

Organizational Meeting (Tuesday, January 20, 2026)
Generated by Shelley Martin on Thursday, January 29, 2026

Meeting began at 2:00 PM

1. Call To Order
Procedural: 1.01 Roll Call

P. Dubbs, R. Gebhardt and M. Sander were present.

T. Isaacs and L. Hook were absent.

Procedural: 1.02 Pledge of Allegiance

2. Visitors to the Board

There were no visitors.

3. Election of President Pro-Tempore

Action: 3.01 Motion to elect President Pro-Tempore

Recommended Action: Motion to elect Cary Furniss, Chief Financial Officer, as President Pro-Tempore until officers are elected.

4. Officer Elections

Action: 4.01 Election of Board President

Recommended Action: Motion to vote and elect Board President for 2026.

Mr. Gebhardt nominated Dr. Mike Sander as Board President.

Mr. Dubbs Seconded.

Mr. Gebhardt moved to close nominations.

Mr. Dubbs Seconded.

Motion carried: 3-0

Action: 4.02 Election of Board Vice President

Recommended Action: Motion to vote and elect Board Vice President for 2026.

Mr. Dubbs nominated Larry Hook as Board Vice President.

Mr. Gebhardt Seconded.

Mr. Dubbs moved to close nominations.

Mr. Gebhardt Seconded.

Motion carried: 3-0

Procedural: 4.03 Oath of Office

5. Other Business

Action: 5.01 Standing Authorizations

Recommended Action: The Executive Director recommends that the Governing Board approve standing authorizations for the calendar year 2026.

6. Adjournment

Action: 6.01 Adjourn

Recommended Action: Motion to adjourn.

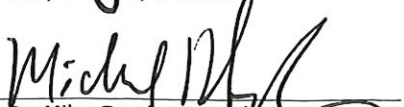
Motion: Mr. Dubbs

Second: Mr. Gebhardt

Motion carried: 3-0

The meeting was adjourned at 2:10 pm



Cary Furniss, Treasurer

Dr. Mike Sander, President

Regular Board Meeting (Tuesday, January 20, 2026)
Generated by Shelley Martin on Thursday, January 29, 2026

Meeting began at 2:10 pm

1. Call To Order
Procedural: 1.01 Roll Call

P. Dubbs, R. Gebhardt and Mike Sander were present.

T. Isaacs and L. Hook were absent.

Procedural: 1.02 Pledge of Allegiance

2. Visitors to the Board

3. Treasurer
Action, Minutes: 3.01 Minutes
Recommended Action: Treasurer recommends the approval of minutes as presented.

Ms. Kelly Brown with Charter School Specialist was in attendance.

Action: 3.02 Treasurer's Financial Reports
Recommended Action: Treasurer recommends approval of financial reports as presented.

Mr. Furniss reported that the FY2025 Audit Report is complete.

Action: 3.03 Monthly Financial Report
Recommended Action: Treasurer recommends financial report as presented.

4. Executive Director

Discussion: 4.01 Update on Enrollment/Graduate/Documented Hours/Student & Family Engagement Events

Discussion: 4.02 Update of School Improvement Plan / One Plan

Discussion: 4.03 Legislative Update

Action: 4.05 Updated Board Meeting Dates
Recommended Action: Executive Director recommends that the updated Board Meeting Dates be approved as presented.

5. Sponsor Representative

Discussion: 5.01 Discussion and Updates

Ms. Kelly Brown reminded the Board that the Forecast is due by February 20, 2026.

6. Agenda Approval

Action: 6.01 Motion to approve all agenda items
Recommended Action: Executive Director recommends approval of all agenda items as presented in one motion.

Motion: P. Dubbs
Second: R. Gebhardt

Motion carries: 3-0

7. Executive Session

The Board entered Executive Session at 2:30 pm for the purpose of employment of personnel.

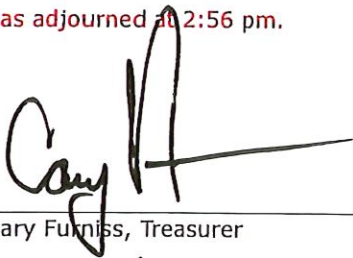
Executive Session ended at 2:56 pm.

