

**Fairfield City School District:
Excellence, preparation for life, opportunities for all!**

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING AGENDA

January 8, 2026

**ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING/SPECIAL MEETING 6:30 PM
CATHERINE D. MILLIGAN COMMUNITY ROOM
FAIRFIELD SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL**

OPENING OF THE MEETING – CALL TO ORDER

President Pro Tem – Scott Clark

OATH OF OFFICE FOR NEWLY ELECTED BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

A. Oath of office for Board of Education Members, Mrs. Abby Berding-Miller, Mr. John Cline Jr. and Mr. Kevin McDonald, effective January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2029.

ROLL CALL

_____ **Berding-Miller** _____ **Clark** _____ **Cline** _____ **McDonald** _____ **Napier**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Scott Clark

ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE FAIRFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR 2026 (ORC 3313.14)

A. Nominations

(If more than one person is nominated, the President Pro Tem shall publicly call the roll of the Board and ask the members to vote their choice. If only one person is nominated, a motion to close nominations, a second, and a vote by acclamation will elect the President.)

Nominator _____ Nominee _____

Nominator _____ Nominee _____

Motion to close nominations: _____ ; **2nd** _____

_____ **Berding-Miller** _____ **Clark** _____ **Cline** _____ **McDonald** _____ **Napier**

President Pro Tem declares _____ elected President of the Fairfield Board of Education for 2026

B. Oath of Office for the President

C. President Pro Tem directs the Treasurer to acknowledge in the minutes that the oath has been given.

D. President presides from this point forward.

ELECTION OF THE VICE PRESIDENT OF THE FAIRFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR 2026 (ORC 3313.14)

A. Nominations (same procedure applies)

Nominator _____ Nominee _____

Nominator _____ Nominee _____

Motion to close nominations: _____; 2nd _____

_____ Berding-Miller _____ Clark _____ Cline _____ McDonald _____ Napier

President declares _____ elected Vice President of the Fairfield Board of Education for 2026

B. Oath of Office for the Vice President

C. President directs the Treasurer to acknowledge in the minutes that the oath has been given.

NEW BUSINESS/BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS

A. Establish 2026 meeting dates, times and location (ORC 3313.15)

Suggestion:

Work Sessions: Thursday, February 5
Thursday, March 5
Thursday, May 7
Thursday, June 4
Thursday, August 6
Thursday, September 3
Time: 6:30 P.M.
Location: Fairfield Senior High School
Catherine D. Milligan Community Room
8800 Holden Blvd.
(There will be no work session in April, July, October, November and December)

Regular Sessions: Thursday, February 19
Thursday, March 19
Thursday, April 9
Thursday, May 21 (Compass Elementary)
Thursday, June 25
Thursday, July 9
Thursday, August 20
Thursday, September 17
Thursday, October 15

Thursday, November 12
Thursday, December 10
Time: 6:30 P.M.
Location: Fairfield Senior High School
Catherine D. Milligan Community Room
8800 Holden Blvd.

- B. Consider establishment of a Board service fund for 2026 in the amount of \$9,942.00. (ORC 3315.15).
- C. Recommend approval of the following standing authorizations for 2026:
1. Authorize the Treasurer to secure advances from the Auditor when funds are available and payable to the district.
 2. Authorize the Treasurer to borrow short-term funds as needed for cash flow purposes.
 3. Authorize the Treasurer to invest inactive funds whenever funds are available.
 4. Authorize the Treasurer to modify appropriations and advance money from fund to fund as needed. Modifications must then be presented to the Board for approval.
 5. Authorize the Treasurer to pay all bills within the limits of the appropriation resolution as bills are received and when the merchandise has been received in good condition.
 6. Authorize the Treasurer to utilize the legal firm of Dinsmore & Shohl when fiscal legal opinions are required.
 7. Authorize the Treasurer to dispose of assets or property (not exceeding \$10,000 in value) that are no longer needed.
 8. Authorize Superintendent or Designee to act as purchasing agent for the district to make purchases of supplies and/or services within the limits of the appropriation measure.
 9. Authorize the Superintendent or Designee during periods when this Board is not in session, to make offers of employment directly to candidates for either teaching or non-teaching positions on behalf of this Board, and to acknowledge acceptance of such offers on behalf of this Board, subject to a subsequent vote of ratification by this Board; provided however, that upon ratification by this Board, the employment shall be deemed effective as of the date and time of the employee's acceptance of the Superintendent's office.

