

January 8, 2026 at 9:45 a.m.

The Oath of Office was given to Kathey Phinney and Janet Wermuth.

The Kelleys Island Board of Education met in organizational/regular sessions for the transaction of business. The following members responded to roll call: Mrs. Janet Wermuth, Ms. Abbey Rosado, Mrs. Kathey Phinney and Mrs. [Nataliya Makarova](#) Skeans. Mrs. Deb Haig, Board Member, was listening via phone.

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

Mrs. Phinney declared the first order of business to be election of board president for 2026. Abbey Rosado made a motion to nominate Janet Wermuth as President for calendar year 2026, to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Mrs. Wermuth. The motion was seconded by Nataliya Skeans.

Roll Call: Rosado, yes; Skeans, yes; Phinney, yes; Wermuth, yes.
Motion Passed.

26-1
Election of
2026 Pres

Janet Wermuth, Board President, assumed the chair.

It was moved by Janet Wermuth and seconded by Nataliya Skeans to nominate Kathey Phinney as Vice President for calendar year 2026, close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Mrs. Phinney.

Roll Call: Wermuth, yes; Skeans, yes; Phinney, yes; Rosado, yes.
Motion passed.

26-2
Election of
2026 Vice
Pres

It was moved by Nataliya Skeans and seconded by Abbey Rosado to designate the Treasurer as the Board's Public Records/Open Meeting Act Training Designee.

Roll Call: Skeans, yes; Rosado, yes; Phinney, yes; Wermuth, yes.
Motion Passed.

26-3
Public
Records
Designee

It was moved by Nataliya Skeans and seconded by Kathey Phinney to designate the Superintendent as the District's Authorized Purchasing Agent for amounts up to \$5,000.00 without specific board approval

Roll Call: Skeans, yes; Phinney, yes; Rosado, yes; Wermuth, yes.
Motion passed.

26-4
Purchasing
Agent

It was moved by Kathey Phinney and seconded by Janet Wermuth to approve Deb Haig as Legislative Liaison, Nataliya Skeans as Student Achievement Liaison, and Ben Ohlemacher as Policy and Procedure Liaison.

Roll Call: Phinney, yes; Wermuth, yes; Rosado, yes; Skeans, yes.
Motion passed.

26-5
OSBA Roles

It was moved by Kathey Phinney and seconded by Nataliya Skeans to approve the following:

- authorize the Treasurer to pay all bills as they are presented, provided funds are available, and report monthly to the Board of Education those bills paid-authorize the treasurer to invest funds.
- authorize the Board President and Treasurer to borrow money if needed.
- authorize the Treasurer to invest funds.
- request advances on local tax collections from the Erie County Auditor as needed
- authorize the Superintendent/or designee to approve staff attendance at workshops and meetings within the State of Ohio
- authorize the Superintendent/or designee to approve special transportation trip requests (field trips, etc.) within the State
- authorize the Superintendent/or designee to employ temporary personnel as needed for emergencies and such to be approved at the next board meeting
- approve the establishment of the CY 2026 service fund in the amount of \$5,000.00 for incurred expenses of board members
- authorize the Superintendent/or designee to close the school or dismiss students early in the event of hazardous weather or other emergencies which threaten the safety or health of students or staff members
- approve attorneys Kimball Carey of Bricker & Eckler, Columbus, Mathew Markling of McGown & Markling Co., Akron, and Scott & Scriven, Columbus Ohio, law firms for legal services for CY 2025 on an as-needed basis.

Roll Call: Phinney, yes; Skeans, yes; Rosado, yes; Wermuth, yes.
Motion Passed

26-6
Bd Authorize
Supt/Treas

January 8, 2026 at 9:45 a.m.

26-7
Adjourn
organiza-
tional

It was moved by Janet Wermuth and seconded by Abbey Rosado to adjourn the organizational meeting.
Roll Call: Haig, yes; Skeans, yes; Rosado, yes; Wermuth, yes.
Motion Passed.

The board adjourned the organizational meeting at 9:57 a.m.

The Kelleys Island Board of Education met in regular session for the transaction of business. Janet Wermuth, Board President, called the regular meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. The following members responded to roll call: Mrs. Nataliya Makarova-Skeans, Ms. Abbey Rosado, Mrs. Kathey Phinney and Mrs. Janet Wermuth.

Betty Schwiefert, Treasurer, reviewed the December 2025 financial report and FY27 County Budget.

Ben Ohlemacher, Superintendent, shared the following information:

1. Mission & Vision updates
 - January work session date: TBD
2. Strategic Plan update: Field Station meeting tentative 1/9 (noon)
3. Erie County Community Foundation Fund update
4. 125th Estes School Celebration & Erie County Community Foundation Fund
 - New Departure Films
5. Roof update
6. KI Facility Plan update
7. Superintendent & Treasurer evaluation

26-8
Jan 2026
Business

It was moved by Nataliya Skeans and seconded by Abbey Rosado to approve the following:
-approve the minutes of the December 11, 2025 regular meeting as presented.
-approve the financial reports for December 2025 as presented.
-approve the FY27 Tax Budget as presented.
-approve Bayside Estimate #38601 in the amount of \$14,435 for replacement of rooftop unit
-approve participation in OSBA Legal Assistance Fund at a cost of \$250.00.
-approve New Departure Films agreement #0000220 not to exceed \$10,000.00.
Roll Call: Skeans, yes; Rosado, yes; Phinney, yes; Wermuth, yes.
Motion Passed.

26-9
Adjourn

It was moved by Kathey Phimey to adjourn, seconded by Nataliya Skeans.
Roll Call: Phinney, yes; Skeans, yes; Rosado, yes; Wermuth, yes.
Motion passed.

The board adjourned at 11:03 a.m.

Board President

Board Treasurer