

RIVERSIDE LOCAL BOARD OF EDUCATION



Riverside High School

July 23, 2026

6:00 P.M. Regular Meeting

MINUTES

A recording of this Board of Education meeting is available on the District's YouTube page here:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbTmn_sGBiEvF2c598hBCSg

1. Opening Items

- A. Call to Order at 6:00 p.m.

Notice of this meeting was given in accordance with the provisions of Bylaw 0164B of the Riverside Local Board of Education which was adopted in accordance with Section 1.450 of the O.R.C. and the Ohio Administrative Procedures Act.

The Bylaws of the Board of Education can be found in BoardDocs.

- B. Roll Call: Krenisky, Grassi, Audino, Brewster, Vires

- C. Pledge of Allegiance

- D. Welcome

On behalf of the Board, I would like to welcome all students, staff, parents, and interested community members to tonight's Board of Education meeting. I would like to remind everyone that this is a meeting of the Board of Education held in public for the purpose of conducting the school district's business and is not to be considered a public community meeting. There is time for public comment during the meeting in the Public Participation section on the agenda.

2. Approval of Agenda

- A. Mr. Audino requested that Melissa Hopper be removed from Item 12A to be voted on separately.

Motion to approve the agenda as listed.

Motion: Krenisky

Second: Grassi

Vote:

Lori Krenisky	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Belinda Grassi	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Joseph Audino	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____

Denise Brewster	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Jimmielee Vires	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____

President declares the motion: carried 072326-1

3. Minutes

A. Motion to approve minutes as attached.

File Attachments:

June 16 2026 Work Session Minutes.pdf (133 KB)

June 23 2026 Work Session Minutes.pdf (129 KB)

June 23 2026 Board Minutes.pdf (321 KB)

July 1 2026 Special Meeting Minutes.pdf (138 KB)

Motion: Krenisky

Second: Audino

Vote:

Lori Krenisky	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Belinda Grassi	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Joseph Audino	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Denise Brewster	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Jimmielee Vires	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____

President declares the motion: carried 072326-2

4. **Special Reports** – Dr. Rateno recognized Allison Urbas. She is the first female state champion in an individual track and field event. She was presented with a plaque. He also recognized Lisa Hull, a day custodian at Riverview. She received the first Circle of Excellence Award at the Ohio Schools Council Custodian and Maintenance Leadership Conference. She was presented with a certificate.
5. **Unfinished Business** – Mr. Audino asked about organizational charts. He said he would like a presentation and with an opportunity for discussion. Ms. Brewster asked about the rust proofing for the buses. Dr. Rateno will follow up with the Transportation Director and mechanics and will present a report in September after bus inspections are complete. Mrs. Grassi asked about board communication with district staff. Mr. McIntyre presented some options for opportunities to interact with the staff and community. Mr. Audino asked about staff and student dress codes and communication surrounding that as well as the cell phone policy. Ms. Brewster asked about gifted acceleration and the opportunities available for students to receive accelerated instruction at a different building. Mrs. Grassi asked for a follow up to cost cutting measures for the 2026-2027 school year and contingency planning for the future.
6. **New Business** – None
7. **Board of Education Committee and Liaison Reports**
 - A. Belinda Grassi – Buildings & Grounds/Operations Committee; Strategic Plan Liaison – The Buildings and Grounds Committee met on July 21. The stadium light poles are scheduled to begin replacement the first week of August with a completion date of August 20. The CTX walkway and

gas line replacement projects are complete. Parking lot repairs are complete at all buildings and lining will be done in the coming weeks. Fire alarm testing and extinguisher inspections are complete. Buckeye modular units have been removed. A transportation survey has been sent out to sixth through twelfth graders to gauge ridership or to opt out of riding to try to increase efficiency of bus routes. Dr. Rateno said that the mission and vision statements have been updated as part of the Strategic Plan.

- B. Joseph Audino – Curriculum and Programming Committee; Booster Organizations Liaison – No Curriculum and Programming Committee or Booster update.
- C. Denise Brewster – Policy Committee; Legislative Liaison – No Policy Committee or Legislative update.
- D. Lori Krenisky – Superintendent’s Business Advisory Liaison – No Business Advisory Council update.

8. **Superintendent’s Report** – Dr. Rateno gave an update on the Buckeye project. Event planning has started for Melridge’s last year as an elementary school. The stadium lights have been removed and will be replaced beginning on August 4 with a completion date of August 20. He thanked the Gridiron Club and Band Boosters for significant donations toward the replacement cost. The lights will have the ability to change colors and be set to music. Dr. Rateno highlighted upcoming events including Meet the Teams Night on August 19, Supply Drop Off and Open Houses on August 19, Kindergarten Orientation on August 27, Community Tailgate Party on August 28, and the Homecoming Parade on September 24. He thanked Dr. Mlakar for her 32 years of service to the district. He presented her with a picture of the buildings she had worked at during her career.

