

February 11, 2026 at 9:45 a.m.

The Kelleys Island Board of Education met in regular sessions for the transaction of business. The following members responded to roll call: Mrs. Janet Wermuth, Ms. Abbey Rosado, and Mrs. [Nataliya Makarova](#) Skeans.

Kelleys Island students led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Deb Haig, Board Member, arrived at 9:54 a.m. Mrs. Haig was administered the Oath of Office.

It was moved by Nataliya Skeans and seconded by Abbey Rosado to adopt the agenda plus noted additions.

Roll Call: Skeans, yes; Rosado, yes; Haig, yes; Wermuth, yes.

Motion Passed.

26-10  
Agenda

Jackie Taylor, Field Station Director, shared the following report:

**Nature Camp Schedule Schedule  
4-8 years old**

**June 22**

4 years old 10-11am

5-6 years old 11:30am- 12:30pm

7-8 years old 1-2:30pm

**Meet:** Kelleys Island School

**Topic:** Wildlife

**Special Guest:** Toledo Zoo

Alexandra Burris- [Alexandra.Burris@toledozoo.org](mailto:Alexandra.Burris@toledozoo.org)

**June 23**

4 years old 10-11am

5-6 years old 11:30am- 12:30pm

7-8 years old 1-2:30pm

**Meet:** KI School

**Topic:** Birds

**Special Guest:** EMP Mike Hensley

[mhensley@eriemetroparks.org](mailto:mhensley@eriemetroparks.org)

**June 24**

4 years old 10-11am

5-6 years old 11:30am- 12:30pm

7-8 years old 1-2:30pm

**Meet:** Kelleys Island School

**Topic:** Trees

**Special Guest:**

**June 25**

4 years old 10-11am

5-6 years old 11:30am- 12:30pm

7-8 years old 1-2:30pm

**Meet:** KI State Park

**Topic:** Marine Debris

**Special Guest:**

**June 26**

4 years old 10-11am

5-6 years old 11:30am- 12:30pm

7-8 years old 1-2:30pm

**Meet:** St Park Pavilion

**Topic:** Water

**Special Guest:** Matt Kennedy, Water Quality Manager- Cleveland Water

[matthew.kennedy@clevelandwater.com](mailto:matthew.kennedy@clevelandwater.com)

**Schedule**

**9-12 years old**

**June 29**

9-10 years old 10am-12pm

11-12 years old 12:30-2:30pm

**Meet:** KI School

**Topic:** Birds

**Special Guest:** EMP Mike Hensley

[mhensley@eriemetroparks.org](mailto:mhensley@eriemetroparks.org)

**June 30**

9-10 years old 10am-12pm

11-12 years old 12:30-2:30pm

**Meet:** KI Kayaking Launch

**Topic:** Kayaking and Cleanup

**Special Guest:**

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**July 1**

9-10 years old 10am-12pm  
11-12 years old 12:30-2:30pm

**Meet:** KI School

**Topic:** Marine Debris

**Special Guest:**

**July 2**

9-10 years old 10am-12pm  
11-12 years old 12:30-2:30pm

**Meet:** KI School

**Topic:** Trees

**Special Guest:**

**July 3**

9-10 years old 10am-12pm  
11-12 years old 12:30-2:30pm

**Meet:**

**Topic:**

**Special Guest:**

2026 Science Saturdays

Science Saturdays is a partnership between Kelleys Island State Park, Kelleys Island Audubon Club, and the Kelleys Island Field Station. This weekly series of events features an interactive exploration of a particular wildlife topic. Families and learners of all ages are invited to explore hands-on science fun during this free drop-in event, which runs from 10 am to 12pm on Saturdays through Labor Day.