Nothing in this resolution shall require the Board of Education to employ or continue to employ an individual who has not provided a criminal records check satisfactory to the Board or who has not satisfied any other prerequisite to employment created by law or Board policy.
 10. Authorize the Superintendent or Designee, on behalf of this Board, to accept resignations which have been submitted by employees during times when this Board is not in session, subject to ratification by this Board; provided however, that upon ratification by this Board,

such resignations shall be deemed effective as of the date and time of the Superintendent’s /Designee’s acceptance.

- 11. Authorize the Superintendent or Designee to appoint substitute support staff as necessary within the limits of the annual appropriation resolution.
- 12. Authorize the Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Assistant Superintendent, Director of Special Services and Director of Business Operations to approve professional day requests for professional and support employees for state meetings, workshops, and events in an amount not to exceed the limits in the Annual Appropriation, Board Policy, and negotiated contracts.
- 13. Authorize members of the Board to attend workshops, seminars and meetings for Professional Development and to benefit the academic and financial status of district.
- 14. Recommend that in accordance with Section 3313.26, ORC that the Board waive the reading of minutes from previous meetings.

D. Appointments to OSBA and City Committees

- 1. Legislative Liaison to OSBA/Federal Relations Network _____
- 2. Parks and Recreation Board _____
- 3. Planning Commission _____
- 4. Student Achievement _____

(Any of items “A” through “D” may be voted upon separately at the request of any Board member.)

Motion to accept the recommendations: _____; **2nd** _____

_____ **Berding-Miller** _____ **Clark** _____ **Cline** _____ **McDonald** _____ **Napier**

President declares motion _____.

PRESENTATIONS/RESOLUTIONS

- A. School Board Recognition Month – Gina Gentry-Fletcher
- B. Senior High School Spotlight – Ryan Bellamy

COMMUNICATION

This is the portion of the meeting where you are invited to share your thoughts with the Board. In order for the Board to fulfill its obligation to complete the planned agenda in an effective and efficient fashion, a maximum of thirty (30) minutes of public participation may be permitted at each meeting. Please know that this time has been set aside for the Board to listen to you.

Your comments are valued and will be taken into careful consideration. The Board will not engage in dialogue at this time. Presentations are limited to three (3) minutes each.

SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORTS

A. Personnel – Professional

1. Employment

a. Extracurriculars 2025-2026

Senior High

Kimberly Lancaster, Basketball, Assistant Girls
Joseph Shellman, Basketball, Assistant Boys

Freshman

Joseph Shellman, Basketball, Boys
Apiyo Thomas, Wrestling, Assistant

Middle – Creekside Middle and Crossroads Middle Combined

Maxwell Meddings, Wrestling, 7th/8th Grade

Middle – Creekside Middle

Todd Bradbury, Basketball, Boys 7th/8th Grade

b. Substitute Teachers 2025-2026

Megan Bryant
Whitney Whitley

(All recommendations are for the 2025-2026 school year at a rate of \$125 per day.)

(All employment is contingent upon satisfactory submission of all required documents.)

Motion to accept the recommendations: _____; 2nd _____

_____ Berding-Miller _____ Clark _____ Cline _____ McDonald _____ Napier

President declares motion _____.

B. Personnel – Support

1. Resignations

a. Valan Midell, Transportation, Bus Driver
(effective the end of day December 19, 2025; for personal reasons)

b. Nancy Lothes, District, Confidential Secretary III
(effective the end of day January 31, 2026; for retirement purposes)

- c. Lisa Williams, Crossroads, Educational Assistant
(effective the end of the day December 19, 2025; for personal reasons)
- 2. Unpaid Leaves of Absence
 - a. Zahanara Ahmed, Freshman, Educational Assistant
(extension of unpaid leave of absence effective December 22, 2025 through March 2, 2026; for personal reasons)
 - b. Michael Speights, Central, Educational Assistant
(effective December 17, 2025; for personal reasons)
- 3. Employment
 - a. Taylor Goins, Transportation, Bus Driver
(effective December 15, 2025; for a replacement position)
 - b. Scott Patrick, Compass, Custodian
(effective January 3, 2026; previously listed as a Temporary Custodian; for a replacement position)
- 4. Athletic Event Workers 2025-2026

Tyler Alexander
 Daniel Callahan
 Korry Frizzell
 Timothy Hawes
 Raymond Samworth
 Tracy Townsend

(All recommendations are based on the needs of the Athletic Department for the 2025-2026 school year at a rate approved by the Board, and contingent upon satisfactory submission of all required documents.)

(All employment is contingent upon satisfactory submission of all required documents.)

