

Educational Service Center of Northeast Ohio
Essex Place – 6393 Oak Tree Blvd., Independence, OH 44131

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING - Thursday, May 29, 2025

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and the meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.m.

Roll Call –

Present – Christine Krol, George Klepacz, Carol Fortlage, Anthony Miceli, William L. Morrison, Jr.
 Administration Present – Bob Mengerink, Jennifer Dodd, Steve Rogaski, Bruce Basalla

Public Participation – There was none.

Resolution #2025-05-01 - Approve Agenda

Motion: William L. Morrison, Jr.; seconded by Anthony Miceli

Ayes: William L. Morrison, Jr., Anthony Miceli, Carol Fortlage, George Klepacz, Christine Krol

Motion approved 5-0

Public Hearing: Regarding Future Re-employment of a Retiring Employee

Resolution #2025-05-02 - Motion to close Public Hearing

Motion: George Klepacz; seconded by William L. Morrison, Jr.

Ayes: George Klepacz, William L. Morrison, Jr., Carol Fortlage, Christine Krol, Anthony Miceli

Motion approved 5-0

Resolution #2025-05-03- Approve Non-renewal of Classified Employee

Be It Resolved that the Governing Board of the Educational Service Center of Northeast Ohio declares its intention not to renew the limited contract of the following classified employee for the 2025-2026 school year. The Treasurer is directed to give notice of this action no later than May 31, 2025.

- Charleysia Duckworth, Educational Aide – Richmond Hts Local Schools

Motion: George Klepacz; seconded by Anthony Miceli

Ayes: George Klepacz, Anthony Miceli, Carol Fortlage, Christine Krol, William L. Morrison, Jr.

Motion approved 5-0

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Resolution #2025-05-04 – Approve Reduction in Force (RIF) for Classified Employee

Be it Resolved that the Governing Board of the Educational Service Center of Northeast Ohio shall reduce in force within the ranks of non-teaching (classified) staff, through the suspension of their 2025-2026 employment contract(s) for financial conditions pursuant to Section 3319.172 of the Ohio Revised Code as determined by the Superintendent. The Treasurer is directed to give written notice of this action no later than May 31, 2025.

- Amari Mills, Language Facilitator – Richmond Heights Schools

Motion: George Klepacz; seconded by Carol Fortlage

Ayes: George Klepacz, Carol Fortlage, Christine Krol, Anthony Miceli, William L. Morrison, Jr.

Motion approved 5-0

Resolution #2025-05-05 Approve Reduction in Force (RIF) for Administrative Employee

Be It Resolved that the Governing Board of the ESC shall reduce in force within the ranks of administrative staff, through the suspension of their 2025-2026 employment contract (s) for financial conditions pursuant to Section 3319.171 of the Ohio Revised Code as determined by the Superintendent. The Treasurer is directed to give written notice of this action no later than May 31, 2025.

- Michelle Wargo, Gifted Coordinator – Independence Local Schools

Motion: William L. Morrison, Jr.; seconded by Anthony Miceli

Ayes: William L. Morrison, Jr., Anthony Miceli, Carol Fortlage, George Klepacz, Christine Krol

Motion approved 5-0

Resolution #2025-05-06 – Approve Reduction in Force (RIF) for Certified Employees

Be It Resolved that the Governing Board of the Educational Service Center of Northeast Ohio shall reduce in force within the ranks of teaching (certified) staff, through the suspension of their 2025-2026 employment contract(s) for financial conditions pursuant to Section 3319.17 of the Ohio Revised Code as determined by the Superintendent. The Treasurer is directed to give written notice of this action no later than May 31, 2025.

- Pamela Bobinski, Career Counselor – Mayfield City Schools
- Joshua Barucky, ELL Tutor – Garfield Heights City Schools

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Motion: George Klepacz; seconded by Carol Fortlage

Ayes: George Klepacz, Carol Fortlage, Christine Krol, Anthony Miceli, William L. Morrison, Jr.

Motion approved 5-0

Resolution #2025-05-07 – Approve ProCare Therapy Contract

Be It Resolved that the Governing Board of the Educational Service Center of Northeast Ohio authorizes the Superintendent to enter a one-year contract with ProCare Therapy.

Motion: Anthony Miceli; Seconded by William Morrison Jr

Ayes: Anthony Miceli, William L. Morrison, Jr., George Klepacz, Christine Krol, Carol Fortlage

Motion approved 5-0

Resolution #2025-05-07.01 – ProCare Therapy Contract as Amended

Be It Resolved that the Governing Board of the Educational Service Center of Northeast Ohio authorizes the Superintendent to enter into a contract for the period June 2, 2025 through June 27, 2026 with ProCare Therapy

Motion: Christine Krol seconded by Anthony Miceli

Ayes: Christine Krol, Anthony Miceli, William Morrison Jr., George Klepacz, Carol Fortlage

Motion approved 5-0

Resolution #2025-05-08 - Accept the April 2025 Check Register

Be It Resolved that the Governing Board of the Educational Service Center of Northeast Ohio hereby accepts the Check Register for the month of April 1, 2025 to April 30, 2025.

