

**INDIAN HILL EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
MINUTES  
Regular Meeting of November 18, 2025**

A regular meeting of the Indian Hill Exempted Village School District was held on Tuesday, November 18, 2025, at 6:30 p.m., in the Indian Hill Community Room, 6855 Drake Road, Cincinnati, OH 45243, in accordance with notices sent to each member. Mrs. Singh, President, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and roll call showed the following members as present:

Mr. Marx

Mrs. Singh

Mr. Sumerel

Mr. Tullis

Mr. Warfel

Also present were Melissa Stewart, Kirk Koennecke, Heather Higdon, Bill Gruber, Jenny Burton, Cash Hayden, Cristina Smith, Brian Phelps, Tim Schweikert, and others.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Cub Scouts Jacob Allen and Micah Allen led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ADOPTION OF REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA (112501)** – Mr. Tullis moved, seconded by Mr. Sumerel to adopt the agenda of the regular business meeting of the Indian Hill Board of Education. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTARY**

Gretchen Ashton –

Good Evening,

My name is Gretchen Ashton, I am a parent of a HS cheerleader and aide at the MS currently in my 7th year.

I am here today to speak on behalf of our girls in the high school cheer program and how a quick decision today has affected them.

These amazing girls, a big part of our community, who actually have the longest season of any sport - love this sport and pour their hearts, souls and sweat into it from June through March.

If you would indulge me for a quick story. My daughter, Abby and her friend Lizzie are juniors and have been a part of all the youth cheer/tumbling/dance programs since their freshman year. They both aspire to be an elementary school teachers and have had a love of children forever. Many of the youth parents know them from these activities.

This past Friday night, half way through the biggest football game of the season they were approached by a youth parent, and was told "we're so sorry for everything you had to go through and we have the board and we're going to get your coach fired, would like your input and hope you're not team Kristen

This was absolutely despicable - inexcusable and inappropriate. No teen athlete should be approached by an adult in this manner - especially during the middle of an event.

Over the last 6 months the girls have had to endure many allegations, rumors, and gossip regarding their program and their coach. Which from my understanding have been proven false. No athlete should have to endure this.

As a parent, I would like to know what went into the decision, and who made this decision. No one has spoken to the girls regarding their time on the team or their experiences. No one has spoken all the parents to ask their opinion of the program. I understand that everyone has different views and opinions but it would appear that only one side / one view was considered and heard.

With any program improvements are always possible. When were those involved and affected by this program approached for insight on how to make it better - better for the girls? Never, never were the parents asked on how to work together to make improvements.

This decision has taken away from our girls the sport they love and their season is now over and everything they are working ripped away for that - some are devastated.

Some parent questions:

They had a fall banquet award dinner scheduled for tomorrow - is now canceled Will they be able to attend the big game on Friday? Or any of the future championship games going forward.

Their competition season is just kicking up and now that progress is halted with no plan on how to resume - they cannot practice

Will they be able or ready to compete in their upcoming competitions

Will they be able to even travel to compete in Florida

Will Basketball season even begin

Will they be able to attend and travel the IH game in Cleveland in December

And so many more unanswered questions for a season abruptly stopped

One youth parent wrote today :

"My girls have been loving both cheer and dance for years. They have made a huge impact on the girls to build a community, build friendships and feel included. Thanks to Kristen and all others that have made it happen so far."

It just doesn't seem right that closed door conversations of a one side agenda should hold so much power without regard or inclusion of ALL that are directly affected.

I am advocating for our girls to finish out all their seasons, including competition, and all other events. How do we move forward? While we were not included in this decision today, I do hope that we can be a part of and are considered for steps moving forward so that these incredible girls can continue to do what they love.

Thank you



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**RESOLUTION DECLARING THE IMPRACTICABILITY OF TRANSPORTATION AND OFFERING PAYMENT TO PARENTS IN LIEU OF TRANSPORTATION (112505)** – Mr. Sumerel moved, seconded by Mr. Warfel, to approve the following resolution:

**WHEREAS** the student(s) identified below have been determined to be residents of this school district, and eligible for transportation services; and

**WHEREAS** after a careful evaluation of all available options, it has been determined that it is impractical to provide transportation for these student(s) to their selected school(s); and

**WHEREAS** the following factors as identified in Revised Code 3327.02 have been considered:

1. The time and distance required to provide the transportation;
2. The number of pupils to be transported;
3. The cost of providing transportation in terms of equipment, maintenance, personnel, and administration;
4. Whether similar or equivalent service is provided to other pupils eligible for transportation;
5. Whether and to what extent the additional service unavoidably disrupts current transportation schedules;
6. Whether other reimbursable types of transportation are available.

**WHEREAS** the option of offering payment-in-lieu of transportation is provided in Ohio Revised Code: Therefore, be it

**RESOLVED** that the Indian Hill Exempted Village School District Board of Education hereby approves the declaration that it is impractical to transport the students identified herein and offers the parent(s)/guardian(s) of students named on the attachment, payment-in-lieu of transportation.

