

**MIAMI EAST LOCAL SCHOOLS  
BOARD MINUTES**

May 22, 2023  
Regular Board Meeting

Mark Iames, board president, called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., held in room 116 in the Lecture Hall at Miami East High School.

The country was honored by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call was taken with board members John Demmitt, Amanda Howell, Mark Iames, Mark Lawson, and Pam Rice in attendance.

Also in attendance were: LaDonna Mays, staff member; Kate Fulton, parent; Harlan Fulton, student; Todd Gentis, staff member; Eric Hughes, staff member; Cassidy Knoop, parent; Dan Subler, parent; Ava Jacomet, student; Luke Brunke, student; Alex Nees, staff member; Kelly Naylor, staff member; Jackie Winner, staff member; Erin O'Neal, parent; and Haylee Pence, Miami Valley Today.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Public comments were made by: Dan Subler, Ava Jacomet, and Luke Brunke.

**GOOD NEWS INFORMATION/RECOGNITION REPORT:**

Miami East High School students who recently participated in the New York City Trip will be in attendance to share their experiences.

Twenty-five Miami East seniors traveled to NYC for four days along with 11 adult chaperons. This was the first time in 3 years that the students have been able to return to New York since the pandemic. The seniors got to experience Fifth Avenue, The Rockefeller Plaza, Summit One Vanderbilt, the newest rooftop observation deck, the Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island Museum, Wall Street and the Stock Exchange, The New World Trade Center, the 9/11 Memorial Plaza, China Town, Little Italy, two Broadway shows, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and Madame Tussaud's Wax Museum. The students also walked the Brooklyn Bridge, the Highline, and Central Park; the heart of Manhattan. The group stayed in Time Square at the historic Millennium Hotel. Five seniors had never flown before and earned their wings from American Airlines. The students got to experience the city from a local New Yorker, our tour guide Michael Morrows, who shared historical facts and discussed the architecture of the city. The students had the opportunity to enjoy cheesecake from Juniors, a slice of pizza in Little Italy, and a sit down dinner at the famous Tony's DiNapoli. This year, they were able to tie these experiences to content taught over the course of their high school experience including lessons learned in: English 9, English 10, World History, American History, Economics, and art courses. I would like to thank the Miami East Board of Education for continuing to support this amazing educational opportunity for our students.

Highlights of the 2023 Ohio FFA State Convention, May 4 and 5 in Columbus, Ohio

- 11 members received the State FFA Degree
- 2 members were recognized for being a Top 4 in their respective proficiency award area
- 3 gold rated officer books
- Gold rated chapter and Top 10 in the Growing Leaders and Strengthening Agriculture Divisions
- 1 member recognized as a Sunrise Cooperative RISE employee with the chapter receiving a \$250 donation from Sunrise.
- 2 members of the State FFA Band and 2 members of the State FFA Choir
- 14 members toured the Ohio Statehouse, visited the State FFA Career Show and Expo, and experienced unique restaurants

## **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

### **Treasurer's Report to the Board/Consent Agenda Items:**

#### **Resolution #86-05-2023**

Amanda Howell moved and Pam Rice seconded motion to approve the following:

1. Recommend approval of the Regular Board Meeting minutes of April 17, 2023.
2. Recommend approval of the Special Board Meeting minutes of April 19, 2023.
3. Recommend approval of the Special Board Meeting minutes of April 20, 2023.
4. Recommend approval of the Special Board Meeting minutes of April 26, 2023.
5. Recommend approval of the Special Board Meeting minutes of May 1, 2023.
6. Recommend approval of financial statements for April, 2023, as presented.
7. Approve account modifications, as presented.

Roll Call:

Yeas: John Demmitt, Amanda Howell, Mark Iames, Mark Lawson, and Pam Rice.

Nays: none                      Motion passed.

### **Treasurer's Report to the Board/Regular Agenda Items:**

#### **Resolution #87-05-2023**

John Demmitt moved and Pam Rice seconded a motion to approve donations as follows:

- \$1,500.00 from the Fifth Third Bank Fund for Arts and Culture to the Miami East High School Muse Machine Student Activity Fund.
- \$1,365.00 from the Miami East Athletic Boosters to the Athletic Fund for Softball Uniforms.