8. Adjournment
Action: 8.01 Adjourn
Recommended Action: Motion to adjourn.

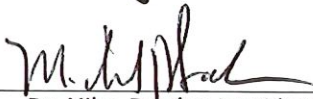
Motion: R. Gebhardt
Second: P. Dubbs

Motion carries: 3-0

Meeting was adjourned at 2:56 pm.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Cary H.', written over a horizontal line.

Cary Furniss, Treasurer

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Sander', written over a horizontal line.

Dr. Mike Sander, President



**Greater Ohio
Virtual School**

Greater Ohio Virtual School

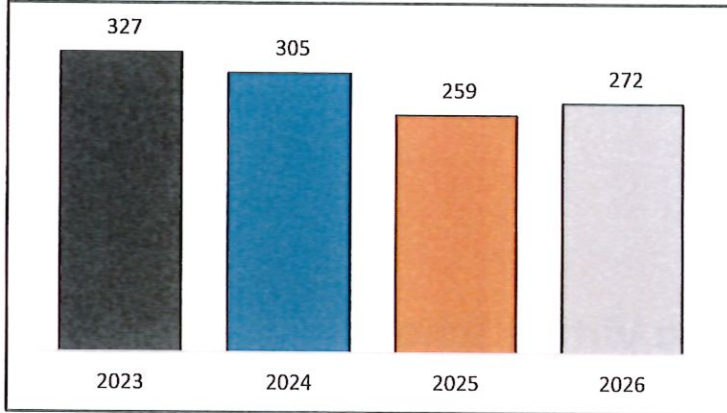
Monthly Financial Report

Fiscal Year 2026 - July to December

Cash Balance Analysis

Monthly cash flow helps explain the timing of revenue and expenditures in the current fiscal year and over several fiscal years. This snapshot is designed to demonstrate three key cash balance indicators - 1) Days of cash on-hand at year end, 2) Cash balance as % of Revenue, 3) Monthly cash balances. The data reflected is as of December 31st for each respective year.

Calendar Days of Cash on Hand

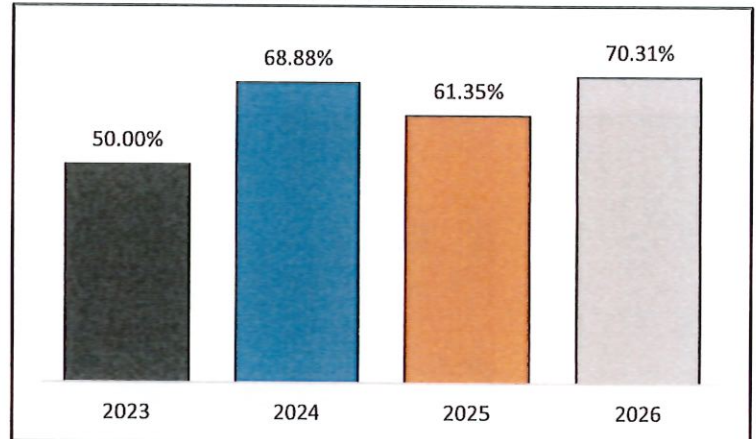


The graph reflects Cash on Hand at December 31st of each of the fiscal years indicated.

Ending Cash Balance at End of the Month

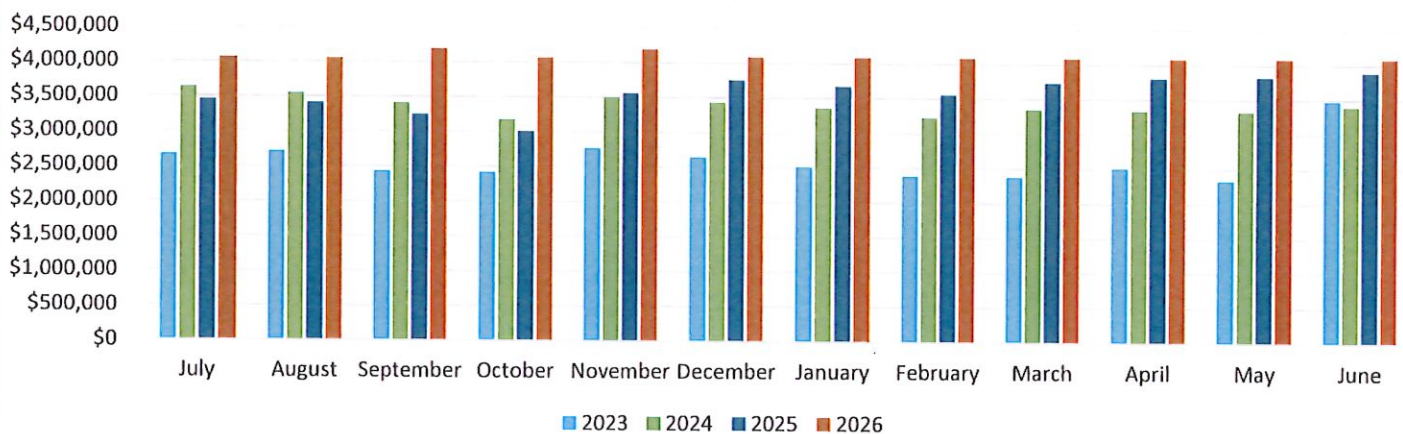
2023	\$2,639,249
2024	\$3,425,540
2025	\$3,748,414
2026	\$4,082,690

