

ATHENS COUNTY BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, May 27, 2025 – 6:00 P.M.
Beacon School – 801 W. Union Street

**The Mission of the Athens County Board of Developmental Disabilities is to serve our
community with compassion, innovation, and transparency**

1. Dr. Jason Jolley, Board Vice President, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. Arian Smedley did roll call.

BOND	Present
CONNER	Present
DEMKO	Absent
GÜT-ZIPPERT	Present
JOLLEY	Present
LEWIS	Present – virtual
OCHES	Absent

Staff / Others in Attendance:

Dr. Kevin Davis	Superintendent
Arian Smedley	Assistant Superintendent
Scott Zielinski	Director of Finance
Stephanie Kendrick	Director of Service & Support Administration
Chris Linscott	Director of Facilities & Transportation
Autumn Brown	Director of Integrate Athens
Clayton Ray	SSA, PGO
Heather Clemons	Integrate Athens, ABEA
Doug Mitchell	Transition, ABEA
Michael Clark	Facilities, Teamsters

3. Dr. Jolley read the Mission Statement.
4. Bond motioned to approve the amended agenda, which added an executive session.

MOTION#: 5-27-25-1
MOTION: BOND
SECOND: GÜT-ZIPPERT
AYES: BOND, CONNER, GÜT-ZIPPERT, JOLLEY, LEWIS
CARRIES: YES

5. New Business:

Items for review and discussion:

- a. Dr. Davis walked the board members through two policies in the packet (Exhibit 1, Pages 1-12). The AI policy was new. The Administrative Resolution of Complaints policy was updated to reflected current language in OAC.

Dr. Güt-Zippert motioned to approve the new AI policy, forgoing the need for a second reading.

MOTION#: 5-27-25-2
MOTION: GÜT-ZIPPERT
SECOND: LEWIS
AYES: BOND, CONNER, GÜT-ZIPPERT, JOLLEY, LEWIS
CARRIES: YES

Dr. Güt-Zippert motioned to approve the updated Administrative Resolution of Complaints policy, forgoing the need for a second reading, with recommended minor edits.

MOTION#: 5-27-25-3
MOTION: GÜT-ZIPPERT
SECOND: BOND
AYES: BOND, CONNER, GÜT-ZIPPERT, JOLLEY, LEWIS
CARRIES: YES

- b. Dr. Davis walked the board members through the ATCO Legacy Fund recommendation document in the packet (Exhibit 2, Pages 13-14). No action was needed. After reviewing the updates, he shared information about the next funding cycle (which will include some of these recommendations) will be shared at the August board meeting. Board members had no questions or concerns.
- c. Dr. Davis walked the board members through the results from All Staff In-Service survey (Exhibit 3, Pages 15-21). No action was needed. There was brief discussion about which departments answered a certain way, however all responses are completely anonymous. Board members had no other questions or concerns.
- d. Dr. Davis walked the board members through the update on Beacon School Staff Recruitment & Retention efforts (Exhibit 3a, Pages 22-23). The update focused on the status of the four areas of concern identified by the teaching staff. No action was needed. Board members had no questions or concerns.
- e. Dr. Davis shared ABEA union negotiations started on Wednesday, May 21. A second date (May 28) was also set aside, but in the end, it was not needed. A tentative agreement was reached at the end of the first day, which was just three hours long. He shared that from the administration's perspective, it seemed that all parties were happy with the process, the professionalism, and the outcome. Housecleaning tasks remain. Then, the union will meet to

discuss it and possibly ratify. After that, it will be presented back to the board. No action was needed. Board members had no questions or concerns.

- f. Board members discussed reminders on future meetings/trainings:
 - i. Board training: Tuesday, June 24, 2025, 5 p.m.
 - ii. Regular meeting: Tuesday, June 24, 2025, 6:00 p.m.

Motions for vote:

- a. Dr. Lewis motioned to approve April Board Meeting Minutes (Exhibit 4, Page 24-28).

MOTION#: 5-27-25-4
MOTION: LEWIS
SECOND: GÜT-ZIPPERT
AYES: BOND, CONNER, GÜT-ZIPPERT, JOLLEY, LEWIS
CARRIES: YES

- b. Dr. Güt-Zippert motioned to approve entering into an agreement with Pad Door System, Inc, for the purpose of relacing doors at the bus garage, pending prosecuting attorney's approval (Exhibit 5, Pages 29-32).

Discussion: Dr. Davis walked the board members through the exhibits, which included photos of the current state of the doors. There was brief discussion about whether other bids were sought. Dr. Davis stated it did not meet the threshold of requiring multiple bids. In addition, he stated that since we have worked with this company before and trust them and the urgent need for the replacements, no other bids were sought in order to start work as soon as possible.

MOTION#: 5-27-25-5
MOTION: GÜT-ZIPPERT
SECOND: BOND
AYES: BOND, CONNER, GÜT-ZIPPERT, JOLLEY, LEWIS
CARRIES: YES

- c. Bond motioned to approve retaining part-time Nurse for Beacon School for the 2025-26 school year (Exhibit 6, Pages 33-35).

Discussion: Dr. Davis walked the board members through the exhibits, which outlines the justification for the position and the cost.

MOTION#: 5-27-25-6
MOTION: BOND
SECOND: LEWIS
AYES: BOND, CONNER, GÜT-ZIPPERT, JOLLEY, LEWIS
CARRIES: YES

- d. Bond motioned to approve contract with Sally Biancone for photography/yearbook services, pending prosecuting attorney approval (Exhibit 7, Pages 36-38).