Roll Call:

Yeas: John Demmitt, Amanda Howell, Mark Iames, Mark Lawson, and Pam Rice.

Nays: none                      Motion passed.

#### **Resolution #88-05-2023**

Mark Lawson moved and John Demmitt seconded approval of the Five-Year Forecast, as presented.

Roll Call:

Yeas: John Demmitt, Amanda Howell, Mark Iames, Mark Lawson, and Pam Rice.

Nays: none                      Motion passed.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:**

### **EMPLOYMENT ITEMS:**

#### **Resolution #89-05-2023**

Pam Rice moved and Mark Lawson seconded approval of the renewal of teaching contracts for certified employees, on the approved teacher salary schedule, effective for the 2023-2024 school year as follows:

#### ONE-YEAR LIMITED:

Elementary:     Grace Fonseca, Kristen Steffel

Roll Call:

Yeas: John Demmitt, Amanda Howell, Mark Iames, Mark Lawson, and Pam Rice.

Nays: none                      Motion passed.

**Resolution #90-05-2023**

Amanda Howell moved and John Demmitt seconded motion to approve the acceptance of Daniel Peterson's letter of resignation, effective at the conclusion of the 2022-2023 school year as a High School Social Studies Teacher.

Roll Call:

Yeas: John Demmitt, Amanda Howell, Mark Iiames, Mark Lawson, and Pam Rice.

Nays: none                      Motion passed.

**Resolution #91-05-2023**

Pam Rice moved and John Demmitt seconded motion to approve of Jenna Coomes, as a 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade English Teacher, at Miami East Junior High with a Master's Degree, on a one year limited contract, step 6, for the 2023-2024 school year.

Roll Call:

Yeas: John Demmitt, Amanda Howell, Mark Iiames, Mark Lawson, and Pam Rice.

Nays: none                      Motion passed.

**Resolution #92-05-2023**

Mark Lawson moved and Amanda Howell seconded motion to approve of Kelly Naylor, as a Physical Education/Health Instructor, at Miami East High School with a Bachelor's Degree, on a one year limited contract, step 0, for the 2023-2024 school year.

Roll Call:

Yeas: John Demmitt, Amanda Howell, Mark Iiames, Mark Lawson, and Pam Rice.

Nays: none                      Motion passed.

**Resolution #93-05-2023**

Pam Rice moved and Amanda Howell seconded motion to approve of Ashley Thompson, as a Special Education Instructor, at Miami East Elementary with a Bachelor's Degree, on a one year limited contract, step 2, for the 2023-2024 school year.

Roll Call:

Yeas: John Demmitt, Amanda Howell, Mark Iiames, Mark Lawson, and Pam Rice.

Nays: none                      Motion passed.

**Resolution #94-05-2023**

Mark Lawson moved and John Demmitt seconded motion to approve of Alex Nees, as a Social Studies Teacher, at Miami East High School with a Bachelor's Degree, on a one year limited contract, step 0, for the 2023-2024 school year.

Roll Call:

Yeas: John Demmitt, Amanda Howell, Mark Iiames, Mark Lawson, and Pam Rice.

Nays: none                      Motion passed.

**Resolution #95-05-2023**

John Demmitt moved and Amanda Howell seconded motion to approve Bruce Vanover, as a summer school tutor, at Miami East High School, on an as needed basis.

Roll Call:

Yeas: John Demmitt, Amanda Howell, Mark Iiames, Mark Lawson, and Pam Rice.

Nays: none                      Motion passed.

**Resolution #96-05-2023**

Pam Rice moved and Mark Lawson seconded motion to approve Brian Kadel and Daniel Hickman, as a summer school tutor, at Miami East Junior High School, on an as needed basis.

Roll Call:

Yeas: John Demmitt, Amanda Howell, Mark Iiames, Mark Lawson, and Pam Rice.