Cash Balance as % of Revenue



Cash balance as a % of revenue can help the organization to understand the amount of revenue change that could be buffered by one-time cash balance reserves.

Fiscal Year -- End of Month Cash Balance (\$000)



Cash balances can fluctuate significantly within a fiscal year. The lowest cash balance of \$1,296,240 occurred in February 2021. The highest cash balance position was \$4,186,370 and that occurred at September 30, 2025.

ACTUAL REVENUE RECEIVED THROUGH DECEMBER COMPARED TO THE PRIOR YEAR

	Actual Revenue Collections For July to Dec.	Prior Year Revenue For July to Dec.	Actual Compared to Last Year
Local Revenue	(20,479)	(22,040)	▲ 1,561
Interest	86,247	84,534	▲ 1,712
State Revenue	2,353,565	2,650,979	▼ (297,414)
Federal Revenue	222,595	227,998	▼ (5,403)
All Other Revenue	15,214	18,586	▼ (3,372)
Total Revenue	2,657,141	2,960,058	▼ (302,916)

Compared to the
same period, total
revenue are
\$(302,916)
Lower than the
previous year

After six (6) months complete, revenues are \$(302,916) lower than last fiscal year. Last month career tech training from FY 2025 was paid in a lump, along with a catchup of funding since July 1, 2025. Courses are not maintained for career tech throughout the school year, only at the end of the year. Consequently, all of the post July 1, 2025, career tech funding was clawed back in December. Work is on-going to change the scheduling process to permit that funding to be captured in real time.

ACTUAL EXPENSES THROUGH DECEMBER COMPARED TO THE PRIOR YEAR

	Actual Expenses For July to Dec.	Prior Year Expenditures For July to Dec.	Actual Compared to Last Year
Salaries and Benefits	1,531,679	1,477,013	▲ 54,666
Purchased Services	786,551	801,658	▼ (15,107)
Supplies	83,007	101,712	▼ (18,705)
Capital	-	-	-
All Other Expenses	60,240	227,073	▼ (166,833)
Total Expenditures	2,461,478	2,607,456	▼ (145,978)

Compared to the same
period, total
expenditures are
\$(145,978)
Lower than the
previous year

Expenditures are \$(145,978) less than last fiscal year after six (6) months. The completion of the "claw back" payments to ODEW from the ECOT decision last fiscal year is responsible for the lower spend.

FISCAL YEAR 2026 FORECAST TO ACTUAL COMPARISON FOR REVENUE

	Annual Forecast Estimate	Projected Annual Cash Estimate	Actual Compared to Cash Flow
Local Revenue	4,500	(19,479)	▼ (23,979)
Interest	160,000	166,247	▲ 6,247
State Revenue	4,982,000	5,074,607	▲ 92,607
Federal Revenue	723,695	710,595	▼ (13,100)
All Other Revenue	23,998	27,213	▲ 3,215
Total Revenue	5,894,193	5,959,182	▲ 64,989

Compared to forecast,
 revenue cash flows
 are
\$64,989
 Higher than forecasted

Compared to the Fall Forecast, revenues are \$64,989 higher than anticipated. State funding is slightly ahead of forecast due to changes in the Hybrid payment timing, which is provided funding earlier in the school year.

