

September 11, 2025 at 9:15 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. The following members responded to roll call: Mrs. Kathey Phinney, Mrs. Nataliya Makarova-Skeans, Mrs. Debra Haig and Mrs. Janet Wermuth.

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

25-38
Agenda

It was moved by Deb Haig and seconded by Nataliya Skeans to approve the agenda as presented.

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

Motion Passed.

Jackie Taylor's Field Station Director report:

2025 Groups and Volunteer Hours

School/Group	# of Participants	Volunteers	Total Volunteer Hours
Berlin Heights Middle School	110	Chris Ashley	5
OSU Cleveland Educators	24	Chris Ashley	6
Project Wet for Educators at Stone Lab/OSU	16	Dennis Clemmins/EPA	6
University of Findlay	13	Chris Ashley	5
ECCF YAC			
Port Clinton Rotary Club Butterfly Program			
North Ridgeville 5th grade school group			
Clyde HS School Group			
NPESC Professional Teaching			
Norwalk School High School			

Science Saturdays	# of Participants	Volunteers	Total Volunteer Hours
Plankton	32	Doug Kane, Chris Ashley	6
Snakes	75	Emily Beal, Chris Ashley, Mariah McClain	9
Salamanders	72	Chris Ashley	3
Turtles & Frogs	160	Chris Ashley	5
Fishing Program	60	Kids Chris Ashely, Beck Miller	7
Turtles	120	Chris Ashley	3
Turtles	110	Chris Ashley	3
Butterflies	107	Chris Ashley	3
Pollinators	38	Chris Ashley	3
Homecoming	200+	Chris Ashely	5
Geology	300+	Ohio Geological Survey (2 people)	10
Pollinators & Pancakes	98	Chris Ashely, Virginia Polofka	12
Monarch Butterfly Tagging	120	Chris Ashley	3

Nature Camp		Volunteers	Total Volunteer Hours
Camp Check-in	33 Campers	Janet Wermuth	4
Geology Program		Chris Ashley	10
Insects		Erie Metro Parks (2 people)	10
Camp Check-in	27 Campers	Janet Wermuth	2
Geology Program		Chris Ashley	6
Kayaking		Erie Metro Parks	5

Kelleys Island School Tours	# of Participants
June 7 Tour	49
July 12 Tour	77
August 2 Tour	45

Programs & Events # of Participants Volunteers Total Volunteer Hours

Monarch Fest at PIB
 KIFS Field Station Day and Ribbon Cutting
 Port Clinton Rotary Club Butterfly Program
 Twin Oast Butterfly Program
 Total Year To Date: 1266 109
 Participants Volunteer Hours
 Grants Amount Awarded Purpose
 Erie County Community Foundation 4,980 Field Trip Ferry Transportation
 Ottawa County Community Foundation 2,000 Field Trip Ferry Transportation
 Wightman Wieber Foundation 3,154 Field Trip Ferry Transportation
 The ECCF Youth Advisory Council 650 Field Station Supplies- Plankton Net
 KIPDA 2,000 Outdoor Classroom
 KILA 7,261 Outdoor Classroom
 Conservation Club Competitive Partnership Grant

Ohio Department of Natural Resources 800 Field Station Supplies- Macro D-Nets
 Hancock Wood Community Trust Fund 3,130 Camp Support
 Camp Sponsorships Amount Awarded
 Dave Zavagno \$100
 Adohr Corp. \$500
 Tom & Paula Battlett \$100
 Bill & June Campbell \$100
 The Greater Cincinnati Foundation \$300
 Herndon \$500
 Bad Day Training \$500
 Western Reserve Land Conservancy \$500
 KI Audubon Club \$500
 KI VFW \$500
 Total \$27,575

Educator report:

1. We have had a wonderful start to the year, diving right into fun adventures and academic studies!
2. We are happy to be providing students with breakfast again this year... Thanks to Mr. Ohlemacher for all the fun and healthy choices he picks out, and thanks to the district for providing this nutritional foundation for the day.
3. We are excited to welcome a new staff member this year... Mr. Miller has already proven he is a perfect fit for KI School and students are thrilled to continue music and instrumental lessons! Look for his Staff Spotlight which will be featured on the district facebook in the upcoming week.
4. Going aboard the Appledore IV was an amazing experience! Students benefited from the hands-on science experiences: testing lake water for turbidity (cloudiness), oxygen levels, sorting the mud from the lake floor, and more! Students and staff alike were wowed by the experience. Mr. Ohlemacher even helped to "hoist the sails!"

September 11, 2025 at 9:15 a.m.

