

**BOARD LETTER
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MAY 28, 2019**

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**BOARD LETTER
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REMINDER—NEXT BOARD MEETING

The Regular Board Meeting will take place on **Tuesday, May 28, 2019**, at **3:30 p.m.** in the Board Room at 10 North Main Street, Akron, Ohio 44308. If there is need for an Executive Session, it will immediately follow the regular meeting.

The next scheduled Akron Board of Education meeting will be held on Monday, June 10, 2019, at 5:30 p.m. in the Board Room at 10 North Main Street, Akron, Ohio 44308.

FINANCE & CAPITAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Patrick L. Bravo – Co-Chair

Tim Miller – Co-Chair

Five-Year Forecast Beginning FY19

A copy of the Five-Year Forecast will be filed with the State by the end of May. A copy of the Five-Year Forecast and assumptions are included in the supporting documents.

At the Board Meeting of Tuesday, May 28, 2019 a resolution will be presented to accept the Five-Year Forecast following Mr. Pendleton's presentation.

If there are questions regarding the forecast and assumptions, please contact Ryan Pendleton or the Superintendent.

Financial Report – April 2019

The Financial Report for the Month of April 2019 is included in the Supporting Documents.

At the Board Meeting of Tuesday, May 28, 2019, a resolution will be presented to approve the Financial Report for the Month of April 2019.

If there are questions, please contact Ryan Pendleton or the Superintendent.

Cash Transfers – Student Activity Funds

Monies remain in the Class of 2018 account at NIHF STEM High School and these funds have become obsolete with the closing of the program. These obsolete Student Activity funds will be transferred to the General Fund and then transferred from the General Fund to the Public School Support Fund at NIHF STEM High School:

<u>Amount</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
\$6,469.05	Class of 2018 200-0000 (STEM HS)	General Fund 001-0000
6,469.05	General Fund 001-0000	Public School Support 018-0000 (STEM HS)

Monies remain in the Class of 2018 account at Ellet High School and these funds have become obsolete with the closing of the program. These obsolete Student Activity funds will be transferred to the General Fund and then transferred from the General Fund to the Public School Support Fund at Ellet High School:

<u>Amount</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
\$4,833.00	Class of 2018 200-0000 (Ellet)	General Fund 001-0000
4,833.00	General Fund 001-0000	Public School Support 018-0000 (Ellet)

At the Board Meeting of Tuesday, May 28, 2019, a resolution will be presented to approve the Student Activity fund transfers as listed above.

If there are questions, please contact Ryan Pendleton or the Superintendent.

Purpose & Policy Statements & Budgets – Athletic Funds

Section 3315.062, Revised Code, permits a Board of Education to expend funds for student activity programs.

“The Board of Education shall adopt by resolution in its minute record, rules, regulations and guideline policies to govern the establishment and operations of the Athletic Funds. (See Public Purpose - 1975 O.A.G. NO. 75-008.) The Board should also approve the individual purpose clauses submitted by each student activity group. In adopting the guideline policies, the Board must consider all applicable legal requirements including court cases, attorney general opinions, Ohio Administrative Code requirements as well as Ohio Revised Code requirement.”

Purpose and Policy Statements & Budgets for the Athletic Fund are to be approved by the Board Members.

At the Board Meeting of Tuesday, May 28, 2019, a resolution will be presented to approve the Purpose & Policy Statements & Budgets (on file in the Finance Department) for the following 2018-2019 Athletic Fund Accounts:

Innes MS	Boy’s Track – Plas
	Athletics Expenses – Anderson

If there are questions, please contact Ryan Pendleton or the Superintendent.

Purpose & Policy Statements & Budgets – Student Activity Funds

Section 3315.062, Revised Code, permits a Board of Education to expend funds for student activity programs.

“The Board of Education shall adopt by resolution in its minute record, rules, regulations and guideline policies to govern the establishment and operations of the student activity funds. (See Public Purpose - 1975 O.A.G. NO. 75-008.) The Board should also approve the individual purpose clauses submitted by each student activity group. In adopting the guideline policies, the Board must consider all applicable legal requirements including court cases, attorney general opinions, Ohio Administrative Code requirements as well as Ohio Revised Code requirement.”

Purpose and Policy Statements & Budgets for the Student Activity Fund are to be approved by the Board Members.

At the Board Meeting of Tuesday, May 28, 2019, a resolution will be presented to approve the Purpose & Policy Statements & Budgets (on file in the Finance Department) for the following 2018-2019 Student Activity Accounts:

011 Fund	Buchtel HS	Cosmetology Supplies
200 Fund	Innes MS	National Junior Honor Society
300 Fund	Buchtel HS	Math Technology
	Buchtel MS	MH Class Expenses
	Innes MS	MD Expenses/Willoughby
	Jennings	Jennings Culture Activities

If there are questions, please contact Ryan Pendleton or the Superintendent.

Destruction of Records

Section 149.41 of the Ohio Revised Code requires the School District Records Commission to meet once each year to review requests to destroy public records. By law, this Commission is composed of the President of the Board of Education, the Superintendent and the Treasurer.

The Commission will meet on May 28, 2019 to review the documents in question. A list of documents to be reviewed is included in the Supporting Documents. Requests to destroy public records were received from all department heads and principals during the preceding month.

At the Board Meeting of Tuesday, May 28, 2019, a resolution will be presented to approve the action of the Akron City School District Records Commission.