FISCAL YEAR 2026 FORECAST TO ACTUAL COMPARISON FOR EXPENSES

	Annual Forecast Estimate	Projected Annual Cash Estimate	Actual Compared to Cash Flow
Salaries and Benefits	3,403,494	3,398,068	▼ (5,426)
Purchased Services	2,004,759	1,911,551	▼ (93,208)
Supplies	312,438	283,007	▼ (29,431)
Capital	1,000	500	▼ (500)
All Other Expenses	88,279	91,557	▲ 3,278
Total Expenditures	5,809,970	5,684,684	▼ (125,286)

Compared to forecast,
 expenditure cash flows
 are
\$(125,286)
 Lower than forecasted

After six (6) months into the FY 2026 fiscal year, spending is (\$125,286) less than forecasted.

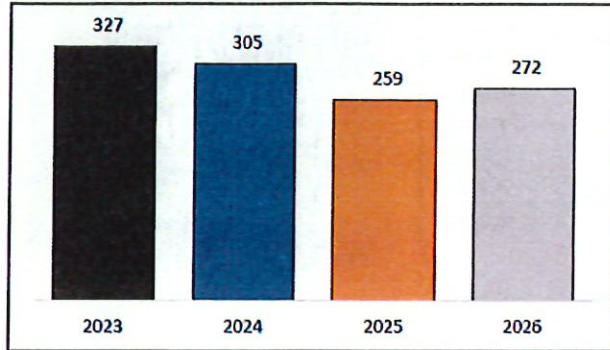
TREASURER REPORT TO THE GOVERNING BOARD

January 20, 2026

Agenda Items

- Financial Performance through December 31st

Calendar Days of Cash on Hand



The graph reflects Cash on Hand at December 31st of each of the fiscal years indicated.

Ending Cash Balance at End of the Month

2023	\$2,639,249
2024	\$3,425,540
2025	\$3,748,414
2026	\$4,082,690

Cash balance has returned to a pre-ECOT level, but the enrollment growth and its impact on the budget has days of cash on hand lagging earlier levels.

FISCAL YEAR 2026 FORECAST TO ACTUAL COMPARISON FOR REVENUE

	Annual Forecast Estimate	Projected Annual Cash Estimate	Actual Compared to Cash Flow
Local Revenue	4,500	(19,479)	(23,979)
Interest	160,000	166,247	6,247
State Revenue	4,982,000	5,074,607	92,607
Federal Revenue	723,695	710,595	(13,100)
All Other Revenue	23,998	27,213	3,215
Total Revenue	5,894,193	5,959,182	64,989

Compared to forecast,
revenue cash flows
are

\$64,989

Higher than forecasted

Revenues are higher by \$64,989 compared to the Fall forecast. Last month career tech training from FY 2025 was paid in a lump, along with a catchup of funding since July 1, 2025. Career Tech courses are not maintained throughout the school year, only at the end of the year. Consequently, all of the post July 1, 2025, career tech funding was clawed back in December. Work is on-going to change the scheduling process to permit that funding to be captured in real time.

FISCAL YEAR 2026 FORECAST TO ACTUAL COMPARISON FOR EXPENSES

	Annual Forecast Estimate	Projected Annual Cash Estimate	Actual Compared to Cash Flow
Salaries and Benefits	3,403,494	3,398,068	▼ (5,426)
Purchased Services	2,004,759	1,911,551	▼ (93,208)
Supplies	312,438	283,007	▼ (29,431)
Capital	1,000	500	▼ (500)
All Other Expenses	88,279	91,557	▲ 3,278
Total Expenditures	5,809,970	5,684,684	▼ (125,286)

**Compared to forecast,
expenditure cash flows
are
\$(125,286)**

Lower than forecasted

Spending is (\$125,286) lower than forecast after six (6) months. It is not anticipated that spending will remain below expected cash flow.

Other Items

- Work on the annual audit is complete and there were no comments, management letter items or citations.
- In consultation with the ESC, Secure Cyber, a firm in Moraine has started evaluating the systems of the ESC, GOVS and COG for areas of weakness and improvement, as well as, developing the required plans for HB 96.

