

RIVERSIDE LOCAL BOARD OF EDUCATION



Riverside High School

March 12, 2026

5:00 P.M. Work Session and Regular Meeting

MINUTES

A recording of this Board of Education meeting is available on the District's YouTube page here:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbTmn_sGBiEvF2c598hBCSg

1. Opening Items

A. Call to Order at 5:00 p.m.

Notice of this meeting was given in accordance with the provisions of Bylaw 0164B of the Riverside Local Board of Education which was adopted in accordance with Section 1.450 of the O.R.C. and the Ohio Administrative Procedures Act.

The Bylaws of the Board of Education can be found in BoardDocs.

B. Roll Call: Krenisky, Grassi, Audino, Brewster, Vires

C. Pledge of Allegiance

D. Welcome

On behalf of the Board, I would like to welcome all students, staff, parents, and interested community members to tonight's Board of Education meeting. I would like to remind everyone that this is a meeting of the Board of Education held in public for the purpose of conducting the school district's business and is not to be considered a public community meeting. There is time for public comment during the meeting in the Public Participation section on the agenda.

2. Mrs. Brewster requested that Personnel Consent Agenda Item F be voted on separately.

3. Approval of Agenda

A. Motion to approve agenda with Personnel Item F voted on separately.

Motion: Krenisky

Second: Grassi

Vote:

Lori Krenisky	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Belinda Grassi	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Joseph Audino	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____

Denise Brewster	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Jimmielee Vires	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____

President declares the motion: carried 031226-1

4. Work Session

- A. Overview and discussion regarding the funding options available to the Board as directed by policy po6234.

Dr. Thompson presented an earned income tax levy timeline. Dr. Rateno talked about cost containment, reduction considerations and next steps. Dr. Thompson showed the updated facility costs from 2022 to 2026. A work session was scheduled for March 26 at 4:30 p.m.

5. Motion to Approve Minutes

- A. Motion to approve minutes as attached.

File Attachments:

February 26 2026 Board Minutes.pdf (249 KB)

March 6 2026 Work Session Minutes.pdf (99 KB)

Motion: Krenisky

Second: Vires

Vote:

Lori Krenisky	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Belinda Grassi	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Joseph Audino	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Denise Brewster	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Jimmielee Vires	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____

President declares the motion: carried 031226-2

6. **Special Reports** – Ryan Schmitt from TDA gave an update on the Buckeye project. He showed renderings of a two-story addition and renovation of the existing space. Roger Riachi talked about the updated cost of the Buckeye project. He said there is a completion goal of August, 2027. Dr. Rateno conducted a tour of the new CTX addition. Michelle Gifford gave an update on the Nutrition Services Department.

7. **Unfinished Business** – Mrs. Krenisky said she was asked to update the board on LLB Resources. She said we have not yet received an email list from her.

8. **New Business** – Mrs. Krenisky talked about the adjustment that was made at the board retreat to approve the agenda at the beginning of the meeting. No items can be added or removed from the agenda at this time, but consent agenda items can be pulled out to be voted on separately. The board agenda is available for review 48 hours prior to the meeting. Mrs. Krenisky addressed board office hours with Mr. McIntyre. He explained his legal concerns about logistical items that could bleed into legal items.

9. Board of Education Committee and Liaison Reports

- A. Belinda Grassi – Buildings & Grounds/Operations Committee; Strategic Plan Liaison – No Buildings and Grounds Committee update. Focus groups will meet throughout the month of April to assist in developing a new Strategic Plan. A survey will be offered online soon.
- B. Joseph Audino – Curriculum and Programming Committee; Booster Organizations Liaison – No Curriculum and Programming Committee update. No Booster Organization update.
- C. Denise Brewster – Policy Committee; Legislative Liaison – The Policy Committee did not meet. There are policies on the agenda for a second reading and approval. Mrs. Brewster talked about various actions taken by the House and Senate.
- D. Lori Krenisky – Superintendent’s Business Advisory Liaison – No Business Advisory Council update.

10. Superintendent’s Report – Dr. Rateno said a virtual meeting was held with Moody’s on February 25 to update our rating. We maintained our Aa3 rating and A1 COPS rating. There was a Professional Development Day on March 2 and the 10th Grade Reality Tour was held on March 5. Dr. Rateno gave an update on winter sports and Academic Decathlon results. The Senior Citizen Appreciation Dinner and play performance were held tonight. The play will continue March 13 and 14. Kindergarten registration will open on March 30 and Kindergarten Kick-Off will be on May 7. The Easter Egg Hunt will be on April 4 at noon. The Riverside Alumni/Community Choir has a performance scheduled on May 23.

