Minutes of the Work Session Meeting of the Board of Education of the Hilliard City School District at the Administration Building on February 23, 2026.

A recording of the meeting has been made that accurately records the proceedings of the meeting and is deemed a part of the minutes. The recording is maintained by the treasurer's office, and members of the public can contact the Treasurer's Office at 614-921-7029 to access the recording.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm.

ROLL CALL:	Kelley Arnold	Yea
	Sarah Byler	Yea
	Kara Crowley	Yea
	Tony Moog	Yea
	Brian Perry	Yea

Pledge to flag

Construction Update

Forecast Presentation

AI Task Force Update

28-26 Superintendent recommended, Mr. Moog moved, and Ms. Arnold seconded that the Board of Education adopt the agenda.

ROLL CALL:	Kelley Arnold	Yea	
	Sarah Byler	Yea	__X___ Passed
	Kara Crowley	Yea	
	Tony Moog	Yea	_____ Failed
	Brian Perry	Yea	

29-26 Superintendent recommended, Mrs. Byler moved, and Mr. Perry seconded that the Board of Education approve the following resolution:

AUTHORIZING GMP AMENDMENT NO. 4.1 FOR THE NORWICH PRESCHOOL SCOPE OF PHASE 1 OF THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

The Chief Operating Officer recommends the Board authorize the negotiation and execution of GMP Amendment No. 4.1 for the Norwich Preschool scope of Phase I of the Capital Improvements Project with Ruscilli Construction Company, LLC.

Rationale:

1. The Board previously authorized an agreement with Ruscilli as the Construction Manager at Risk for the Project.
2. Ruscilli submitted its proposal for GMP Amendment No. 4.1 (“GMP 4.1”) in a total amount of $8,730,177.
3. The Chief Operating Officer recommends the Board authorize the negotiation and execution of GMP 4.1 on behalf of the Board in an amount to not exceed $8,730,177.

The Board of Education resolves as follows:

The Board hereby authorizes the Chief Operating Officer, Superintendent, Treasurer, and Board President to work with legal counsel to negotiate, finalize, and execute GMP No. 4.1 in an amount not to exceed $8,730,177, and to execute any related documents on behalf of the Board.

ROLL CALL:	Kelley Arnold	Yea	
	Sarah Byler	Yea	__X___ Passed
	Kara Crowley	Yea	
	Tony Moog	Yea	_____ Failed
	Brian Perry	Yea	

30-26 Superintendent recommended, Mrs. Crowley moved and Ms. Arnold seconded that the Board of Education approve the following resolution:

AWARDING CONTRACT FOR THE SECURED ENTRIES PHASE II PROJECT FERGUSON CONSTRUCTION.

The Chief Operating Officer (“COO”) recommends the Board of Education award a contract to Ferguson Construction. (“Contractor”) for the Secured Entries Phase II Project (the “Project”).

Background:

1. The Board has identified a need for the Project.
2. In compliance with applicable law, the COO and Treasurer solicited bids for the Project based upon design documents prepared by Schorr Architects, Inc. (“Architect”).

3. Two bids were received for the Project. Bids were opened and read aloud on February 5, 2026 with the apparent low bid submitted by Contractor in the amount of $698,000 (the "Low Bid").

4. After review of Contractor's bid submission and a scope review meeting with Contractor, the Architect recommends the contract for the Project be awarded to Contractor as the lowest responsible bidder. The COO and Treasurer concur with the recommendation and request authority to negotiate and sign an agreement with Contractor in an amount not-to-exceed the Low Bid.

5. Additionally, to avoid Project delays, the COO and Treasurer request authority to enter into change orders on behalf of the Board in a total amount not to exceed 10% of the Low Bid. Change orders in excess of that amount, individually or in the aggregate, will be brought to the Board for its approval.

The Board resolves as follows:

1. Based on the information provided, the Board selects Contractor as the lowest responsible bidder.

2. The Board authorizes the COO and Treasurer to negotiate and sign an agreement for the Project with Contractor in an amount not-to-exceed the Low Bid, and to sign any associated documents consistent with the intent of this resolution.

3. The Board also authorizes the COO and Treasurer to enter into change orders on behalf of the Board in a total amount not to exceed 10% of the Low Bid. Change orders in excess of that amount, individually or in the aggregate, will be brought to the Board for its approval.