FY 2026

Difference from Beginning Cash

GREATER OHIO VIRTUAL SCHOOL
FY 2026
PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS

1/6/2026

FUND	SCC	DESCRIPTION	Initial	July	August	September	October	November	December	TOTAL ACCOUNT
001	0000	GENERAL FUND	\$ 5,100,000.00							\$ 5,100,000.00
019	9926	GREATER CINCINNATI FOUNDATION GRANT FY25					\$ 2,500.00			\$ 2,500.00
516	9925	IDEA FY25 FUND	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 6,202.77						\$ 26,202.77
516	9926	IDEA FY26 FUND	\$ 80,000.00	\$ 84,375.66					\$ 11,259.37	\$ 175,635.03
536	9925	TITLE I NON COMPETITIVE FY25	\$ -	\$ 31,876.35		\$ (31,876.35)				\$ -
536	9926	TITLE I NON COMPETITIVE FY26	\$ -	\$ 260,473.30		\$ (1,260.29)				\$ 259,213.01
551	9926	TITLE III CONSORTIUM FY26	\$ -		\$ 1,489.34					\$ 1,489.34
572	9025	TITLE I EOEC NON COMPETITIVE FY25	\$ -							\$ -
572	9026	TITLE I EOEC NON COMPETITIVE FY26	\$ -	\$ 6,440.18		\$ (6,440.18)			\$ (562.07)	\$ 114,969.06
572	9925	TITLE I FY25 FUND	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 332.19						\$ 5,332.19
572	9926	TITLE I FY26 FUND	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 27,074.01	\$ 19,509.73					\$ 71,583.74
584	9925	TITLE IV-A FY25 FUND	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 954.92						\$ 1,954.92
584	9926	TITLE IV-A FY26 FUND	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00						\$ 10,000.00
590	9925	TITLE II-A FY25 FUND	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 371.68						\$ 1,371.68
590	9926	TITLE II-A FY26 FUND	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 435.04	\$ 7,236.62					\$ 10,671.66
		Monthly Appropriation Changes								
SUB-TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS - ALL FUNDS			\$5,240,000.00							\$ 5,780,923.40

School-wide Transfers:

From	To	Amount	Month/Year
584-9925	572-9925	\$1,162.80	July 2025
590-9925	572-9925	\$815.89	July 2025
584-9925	572-9925	\$461.88	August 2025
590-9925	572-9925	\$324.07	August 2025
584-9926	572-9926	\$1,028.32	October 2025
590-9926	572-9926	\$1,097.39	October 2025
590-9926	572-9926	\$832.76	November 2025
584-9926	572-9926	\$780.35	November 2025
584-9925	572-9925	\$330.24	December 2025
590-9925	572-9925	\$231.71	December 2025
001-0000	572-9925	\$0.01	December 2025
584-9926	572-9926	\$1,028.32	December 2025
590-9926	572-9926	\$1,097.39	December 2025

Greater Ohio Virtual School Cash Summary Report

FUND-SCC	Description	Initial Cash	MTD Received	FYTD Received	MTD Expended	FYTD Expended	Fund Balance	Encumbrance	Unencumbered Balance
001-0000	GREATER OHIO VIRTUAL SCHOOL	\$ 3,979,973.49	\$ 259,945.35	\$ 2,422,855.36	\$ 401,423.99	\$ 2,222,116.76	\$ 4,180,712.09	\$ 929,305.61	\$ 3,251,406.48
019-9926	GREATER CINCINNATI FOUNDATION GRANT FY26	0.00	0.00	2,500.00	0.00	0.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	0.00
516-9925	IDEA-B FY25	(6,090.19)	12,014.85	32,292.96	0.00	26,202.77	0.00	0.00	0.00
516-9926	IDEA-B FY26	0.00	11,201.86	36,317.36	11,201.87	47,519.23	(11,201.87)	0.00	(11,201.87)
536-9925	Title I Non COMPETITIVE FY25	(23,618.35)	0.00	23,618.35	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
536-9926	Title I Non COMPETITIVE FY26	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,011.16	73,159.69	(73,159.69)	74,727.27	(147,886.96)
551-9926	LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY	0.00	0.00	1,489.34	0.00	0.00	1,489.34	0.00	1,489.34
572-9025	EOEC Non Competitive FY25	(55,409.09)	0.00	55,409.09	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
572-9026	EOEC Non Competitive FY26	0.00	40,000.00	40,000.00	10,000.00	50,000.00	(10,000.00)	60,000.00	(70,000.00)
572-9925	TITLE I FY25	(7,827.51)	2,223.05	13,159.70	0.00	5,332.19	0.00	0.00	0.00
572-9926	TITLE I FY26	0.00	7,361.11	20,308.25	7,649.72	27,957.97	(7,649.72)	0.00	(7,649.72)
584-9925	TITLE IV-A FY25	0.00	330.24	1,954.92	330.24	1,954.92	0.00	0.00	0.00
584-9926	TITLE IV-A FY26	0.00	1,028.32	2,836.99	1,028.32	2,836.99	0.00	0.00	0.00
590-9925	TITLE II FY25	0.00	231.71	1,371.67	231.71	1,371.67	0.00	0.00	0.00
590-9926	TITLE II FY26	0.00	1,097.39	3,027.54	1,097.39	3,027.54	0.00	0.00	0.00
Grand Total		\$ 3,887,028.35	\$ 335,433.88	\$ 2,657,141.53	\$ 436,974.40	\$ 2,461,479.73	\$ 4,082,690.15	\$ 1,066,532.88	\$ 3,016,157.27

