

May 13, 2026 at 9:45 a.m.

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

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

26-18  
Executive  
Session

It was moved by Abbey Rosado and seconded by Nataliya Skeans to adjourn to executive session for conferences with attorneys concerning disputes involving pending or imminent court action and discuss personnel actions.

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

The board adjourned to executive session at 9:49 a.m.

Janet Wermuth, Board President, called the meeting back to regular session at 10:08 a.m.

Kelleys Island Field Station Report:

Science Sundays:

| May 24               | Plankton and Macroinvertebrates |
|----------------------|---------------------------------|
| May 31               | Salamanders                     |
| June 7               | Trees                           |
| June 13 (Saturday)   | Snakes                          |
| June 21              | Bees Fishing Derby              |
| June 28              | Marine Debris                   |
| July 5               | Turtles                         |
| July 26              | Turtles                         |
| August 2             | Pollinators                     |
| August 15 (Saturday) | Geology                         |
| August 23            | Pollinators and Pancakes Brunch |
| August 30            | Butterflies                     |
| September 6          | Monarch Butterfly Tagging       |

Educator Report:

- In a continuing effort to nurture an engaging and positive school culture (Strategic Plan Item 1A), students and staff will participate in annual traditions during the month of May that have become especially significant in marking the end of the year and celebrating achievements including:
  - Planting flowers with Mrs. Phinney to honor Mr. Estes
  - Gifting plants to school board members after Earth Day
  - The creation of the school yearbook in technology classes
  - Going on the fishing P.E. field trip
  - Completing the biking unit in P.E. (also promotes student independence outside of school)
  - Going putt putt golfing and kite-flying
  - Enjoying the last day of school field events and kickball\* game \*Kickball game will be at 1:45 on Thurs May 21... please join us!
  - Ring the school bell one final time to signify the start of summer
- Students and staff had a great time at the Toledo Mudhens game on May 6! These off-island field trips are especially appreciated as a way to "broaden the students' understanding of the wider world beyond the shores of the Island," as outlined in strategic plan point 1C.
- After receiving letters from five schools (located in South Dakota, Illinois, Louisiana, Pennsylvania, and Iowa), as part of "The Great Mail Race," 3rd and 6th graders responded with a letter and questionnaire outlining the unique elements of our life on KI as well as characteristics of our school that would be of interest. This engagement between our students and mainland schools is a great example of "Promoting and offering best practices in education, through the building of partnerships, that increase the collective understanding of current issues and needs." (Strategic plan 1B)
- 3rd grade students completed Earth Day Haikus in a cross-curricular connection to Earth Day activities (repotting plants and creating bird feeders) in keeping with strategic plan point 1B: "Promote and offer best practices in education, through the building of partnerships, that increase the collective understanding of current issues and needs."
- Thank you to the board for our gifted apparel from the school website. We are grateful for another WONDERFUL year at KI School and hope everyone has a safe and happy summer!

Betty Schwiefert, Treasurer, reviewed the April 2026 financial report, donations received for the field station, and gave an update on the FY24 & FY25 audit.

Ben Ohlemacher, Superintendent, shared the following information:

- Mission & Vision Updates
  - Work Session Date: Summer 2026 (after July 1st)
- 125th Estes School Celebration (August 9th)
  - New Departure Films Friday, April 17th
    - Town Hall showings on Friday & Saturday of Homecoming
  - 125th Celebration logos: completed

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- 125th Celebration budget: TBD
  - April 6th post (13,000 FB views)
    - & (26,000 total views in the last 30 days)
  - Merchandise
    - items to discuss
  - Event give-a-ways
    - 125 gift bags
  - Food, drinks & entertainment
    - 125 servings
- 3. Field Station renovation update
  - Erie Environmental findings
    - Shaw construction proposal
    - Erie Environmental proposal
- 4. OHSAA update
- 5. Music presentation & art show
- 6. Preschool update
- 7. KI School newsletter
- 8. Estes flower planting
- 9. KI Facility plan update
  - Roof update

It was moved by Kathey Phinney and seconded by Deb Haig to approve the following:

- approve the minutes of the April 9, 2026 regular meeting and the April 15, 2026 special meeting as presented.
- approve the financial reports for April 2026 as presented.
- accept the following donations:
  - \$100 Walleye sponsorship from Alexandria Panehal for field station
  - \$2,000 Kelleys Island Landowners Association for Field Station
  - \$300 Yellow Warbler sponsorship from Perry's Partners, Inc for Field Station
- authorize North Point Educational Service Center to pay a Technology Coordinator stipend of \$4,000.00 to Hannah Kulka for the 2026-2027 school year.
- authorize North Point Educational Service Center to pay a Testing Coordinator stipend of \$1,500.00 to Hannah Kulka for the 2026-2027 school year.
- authorize North Point Educational Service Center to pay a Head Teacher stipend of \$4,000.00 to Lori Hoffman for the 2026-2027 school year.
- employment of part-time staff for 2026-2027 school year – one-year contracts:
  - Jackie Polofka, Art Instructor, part-time as needed. Salary based on approved salary schedule.
  - Jackie Polofka, Substitute Teacher-salary based on approved salary schedule.
  - Mary Grace Muster, Health & Physical Education Teacher, part-time as needed. Salary based on approved salary schedule.
  - Mary Grace Muster, Substitute Teacher-salary based on approved salary schedule.
  - Rodney Miller, Music Teacher, part time as needed. Salary based on approved salary schedule.
- approve the following volunteers:
  - Field Station - Chris Ashley
  - Physical Education Class - Marcus Muster
  - Physical Education – Dean Maher
- approve the 2026-2027 Kelleys Island School [calendar](#) as presented.
- authorize North Point Educational Service Center to pay Lori Hoffman \$96,029 for the 2026-2027 school year based on M+50 degree and 15 years experience.
- authorize North Point Educational Service Center to pay Hannah Kulka \$84,842 for the 2026-2027 school year based on M degree and 11 years experience.
- authorize North Point Educational Service Center to pay Carolyn Willinger \$94,477 for the 2026-2027 school year based on M+50 degree and 15 years experience.
- authorize North Point Educational Service Center to pay Rostilav Zettler \$64,090 for July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027 based on 3 years experience. Number of contract days to be 260.
- authorize North Point Educational Service Center to pay Jackie Taylor \$44,914 for the 2026-2027 school year.
- authorize North Point Educational Service Center to pay Benjamin Ohlemacher \$103,000 for the 2026-2027 school year.
- approve salary for the period 8/1/26-7/1/27 for Betty Schwiefert, Treasurer, at \$51,500.
- set substitute teacher rate at \$150.00 per day for the 2026-2027 school year.
- approve snow removal contract with Robert Skeans for the 2026-2027 school year at 100.00 per time.

26-19  
May  
business

May 13, 2026 at 9:45 a.m.

-appoint Kathey Phinney as delegate to the 2026 OSBA Capital Conference and Deb Haig as the delegate alternate.

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

Nataliya Skeans abstained from voting on the snow removal contract with Robert Skeans.

Motion Passed.

26-20  
Adjourn

It was moved by Nataliya Skeans and seconded by Kathey Phinney to adjourn.

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

Motion passed.

The board adjourned at 11:18 a.m.

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Board President

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Board Treasurer