Nays: none                      Motion passed.

**Resolution #97-05-2023**

John Demmitt moved and Mark Lawson seconded motion to approve an additional classified substitute for the 2022-2023 school year as follows:

Gretchen Rohrer – Secretary (effective April 19, 2023)

Roll Call:

Yeas: John Demmitt, Amanda Howell, Mark Iiames, Mark Lawson, and Pam Rice.

Nays: none                      Motion passed.

**Resolution #98-05-2023**

Pam Rice moved and Amanda Howell seconded approval of substitute teachers who have been approved by the Miami County Educational Service Center and are on file in the central office. These are all on an as needed basis for the 2022-2023 school year. The board-approved rate of pay has been set at \$105.00 per day through 10<sup>th</sup> consecutive day and \$110.00 per day from 11<sup>th</sup> day through 60 days in the same position, then placed on beginning salary schedule.

Roll Call:

Yeas: John Demmitt, Amanda Howell, Mark Iiames, Mark Lawson, and Pam Rice.

Nays: none                      Motion passed.

**Resolution #99-05-2023**

Mark Lawson moved and John Demmitt seconded approval of the following persons for summer supplemental contracts, effective for the 2023-2024 school year, based on their years of experience, at the board approved rate of pay:

HIGH SCHOOL:

Strength Coach – Summer – Dan Gress – Step 6

Roll Call:

Yeas: John Demmitt, Amanda Howell, Mark Iiames, Mark Lawson, and Pam Rice.

Nays: none                      Motion passed.

**Resolution #100-05-2023**

John Demmitt moved and Amanda Howell seconded approval of the following persons for supplemental contracts, effective for the 2023-2024 school year, based on their years of experience, at the board approved rate of pay:

HIGH SCHOOL:

Academic Team Advisor- Melissa Beal

National High School Honor Society Advisor - Melissa Beal

Chess Club Advisor – Melissa Beal

Elective Department Chair – Jerry Black

Math Department Chair – Gary Church

Musical Assistant Director – Kenneth DeWeese – Step 6

Social Studies Department Chair- Kevin Evans

English Department Chair- Kalyn Hollatz

Special Education Chair- Kristy Hurst  
Muse Machine Advisor- Kristy Hurst  
Senior Class Advisor- Kristy Hurst  
Musical Producer/Director - Kristy Hurst - Step 5  
Student Council Advisor – Cheyenne Moran  
Dance Coordinator- Cheyenne Moran  
Junior Class Advisor- Cheyenne Moran  
FCCLA Advisor – Cheyenne Moran  
Hope Squad Advisor – Heidi Perry  
Freshman Class Advisor – Heidi Perry  
Pep Band Director- Jeff Smith  
Marching Band Director- Jeff Smith – Step 6  
Audio Visual Director (High School) – Jeff Smith  
Sophomore Class Advisor- Cynde Sroufe  
Yearbook Advisor- Cynde Sroufe  
Assistant Marching Band Director - Chris Weddle- Step 5  
Science Department Chair- Becky Weldy  
H.S. Science Fair Advisor - Becky Weldy

#### ELEMENTARY/JUNIOR HIGH

J.H. Student Newspaper Advisor – Brittany Scarpella  
Audio Visual Director (K-8) - Chris Weddle  
J.H. Science Fair/STEM Advisor - Laura Weddle  
LEGO Club Advisor- Chris Weddle  
Art Club Advisor- Christa Everett  
Co-National Junior Honor Society Advisor- Jenna Charney  
Co-National Junior Honor Society Advisor- Jodi Metzger  
Co-Service Club Advisor- Danielle Dillon  
Co-Service Club Advisor- LaDonna Mays

Roll Call:

Yeas: John Demmitt, Amanda Howell, Mark Iames, Mark Lawson, and Pam Rice.

Nays: none                      Motion passed.