9. **Treasurer’s Report and Committee Update**

- A. Jimmielee Vires – Finance/Audit and Personnel Committee; Alumni Association Liaison – No Finance/Audit and Personnel Committee or Alumni Association update.
- B. Dr. Thompson talked about future investment earnings and estimated investment interest income. He talked about the PI Forecast. He also addressed the question “Why are we on the ballot?”. He explained the effect House Bill 920 and the Ohio Fair School Funding Plan have on our future income.

10. **Public Participation**

- A. Public Comment - None

11. **Consent Agenda: Finance/Audit**

- A. Resolution to approve the monthly financial reports and check payment register report for June 2026.
- B. Resolution to approve a Service Agreement and a Student Transportation Agreement with Education Alternatives for the 2026-2027 school year.
- C. Resolution to approve a proposal with the Ohio Auditor of State – Local Government Services for financial statement compilation for fiscal year 2026 at an estimated cost of \$27,360.00.
- D. Resolution to approve a Transportation Contract for the 2026-2027 School Year with Emmanuel Ventures Limited for students from the Riverside Local School District.
- E. Resolution to approve an agreement between the Riverside Local School District and the Educational Service Center of Northeast Ohio for the 2026-2027 school year for audiology and/or hearing impairment.

- F. Resolution to approve the Admission/Tuition and one-on-one services agreements with the Mentor Exempted Village Schools/Mentor Cardinal Autism Resource and Education School (CARES) program for the education of students with disabilities from the Riverside Local School district for the 2026-2027 school year.
- G. Resolution to approve an Inter-district Service Area Contract between the Riverside Local School District and the Educational Service Center of Northeast Ohio for the 2026-2027 school year for consultant services, one Physical Therapist and one COTA.
- H. Resolution to approve a contract for admission of student(s) with the Educational Service Center of Northeast Ohio's Capstone Academy for educational purposes for the 2026-2027 school year.
- I. Resolution to approve a purchase order with Infinite Campus, Inc. for student information system licensing for the 2026-2027 school year at a total cost of \$56,620.00.
- J. Resolution to approve a transportation agreement with Hogan Transportation, as needed, for the 2026-2027 school year.
- K. Resolution to approve blanket purchase orders in excess of \$15,000 for fiscal year 2027:
 Ascendance Trucks: \$47,000.00
 Bob Sumerall Tire: \$30,000.00
 Hans Freightliner: \$16,000.00
 Rush Truck Center, Cleveland: \$72,000.00
 Sunset Transportation: \$35,000.00
 Transfer Express: \$30,000.00
- L. Resolution to accept the following donations:
 - 1. \$500.00 from SSC Controls Company to the RAVE Program.
- M. Motion to approve the items listed on the Finance/Audit Consent Agenda as recommended by the Treasurer.

Motion: Vires

Second: Audino

Vote:

Lori Krenisky	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Belinda Grassi	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Joseph Audino	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Denise Brewster	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Jimmielee Vires	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____

President declares the motion: carried 072326-3

12. Consent Agenda: Personnel

- A. Resolution to approve the following Classified/Exempt Personnel:

Employment										
First Name	Last Name	Job Title	Location	Pay	Step	Hours	Effective Date	Contract Duration	Contracted Days	Notes
Christie	Fenn	12-MO Night Custodian	Riverview Elementary	\$21.28	Step-0	8.00	8/1/2026	Limited, One-Year	260	
Traci	Flores	Special Needs Assistant	LaMuth Middle School	\$17.25	Step-0	7.50	8/17/2026	Limited, One-Year	182	

Andrea	Osborne	Educational Assistant	Riverview Elementary	\$15.91	Step-0	3.25	8/17/2026	Limited, One-Year	182	Pending background check and Ed Aide Permit
Jayson	Pounds	12-MO Float Night Custodian T-Sa	Districtwide	\$22.43	Step-3	8.00	8/1/2026	Limited, One-Year	250	
Jennifer	Soily	Educational Assistant	Riverside Campus	\$16.74	Step-2	7.00	8/17/2026	Limited, One-Year	182	
Nicolette	Sorrells	PM Latchkey Assistant	Riverview Elementary	\$16.00	N/A	2.00	8/17/2026	Limited, One-Year	182	
Jennifer	Swietlik	Educational Assistant	Riverside Campus	\$15.91	Step-0	7.00	8/17/2026	Limited, One-Year	182	
Abbie	Wilson	Special Needs Assistant	Buckeye Elementary	\$17.25	Step-0	7.50	8/17/2026	Limited, One-Year	182	
Kathryn	Ziegler	Special Needs Assistant	Riverview Elementary	\$17.25	Step-0	7.50	8/17/2026	Limited, One-Year	182	