Greater Ohio Virtual School Disbursement Summary Report

Check Number	Date	Name	Amount	Status	Reconcile Date	Void Date	Reference Number
0	12/18/2025	MEMO LCNB	\$ 169.55	RECONCILED	12/22/2025		14204
0	12/18/2025	MEMO ST ALOYSIUS	7,443.30	RECONCILED	12/22/2025		14205
0	12/18/2025	MEMO COLLEGE CREDIT PLUS	1,294.56	RECONCILED	12/22/2025		14206
0	12/18/2025	UNUM Life	110.00	RECONCILED	12/22/2025		14208
0	12/18/2025	STATE TEACHERS RETIRE. SYSTEM	31,505.00	RECONCILED	12/22/2025		14209
0	12/18/2025	LEBANON-CITIZENS NATIONAL BANK	3,315.90	RECONCILED	12/22/2025		14210
0	12/18/2025	Southwest Ohio EPC	26,315.06	RECONCILED	12/22/2025		14211
0	12/18/2025	Southwest Ohio EPC	1,514.56	RECONCILED	12/22/2025		14212
0	12/18/2025	STATE TEACHERS RET. SYSTEM	2,280.32	RECONCILED	12/22/2025		14213
0	12/18/2025	School Employees Ret. System	4,096.00	RECONCILED	12/22/2025		14214
0	12/18/2025	MEMO FRANKLIN CITY	1.50	RECONCILED	12/22/2025		14215
134318	12/18/2025	AMERICAN FIDELITY	14.98	OUTSTANDING			14216
134319	12/18/2025	Sharin Green	48.30	RECONCILED	12/18/2025		14217
134309	12/17/2025	JEFFERSON COUNTY ESC/VLA	2,850.00	RECONCILED	12/17/2025		14189
134315	12/17/2025	US Bank Equipment Finance	1,287.89	RECONCILED	12/31/2025		14190
134316	12/17/2025	WARREN COUNTY ESC	111,701.60	RECONCILED	12/17/2025		14191
134308	12/17/2025	Grace Hill	106.46	RECONCILED	12/17/2025		14192
134314	12/17/2025	SINCLAIR COMMUNITY COLLEGE	839.67	RECONCILED	12/31/2025		14193
134305	12/17/2025	BUTLER COUNTY ESC	492.80	RECONCILED	12/31/2025		14194
134307	12/17/2025	Frontline Technologies	2,990.36	RECONCILED	12/17/2025		14195
134313	12/17/2025	Security Voice Incorporated	520.00	RECONCILED	12/17/2025		14196
134311	12/17/2025	Neola, Inc.	1,375.00	RECONCILED	12/17/2025		14197
134310	12/17/2025	Lenney, Shawn	239.26	RECONCILED	12/17/2025		14198
134312	12/17/2025	PLATTENBURG CERTIFIED	500.00	RECONCILED	12/31/2025		14199
134303	12/17/2025	A Book Company LLC	808.93	RECONCILED	12/31/2025		14200
134306	12/17/2025	Finke, Greg	3,317.54	RECONCILED	12/17/2025		14201
134304	12/17/2025	AMERICAN FIDELITY	14.98	RECONCILED	12/31/2025		14202
134317	12/17/2025	Amazon Capital Services	3,288.67	RECONCILED	12/31/2025		14203
0	12/4/2025	MEMO-PNC BANK	1,529.54	RECONCILED	12/22/2025		14186
0	12/4/2025	MEMO-PNC BANK	1,904.25	RECONCILED	12/22/2025		14187
0	12/2/2025	Ohio BWC	3,875.00	RECONCILED	12/22/2025		14185
Grand Total			\$ 215,750.98				