If there are questions, please contact Todd Adkins, Ryan Pendleton or the Superintendent.

Acceptance of Donations

The following donations have been received and will be used to support and enhance the academic program:

- Six pallets of multi-surface spray donated by GOJO Industries, Inc. to the Distribution Center for districtwide use as needed – valued at \$6,168.00
- \$1,000.00 from Thomas Venarge to Jennings CLC for technology, food, gifts and field trips for the MD Department
- \$900.00 from Michael T. Hayes to East CLC for summer band camp at The University of Akron

At the Board Meeting of Tuesday, May 28, 2019, a motion will be made to accept these donations and authorize the Treasurer to send letters of appreciation.

This action supports Focus Area 3: Public Engagement – *Maximize business and community partnership opportunities to support student success.*

If there are questions, please contact Mark Black, Debra Foulk or the Superintendent.

Zaner-Bloser Handwriting Curriculum Grant

In compliance with House Bill 58, Akron Public Schools has partnered with Zaner-Bloser to field test the Zaner-Bloser Handwriting Curriculum for Grades 2 and 3 for a total amount of \$60,180.00. Of that amount, Zaner-Bloser has granted \$30,090.00 to Akron Public Schools as complimentary for the program materials and professional development implementation training for the 2019-2020 school year.

This partnership will allow Akron Public Schools to meet the requirements of HB 58 to ensure that students develop the ability to print letters and words legibly by third grade and create readable documents using legible cursive handwriting by the end of fifth grade. Zaner-Bloser materials for handwriting development are already used by Akron students. This field test will allow us to expand supports for our students.

At the Board Meeting of Tuesday, May 28, 2019, a resolution will be presented to accept the grant in the amount of \$30,090.00 from Zaner-Bloser to allow our students this opportunity to meet the requirements of HB 58, and to approve the appropriations, identified as Fund 019-2003.

This action supports District Focus Area 1: Rigorous Teaching & Learning – *Differentiated instruction to meet individual student needs* and Focus Area 3: Public Engagement – *Maximize business and community partnership opportunities to support student success.*

If there are questions, please contact Toan Dang-Nguyen, Karen Gegick, Ellen McWilliams-Woods or the Superintendent.

INSTRUCTIONAL POLICY & STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT COMMITTEE

Ginger Baylor – Co-Chair

Lisa Mansfield – Co-Chair

Proposed Adoption of *i-Ready* Program Software

Based on software evaluation criteria set forth by the Office of Curriculum and Instruction, the Technology Services Department, and the English Language Arts Department, the Software Evaluation Committee, with the aid of teachers who participated in the field test of Imagine Learning and *i-Ready*, have recommended *i-Ready* as the software to replace *Earobics*. For the past nine years, Akron Public Schools has used *Earobics*, a research-based software literacy program as a supplement for teaching auditory and phonological awareness skills in children from Pre-kindergarten to third grade. Through the program, K-3 students received extensive practice and skills training with phonemic awareness, phonics, auditory processing, and comprehension.

The license cost for five years is \$1,415,446.50. The *i-Ready* program includes the following: i-Ready Diagnostic and Instruction Site License for every K-5 building, every K-6 building, Grade 5 at NIHF STEM, and Grades 4 and 5 at Miller South. The site license includes *Teacher Toolbox for i-Ready Reading*.

The *i-Ready* program will be shared with Board Members prior to the Board Meeting on Tuesday, May 28, 2019. Staff members who participated in the field test will demonstrate the use of *i-Ready* and show a sample of a digital lesson. Board Members may also request further demonstrations, on an individual basis, during the following two weeks, May 29–June 10, by contacting Karen Gegick in the Office of Teaching & Learning.

Subsequently, at the Board Meeting of Monday, June 10, 2019, a motion will be made to approve the adoption of *i-Ready* as the replacement for *Earobics*.

This action supports District Focus Area 1: Rigorous Teaching & Learning – *Differentiated instruction to meet individual student needs*.

If there are questions, please contact Toan Dang-Nguyen, Karen Gegick, Ellen McWilliams-Woods or the Superintendent.

Proposed Adoption of Keyboarding Without Tears Program Software

Based on the software evaluation criteria, elementary K-5 teachers, with the support of the Library Media Department, field-tested *Keyboarding Without Tears*. Based on the results of the field test evaluation, it is recommended that *Keyboarding Without Tears* be approved as supplemental software to be utilized with K-5 students for the next four years. The cost of a one-year license is \$22,600.00.

This software will allow the Akron Public Schools to ensure that students develop foundationally-sound keyboarding skills that support student learning in a digital environment. Elementary library technicians will utilize *Keyboarding Without Tears* with students during weekly scheduled Library Resource Center time.

The *Keyboarding Without Tears* program will be shared with Board Members informally prior to the Board Meeting on Tuesday, May 28, 2019. Board Members may also request further demonstrations, on an individual basis, during the following two weeks, May 29–June 10, by contacting Karen Gegick in the Office of Teaching & Learning.

Subsequently, at the Board Meeting of Monday, June 10, 2019, a motion will be made to approve the adoption of *Keyboarding Without Tears* as a supplemental software program to be used by K-5 students.

This action supports District Focus Area 1: Rigorous Teaching & Learning – *Differentiated instruction to meet individual student needs.*

If there are questions, please contact Megan Mannion, Karen Gegick, Ellen McWilliams-Woods or the Superintendent.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David W. James". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and "J".

David W. James
Superintendent of Schools

DWJ/msc