4. No property interest in the Project will be created until all required documents have been submitted by Contractor and the agreement is executed by the designated Board representatives.

ROLL CALL:	Kelley Arnold	Yea	
	Sarah Byler	Yea	__X___ Passed
	Kara Crowley	Yea	
	Tony Moog	Yea	_____ Failed
	Brian Perry	Yea	

31-26 Superintendent recommended, Ms. Arnold moved, and Mrs. Byler seconded that the Board of Education approve the following resolution:

AUTHORIZING AGREEMENTS TO CONVEY TWO EASEMENTS TO THE CITY OF HILLIARD FOR CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, AND OPERATION OF A WATER LINE AND A SANITARY MAIN AND TERMINATING PRIOR EXISTING EASEMENTS FOR THE SAME PURPOSES

The Superintendent recommends the Board authorize agreements with the City of Hilliard ("City"), a municipal corporation, conveying two easements (the "New Easements") to the City, for the purpose of permitting City to install, maintain and operate a water line and a sanitary main and supporting utility equipment and infrastructure over, upon, under, above and through property owned by the Board, and authorizing the termination of prior existing easements for the same purposes.

Rationale:

1. The Board is the owner of real property situated in the State of Ohio, County of Franklin, City of Hilliard, lying in Virginia Military Survey 3001, commonly known as Parcel No. 050-002853 (the "Easement Property").
2. There are currently two existing easements on the Easement Property held by the City for the purpose of maintaining and operating a water line and a sanitary main and supporting utility equipment and infrastructure (the "Old Easements").

3. As part of its Capital Improvements Project, the Board is constructing its New Beacon Elementary School on the location where the Old Easements are located.

4. Accordingly, the City has requested the Board provide the City with new easements for the installation, maintenance and operation of a water line and a sanitary main and supporting utility equipment and infrastructure over, upon, above and through the Easement Property.

5. Accordingly, the Superintendent requests authority for the Treasurer and Board President, with assistance of legal counsel, to negotiate and sign agreements conveying the New Easements to the City and to negotiate and sign any documents required to terminate the Old Easements.

The Board of Education resolves as follows:

6. Treasurer and Board President, with assistance of legal counsel, are authorized to negotiate and sign agreements conveying the New Easements to the City and to negotiate and sign any documents required to terminate the Old Easements.

ROLL CALL:	Kelley Arnold	Yea	
	Sarah Byler	Yea	__X___ Passed
	Kara Crowley	Yea	
	Tony Moog	Yea	_____ Failed
	Brian Perry	Yea	

Minutes of the Work Session Meeting of the Board of Education of the Hilliard City School District at the Administration Building on February 23, 2026.

32-26 Superintendent recommended, Mrs. Crowley moved and Mr. Moog seconded that the Board of Education approve the following resolution:

AUTHORIZING CONVEYANCE OF EASEMENT

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the conveyance of an easement (the "Easement") to Ohio Power Company ("Grantee"), a unit of American Electric Power, for the purpose of permitting the Grantee to install, maintain and operate electrical and communications equipment over, upon, under, above and through property owned by the Board of Education of the Hilliard City School District.

Rationale:

1. The Board is the owner of real property situated in the State of Ohio, County of Franklin, Township of Brown, lying in Virginia Military Survey 6637 and 6639, commonly known as Parcel No. 053-000005-00 (the "Easement Property").
2. Grantee has requested the Board provide Grantee with a non-exclusive easement for the installation, maintenance and operation of electrical and communications equipment over, upon, above and through the Easement Property, as set forth in the attached deed of easement ("Deed of Easement"), to be recorded with the Franklin County Recorder and made of record.
3. The Superintendent believes that the execution of the Deed of Easement, and the conveyance of the Easement to Grantee, are in the Board's best interest and requests authority for the Treasurer and Board President to sign the easement.

The Board of Education resolves as follows:

1. The Board authorizes and approves the granting of the Deed of Easement and associated rights and obligations to Grantee.

The Treasurer and the Board President are hereby authorized, with assistance of legal counsel, to negotiate and finalize the Deed of Easement, and to sign the Deed of Easement upon conclusion of negotiations.

ROLL CALL:	Kelley Arnold	Yea		
	Sarah Byler	Yea	__X___	Passed
	Kara Crowley	Yea		
	Tony Moog	Yea	_____	Failed
	Brian Perry	Yea		

33-26 Superintendent recommended, Ms. Arnold moved, and Mr. Moog seconded that the Board of Education approve the February 2026 Forecast.