Transfer	First Name	Last Name	Previous Job Title	Previous Location	New Job Title	New Location	Hours/Day	Pay	Step	Effective Date	Notes
	Shawn	Edixon	12-MO Night Custodian	Riverview Elementary	12-MO Mid-Day Custodian	No Change	No Change	No Change	No Change	8/1/2026	
	Paula	Taylor	Educational Assistant	Riverside Campus	10-MOS Attendance Secretary	Riverside Campus	8.00	\$22.21	Step-2	8/17/2026	185 Day Contract

Resignation	First Name	Last Name	Job Title	Location	Effective Date
	Trent	Babcock	HS Track Coach	LaMuth Middle School	2/1/2026
	Stasia	Charter	Educational Assistant	LaMuth Middle School	5/31/2026
	Keristin	Cruz	PM Latchkey Assistant	Parkside Elementary	5/31/2026
	Wesley	Overall	PM Latchkey Assistant	Riverview Elementary	5/31/2026

Training Days	First Name	Last Name	Job Title	Location	Pay	Effective Date	Notes
	Paula	Taylor	10-MOS Attendance Secretary	Riverside Campus	\$22.21	8/3/2026	Paid by a timesheet to complete required position training, prior to start of 26/27 SY

Change in Hours	First Name	Last Name	Job Title	Location	Current Hours	New Hours	Effective Date
	Christopher	Conley	Nutrition Services	Fairport	3.00	3.5	26/27 SY

B. Resolution to approve the following Certified Personnel:

Employment	First Name	Last Name	Job Title	Location	Pay	Step	Effective Date	Contract Duration
	Alexis	Armstrong	Tutor	Riverview Elementary	\$27.99	NA	8/17/2026	Limited, One-Year
	Kristilyn	Bates	Tutor	Buckeye Elementary	\$27.99	NA	8/17/2026	Limited, One-Year
	Emma	Courtot	Tutor	Parkside Elementary	\$27.99	NA	8/17/2026	Limited, One-Year
	Heather	LaManna	Tutor	Buckeye Elementary	\$27.99	NA	8/17/2026	Limited, One-Year
	Lauren	Robson	LT TESOL Teacher	Riverside Campus	\$53,196.00	MA+30, Step-0	8/17/2026	Limited, One-Year
	Karen	Weaver	Tutor	Buckeye Elementary	\$27.99	NA	8/17/2026	Limited, One-Year

Transfer	First Name	Last Name	Previous Job Title	Previous Location	New Job Title	New Location	Pay	Step	Contract Duration	Effective Date
	Kaleigh	Gil	Kindergarten Teacher	Parkside Elementary	1st Grade Teacher	No Change	No Change	No Change	No Change	8/17/2026

Approval of payment of Military Recruit Award stipends to employees. The cost of these stipends will be reimbursed to the Riverside Local School District by the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce
 Alexis Balausky
 Cody Bizily

Resignation	First Name	Last Name	Job Title	Location	Effective Date
	Lisa	Krieger	First Grade Teacher	Parkside	7/31/2026
	Steven	Marra	Health/PE Teacher	Riverside Campus	8/17/2026
	Steven	Marra	Varsity Assistant Football Coach	Riverside Campus	6/1/2026
	Lauren	Mates	TESOL Teacher	Riverside Campus	7/31/2026

C. Resolution to approve the following Supplemental Contracts:

First Name	Last Name	Assignment	Salary	Notes
Philip	Baioni	Cross Country-Boys Head Coach	\$6,208.00	
Kathy	Babcock	Cross Country-Girls Head Coach	\$2,111.00	Split 34%
Trent	Babcock	Cross Country-Boys & Girls Assistant Coach	\$1,462.00	Split 33%
David	Shook	Cross Country-Boys & Girls Assistant Coach	\$1,462.00	Split 33%
John	Jusko	Football-Varsity Assistant	\$3,227.00	Correction from Freshman to V Assistant
Jonathon	Breech	Soccer-Girls Head Coach	\$6,208.00	Step Correction
Nathaniel	Freeman	Spring Musical – Cello	\$300.00	
Francis (Frank)	Sanzo	Summer Band-RHS Assistant	\$1,314.00	Correction to Title of Assignment
Brad	Allen	Summer Band-RHS Director	\$2,553.00	Correction to Title of Assignment
Alexis	Hassett	Volleyball-Girls 9 th Grade	\$3,548.00	
Kylie	Krnac	Volleyball-Girls Varsity Assistant	\$6,208.00	
Jessica	Peters	Volleyball-Girls Varsity Assistant	Volunteer	