Motion to accept the recommendations: _____; **2nd** _____

_____ **Berding-Miller** _____ **Clark** _____ **Cline** _____ **McDonald** _____ **Napier**

President declares motion _____.

C. Items for Board Discussion

- 1. Middle School and High School Program of Studies – Mandy Aug
- 2. Board Policy – Kim Hauer
 - a. EBDE - Procurement and Administration of Overdose Reversal Drugs

- 3. Financial Update – Jay Phillips
- 4. Community Engagement Summary – Billy Smith, Kim Hauer and Jay Phillips
- 5. Increasing Revenue Options – Billy Smith
- 6. Timeline – Jay Phillips and Billy Smith

D. Other Items for Board Action

- 1. Recommend approval of the contract with Nations Classroom Tour Company for the eighth grade Washington, D.C. trip scheduled for October 21–24, 2026.
- 2. Recommend approval of the following Board Policy:
 - a. EBDE - Procurement and Administration of Overdose Reversal Drugs
- 3. Recommend approval of the resolution of the Appointment of Associate School Board Member to serve on the Butler Technology and Career Development Schools Board of Education.

WHEREAS, the Fairfield Board of Education wishes to appoint a member to serve on the Butler Technology and Career Development Schools Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, to be qualified to serve on a board of education of a joint vocational school district, a member must meet the qualifications set forth in Ohio Revised Code 3311.19; and

WHEREAS, the named appointee meets the qualifications as set forth in Ohio Revised Code 3311.19.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved, that Abby Berding-Miller meets the qualifications of Ohio Revised Code 3311.19 and is hereby appointed to serve on the Butler Technology and Career Development Schools Board of Education for the remainder of the term beginning the date of appointment and ending December 31, 2027, in accordance with Ohio Revised Code 3311.19.

Motion to accept the recommendations: _____; **2nd** _____

_____ **Berding-Miller** _____ **Clark** _____ **Cline** _____ **McDonald** _____ **Napier**

President declares motion _____.

TREASURER’S RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORTS

- A. Recommend approval of the minutes of the following meeting:

December 11, 2025 – Regular Meeting
December 18, 2025 – Special Meeting

- B. Recommend approval of the financial reports for the month of December 2025.
- C. Recommend approval of the 2025-2026 Amended Appropriations Resolution.
- D. Recommend approval of the fiscal year 2027 Tax Budget that will be submitted to the Butler County Auditor’s Office.
- E. Recommend approval of the following rates to be paid to seasonal and sporadic athletic workers, effective January 1, 2026:

Scorekeepers/Timers/Ticket takers:	\$20 - \$60 (dependent upon sport/games worked)
Site Managers:	\$60 per game
Bookkeeper:	\$150 per tournament

- F. Recommend approval of the annual membership (\$9,442) with the Ohio Schools Boards Association for January 2026 – December 2026.
- G. Recommend approval of the Ohio School Boards Association Legal Assistance Fund Service Contract (\$250) pursuant to R.C. Section 3313.171 (January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026).
- H. Recommend approval of the new IRS mileage rate of 72.5 cents effective January 1, 2026.
- I. Recommend approval of Jay Phillips to act as designee for Board of Education to fulfill the Public Records Act training requirement as required by Policy KBA – Public’s Right to Know.
- J. Recommend approval of the following donation:
 - 1. A donation of \$500 from Anna Braam for the Fairfield High School food pantry.

Total donations for 2026: \$500.00

Motion to accept the recommendations: _____ ; 2nd _____

_____ **Berding-Miller** _____ **Clark** _____ **Cline** _____ **McDonald** _____ **Napier**

President declares motion _____ .

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Legislative Update
- B. Butler Tech

- C. Student Achievement
- D. Parks and Recreation
- E. Planning Commission – Billy Smith

ANNOUNCEMENTS

January 19, 2026 – Martin Luther King Day – No School

February 5, 2026 – Board Meeting (Work Session) 6:30 PM, Fairfield Senior High School,
Catherine D. Milligan Community Room

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS:

Court Action 121.22 (G) (3) – Pending or Imminent Litigation

Motion to convene executive session: _____; **2nd** _____

_____ **Berding-Miller** _____ **Clark** _____ **Cline** _____ **McDonald** _____ **Napier**

President declares motion _____.

President convenes executive session at _____ **P.M.**

President resumes regular meeting at _____ **P.M.**

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn: _____; **2nd** _____

_____ **Berding-Miller** _____ **Clark** _____ **Cline** _____ **McDonald** _____ **Napier**

President declares motion _____.

President adjourns meeting at _____ **P.M.**