#### **Resolution #101-05-2023**

Mark Lawson moved and Pam Rice seconded approval of the following persons for fall supplemental contracts, effective for the 2023-2024 school year, based on their years of experience, at the board approved rate of pay:

#### HIGH SCHOOL

High School Fall Ticket Sales (Volleyball) - Nicole Bailey  
High School Volleyball Head Coach – Danielle Batt – Step 6  
High School Reserve Volleyball Coach – Jamie Fletcher – Step 1  
High School Assistant Girls Soccer Coach – Katrina Gaskins – Step 0  
High School Assistant Football Coach- Dan Gress - Step 6  
High School Fall Ticket Sales (Football) - Janet Gump  
High School Assistant Cheerleading Coach – Jennifer Hewitt – Step 2  
High School Assistant Cross Country Coach – Tami Hill – Step 0  
High School Assistant Football Coach- Steve Kirby- Step 6  
High School Assistant Football Coach – Alex Nees – Step 2  
Head Girls Golf Coach- Ronald Patton – Step 3  
Head Girls Soccer Coach- Jeremy Paulus – Step 3  
H.S. Reserve Boys Soccer Coach – Ethan Remy – Step 0  
Flag Corps Director- Lisa Ritchea – Step 6  
Head Boys Golf Coach- Scott Robinson- Step 1

High School Assistant Boys Soccer Coach – Brian Rohrer - Step 0  
High School Fall Ticket Sales (Football) – Cyndi Rose  
High School Fall Ticket Sales (Soccer) – Cyndi Rose  
Head Cross Country Coach- Alan Russell- Step 6  
Head Cheerleading Coach- Tiffany Sampson- Step 5  
High School Assistant Volleyball Coach – Julia Slock – Step 0  
High School Reserve Girls Soccer Coach – Cynde Sroufe – Step 6  
High School Assistant Football Coach – Kyle Watson – Step 2  
Head Boys Soccer Coach- Nakilee Weni- Step 6

#### JUNIOR HIGH

Junior High Assistant Football Coach – Nathan Collett- Step 2  
Junior High Head Football Coach – Frank Hall- Step 3  
8<sup>th</sup> Grade Volleyball Coach- Heather Roeth – Step 6  
Junior High Head Football Coach – Mark Rose - Step 6  
Junior High Fall Ticket Sales (Volleyball/Football) – Debbie Sandlin  
Junior High Head Cross Country Coach- Brittany Shively- Step 2

Roll Call:

Yeas: John Demmitt, Amanda Howell, Mark Iames, Mark Lawson, and Pam Rice.

Nays: none                      Motion passed.

#### **Resolution #102-05-2023**

Amanda Howell moved and Mark Lawson seconded the motion to approve extended service days for the 2023-2024 school year for the following certified staff:

- a) Janet Gump – High School Librarian – 6 days
- b) Danielle Dillon – 5<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Counselor – 10 days
- c) Stacey Gay – K to 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Counselor – 10 days
- d) Elizabeth Seger – 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Counselor – 16 days
- e) Matthew Rutledge – 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Counselor – 25 days

Roll Call:

Yeas: John Demmitt, Amanda Howell, Mark Iames, Mark Lawson, and Pam Rice.

Nays: none                      Motion passed.

#### **Resolution #103-05-2023**

John Demmitt moved and Pam Rice seconded motion to approve the acceptance of Sara Hufford's letter of resignation, effective at the conclusion of the 2022-2023 school year as an Elementary Educational Aide.

Roll Call:

Yeas: John Demmitt, Amanda Howell, Mark Iames, Mark Lawson, and Pam Rice.

Nays: none                      Motion passed.

#### **Resolution #104-05-2023**

Pam Rice moved and Amanda Howell seconded approval of the following persons for fall supplemental contracts, effective for the 2023-2024 school year, based on their years of experience, at the board approved rate of pay:

#### JUNIOR HIGH

Junior High Head Cheerleading Coach – Breanne Stager – Step 0

Roll Call:

Yeas: John Demmitt, Amanda Howell, Mark Iames, Mark Lawson, and Pam Rice.

Nays: none                      Motion passed.