ROLL CALL:	Kelley Arnold	Yea		
	Sarah Byler	Yea	__X___	Passed
	Kara Crowley	Yea		
	Tony Moog	Yea	_____	Failed
	Brian Perry	Yea		

34-26 Superintendent recommended, Ms. Arnold moved, and Mr. Moog seconded that the Board of Education approve the consent agenda – Items E1. Action by the Board of Education in "Adoption of the Consent Agenda" means that all E items are adopted by one single motion unless a member of the board or the Superintendent requests that any such item be removed from the consent agenda and voted upon separately.

E1 Approve the following resolutions: See Attached Document.

ROLL CALL:	Kelley Arnold	Yea		
	Sarah Byler	Yea	__X___	Passed
	Kara Crowley	Yea		
	Tony Moog	Yea	_____	Failed
	Brian Perry	Yea		

35-26 Superintendent recommended, Ms. Arnold moved and Mr. Perry seconded that the Board of Education approve the following resolution:

BOARD RESOLUTION REGARDING TREASURER REEMPLOYMENT

WHEREAS Melissa Swearingen has offered to terminate her current contract at 11:59 p.m. on February 28, 2026, in accordance with the terms of her February 17, 2026 letter;

WHEREAS the Board of Education desires to reemploy Ms. Swearingen as Treasurer effective March 1, 2026 through July 31, 2030;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the contract currently in effect between Ms. Swearingen and the Board of Education through July 31, 2028 is hereby terminated effective at 11:59 p.m. on February 28, 2026;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Board approves the Treasurer's Contract with Ms. Swearingen for the term March 1, 2026 through July 31, 2030 as presented;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the President of the Board is authorized to execute an appropriate Treasurer's Contract with Ms. Swearingen as Treasurer of the Hilliard City School District.

ROLL CALL:	Kelley Arnold	Yea	
	Sarah Byler	Yea	__X___ Passed
	Kara Crowley	Yea	
	Tony Moog	Yea	_____ Failed
	Brian Perry	Yea	

36-26 Superintendent recommended, Mrs. Crowley moved, and Mrs. Byler seconded that the Board of Education approve the following resolution:

To authorize and direct the Treasurer to place a notice on the District website and to provide such notice to all individuals who have requested Sunshine Law notices of Board meetings no later than February 12, 2026, and to submit the notice for immediate publication, which reads substantially as follows:

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Hilliard City School District Board of Education hereby gives public notice in accordance with Section 3307.353 of the Ohio Revised Code that David Stewart who will be retired from his position as Superintendent on July 30, 2026, is seeking re-employment with the Hilliard City School District in the same position following his service retirement.

The Board of Education is considering re-employing Mr. Stewart as Superintendent and will hold a public meeting with respect to Mr. Stewart's proposed re-employment at a meeting to be held on March 23, 2026, at 6:30 pm, in the Board Conference Room located at 2140 Atlas St, Columbus, OH 43228.

ROLL CALL:	Kelley Arnold	Yea	
	Sarah Byler	Yea	__X___ Passed
	Kara Crowley	Yea	
	Tony Moog	Yea	_____ Failed
	Brian Perry	Yea	

37-26 Superintendent recommended, Ms. Arnold moved, and Mr. Perry seconded that the Board of Education adopt the following policies:

a) DLC – Expense Reimbursements
b) DLC-R – Expense Reimbursements
c) EBDE – Procurement and Administration of Overdose Reversal Drugs (new policy)
d) JEC – School Admission

ROLL CALL:	Kelley Arnold	Yea	
	Sarah Byler	Yea	__X___ Passed
	Kara Crowley	Yea	
	Tony Moog	Yea	_____ Failed
	Brian Perry	Yea	

38-26 Mrs. Crowley moved, and Mr. Perry seconded that the Board of Education meeting is hereby adjourned.
Time: 7:18 pm.

ROLL CALL:	Kelley Arnold	Yea	
	Sarah Byler	Yea	__X___ Passed
	Kara Crowley	Yea	
	Tony Moog	Yea	_____ Failed
	Brian Perry	Yea	

Attest:

_____ _____
Mrs. Crowley, President Mrs. Swearingen, Treasurer