Greater Ohio Virtual School

1879 Deerfield Road, Lebanon, OH 45036

Governing Board Meetings for 2026

Time: 2:00 PM

DATE	LOCATION	TYPE
January 20, 2026	WCESC Board Room	Regular and Organizational Business Meeting
February 17, 2026	WCESC Board Room	Regular Business Meeting
March 17, 2026	WCESC Board Room	Regular Business Meeting
April 21, 2026	WCESC Board Room	Regular Business Meeting
May 19, 2026	WCESC Board Room	Regular Business Meeting
June 16, 2026	WCESC Board Room	Regular Business Meeting
July 14, 2026	WCESC Board Room	Regular Business Meeting
August 18, 2026	Franklin Student Center	Regular Business Meeting
September 15, 2026	Franklin Student Center	Regular Business Meeting
October 20, 2026	Franklin Student Center	Regular Business Meeting
November 17, 2026	Franklin Student Center	Regular Business Meeting
December 15, 2026	Franklin Student Center	Regular Business Meeting

Meetings are generally scheduled for the 3rd Tuesday of each month.

Upon request to the Executive Director, the District shall make reasonable accommodation for a disabled person to be able to participate in this activity.

Central Office 513.695.2924

Fax: 513.695.2588

email: govs@warrencountyesc.com

www.MYGOVS.com



SPONSOR CONNECTION

JANUARY 2026

Latest News for St. Aloysius Sponsored Schools

Wishing All of our Schools a Happy New Year!

Reminders

Feb. 20 – Financial Forecast due to sponsor



FY25-26 Governing Authority and School Leader Timeline

Click the link below to access the the timeline.

[Governing Authority & School Leader Timeline 25-26](#)

Charter School Specialists Staff Directory

Click on the link: [CSS Staff Directory](#)



Digital Learning Office Hours

Digital Learning Office Hours is a monthly opportunity for collaboration, discussion, and support in the area of digital education.

Sessions will be held on the first Tuesday of each month from 9:00-10:00am.

These informal sessions are open to building leaders, teachers, and management company representatives who are interested in exploring all aspects of digital learning. Whether you represent an e-school, a blended learning environment, or are simply looking to learn more about best practices in digital instruction, these sessions are designed for you.

Join us to ask questions, network with colleagues, share effective practices, and stay informed about the latest updates from the Department of Education and Workforce.

To receive the meeting link, please contact Andrea Dobbins at adobbins@charterschoolspec.com.

Spectrum News 1 Ohio Offers Free Closings & Delays Alert System for Charter Schools

Spectrum News 1 Ohio is now providing its free Closings and Delays Alert System to charter schools across the state. This service allows schools to post announcements about weather-related closures, delays, and schedule changes. Once submitted, updates appear on Spectrum News 1 Ohio's website, mobile app, and additional platforms—helping families and community members stay informed during Ohio's unpredictable winter weather.

Registering your school is quick and easy! Sign up at this link: <https://closings.spectrumlocalnews.com/registration>

Want to learn more? View the FAQ page at the link below: <https://spectrumnews1.com/oh/columbus/weather/closings/faq-closings>

Need assistance? Contact Aaron Hepker
aaron.hepker@charter.com | 614-307-2703.

As winter weather continues, we encourage charter schools to take advantage of this free tool to keep their communities updated and connected.

2025–2026 Professional Development Catalog Now Available

We are pleased to announce that the 2025–2026 Professional Development Catalog is now available on our website. This year's catalog features a comprehensive lineup of upcoming professional development sessions, on-demand learning opportunities, and additional trainings designed to support school leaders, teachers, and our valued partners.

Access the catalog:
[2025-2026 Professional Development Catalog](#)

We encourage you to explore the catalog and share it with your teams. If you have any questions or would like to request customized professional development, please don't hesitate to reach out to Molly Warmke at mwarmke@charterschoolspec.com.