May 23 Plankton & Macroinvertebrates- Heidelberg University, Dr. Doug Kane

May 30 Salamanders

June 6 Turtles

June 13 Snakes- Emily M. Rugg, Division of Wildlife

June 20

June 27 Marine Debris and Clean-up 9 AM-12 PM KI School

July 4 Turtles

July 11

July 18 Island Fest (NO PROGRAM)

July 25 Fishing KI State Park

August 1

August 8 KI Homecoming

August 15 Geology- Ohio Geological Survey Glacial Grooves

August 22 Pollinators & Pancakes 9AM KI School

August 29 Monarch Butterflies

**Educator Report:**

1. All grades and subjects will participate in a Winter Olympics inspired cross-curricular unit beginning February 6th.
  - Students will learn about the different sports involved in the Olympics, using ELA skills to sort information and create a summative research project.
  - Students will use math skills to keep track of medals awarded and create a visual representation of the statistics in data tables.
  - Students will learn about music connections to the Olympics.
  - Students will take part in our own P.E. KI School Olympics, where multiple sports (indoor and outdoor) will be modeled using household and gym equipment.
  - Students will design their own medals in technology class.
  - Students will learn about Milan, Italy and the surrounding area, honing Geography skills.
  - Students will participate in a STEM challenge, creating skiers and designing them to be as aerodynamic as possible.
  - Students created 3-D paper mache Olympic rings in art class.
2. 6th grade social studies class had an opportunity to zoom with an expert from the Hunterian Museum at the University of Glasgow that specializes in Ancient Egyptian Artifacts and Antiquities as an extension of our unit on Ancient Egyptian Civilizations and Civilizations of the Nile Valley. We prepared questions that were answered during the zoom and learned about career opportunities related to anthropology and museum studies.
3. Technology classes have been investigating artificial intelligence, identifying the pros/cons of usage, and learning tricks to help identify AI generated material, images, and artwork.
4. Our Lunch with a Loved One will be on February 13th (Friday). We are so excited for our Italian Feast inspired by the Winter Olympics host location this year.
5. In instrumental music, students are continuing to practice instruments and think about the note names as they are playing... EGBDF and FACE.
6. The 3rd graders have been learning about many different genres during our reading block. So far, we have read: Humorous Fiction, Informational Text, Fantasy, Realistic Fiction, Narrative Nonfiction, Traditional Tale, Folktale, Biography, Trickster Tale, and Legend. We love reading and choosing our favorites.
7. In Kindergarten, we are embracing a unit on hibernation and migration during the winter months. We are using this as our theme for our daily writing and math activities.

February 11, 2026 at 9:45 a.m.

Betty Schwiefert, Treasurer, reviewed the January 2026 financial report and the updated 3-year forecast for February 2026.

Ben Ohlemacher, Superintendent, shared the following information:

1. Mission & Vision updates
  - Work Session Date: Spring 2026
2. Strategic Plan update:
  - Field Station Budget Creation Discussion
3. 125th Estes School Celebration (August 10, 2026)
  - New Departure Films
    - Interview Recommendations
  - Phone/Email Contact
  - 125th Celebration Logo
    - Facebook Marketing
    - Merchandise
    - Event Give-A-Ways
4. Field Station update
  - Nature Camp Dates & Learning Topics
  - Nature Camp Counselor Job Description
5. Lunch With A Loved One
  - RSVP Requested
6. Sub Custodian update
7. Legal update: ODEW
8. Erie County Auditor: Annual Superintendent & Treasurer Meeting
9. Playground update (Burke: Play That Moves You)
10. 2026-2027 Salary Considerations (April 9th Meeting & Future Schedule)
11. Sandusky Library update
12. Roof update
13. KI Facility Plan update

It was moved by Nataliya Skeans and seconded by Abbey Rosado to approve the following:

- approve the minutes of the January 8, 2026 organizational/regular meeting as presented.
- approve the financial reports for January 2026 as presented.
- approve the updated 3-year forecast for February 2026 as presented.
- approve membership in the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) for the 2026-2027 school year
- appoint Julie Thomas to the Kelleys Island Park Board and Recreation Board.
- approve the Kelleys Island School Field Station Nature Camp Counselor job description as presented.
- approve the allowance of paper test administration for the third grade Ohio's State Tests (OST)
- employ Alfred Policy as a Substitute Custodian for the remainder of the 2025-2026 school year contingent upon employment requirements. Salary to be \$20.00 per hour.

Roll Call: Skeans, yes; Rosado, yes; Haig, yes; Wermuth, yes.

Motion Passed.

26-11  
Feb 2026  
Business

It was moved by Deb Haig to adjourn, seconded by Abbey Rosado.

Roll Call: Haig, yes; Rosado, yes; Skeans, yes; Wermuth, yes.

Motion passed.

26-12  
Adjourn

The board adjourned at 11:36 a.m.

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Board President

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Board Treasurer