11. Treasurer’s Report and Committee Update

- A. Jimmielee Vires – Finance/Audit and Personnel Committee; Alumni Association Liaison – The Finance/Audit and Personnel Committee met on March 10. We are scheduled to attend four job fairs. A staffing survey was sent out to assist in staff planning. They talked about updates to the Administrators Handbook. The Alumni Association Golf Outing is scheduled for June 20 at the Painesville Country Club. The Alumni Association awards three scholarships each year. They have had only one applicant each of the last few years. A parent or grandparent must have attended Riverside to be eligible.
- B. Dr. Thompson reviewed the February financial results.

12. Public Participation

- A. Public Comment – None

13. Consent Agenda: Finance/Audit

- A. Resolution to approve the monthly financial reports and check payment register report for February 2026.
File Attachment:
Monthly Board Reports – Feb - 2026.pdf (492 KB)
- B. Resolution accepting the amounts and rates as determined by the budget commission and authorizing the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the county auditor.
File Attachments:
Resolution Accepting Amounts & Rates – Riverside – 3-12-26 Board Meeting.pdf (1,187 KB)
- C. Resolution to approve a purchase order to Adler’s Sporting Goods in the amount of \$18,163.00 for various sports supplies and equipment.
- D. Resolution to approve a purchase order with CDW-G for the purchase of 750 Chromebooks at a total cost of \$198,750.

- E. Resolution to approve a purchase order with MCPc for district Microsoft licensing. Second year of three effective March 1, 2026 through February 28, 2027 in the amount of \$22,725.52.
- F. Resolution to approve purchase orders to 4-H Camp Whitewood totaling \$26,654.60 for Sixth Grade Camp.
- G. Resolution to approve transfers out of the General Fund to the following funds:
 - \$75,000.00 to the Athletic-RHS Fund (300-920F)
 - \$25,000.00 to the Athletic-LaMuth Fund (300-921F)
 - \$900,000.00 to the Termination Benefits Fund (035-0000)
- H. Motion to approve the items listed on the Finance/Audit Consent Agenda as recommended by the Treasurer.

Motion: Vires

Second: Grassi

Vote:

Lori Krenisky	Aye <u>X</u>	Nay _____	Abstain _____
Belinda Grassi	Aye <u>X</u>	Nay _____	Abstain _____
Joseph Audino	Aye <u>X</u>	Nay _____	Abstain _____
Denise Brewster	Aye <u>X</u>	Nay _____	Abstain _____
Jimmielee Vires	Aye <u>X</u>	Nay _____	Abstain _____

President declares the motion: carried 031226-3

14. Consent Agenda: Personnel

- A. Resolution to approve the following Certified Personnel:

Employment

First Name	Last Name	Job Title	Location	Salary	Step	Effective Date	Contract Duration
Cierra	Thomas	Long-Term Preschool Teacher	Melridge Elementary	\$44,910.00 Prorated	BA+0 Step-0	4/1/2026	6/2/2026

Transfer

First Name	Last Name	Previous Job Title	Previous Location	New Job Title	New Location	Hours/Day	Pay	Step	Effective Date
Alison	Hardy	Assistant Principal	LaMuth Middle School	Teacher	Riverside Campus	7.5	\$93,439.00	MA+15 Step-17	8/17/2026

Resignation

First Name	Last Name	Job Title	Location	Effective Date
Richard	Marinelli	Track - Varsity Assistant	Riverside Campus	2/26/2026

- B. Resolution to approve the following Classified/Exempt Personnel:

Resignation

First Name	Last Name	Job Title	Location	Effective Date
Amber	Carlisle	Educational Assistant	LaMuth Middle School	2/27/2026

- C. Resolution to approve the following Administrative Personnel:

Retirement

First Name	Last Name	Job Title	Location	Effective Date
Melissa	Mlakar	Assistant Superintendent	Central Office	7/31/2026

- D. Resolution to approve the following supplemental contracts:

<u>First Name</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Step</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Carol	Molnar	7 th Grade Class Trip Chaperone	\$647.00	NA	
Celeste	Napier	7 th Grade Class Trip Chaperone	\$647.00	NA	Special Needs Asst

Sarah	Turniski	8 th Grade Class Trip Chaperone	\$647.00	NA
Jeremy	Ishmael	Girls Flag Football Head Coach	Volunteer	NA
Nick	Schussler	Girls Flag Football Assistant Coach	Volunteer	NA
Tom	Flenner	Girls Flag Football Assistant Coach	Volunteer	NA

E. Resolution to approve the following Classified/Exempt Substitutes for the 2025-2026 school year:

Position	First Name	Last Name
Special Needs Assistant	Amber	Carlisle
Non-CDL Transportation Operator	Edward	Doyak
Non-CDL Transportation Operator	Alyssa	Penkowski

F. Motion to approve the items listed on the Personnel Consent Agenda as recommended by the Superintendent.

Motion: Vires

Second: Krenisky

Vote:

Lori Krenisky	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Belinda Grassi	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Joseph Audino	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Denise Brewster	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Jimmielee Vires	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____

President declares the motion: carried 031226-4

G. BE IT RESOLVED that the Riverside Local School District Board of Education hereby: 1) reemploys Dr. Christopher J. Rateno as the Superintendent of Schools of the Riverside Local School District for a term of five (5) years commencing August 1, 2026, and expiring July 31, 2031, 2) approves and authorizes the attached Employment Agreement with Dr. Rateno for a term of five (5) years commencing August 1, 2026, and expiring July 31, 2031, and 3) authorizes the Board President Lori Krenisky and Treasurer/CFO Dr. Stephen Thompson to sign the attached Employment Agreement with Dr. Rateno on behalf of the Riverside Local School District Board of Education.

Motion: Vires

Second: Krenisky

Vote:

Lori Krenisky	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Belinda Grassi	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Joseph Audino	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Denise Brewster	Aye_____	Nay__X__	Abstain_____
Jimmielee Vires	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____

President declares the motion: carried 031226-5

15. Consent Agenda: Curriculum & Programming

- A. Resolution to approve an Agreement with NWEA for FY2027 Map Growth assessment in the amount of \$45,876.00.
- B. Resolution to approve the SchoolLinks Services Agreement effective July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2029 and approve a purchase order in the amount of \$17,396.42 for the 2026-2027 school year.
- C. Motion to approve the items listed on the Curriculum & Programming Consent Agenda as recommended by the Superintendent.

Motion: Audino

Second: Vires

Vote:

Lori Krenisky	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Belinda Grassi	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Joseph Audino	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Denise Brewster	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Jimmilee Vires	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____

President declares the motion: carried 031226-6

16. Policy Agenda

- A. Motion to adopt new/revised board policies as listed.

Revised Board Policies

Policy 2431.6 – Name, Image, and Likeness (NIIL) in Athletics (NEW)

Policy 3440/4440 – Job-Related Expenses (Revised)

Policy 6423 – Use of District Credit Card (Revised)

Policy 6424 – Procurement Cards (Revised)

Policy 6460 – Vendor Relations (Revised)

Policy 6465 – Affinity, Rewards, or Other Discount Programs (NEW)

Policy 5112 – Entrance Requirements (Revised)

Policy 6220 – Budget Preparation (Revised)

Policy 6320 – Purchasing and Bidding (Revised)

Policy 6325 – Procurement – Federal Grants/Funds (Revised)

Policy 6425 – Use of District Tax Exempt Certificate (NEW)

Policy 7540.09 – Artificial Intelligence (AI) (Replacement)

Policy 2260.02 – School Nutrition Civil Rights Process for the Riverside Local School District (NEW)

Motion: Brewster

Second: Grassi

Vote:

Lori Krenisky	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Belinda Grassi	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Joseph Audino	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Denise Brewster	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Jimmilee Vires	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____

President declares the motion: carried 031226-7

17. Board of Education Business

- A. Motion to adopt the Portrait of a Riverside Board Member as attached.

File Attachment:

Portrait of a Riverside Board of Education Member.pdf (245 KB)

Motion: Krenisky

Second: Grassi

Vote:

Lori Krenisky	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Belinda Grassi	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Joseph Audino	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Denise Brewster	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Jimmilee Vires	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____

President declares the motion: carried 031226-8

- B. Motion to approve the Riverside Local School District Board of Education Handbook as attached.