5. Our fantastic Mrs. Muster has once again set up swimming lesson days for us at the Venture Resort this September. We will be in the pool on Sept. 10th, 11th, 24th, and 25th, learning essential swimming and water safety skills.
6. Both student and adult art classes have begun. Ms. Polofka added a second adult art class time due to overwhelming interest... 21 adult art learners attended classes on the first day on 9/2!
7. Kindergarten has taken off with learning to identify uppercase and lowercase letters, counting everything around us, learning about community helpers, and how we can help the environment around us! We look forward to a great year of educational growth and learning!
8. Ms. Kulka attended Northpoint ESC's Career Coaches meeting on 9/3 and will attend the Career Readiness Summit on 9/30. This team shares resources, tools, programs, and ideas for helping students understand skills/aptitudes that align with specific careers or fields of work.
9. Mr. Ohlemacher, Mrs. Schwiefert, Mrs. Hoffman, and Ms. Kulka attended Northpoint ESC's Administrative Retreat on August 7th. They listened to fantastic speakers and attended a full day of sessions that helped inspire and gave great ideas for supporting staff through the start of the school year, dealing with artificial intelligence in our modern age, and using professional networks to access important resources for the district.

Betty Schwiefert, Treasurer, reviewed the August 2025 financial report, reviewed new and updated grants, changes to the 5-year forecast and the FY26 3-yr forecast.

Ben Ohlemacher, Superintendent, shared the following information:

1. Mission & Vision updates
 - samples
 - guide
 - work session date:
2. Superintendent & treasurer evaluation
3. Tall Ship Appledore IV Voyage
4. Kelleys Island Field Station Day & Ribbon Cutting September 14th (1:00pm)
5. 125th Anniversary Celebration: 2026 Homecoming Sunday (12:00pm)
 - communication to KILA
6. Window update: Buckeye Sun Control installation September 19th
7. Sandusky Library Update: October BOE Meeting Attendance
8. KI Community Forum: September 20th (1:00pm)
9. Adult Art
10. Mum proceeds donation
11. Roof update
12. Strategic Plan update: Field Station
13. Erie County Community Foundation matching grant opportunity
 - 501(c)(3) opportunity
 - annual raise letter
 - tax write off opportunity
14. KI facility plan update

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

- approve the minutes of the August 14, 2025 regular meeting as presented.
- approve the financial reports for August 2025 as presented.
- accept a donation of \$1,250.00 from the Ohio High School Athletic Association.
- approve the following revenue/appropriations for FY26:

590-4229-9026 Improving Teacher Qual Grant	\$86.88
590-1100-400-9026 Purchased Services	\$86.88
019-2200-9126 Hancock Wood Grant Revenue	\$3,130.00
019-1100-400-9126 Professional Services	\$3,130.00

 - Decrease 599-4210-9026 REAP Grant Revenue to \$25,657 (decreasing the revenue account by \$884.00)
 - Decrease appropriation 599-1100-600-9026 to \$23,116 (decreasing the appropriation by \$884.00)
- approve a moratorium on the collection of ____ (recommended 8) mills of Kelleys Island School outside millage for tax year 2025 only (collected in calendar year 2026)
- approve the fall FY26 3-yr forecast and notes as presented.
- approve Bayside Comfort annual maintenance agreement at a cost of \$1,849.70.
- approve Bayside Estimate for a Daikin 13.4 SEER single stage air conditioning unit Daikin 96% standard gas furnace and at a cost of \$13,875.72.
- approve a mou between Safe Haven Health and Wellness LLC and Kelleys Island Local School District for the provision of mental health and wellness services for the 2025-2026 school year. Cost to be \$6,868.00.
- approve Kelleys Island School 2025 Fall fundraiser to collect new socks for the homeless. Socks to be donated to the Sandusky Salvation Army.

25-39
Sept 2025
Business

September 11, 2025 at 9:15 a.m.

- approve now & then purchase of Back to the Wild professional services in the amount of \$1,576.00 for Field Station presentations on June 23, 2025 and July 1, 2025.
 - approve Virginia Coyne as a volunteer culinary advisor.
 - approve resignation of Dr. Elizabeth Tracy effective at the end of the 2024-2025 school year.
- Roll Call: Phinney, yes; Skeans, yes; Haig, yes; Wermuth, yes.
Motion Passed.

25-40
Adjourn

It was moved by Debra Haig to adjourn, seconded by Natalia Skeans to adjourn.
Roll Call: Haig, yes; Skeans, yes; Phinney, yes; Wermuth, yes.
Motion passed.

The board adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

Board President

Board Treasurer