Motion: Carol Fortlage; seconded by William L. Morrison, Jr.

Ayes: Carol Fortlage, William L. Morrison, Jr., George Klepacz, Christine Krol, Anthony Miceli

Motion approved 5-0

Resolution #2025-05-09 - Accept the April 2025 Financial Statements

Be It Resolved that the Governing Board of the Educational Service Center of Northeast Ohio hereby accepts the Treasurer's Financial Statements as of April 30, 2025 that includes the following reports: General Fund Analysis Report, Financial Report, Cash Position Financial Report by Fund, Schedule of Investments and Bank Reconciliation.

Motion: Carol Fortlage; seconded by William L. Morrison, Jr.

Ayes: Carol Fortlage, William L. Morrison, Jr., George Klepacz, Christine Krol, Anthony Miceli

Motion approved 5-0

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The Treasurer reported that Project Cash Request deadline was June 11, 2025. Governing Board member mileage reimbursements needed to be turned in by June 17, 2025. He spoke regarding the timeliness of the ODEW reimbursements and how that would impact the ESC's end of year cash balance and how much money would need to be advanced to other funds at June 30, 2025. The treasurer also stated that the ESC would deficit spend this fiscal year. The amount would be determined by the year end advances to other funds.

Resolution #2025-05-10 - Approve Consent Agenda

Be It Resolved that the Governing Board of the Educational Service Center of Northeast Ohio approves the Consent Agenda with the following items:

- a. Minutes of April 24, 2025 Regular Meeting
- b. List of Personnel Changes
- c. List of New OSTS Substitute Teachers
- d. List of OSTS Substitute Teacher Renewals
- e. Positive Education Program Monthly Supplemental Wages
- f. 2025-2026 ESC Salary Schedule
- g. 2025-2026 ESC Salary Ranges
- h. 2025-2026 Salaries for ESC Internal Staff and SST Staff
- i. 2025-2026 Program Staff Salaries
- j. 2025- 2026 Service Contract of Non-Public Entity
- k. 2025-2026 Inter-District Service Area Contract
- l. Achievement Centers for Children 2025-2026 Program Agreement
- m. Positive Education Program 2025-2026 Program Agreement
- n. Carrington 2025-2026 Agreement

Motion: George Klepacz; seconded by Anthony Miceli

Ayes: George Klepacz, Anthony Miceli, Carol Fortlage, Christine Krol, William L. Morrison, Jr.

Motion approved 5-0

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Other Board Business

a. Board Discussion of Treasurer Evaluation Revision

President of the Governing Board, Dr. Christine Krol, led the discussion about the Treasurer Standards. No action was taken.

b. Resolution #2025-05-11 - Executive Session

Be It Resolved that the Governing Board of the Educational Service Center of Northeast Ohio enters into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing: 1) employment and 2) compensation of employees of the board per ORC 121.22(G).

Time Enter: 3:35 p.m.

Time Exit: 4:40 p.m.

Motion: Anthony Miceli; seconded by William L. Morrison, Jr.

Ayes: Anthony Miceli, William L. Morrison, Jr., Carol Fortlage, George Klepacz, Christine Krol

Motion approved 5-0

Board Member Reports and Comments

Mr. Klepacz reported that he attended the Independence High School awards ceremony, where he presented the ESC Humanitarian Award to graduating senior, Molly Dubitsky.

Dr. Krol reported on the Teaching & Learning Committee. She also commented that she attended the Cuyahoga Heights High School awards ceremony and presented the ESC Humanitarian Award to Lucianna Ross (graduating senior).

Mr. Miceli reported that he attended the Richmond Heights Middle School awards ceremony and presented the ESC Humanitarian Award to eighth grader Madelyn Harper.

Mr. Morrison, Jr. reported that he attended the Richmond Heights Middle School and High School awards ceremonies, where he presented the ESC Humanitarian Awards to Madelyn Harper (8th grader) and Haleema Kazeem (graduating senior). He also mentioned that he attended the Technology Committee meeting where Russ Bennett gave an AI demonstration.

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Future Agenda Items

Adjournment - Resolution #2025-05-12 Time: 4:52 p.m.

Motion: Anthony Miceli; seconded by George Klepacz

Ayes: Anthony Miceli, George Klepacz, Carol Fortlage, Christine Krol, William L. Morrison, Jr.

Motion approved 5-0

Upcoming Meetings

Tuesday, June 10, 2025 – Board Work Session @ 9:30 a.m.

Thursday, June 26, 2025 @ 9:30 a.m.

Minutes submitted by Bruce Basalla, Treasurer

Minutes approved 06/26/2025



President



Treasurer