100469

Barberton Board of Education

Regular Meeting March 25, 2026 Administration Building

President Thomas Harnden called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Roll Call

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Presentation

Jennifer Sudhoff, Treasurer of Record gave a presentation on the updated financial written plan and the financial forecast.

Communication

The floor was opened for comments from the public. Mr. Mark Johnson, father of Logan Johnson, spoke about how students may be affected by the loss of a 1.1 aide due to reduction in force and the bumping process. He said his son has done really well and made progress because of his aide.

The floor was opened for comments from the Board.

Ms. Sutton - She gave two thumbs up to both the High School and Middle School for their musical performances this year. She said they were amazing.

Mrs. Rickenbacker- She said it's unfortunate that some of the aides could be cut and that students do form a bond with their 1:1 aide.

Mr. Boyle - He mentioned that in regards to the public comment the positions should not be cut and said that they should be federally funded.

Mr. Slater - He also mentioned the musical and said that it was incredibly well done. He also thanked Mr. Johnson for taking the time and sharing his concerns.

Mr. Harnden - He also congratulated everybody for their outstanding performances in the musical. He also wished the Destination Imagination teams good luck at their State competition on Saturday.

Barberton High School students Katie Kiss and Jada McMillen, both Juniors, attended the Board meeting because they had to take notes and write a paper for their Teacher Academy compact class that they attend at Norton High School.

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Agenda– Mr. Thomas Harnden

(82/2026) MOTION was made by **Slater** second by **Boyle** to approve the Regular Meeting agenda of March 25, 2026.

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

Board Business – Mr. Thomas Harnden

(83/2026) MOTION was made by **Sutton** second by **Slater** to approve the **Resolution Approving FY26 and FY27 Written Plan Items for Implementation and Advising the Department of Education and Workforce the Board Cannot Develop a Sufficient Written Plan to Address Projected FY2027 & FY2028 Deficits as Required by Law**

WHEREAS, the Board of Education received notification from the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce of Potential Deficits in FY2027 and FY2028 and was required to submit a written plan to address these deficits no later than April 30, 2026,
WHEREAS, the Board of Education and District administration have engaged in a thorough and comprehensive review of the District's financial condition, including multiple iterations of forecasting, expenditure reductions, staffing analyses, and revenue considerations; and have acted in good faith and with fiscal responsibility in attempting to identify solutions to the projected deficits, remaining committed to transparency and ongoing evaluation of all available options, and will continue to do so; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Barberton City School District Board of Education:

1. Hereby approves the written plan items identified to date as detailed in the attached workbook and accompanying narrative and expressly commits to implementing all actions contained therein.

2. Formally acknowledges that the written plan does not fully address the projected Fiscal Year 2027 & FY2028 deficits as described in the notification letter and as required by law.

3. Advises the Department of Education and Workforce that it is unable to identify additional plan items sufficient to resolve the projected FY27 and FY28 deficits, at this time.

4. Acknowledges and understands that failure to submit the required written plan by April 30, 2026 will likely result in a declaration of fiscal watch.

FURTHERMORE, The Board of Education and district administration are committed to working collaboratively with the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce, the Auditor of State, and all applicable state entities and the Board of Education authorizes the Treasurer and Superintendent to submit all required documentation and information necessary to take appropriate actions to restore and maintain the District's fiscal stability.

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

(84/2026) MOTION was made by **Slater** second by **Rickenbacker** to approve the Financial Forecast as presented.

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

Mr Boyle had a question regarding the software that the previous treasurer utilized and mentioned that there were some issues with it. Mrs. Sudhoff said it was more of a monthly monitoring issue than a software issue and explained that they will be monitoring the financials monthly.

(85/2026) MOTION was made by **Sutton** second by **Boyle** to approve Barberton School Board member Brenda Rickenbacker as the Barberton City School's appointee to the Barberton Parks and Recreation Commission.

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

Superintendent's Business – Mr. Jason Ondrus

MOTION was made by **Boyle** second by **Rickenbacker** to approve the following Superintendent's Business as listed.

(86/2026 To approve the agreement between LLA Therapy and Barberton City Schools for student services for the 2026 Extended School Year.

(87/2026) To approve the agreement between Summit Educational Service Center, Kids First(TOPS), 420 Washington Ave, Cuyahoga Falls 44221 and Barberton City School District for the 2026 Extended School Year.

(88/2026) To approve the agreement between Wings of Change Therapy, 1909 3rd Street, Cuyahoga Falls 44221 and Barberton City School District for student services effective 7/1/2026 - 6/30/2027.

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(89/2026) To approve the new ELA Curriculum for Barberton Middle School, *The Edge* (Success For All) for the 2026-2027 school year funded through existing grants.