Discussion: Dr. Davis walked the board members through the exhibits, and highlighted the slight increase in the hourly rate (from \$25 to \$27) and the increase of total number of hours (from 200 to 250).

MOTION#: 5-27-25-7
MOTION: BOND
SECOND: GÜT-ZIPPERT
AYES: BOND, CONNER, GÜT-ZIPPERT, JOLLEY, LEWIS
CARRIES: YES

- e. Dr. Lewis motioned to approve agreement with Walky Talky for Speech Language Pathology services for the 2025-2026 academic year at Beacon School, pending Prosecuting Attorney's approval (Exhibit 8, Pages 39-45).

Discussion: Dr. Davis walked the board members through the exhibits, and he highlighted the hourly rate is unchanged. He added he discussed renewing this agreement with the union first. They were in support of renewing for another school year.

MOTION#: 5-27-25-8
MOTION: LEWIS
SECOND: GÜT-ZIPPERT
AYES: BOND, CONNER, GÜT-ZIPPERT, JOLLEY, LEWIS
CARRIES: YES

- f. Dr. Güt-Zippert motioned to approve contract with Hylant Insurance for property, violence, auto, and liability insurance, for period of one year beginning July 1, 2025 (Exhibit 9, Pages 46-65).

Discussion: Dr. Davis walked the board members through the exhibits, and he highlighted the costs for this year, which are slightly increased from last year. The change in the cost is due to increases insurance companies are seeing nationwide.

MOTION#: 5-27-25-9
MOTION: GÜT-ZIPPERT
SECOND: BOND
AYES: BOND, CONNER, GÜT-ZIPPERT, JOLLEY, LEWIS
CARRIES: YES

- g. Dr. Lewis motioned to approve a resolution allowing the agency to join the Ohio Schools Council cooperative purchasing program (Exhibit 10, Pages 66-67).

Discussion: Dr. Davis walked the board members through the exhibits. He explained the program will make the process of securing the lowest best bid on large projects more efficient. The cost to join this program is \$350.

MOTION#: 5-27-25-10
MOTION: LEWIS
SECOND: GÜT-ZIPPERT
AYES: BOND, CONNER, GÜT-ZIPPERT, JOLLEY, LEWIS
CARRIES: YES

6. Board Reports:

- a. Superintendent, Dr. Kevin Davis (Exhibit 11, Pages 68-73).
Report stands. He highlighted the dates when he will be taking time off, which are noted in his report.
- b. Director of Education, Becky Martin (Exhibit 12, Page 74).
Report stands.
- c. Director of Finance, Scott Zielinski (Exhibit 13, Pages 75-85).
Report stands. He added Amy Sheridan will transition from working with the SSA department at the Harper Street location to working alongside Carol Janes-Tinkham at Beacon starting June 2. Sheridan taking on this new role is part of a long-term succession plan, preparing for when Janes-Tinkham is ready to retire.
- d. Director of Human Resources, Tristin Lawrence (Exhibit 14, Pages 86-88).
Report stands.
- e. Director of Facilities and Transportation, Chris Linscott (Exhibit 15, Page 89).
Report stands. He added Gary Alfman, a driver, has retired. He has worked with the ACBDD for just under four years, and his service has been appreciated. A job posting for a driver position will be published soon. He encouraged the board members to share the posting widely.
- f. MUI Coordinator, Angela Carter (Exhibit 16, Page 90).
Report stands.
- g. Director of Service and Support, Stephanie Kendrick (Exhibit 17, Pages 91-93).
Report stands.
- h. Director of Integrate Athens, Autumn Brown (Exhibit 18, Pages 95-97).
Report stands. She highlighted the progress made in planning for the upcoming summer camp, the Community & Career Exploration program, and ATCO Idol Take 2. Dr. Güt-Zippert complimented the first ATCO Idol event at Stuart's Opera House. Dr. Jolley said he and his family are excited about summer camp.
- i. Assistant Superintendent, Arian Smedley (Exhibit 19, Pages 98-102).
Report stands. She highlighted the Teen Time Summer Kick-Off Party on Friday, June 6, at the Athens City Pool. She encouraged board members to share the invite with eligible individuals.

7. No comments from Visitors relative to the agenda.
8. Regarding comments from Unions relative to the agenda, Heather Clemons of ABEA echoed statements from Dr. Davis regarding the negotiations process. She stated it went very well and appreciated how receptive Dr. Davis has been to the input from union members.
9. No comments from the Board.
10. Dr. Güt-Zippert motioned to approve entering into Executive Session per ORC 121.22 (G)(1) to consider the employment of a public employee at 6:29 p.m.

MOTION#: 5-27-25-11
MOTION: GÜT-ZIPPERT
SECOND: BOND
AYES: BOND, CONNER, GÜT-ZIPPERT, JOLLEY, LEWIS
CARRIES: YES

11. Bond motioned to return from executive session at 7 p.m. There were no action items coming out of executive session.

MOTION#: 5-27-25-12
MOTION: BOND
SECOND: LEWIS
AYES: BOND, CONNER, GÜT-ZIPPERT, JOLLEY, LEWIS
CARRIES: YES

12. Bond motioned to adjourn at 7 p.m.

MOTION#: 5-27-25-13
MOTION: BOND
SECOND: CONNER
AYES: BOND, CONNER, GÜT-ZIPPERT, JOLLEY, LEWIS
CARRIES: YES