**Resolution #105-05-2023**

**APPROVAL OF CLASS OF 2023 FOR GRADUATION:**

John Demmitt moved and Mark Lawson seconded the motion of approval of the Class of 2023, which includes 107 seniors, for graduation on May 26, 2023, 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call:

Yeas: John Demmitt, Amanda Howell, Mark Iames, Mark Lawson, and Pam Rice.

Nays: none Motion passed.

**Resolution #106-05-2023**

**EARLY RELEASE FOR SENIORS:**

Amanda Howell moved and Mark Lawson seconded the motion of approval for 3 days early release days for Seniors on May 23, 24, and 25, 2023. Graduation will take place on May 26, 2023.

The annual Senior Walk and Senior Signing Assembly will take place on May 22, 2023.

Roll Call:

Yeas: John Demmitt, Amanda Howell, Mark Iames, Mark Lawson, and Pam Rice.

Nays: none Motion passed.

**Resolution #107-05-2023**

**EXTRA-CURRICULAR TRANSPORTATION FEE POLICY:**

John Demmitt moved and Mark Lawson seconded the motion to approve the 2023-2024 Extra-Curricular Transportation Fee Policy.

Roll Call:

Yeas: John Demmitt, Amanda Howell, Mark Iames, Mark Lawson, and Pam Rice.

Nays: none Motion passed.

**Resolution #108-05-2023**

**MIAMI EAST LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT RANDOM DRUG TESTING POLICY:**

Amanda Howell moved and Mark Lawson seconded motion to approve the following Random Drug testing Program for the 2023-2024 school year:

The Miami East Local School District Board of Education Drug Testing Policy was formed in an effort to deter students from using alcohol and illicit drugs. This policy reflects the Miami East School District Board of Education and the community's strong commitment to establish a truly drug and alcohol free school program. The MIAMI EAST LOCAL SCHOOLS Board of Education desires to implement a policy which will attempt to provide this district with a safe and healthful student program.

The MIAMI EAST LOCAL SCHOOLS have selected student athletes, students who participate in extra-curricular activities and students who, along with consent from their parents, agree to be tested, for inclusion in the testing pool. This policy applies to all athletes, volunteers and extracurricular activities from grades 7-12.

Roll Call:

Yeas: John Demmitt, Amanda Howell, Mark Iames, Mark Lawson, and Pam Rice.

Nays: none Motion passed.

**Resolution #109-05-2023**

**APPROVAL OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) BETWEEN THE MIAMI EAST LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT & MEEA (E-CALAMITY DAYS)**

John Demmitt moved and Amanda Howell seconded motion for approval of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Miami East Local School District and the Miami East Education Association (MEEA) to utilize the E-Calamity Day format to conduct class electronically.

Roll Call:

Yeas: John Demmitt, Amanda Howell, Mark Iiames, Mark Lawson, and Pam Rice.

Nays: none Motion passed.

**Resolution #110-05-2023**

**APPROVAL TO SUPPORT AND CONDUCT CLASS ELECTRONICALLY (E-CALAMITY DAYS) FOR 2023-2024:**

Mark Lawson moved and John Demmitt seconded motion for approval for the Miami East Local School District to utilize the E-Calamity Day format to conduct class electronically if it is necessary to close schools during the 2023-2024 school year for any of the reasons specified in division (B) of section 3317.01 of the Revised Code in excess of the number of days allowed.

Roll Call:

Yeas: John Demmitt, Amanda Howell, Mark Iiames, Mark Lawson, and Pam Rice.

Nays: none Motion passed.

**Resolution #111-05-2023**

**APPROVAL OF 2023-2024 AMENDED SCHOOL CALENDAR:**

Pam Rice moved and Mark Lawson seconded motion for approval of the amended 2023-2024 School Calendar, as presented.

Roll Call:

Yeas: John Demmitt, Amanda Howell, Mark Iiames, Mark Lawson, and Pam Rice.

Nays: none Motion passed.