(90/2026) To approve the submission of a grant to the Ohio Department of Children & Youth in the amount of $102,000.00 submitted by Annette Wesolowski, Curriculum/Instruction Specialist titled, *2026 Kindergarten Readiness Boot Camp.*

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

Personnel – Mr. Jason Ondrus

MOTION was made by **Slater** second by **Sutton** to approve the following personnel items as listed.

(91/2026) To approve the following resignations.

NAME	BUILDING	POSITION	EFFECTIVE	REASON
Culver, Michele	BPS	Second Grade Teacher	6/1/2026	Retirement
Lattarulo, Joseph	BHS	Assistant Principal	6/1/2026	Retirement
Lillie, Ashley	BPS	Teacher Aide 1:1	3/11/2026	Personal Reasons

(92/2026) To approve the following licensed personnel.

NAME	BLDG & ASSIGNMENT	SALARY	CONT YEAR	EFFECTIVE
	BHS			
Dean, Chad	After School APEX	$31.41/hr	2025-2026	3/1/2026
	BPS			
Kincaid, Doug	Primary Library Restructuring	$31.41/hr	2025-2026	3/1/2026
	ATHLETICS			
Brown, Griffin	BMS Assistant Girls' Track Coach	4%	2025-2026	3/1/2026
Stults, Tim	BMS Assistant Boys Track Coach	4%	2025-2026	3/1/2026

(93/2026) To approve the following off staff hiring.

NAME	POSITION	SALARY	SY	EFFECTIVE
Cunningham, Gracie	BMS Assistant Girls' Track Coach	4%	2025-2026	3/1/2026
Keen, Zayir	BMS Assistant Boys' Track Coach	4%	2025-2026	3/1/2026

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(94/2026) To approve the following non-certificated personnel.

NAME	POSITION	SALARY	EFFECTIVE	TRANSFER
Geul, Amanda	Bus Aide w/ CDL	$23.57/hr + longevity	2/24/2026	From C Schmidt

(95/2026) To approve the following leave of absence.

NAME	BLDG	POSITION	EFFECTIVE	REASON
Boccuti, Annie	BIS	Teacher Aide, Float	1/26/2026 pm - 5/29/2026	Personal
Geul, Amanda	Bus Garage	Bus Driver	1/20/2026-1/30/2026	Personal

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

Financial Business– Mr. Jason Ondrus

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

(96/2026) To approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting February 25, 2026 and the Special Meeting March 11, 2026.

(97/2026) To approve the Financial Statements for February, 2026.

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

(98/2026) To approve the certification of funds for the following purchase order(s):

PO #: 2601973
PO date: 2/27/2026
Vendor: The University of Akron
PO Amount: $6,410.00
Invoice #: BHS-FFI&II
Invoice date: 2/27/2026
Invoice amount: $6,410.00
Total: $6,410.00

PO #: 2602006
PO date: 3/13/2026
Vendor: Templeton Transportation
PO amount: $185,000.00
Invoice #: Feb26
Invoice date: 2/2/2026
Invoice amount: $56,135.00
Total: $56,135.00

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

(100/2026) MOTION was made by second **Boyle** by **Slater** to approve the **Resolution Authorizing the Filing of an Original Complaint Against the Valuation of Real Property(ies).**

WHEREAS, Ohio Revised Code Section 5715.19 permits a board of education to file an Original Complaint Against the Valuation of Real Property based upon the sale of the property in an arm's length transaction occurring during the last two years preceding the tax lien date for the tax year for which the complaint is to be filed as evidenced by a conveyance fee statement where the sale price exceeds the true value of the property by both ten (10) percent and $567,000; and

WHEREAS, the sale of the following real property meets the statutory criteria:

Street Address:	20 S. Van Buren Ave., Barberton, OH 44203
Permanent Parcel Number:	01-17479
Record Owner(s):	Van Buren Industrial LLC
Basis for Complaint:	Recent arm's-length transaction on Sept. 18, 2024
Sale Price:	$3,100,000
County Fair Market (True) Value:	$2,425,520
Tax Year of Filing of Complaint:	2025

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Barberton City School District hereby authorizes the filing of an Original Complaint for the property identified herein.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board, through its counsel, has provided prior notice to the record owner(s) of the parcel(s) identified herein as required by law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board authorizes Peters, Kalail & Markakis Co., L.P.A. to file an Original Complaint and to participate in the Board of Revision proceedings and any further appeal.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Board concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Board, and that all its deliberations 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 §121.22.

Resolution Authorizing the Filing of an Original Complaint Against the Valuation of Real Property.