**ATTACHMENT TO RESOLUTION: 11/18/25**

<u>Student Name(s)</u>	<u>School(s) and Grade(s)</u>	<u>Parent(s)/Guardians(s)</u>
Soren Fairfield	The Schilling School - 12th	Lisa Dexter
Jack Michael	Cardinal Pacelli -4th	Amy Michael
Nahyoon Park	Seven Hills - 9th	Myung Park

Roll call vote was as follows:

Mr. Marx, aye

Mrs. Singh, aye

Mr. Sumerel, aye

Mr. Tullis, aye

Mr. Warfel, aye

**PERSONNEL ACTIONS, TUITION REIMBURSEMENTS AND PROFESSIONAL MEETINGS (112506)** – Mr. Sumerel moved, seconded by Mr. Warfel, to approve the following personnel matters as recommended by the Superintendent:

Approval of Classified Staff Contracts (2025-2026)

Dylan Browning, Paraeducator, \$20.50/hr

Morgan Croucher, Bus Aide, \$16.50/hr

Chris Hall, Winter Maintenance, 15.00/hr up to 90 hours

Julia Ha, Bus Driver, \$31.13/hr

Approval of Substitutes

Morgan Croucher, Bus Aide, \$16.50/hr

Tanica Stallworth, Bus Driver, \$24.00/hr

David Uy, Van Driver, \$24.00/hr

Gina Helms, Bus Driver, \$24.00/hr

After School Support Rate (2025-26 School Year) - \$41.00/hr

Approval of Supplemental/Personal Service Contracts (2025-2026)

Kim Given, Mentor Adjustment, \$463.83

Nick Carpenter, Student Council, \$750.00

Addison Ryan, Girls Wrestling Assistant Coach, \$4,000.00

Rob Guy, Football MS Assistant Coach, \$4,000.00

Nathaniel Smith, Field Hockey JV Coach, \$5,200.00

Trevor Nolan, Cross Country Assistant Coach, \$750.00

William Burbick, E-Sports MS Head Coach, \$2,500.00

Don Loudon, Boys Basketball Assistant Coach, \$1,800.00

Mike Lockhart, Boys Basketball Assistant Coach, \$1,800.00

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Brian Shaw, Boys Basketball Assistant Coach, \$2,000.00  
Jonathan Higgins, Boys Basketball Assistant Coach, \$2,500.00  
Samantha Berten, Girls Golf Assistant Coach, Volunteer  
Sandy Gemmel, After School Student Support, \$4,205.90  
Amy Smart, After School Student Support, \$1,855.06  
Tara Rose, Field Hockey Playoffs, \$300.00  
Nathaniel Smith, Field Hockey Playoffs, \$300.00  
Angel Miller-Ell, Volleyball Playoffs, \$300.00  
Brian Qiao, Volleyball Playoffs, \$300.00  
Mike Barrie, Volleyball Playoffs, \$300.00  
Izzie Crow, Volleyball Playoffs, \$300.00  
Brian Schubert, Tennis Playoffs, \$450.00  
Adam Wolter, Tennis Playoffs, \$450.00  
Mike Piergalski, Tennis Playoffs, \$450.00  
Amy Dunlap, Girls Soccer Playoffs, \$450.00  
Julie Kunkel, Girls Soccer Playoffs, \$450.00  
Sarah Wagoner, Girls Soccer Playoffs, \$450.00  
Matt Hindman, Girls Soccer Playoffs, \$450.00  
Sherri Muse, Girls Soccer Playoffs, \$450.00  
Brian Daniel, Boys Soccer Playoffs, \$450.00  
Mike Fry, Boys Soccer Playoffs, \$450.00  
Tony Awor, Boys Soccer Playoffs, \$450.00  
Mike Duncan, Boys Soccer Playoffs, \$450.00  
Jackie McCarthy, Cross Country Playoffs, \$450.00  
Drew Bolubasz, Cross Country Playoffs, \$450.00  
Tom Millard, Cross Country Playoffs, \$450.00  
Will Thomure, Golf Playoffs, \$300.00  
Jackie Trott, Golf Playoffs, \$150.00

Approval of Certified Staff Contract (2025-2026)

Kelly Haney, 1.0 FTE for .62 of school year, Primary School Music Teacher, Limited Contract, Column BA, Step 0, \$30,594.89

Retirements

Jeffrey Wells, 5th Grade Teacher, effective end of school year 2025-2026  
Don Flint, Educational Aide, effective end of school year 2025-2026  
Barbara Watson, Music Teacher, effective 10/31/25  
Chris Rotsching, Band Teacher, effective end of school year 2025-2026

Resignations

Brody Burleson, Van Driver, effective 10/17/25  
Carol Siegel, Recess Aide, effective 11/7/25

Change of Supplemental/Personal Service Contracts (2025-2026)