**Resolution #112-05-2023**

**APPROVAL OF SURFACE CENTRAL, LLC. BID:**

Amanda Howell moved and Pam Rice seconded motion for approval of the Phase II Flooring Project. On April 24, 2023, bids were received for the classroom flooring replacement. The recommended contract is 27% below our published estimate and thus can be awarded. Therefore, the Buehrer Group Architecture & Engineering, Inc. recommends the following contract be awarded to Surfaces Central, LLC.

Roll Call:

Yeas: John Demmitt, Amanda Howell, Mark Iiames, Mark Lawson, and Pam Rice.

Nays: none Motion passed.

**Resolution #113-05-2023**

**APPROVAL OF PHASE V – LED LIGHTING PROJECT:**

John Demmitt moved and Mark Lawson seconded motion for approval of the Phase V - LED Lighting Project. This project will be procured through OCEPC with Energy Optimizers, USA LED Lighting and Energy Savings. The cost of the project is \$59,050, which will replace over 275 lighting fixtures throughout the district.

Roll Call:

Yeas: John Demmitt, Amanda Howell, Mark Iiames, Mark Lawson, and Pam Rice.

Nays: none Motion passed.



**Resolution #114-05-2023****OUT-OF-STATE TRIP APPROVAL:**

Amanda Howell moved and Pam Rice seconded motion to approve the following out-of-state field trips for the 2023-2024 school year:

- 1) FFA National Convention – Indianapolis, IN – November 1 – 4, 2023
- 2) Senior Class – New York, NY – April 17 – 20, 2024
- 3) MEHS Spanish – Madrid, Spain – June 1 – 17, 2024 (9 days)

Roll Call:

Yeas: John Demmitt, Amanda Howell, Mark Iames, Mark Lawson, and Pam Rice.

Nays: none                      Motion passed.

**Resolution #115-05-2023****APPROVAL OF BOARD POLICY CHANGES PER NEOLA:**

Mark Lawson moved and Amanda Howell seconded motion to approve the first reading of the following Board Policy changes as presented for review. These changes include updates to items such as policies related to:

Policy 1615 Tobacco Use Prevention, Policy 3215 Tobacco Use Prevention, Policy 4215 Tobacco Use Prevention, Policy 5512 Tobacco Use Prevention, Policy 7434 Tobacco Use Prevention, and Policy 9160 Public Attendance at School Events.

Roll Call:

Yeas: John Demmitt, Amanda Howell, Mark Iames, Mark Lawson, and Pam Rice.

Nays: none                      Motion passed.

**Resolution #116-05-2023****APPROVAL OF K-5 MATH CURRICULUM:**

Pam Rice moved and Amanda Howell seconded motion for approval of the purchase of K-5 Math curriculum, from McGraw Hill for the 2023-2024 school year at a cost of \$79,559.40.

Roll Call:

Yeas: John Demmitt, Amanda Howell, Mark Iames, Mark Lawson, and Pam Rice.

Nays: none                      Motion passed.

**BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS:**

General Discussion(s)

**Resolution #117-05-2023****EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Amanda Howell moved and Pam Rice seconded motion to approve the dismissal into executive session pursuant to Ohio Revised Code, Section 121.22 (G)(4), preparing for, conducting, or reviewing negotiations or bargaining sessions with public employees concerning their compensation or other terms and conditions of their employment.

Time in: 8:05 p.m.              Time out: 9:04 p.m.

Roll Call:

Yeas: John Demmitt, Amanda Howell, Mark Iames, Mark Lawson, and Pam Rice.

Nays: none                      Motion passed.

**Resolution #118-05-2023**

**RETURN TO OPEN SESSION:**

John Demmitt moved and Mark Lawson seconded motion to return to open session from executive session after having discussion permitted by Ohio Revised Code, Section 121.22 (G)(4).

Time in: 9:04 p.m.

Roll Call:

Yeas: John Demmitt, Amanda Howell, Mark Iames, Mark Lawson, and Pam Rice.

Nays: none                      Motion passed.

**INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

The Board discussed regular and special meeting dates throughout the months of June, July, and August.

**Resolution #119-05-2023**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Pam Rice moved, and Mark Lawson seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:23 p.m.

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Board President

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Treasurer