the motion carried.

**2025-01-0009**

Dr. Krueger moved, seconded by Mrs. Bruce, that the Board approve the following financial actions:

- 4.1 Approve the financial and reconciliation reports for the Month of December 2024.
- 4.2 Approve bills as presented for December 2024 and payment of bills with “Then and Now” certificates.
- 4.3 Authorize the Treasurer and Superintendent to issue purchase orders in accordance with Board Policy 6400.

Yea: Dr. Krueger, Mrs. Bruce, Mrs. Atherton, Mrs. Cooperider, Mrs. Paxton – 5

Nay: - 0

The president ruled the motion carried.

**2025-01-0010**

- 6.1 Mrs. Paxton moved, seconded by Mrs. Atherton, that the Board approve the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TREASURER  
TO SECURE TAX ADVANCES FROM THE COUNTY AUDITOR**

WHEREAS, the North Fork Local School District (the “District”) desires to reduce cash balance variability; and

WHEREAS, the District desires to increase its interest earnings on higher cash balances;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the North Fork Local School District, Licking County, Ohio, authorizes the Treasurer to secure property tax advances from the Licking County Auditor on its behalf.

This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and immediately upon its adoption.

Yea: Mrs. Paxton, Mrs. Atherton, Mrs. Bruce, Mrs. Cooperider, Dr. Krueger – 5

Nay: - 0

The president ruled the motion carried.

**2025-01-0011**

- 6.2 Mrs. Bruce moved, seconded by Mrs. Cooperider, that the Board approve the adoption of the following policy revisions/additions/deletions:

2265 Protections of Individual Beliefs, Affiliations, Ideals, or Principles of Political Movements and Ideology (Program)

Yea: Mrs. Bruce, Mrs. Cooperider Mrs. Atherton, Dr. Krueger, Mrs. Paxton – 5

Nay: - 0

The president ruled the motion carried.

**2025-01-0012**

- 6.3 Mrs. Atherton moved, seconded by Dr. Krueger, that the Board approve an overnight Outdoor Education Program for the seventh-grade students at Utica Middle School to be operated at the Heartland Outdoor Environmental Education School in Marengo, Ohio, from November 19 – 21, 2025.

Yea: Mrs. Atherton, Dr. Krueger, Mrs. Bruce, Mrs. Cooperider, Mrs. Paxton – 5

Nay: - 0

The president ruled the motion carried.

**2025-01-0013**

- 6.4 Mrs. Bruce moved, seconded by Mrs. Paxton, that the Board approve the following resolution:

RESOLUTION TO PROCEED WITH THE  
PROPOSITION OF A RENEWAL INCOME TAX  
(Ohio Revised Code Sections 5748.02 and 5748.03)

WHEREAS, the Board at its meeting on December 16, 2024, determined that it is necessary to raise annually additional revenues of \$2,961,512 for the purpose of providing for the current operating expenses of the School District; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Commissioner of the State of Ohio has estimated and certified the property tax rate and the income tax rate required in order to produce such additional revenues; and

WHEREAS, the income tax rate, rounded to the nearest one-fourth of one percent as required by law, is 1.00% per annum; and

WHEREAS, such rate is not higher than the income tax last approved by the voters of the School District on May 4, 2021, for three years with the last year of collection being in 2028 (the "Existing Income Tax");

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the North Fork Local School District, Licking and Knox Counties, Ohio, a majority of all of the members thereof concurring, that:

Section 1. Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Sections 5748.02 and 5748.03, it is hereby determined to be necessary to proceed with the proposition of levying a renewal of the Existing Income Tax on the school district income of individuals residing in the School District. Such renewal income tax shall be at the rate of 1.00% per annum, shall be for the purpose of providing for current operating expenses, shall take effect and begin to be levied on January 1, 2029, and shall be levied for a period of three years beginning January 1, 2029 (the "Income Tax").

Section 2. The income that shall be subject to the Income Tax is the taxable income of individuals as defined in Ohio Revised Code Section 5748.01(E)(1)(b).

Section 3. The question of levying the Income Tax shall be submitted to all of the electors of the entire School District at the election to be held on May 6, 2025. All of the territory of the School District is located in Licking and Knox Counties, Ohio.

Section 4. The form of the ballot to be used at said election shall be substantially as follows:

Shall an annual income tax of one percent (1.0%) on the earned income of individuals residing in the school district be imposed by the North Fork Local School District, to renew an income tax expiring at the end of 2028, for three (3) years, beginning January 1, 2029, for the purpose of providing for current operating expenses?

	FOR THE TAX
	AGAINST THE TAX

Section 5. The Treasurer of the School District is hereby directed to certify a copy of this Resolution to the Board of Elections of Licking County, Ohio, not later than February 5, 2025.

Section 6. It is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of this Board concerning and relating to the passage of this Resolution were taken in an open meeting of this Board, and that all deliberations of this Board and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements, including Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22.

Yea: Mrs. Bruce, Mrs. Paxton, Mrs. Atherton, Mrs. Cooperider, Dr. Krueger – 5

Nay: - 0

The president ruled the motion carried.

## HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

Public comment was requested and the following responded:

- None

Mrs. Bruce moved, seconded by Dr. Krueger, that the meeting be adjourned.

Yea: Mrs. Bruce, Dr. Krueger, Mrs. Atherton, Mrs. Cooperider, Mrs. Paxton - 5

Nay: - 0

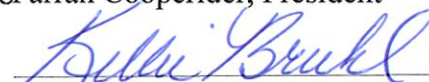
The president ruled the motion carried.

Time: 6:20 p.m.

Next Meeting: **January 15, 2025 (*Planning Meeting pending board approval.*)**

Location: Utica Senior High School Room 106  
260 Jefferson Street  
Utica, Ohio 43080

Time: 9:00 a.m.

  
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Farrah Cooperider, President  
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Kelle Breehl, Treasurer