Barberton Board of Education

Organizational Meeting January 14, 2026 Administration Building

President Pro-Tempore Pat Boyle called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The Oath of Office is administered by Judge Diana Stevenson to newly elected Board Members Brenda Rickenbacker and Jason Slater whose terms run from January 1, 2026 to December 31, 2029 as follows:

> Do you solemnly swear/affirm that you will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Ohio, and that you will faithfully and impartially discharge our duties as a member of the Board of Education of the Barberton City School District, County of Summit, Ohio, to the best of your ability and in accordance with the laws now in effect, and hereafter to be enacted during your continuance in said office and until your successor is appointed/elected and qualified.
>
> Answer: I will

I will
Brenda Rickenbacker

I will
Jason Slater

Roll Call

MEMBERS PRESENT: Pat Boyle, Thomas Harnden, Brenda Rickenbacker, Jason Slater and Cindy Sutton.

(001/2026) MOTION was made by **Harnden** second by **Rickenbacker** to approve the appointment of Treasurer Pro Tempore, Cindy Sutton, pursuant to R.C. 3313.23.

Ayes 5 Boyle, Harnden, Rickenbacker, Slater and Sutton
MOTION CARRIED. 5 – 0

Election of President – President Pro Tempore Pat Boyle

NOMINATION of **Thomas Harnden** for President by **Cindy Sutton** . There were no other nominations.

(002/2026) MOTION was made by **Slater** second by **Sutton** to elect **Thomas Harnden** as President for Calendar Year 2026 (O.R.C. §3313.14).

Ayes 4 Boyle, Rickenbacker, Slater and Sutton **Abstain 1 Harnden**
MOTION CARRIED 4-0

President Harnden assumed office and duties at this point.

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Barberton Board of Education

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Election of Vice-President – Mr. Thomas Harnden, President

NOMINATION of **Jason Slater** for Vice-President by **Pat Boyle**. There were no other nominations.

(003/2026) MOTION was made by **Boyle** second by **Sutton** to elect **Jason Slater** as Vice-President for Calendar Year 2026 (O.R.C. §3313.14).

Ayes 4 Harnden, Rickenbacker, Sutton and Boyle **Abstain 1 Slater**
MOTION CARRIED. 4 – 0

Board Meeting Calendar – Mr. Thomas Harnden

(004/2026) MOTION was made by **Boyle** second by **Slater** to approve the Board Meeting calendar for calendar year 2026.

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Place: Administration Building, unless otherwise noted

Work Session	Regular Meeting
January 14, 2026 Organizational Meeting	January 28, 2026
January 21, 2026	
February 11, 2026	February 25, 2026
February 18, 2026	
March 11, 2026 @ **BPS**	March 25, 2026
April 8, 2026 @ **PRE**	April 22, 2026
May 13, 2026	May 27, 2026 @ **BHS-A150**
June 10, 2026	June 25, 2026 (Thursday)
	July 29, 2026
August 12, 2026	August 26, 2026
September 9, 2026 @ **BIS**	September 23, 2026
October 14, 2026 @ **BMS**	October 28, 2026

Ayes 5 Rickenbacker, Slater, Sutton, Boyle and Harnden
MOTION CARRIED. 5-0

Barberton Board of Education

Organizational Meeting January 14, 2026 Administration Building

Agenda – Mr. Thomas Harnden

(005/2026) MOTION was made by **Slater** second by **Rickenbacker** to approve the amended Organizational Meeting agenda of January 14, 2026 with no Executive Session.

Ayes 5 Slater, Sutton, Boyle, Harnden and Rickenbacker
MOTION CARRIED. 5-0

Presentation

School Board Recognition Month - Mr. Jason Ondrus, Superintendent, read the Proclamation recognizing the month of January as School Board Recognition Month.

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, our community values a quality education as a vital step along the pathway to success for our children; and

WHEREAS, Pat Boyle, Thomas Harnden, Brenda Rickenbacker, Jason Slater and Cindy Sutton contribute greatly to this community through their service on the Barberton City Schools' Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, these local decision-makers set the policies and procedures to govern all aspects of school district operation; and

WHEREAS, the school board keeps attention focused on progress toward the school district's goals and maintains a two-way communications loop with all segments of the community; and

WHEREAS, these school board members are serving our community with integrity, honor and a commitment to our children's futures;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jason Ondrus, Superintendent of Barberton City Schools, do hereby declare my appreciation to the members of the Barberton City Schools' Board and proclaim the month of January 2026, as

SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION MONTH. I urge all citizens to join me in recognizing the dedication and hard work of local school board members and in working with them to mold an education system that meets the needs of both today's and tomorrow's children.