WHEREAS, Ohio Revised Code Section 5715.19 permits a board of education to file an Original Complaint Against the Valuation of Real Property based upon the sale of the property in an arm's length transaction occurring during the last two years preceding the tax lien date for the tax year for

which the complaint is to be filed as evidenced by a conveyance fee statement where the sale price exceeds the true value of the property by both ten (10) percent and $567,000; and

WHEREAS, the sale of the following real property meets the statutory criteria:

Street Address:	142 S. Van Buren Ave., Barberton, OH 44203
Permanent Parcel Number:	01-15728 & 01-17480
Record Owner(s):	Westco Van Buren LLC
Basis for Complaint:	Recent arm's-length transaction on Sept. 12, 2024
Sale Price:	$1,927,000
County Fair Market (True) Value:	$419,550
Tax Year of Filing of Complaint:	2025

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Barberton City School District hereby authorizes the filing of an Original Complaint for the property identified herein.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board, through its counsel, has provided prior notice to the record owner(s) of the parcel(s) identified herein as required by law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board authorizes Peters, Kalail & Markakis Co., L.P.A. to file an Original Complaint and to participate in the Board of Revision proceedings and any further appeal.

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Resolution Authorizing the Filing of an Original Complaint Against the Valuation of Real Property.

WHEREAS, Ohio Revised Code Section 5715.19 permits a board of education to file an Original Complaint Against the Valuation of Real Property based upon the sale of the property in an arm's length transaction occurring during the last two years preceding the tax lien date for the tax year for which the complaint is to be filed as evidenced by a conveyance fee statement where the sale price exceeds the true value of the property by both ten (10) percent and $567,000; and

WHEREAS, the sale of the following real property meets the statutory criteria:

Street Address:	74 E. Robinson Ave., Barberton, OH 44203
Permanent Parcel Number:	01-00908 & 01-16422
Record Owner(s):	White Brothers Investments Co.
Basis for Complaint:	Recent arm's-length transaction on Sept. 12, 2024
Sale Price:	$1,825,000

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County Fair Market (True) Value: $319,450
Tax Year of Filing of Complaint: 2025

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Barberton City School District hereby authorizes the filing of an Original Complaint for the property identified herein.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board, through its counsel, has provided prior notice to the record owner(s) of the parcel(s) identified herein as required by law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board authorizes Peters, Kalail & Markakis Co., L.P.A. to file an Original Complaint and to participate in the Board of Revision proceedings and any further appeal.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Board concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Board, and that all its deliberations 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 §121.22.

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

(101/2026) MOTION was made by **Slater** second by **Rickenbacker** to approve the fund transfer requests.

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

(102/2026) MOTION was made by **Slater** second by **Sutton** to approve the following donations.

Donation of coats from Knights of Columbus to the Barberton Primary School and Barberton Preschool.
Donation of $40.00 from Connie Kosanovich, grandparent of Audrey Nelson, to the Barberton Intermediate School.
Donation of audio/read along books from the Barberton Public Library to the Barberton Primary School clinic.
Donation of school supplies from Ashley Horn to the Barberton Intermediate School.
Donation of danish, muffin and brownie mixes valued at $200.00 from General Mills to the Barberton City School District.
Donation of a 3D printer from Sherwin Williams (Luke Kazmier & Adam Hawk) to the Barberton Middle School STEM class.
Donation of $150.00 from Baked n' Loaded to the Barberton Destination Imagination program.
Donation of $2,000.00 from Barberton All Sports Boosters to the Barberton High School Baseball team.

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Donation of $132.00 from Samantha Mullens to Barberton High School to help pay off 4 senior students fees.
Donation of 2-150 count boxes of pencils and 3 boxes of glue sticks from John & Kelly Fuller to Barberton Intermediate School.
Donation of a T-shirt 6"x1.75" advertisement from CJ Dannemiller Co. to Barberton High School.
Donation of a T-shirt 6"x1.75" advertisement from El Jalapenos to Barberton High School.
Donation of a T-shirt 4"x1.75" advertisement and T-shirt hang tag from Hammerhead Washing to Barberton High School.
Donation of a T-shirt 4"x3.5" advertisement from Integrity Concrete Co. LLC to Barberton High School.
Donation of $2,000.00 from the Moose Lodge No 759 to the Barberton High School Fire Safety/EMT program.
Donation of new pants and underwear from Common Threads Closet to the Barberton Primary School Clinic.

Mr. Harnden thanked the community for their generosity to the District.

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

Executive Session – O.R.C. §121.22

(103/2026) MOTION was made by **Boyle** second by **Slater** to enter into Executive Session to consider one or more, as applicable, of the check marked items with respect to a public employee or official: Employment and Discipline; Preparing for, conducting, or reviewing negotiations or bargaining sessions with public employees concerning their compensation or other terms and conditions of their employment.

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

Madams Rickenbacker and Sutton, Messrs. Boyle, Harnden, Slater, Andric and Ondrus entered into Executive Session at 6:05 p.m.

(104/2026) MOTION was made by **Slater** second by **Boyle** to re-enter into the Special Meeting at 6:32 p.m.

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

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Adjournment

(105/2026) MOTION was made by **Boyle** second by **Slater** to adjourn the meeting at 6:33 p.m.

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

Thomas Harnden, President

Cindy Sutton, Treasurer Pro Temp