File Attachment:

Board of Education Handbook 3-12-26 Full.pdf (2,885 KB)

Motion: Krenisky

Second: Grassi

Vote:

Lori Krenisky	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Belinda Grassi	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Joseph Audino	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Denise Brewster	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Jimmilee Vires	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____

President declares the motion: carried 031226-9

- C. Resolution Authorizing the Riverside Local School District's Joinder of the Ohio Coalition for Equity and Adequacy of School Funding.

Motion: Krenisky

Second: Grassi

Discussion: Mrs. Brewster would like more information as to why Wickliffe is the only district in Lake County participating. Our money could be tied up in the membership fees for quite a few years. Mrs. Grassi said there is a problem with the methodology, amount and eligibility of the voucher system. It is worth fighting to get our fair share. Mr. Audino said his hesitation is the transparency of the coalition behind the lawsuit. There are likely millions of dollars collected but no

report on how it is used and they don't list the members for the current lawsuit. Their mission is broader than the EdChoice Vouchers. Mrs. Grassi asked if anyone has reached out for documentation. Mr. Audino said he didn't see where he could get that information.

A motion was made to postpone this vote until the April meeting.

Motion: Krenisky

Second: Brewster

Vote:

Lori Krenisky	Aye <u> X </u>	Nay <u> </u>	Abstain <u> </u>
Belinda Grassi	Aye <u> X </u>	Nay <u> </u>	Abstain <u> </u>
Joseph Audino	Aye <u> X </u>	Nay <u> </u>	Abstain <u> </u>
Denise Brewster	Aye <u> X </u>	Nay <u> </u>	Abstain <u> </u>
Jimmilee Vires	Aye <u> X </u>	Nay <u> </u>	Abstain <u> </u>

President declares the motion: carried 031226-10

18. Board of Education Update – Mrs. Brewster attended the Senior Citizen Appreciation Dinner tonight. She thanked Mr. Carrabine for putting out a sign-up sheet for the seniors to enter their email address if they are interested in communications from the district. She also asked about preschool playground equipment at Riverview. Dr. Mlakar said installment of playground equipment is planned for over the summer. Mrs. Grassi said she and Dr. Rateno had the opportunity to attend a Boy Scout meeting to talk about the Democratic Process. After the meeting, a parent talked to them about the wonderful staff at Riverview.

19. Next Meeting Announcement

A. Next Meeting Announcement

Work Session	March 29, 2026	4:30 p.m.
Policy Committee	April 14, 2026	7:00 a.m.
Curriculum and Programming Committee	April 15, 2026	7:30 a.m.
Finance/Audit and Personnel Committee	April 16, 2026	7:00 a.m.
Buildings and Grounds Committee	April 21, 2026	7:30 a.m.
Board of Education Meeting	April 23, 2026	6:00 p.m.

20. Executive Session

A. The Riverside Local School District Board of Education ("Board") hereby recesses into an executive session at 8:31 p.m. for the purposes of:

- (1) considering the appointment, employment, discipline, and compensation of public employees under R.C. 121.22(G)(1), and
- (2) conferring with an attorney for the public body concerning disputes involving the public body that are the subject of pending or imminent court action under R.C. 121.22(G)(3)

Upon conclusion of this executive session, the Board President shall gavel the Board back into open session at this location. All matters discussed in these executive sessions are designated to the public officials and employees as confidential pursuant to R.C. 102.03(B) because of the

status and/or the circumstances under which the information will be received, and preserving its confidentiality is necessary to the proper conduct of government business.

Motion: Krenisky

Second: Grassi

Vote:

Lori Krenisky	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Belinda Grassi	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Joseph Audino	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Denise Brewster	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Jimmilee Vires	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____

President declares the motion: carried 031226-11

B. Return to regular session at 10:15 p.m.

21. Closing Items

A. Motion to adjourn at 10:15 p.m.

Motion: Krenisky

Second: Brewster

Vote:

Lori Krenisky	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Belinda Grassi	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Joseph Audino	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Denise Brewster	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____
Jimmilee Vires	Aye__X__	Nay_____	Abstain_____

President declares the motion: carried 031226-12

Attest:



Board President

4-23-24

Date

Treasurer



Date

7/28/25