D. Resolution to approve the following Classified/Exempt Substitutes:

Position	First Name	Last Name
Non CDL Transportation Operator	Christie	Fenn
Transportation Assistant	Christie	Fenn
Transportation Assistant	Jennifer	Gochneaur

E. Resolution to approve the following staff for Home Tutoring:

Michelle Miller

F. Motion to approve the items listed on the Personnel Consent Agenda as recommended by the Superintendent.

Motion: Vires

Second: Grassi

Vote:

Lori Krenisky	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Belinda Grassi	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Joseph Audino	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Denise Brewster	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Jimmielee Vires	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____

President declares the motion: carried 072326-4

G. Resolution to approve the following Classified/Exempt personnel:

Employment		Job Title	Location	Pay	Step	Hours	Effective Date	Contract Duration	Contracted Days	Notes
First Name	Last Name									
Melissa	Hopper	Payroll and Benefits Specialist	Central Administration Office	\$60,400 prorated		Tier II, Step-6	8.00	7/27/2026	1 year Limited, One-Year	248

Motion: Vires

Second: Krenisky

Vote:

Lori Krenisky	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Belinda Grassi	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Joseph Audino	Aye_____	Nay_____	Abstain__X__
Denise Brewster	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Jimmielee Vires	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____

President declares the motion: carried 072326-5

13. Consent Agenda: Buildings & Grounds/Operations

- A. Resolution authorizing the purchase of a 10-passenger van from Myers Equipment Corporation through the Ohio Schools Council's Spring 2026 School Bus/Van Purchasing Program at a total cost of \$69,511. This amount will be offset by \$42,951.86 that will be paid to the district via their insurance.

- B. Resolution to approve the project proposal from GEM Service for leak detection and repair of the air conditioning system at Parkside Elementary School.
- C. Motion to approve the items listed on the Buildings & Grounds/Operations Consent Agenda as recommended by the Superintendent.

Motion: Grassi

Second: Krenisky

Vote:

Lori Krenisky	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Belinda Grassi	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Joseph Audino	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Denise Brewster	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Jimmilee Vires	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____

President declares the motion: carried 072326-6

14. **Board of Education Update** – Dr. Mlakar thanked everyone for a wonderful career. She has seen many ups and downs over the years and the relationships she has developed have been the most important. Mrs. Grassi said she does not know anyone who has put more time and thought into the district than Dr. Mlakar. Ms. Brewster asked for updates on communication with Buckeye Elementary neighbors and the modular units at Buckeye and Melridge.

15. **Next Meeting Announcement**

- A. Next Meeting Announcement

Buildings and Grounds Committee	August 11, 2026	7:30 a.m.
Curriculum and Programming Committee	August 12, 2026	7:30 a.m.
Board of Education Meeting	August 13, 2026	6:00 p.m.
Finance/Audit and Personnel Committee	August 17, 2026	7:00 a.m.
Board of Education Meeting	August 27, 2026	6:00 p.m.

16. **Executive Session**

- A. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Riverside Local School District Board of Education hereby adjourns to executive session at 8:30 p.m. for the purpose of discussing (1) the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official. Riverside Local School District Board of Education hereby designates all matters discussed in this executive session as strictly confidential and finds that this designation is warranted because of the status of this matter and the need to preserve confidentiality to properly conduct the business of this Board of Education.

Motion: Krenisky

Second: Grassi

Vote:

Lori Krenisky	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Belinda Grassi	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Joseph Audino	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____

Denise Brewster	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Jimmilee Vires	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____

President declares the motion: carried 072326-7

B. Return to regular session at 9:37 p.m.

17. Closing Items

A. Motion to adjourn at 9:37 p.m.

Motion: Krenisky

Second: Vires

Vote:

Lori Krenisky	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Belinda Grassi	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Joseph Audino	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Denise Brewster	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Jimmilee Vires	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____

President declares the motion: carried 072326-8

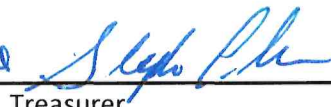
Attest:



Board President

8/6/26

Date



Treasurer

8/5/26

Date