Barberton Board of Education

Organizational Meeting January 14, 2026 Administration Building

Board Business – Mr. Thomas Harnden

(006/2026) MOTION was made by **Boyle** second by **Rickenbacker** to appoint the following members to the 2026 Board Liaisons:

- Financial – Jason Slater
- Education & Technology – Brenda Rickenbacker
- Policy – Thomas Harnden
- Facilities & Extracurricular Activities – Pat Boyle
- Parks & Recreation – Cindy Sutton
- Business Advisory Council – Thomas Harnden

Ayes 5 Sutton, Boyle, Harnden, Rickenbacker and Slater
MOTION CARRIED. 5-0

(007/2026) MOTION was made by **Slater** second by **Boyle** to appoint **Brenda Rickenbacker** to serve as the Barberton City School District's legislative liaison to the Ohio School Boards Association for Calendar Year 2026 and to appoint **Cindy Sutton** to serve as the Barberton City School District's student achievement liaison to the Ohio School Boards Association for Calendar Year 2026.

Ayes 5 Boyle, Harnden, Rickenbacker, Slater and Sutton
MOTION CARRIED. 5-0

(008/2026) MOTION was made by **Slater** second by **Sutton** to approve Jennifer Sudhoff, Treasurer of Record as designee for Barberton City Schools Sunshine Law Training Compliance Designee for calendar year 2026.

Ayes 5 Harnden, Rickenbacker, Slater, Sutton and Boyle
MOTION CARRIED. 5 – 0

Personnel – Mr. Jason Ondrus

MOTION was made by **Boyle** second by **Rickenbacker** to approve the following personnel items as listed.

(009/2026) To approve the resignation(s) listed.

NAME	BUILDING ASSIGNMENT	POSITION	EFFECTIVE DATE	REASON
Scarito, Hollie	PRE	Teacher Aide, Float	12/12/2025	Personal Reasons

Barberton Board of Education

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(010/2026) To approve the following Resolution.

Part I. WHEREAS the Barberton City School District Board of Education has offered the following positions:

BHS Head Football Coach 23 - 33%

To licensed employees and no such employee who qualified to fill the positions applied or accepted.

Part II. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the non-licensed individuals listed in Att. 2 be recognized as a volunteer and/or extended a contract for the 2025-2026 school year for the above named positions contingent upon receipt of BCI & FBI background check according to Ohio Revised Code.

(011/2026) To approve a resolution in relation to the Internal Postings for the following supplementals:

BHS Head Softball Coach 12 - 17%

The internal posting(s) was for those employees of the district who are licensed individuals. It has been determined that no such employee is qualified to fill the position(s) for the above listed supplements, therefore the position(s) shall be posted externally. This resolution is in accordance with the Ohio Revised Code Section 3313.53.

(012/2026) To approve the following off staff hiring.

NAME	POSITION	SALARY	PROGRAM DURATION	EFFECTIVE DATE
Taylor, Pyrce	BHS Head Football Coach	23%	2026-2027	1/15/2026

Ayes 5 Rickenbacker, Slater, Boyle and Harnden No 1 Sutton
MOTION CARRIED. 5-0

Mr. Sabol, Athletic Director, introduced Mr. Pyrce Taylor as the new Head Football Coach at Barberton High School.

Financial Business - Mr. Jason Ondrus

MOTION was made by **Boyle** second by **Slater** to approve the following Financial Business as listed.

(013/2026) To approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting on December 10,2025.

(014/2026) That Board Members upon written authorization to the Treasurer, be permitted to participate in insurance programs as provided to licensed employees; and further, that the Treasurer be authorized to deduct insurance charges, where applicable from participating Board

Members' compensation. According to the Ohio Revised Code, said payroll deduction shall be deducted the month prior to the payment due date.

(015/2026) To authorize the Treasurer to pay annual membership dues to Ohio School Boards Association for January through December 2026 and a subscription to the Virtual Transportation Supervisor.