Daniel Boyer, E-Sports HS Head Coach, \$3,000.00  
John Jacobs, Girls Wrestling Head Coach, \$5,200.00  
John “Jake” Jacobs, Girls Wrestling Assistant Coach, Volunteer  
Carlitos Anderson, Boys Basketball JV Head Coach, \$6,500.00  
Fred Tudor, Boys Basketball Assistant Coach, \$2,800.00  
Steve Metz, 8th Grade Boys Basketball Coach, \$4,200.00  
Mike Lockhart, 7th Grade Boys Basketball Coach, \$4,200.00  
Don Loudon, 7th & 8th Grade Boys Basketball Coach, \$2,800.00  
Quincy Tillinghast, 7th & 8th Grade Boys Basketball Coach, \$2,500.00



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**RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE COUNTY AUDITOR TO MAKE ADVANCE PAYMENT OF TAXES (112512)** –

Mr. Tullis moved, seconded by Mr. Warfel, to adopt the following resolution:

*Whereas*, the Ohio Revised Code allows a taxing authority to request payment from the County Auditor funds derived from taxes or other sources to the County Treasurer, which may be held on account of a local subdivision;

*Therefore*, be it resolved by the **Indian Hill Exempted Village School District**, Cincinnati, Ohio:

Section 1. That the Auditor and the Treasurer of Hamilton County in accordance with Ohio Revised Code § 321.34, be requested to draw and pay to the **Indian Hill Exempted Village School District** upon the written request of Mick Davis, CFO/Treasurer, to the County Auditor, funds due in any settlement of collection year 2026 derived from taxes or other sources, payable to the County Treasurer to the account of the Indian Hill Exempted Village School District and lawfully applicable for the purposes of the 2026 or 2027 fiscal year.

Section 2. That the CFO/Treasurer of the Indian Hill Exempted Village School District shall forward to the County Auditor a certified copy of this resolution.

Roll call vote was as follows:

Mr. Marx, aye

Mrs. Singh, aye

Mr. Sumerel, aye

Mr. Tullis, aye

Mr. Warfel, aye

**RESOLUTION TO FILE A MODIFIED TAX BUDGET WITH THE COUNTY AUDITOR (112513)** – Mr. Tullis moved, seconded by Mr. Warfel, to adopt the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, Section 5705.28 of the Ohio Revised Code requires a board of education to adopt an annual tax budget on or before January 15<sup>th</sup> for the next succeeding fiscal year; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 5705.281 of the Ohio Revised Code authorizes the county budget commission to waive the requirement that a school district adopt a tax budget as provided under Section 5705.28 of the Ohio Revised Code, and instead authorize the board of education to provide such information to the county budget commission as may be required by the commission to perform its duties under Chapter 5705 of the Ohio Revised Code; and

**WHEREAS**, the Hamilton County Auditor has informed the Board of Education of the Indian Hill Exempted Village School District (the “Board of Education”) that it is required to pass a Resolution authorizing the Treasurer of the Board of Education to make a request to waive the requirement of the adoption of a tax budget, and instead request to file a modified tax budget in accordance with Section 5705.281 of the Ohio Revised Code; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Education has utilized a modified tax budget in prior years and believes that its continued use is advantageous since it provides additional information on the long-term financial plan of the District and utilizes a format that has become familiar to the Board of Education and its community.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Indian Hill Exempted Village School District Board of Education as follows:

**SECTION I**

The Treasurer of the Board of Education is hereby authorized and directed to request the ability to file a modified tax budget for the 2026/2027 fiscal year. The Treasurer shall make said request by sending a letter addressed to the Indian Hill Exempted Village School District Hamilton County Budget Commission and including a copy of this Resolution with his letter.

**SECTION II**

The Treasurer of the Board of Education is hereby authorized and directed to do all things necessary to ensure the Board of Education may utilize the modified tax budget for the 2026/2027 fiscal year.

**SECTION III**





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Roll call vote was as follows:

Mr. Marx, aye                      Mrs. Singh, aye                      Mr. Sumerel, aye  
   Mr. Tullis, aye                      Mr. Warfel, aye

At 6:55 p.m., the Board went into executive session with the following persons also present:

Mr. Phelps, Mr. Schweikert, Mr. Davis, Mr. Koennecke, Mr. Nichols, and Dr. Stewart.

Mr. Phelps, Mr. Koennecke, Mr. Nichols, and Dr. Stewart left at 7:45 p.m.

At 8:29 p.m., the Board of Education returned from Executive Session with all members present.

**ADJOURNMENT (112519)** – Mr. Tullis moved, seconded by Mr. Sumerel, to adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Indian Hill Board of Education at 8:30 p.m. Roll call vote was as follows:

Mr. Marx, aye                      Mrs. Singh, aye                      Mr. Sumerel, aye  
   Mr. Tullis, aye                      Mr. Warfel, aye

  
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Board President

  
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CFO/Treasurer