Ayes 5 Slater, Sutton, Boyle, Harnden and Rickenbacker
MOTION CARRIED. 5-0

(016/2026) MOTION was made by **Slater** second by **Sutton** to appoint the Records Commission of the Barberton City School District for Calendar Year 2026, comprised of the President of the Board of Education, the Superintendent and the Treasurer of the District. The Records Commission shall meet at least once each calendar year to establish rules for the retention and disposal of records and to review same.

Ayes 5 Sutton, Boyle, Harnden, Rickenbacker and Slater
MOTION CARRIED. 5-0

(017/2026) MOTION was made by **Boyle** second by **Sutton** to approve the following Resolution to join the OSBA Legal Assistance Fund.

WHEREAS, the Barberton Board of Education wishes to support the efforts of other boards of education to obtain favorable judicial decisions and,

WHEREAS, the Ohio School Boards Association Legal Assistance Fund has been established for this purpose,

THEREFORE, the Board hereby resolves to join the OSBA LAF for calendar year 2026 and authorizes the treasurer to pay the LAF $250.00.

Ayes 5 Boyle, Harnden, Rickenbacker, Slater and Sutton
MOTION CARRIED. 5-0

(018/2026) MOTION was made by **Boyle** second by **Slater** to approve the following Legal advisors to serve as general counsel and for specific projects and areas of practice throughout the school year on an as needed basis:

1. Ennis Britton
2. Peters Kalail & Markakis Co., L.P.A.
3. Squire, Patton, Boggs, LLP

Ayes 5 Harnden, Rickenbacker, Slater, Sutton and Boyle
MOTION CARRIED. 5 – 0

Barberton Board of Education

Organizational Meeting January 14, 2026 Administration Building

(019/2026) MOTION was made by **Boyle** second by **Slater** to approve the certification of funds for the following purchase order(s):

PO #: 2601718
PO date: 12/01/2025
Vendor: HYLANT
PO Amount: $3,465.00
Invoice #: 610419
Invoice date: 11/17/2025
Invoice amount $3,465.00
Total: $3,465.00

PO #: 26011682
PO date: 12/01/2025
Vendor: COMDOC
PO Amount: $25,000.00
Invoice #: IN7058195
Invoice date: 11/26/2025
Invoice amount $20,610.43
Total: $20,610.43

Ayes 5 Rickenbacker, Slater, Sutton, Boyle and Harnden
MOTION CARRIED. 5-0

(020/2026) MOTION was made by **Slater** second by **Boyle** to approve a resolution authorizing the advance of local taxes by the county Fiscal officer for the tax year 2025 and payable in 2026, pursuant to Section 321.34 of the Ohio Revised Code.

WHEREAS, Section 321.34 of the Ohio Revised Code states in part; When the local authorities by resolution so request, the county auditor or fiscal officer shall pay the treasurer of any board of education any money that may be in the county treasury to the accounts of the local authorities, respectively, and lawfully applicable to the purpose of the current fiscal year in which the request is made.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of Barberton City School District, Summit County, Ohio, that:

Section 1. Board Declarations. That the Board declares the necessity of receiving advances of local taxes for the prompt and efficient operation of the school district and directs the County Fiscal Office to make such tax advances for tax year 2025, and payable in 2026, per Section 321.34 of the Ohio Revised Code.

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Barberton Board of Education

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Section 2. Compliance with Open Meeting Requirements. This Board finds and determines that all formal actions of this Board and of any of its committees concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were taken, and that all deliberations of this Board and of any of its committees that resulted in those formal actions were held, in meetings open to the public in compliance with the law.

Section 3. Captions and Headings. The captions and headings in this Resolution are solely for convenience of reference and in no way define, limit or describe the scope or intent of any Sections, subsections, paragraphs, subparagraphs or clauses hereof.

Section 4. Effective Date. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and immediately upon its adoption.

Ayes 5 Slater, Sutton, Boyle, Harnden and Rickenbacker
MOTION CARRIED. 5-0

Adjournment

(021/2026) MOTION was made by **Slater** second by **Boyle** to adjourn the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

Ayes 5 Harnden, Rickenbacker, Slater, Sutton and Boyle
MOTION CARRIED. 5 – 0

Thomas Harnden, President

Cindy Sutton, Treasurer Pro Tempore