Community School Financial Forecasts

The due date for sponsors to have the February Financial Forecasts submitted to ODEW is February 28. We are asking all schools to have the forecasts approved and submitted to our office by February 20.

The Office of Community Schools will be hosting Open Office Hours for sponsors, schools, and treasurers to answer questions and review expectations. Please register below.

- Jan. 12, 9:30-10:00 a.m. | [Registration](#)
- Jan. 21, 11:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. | [Registration](#)

Legal Department

As we wrap up another year of learning and growth, we want to take a moment to celebrate the incredible work happening in our schools. The holiday season reminds us of the power of community, and in education, that means working together to ensure every student has the opportunity to thrive. As we look toward 2026, let's carry forward the spirit of collaboration and innovation that defines Ohio's community schools.

The 2023 *National Charter School Study* released by Stanford University's CREDO offers encouraging news for charter schools nationwide and important insights for Ohio. The study examined academic growth from 2014 to 2019 and found that, on average, charter school students outpaced their traditional public-school peers by 16 additional days of learning in reading and six in math per year. These gains are especially significant given the challenges schools have faced in recent years.

The report also highlights that students who remain enrolled in a charter school for multiple years see the greatest benefits. By year four, charter students show the equivalent of 45 extra days of learning in reading and 39 in math compared to similar students in traditional

schools. This underscores the importance of stability and strong retention practices in our schools.

Another key takeaway is that management structure matters. Students in schools affiliated with management organizations experienced accelerated growth (27 extra days in reading and 23 in math). For authorizers and boards, this finding reinforces the value of strong governance and consistent academic oversight.

The data confirms what we see every day, charter schools can and do make a difference, especially for students who need it most. As we enter the new year, let's continue to focus on quality, equity, and the practices that help all students succeed. For those who want to take a closer look at the report, please visit: <https://ncss3.stanford.edu/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/Credo-NCSS3-Report.pdf>.

Greater Ohio Virtual School to Present at the Digital Learning Conference in February



Superintendent Shawn Lenney, Student Services Director Sharin Geen, and Student Center Director Justin Smith will be presenting at the DLAC Ignite 2026 Conference on February 19, 2026. They will be presenting the session *Virtual not invisible: engaging at-risk learners in an asynchronous environment*.

For many at-risk students, virtual learning can feel like a place to disappear—free from daily pressures but also disconnected from support. GOVS goal was to create a virtual learning environment where students feel seen, valued, and actively engaged. In the session, they will share how they increased student engagement in their asynchronous program from 54% to over 80% using practical strategies. Their approach not only improved student participation but also fostered stronger connections with families, creating a more inclusive and supportive virtual experience.

To Learn more about DLAC Ignite or register for the conference click [HERE](#)

Federal Programs

Happy New Year! January is a busy month for Federal Programs. Get this year off to a great start by completing these activities:

- Prepare for the One Plan: The One Needs Assessment opens in January for Cohort 3 schools. One Plans for Cohort 3 schools are due by April 30th. Charter School Specialists will be hosting professional development on the One Needs Assessment and One Plan in February. Details will be sent out soon.
- Support Schools Tool: Cohort 1 schools that are ATSI or CSI schools must complete the Support Schools Tool. The Support Schools Tool is due January 30th. Please notify Nannette Sherman when you have completed the Support Schools Tool **PRIOR to hitting submit**. Sponsors must add a comment in the Support Schools Tool. Once the Sponsor's comment has been added, CSS will notify the school that the Support Schools Tool is ready to be submitted. Please note that if the school submits the tool without Sponsor Comment, the school will have to contact ODEW to have the tool returned. Sponsor Comments cannot be added after the school has submitted the tool. A copy of the Support School Tool Manual can be found here: [Support Schools Tool Manual](#)
- Semi-annual Certificates: January is the time to gather signed semi-annual certificates for all staff whose positions are funded by federal funds. You may have each employee/contractor sign the semi-annual certificate, or you may write the names of all individuals on one form and have the school leader sign it. The dates on the certificate must be from the first day of the school year until the last working day of December. The form(s) must be signed after the last working day in December. An example of the form can be found [HERE](#).
- Carryover funds: Schools should have received their carryover funds from unspent FY25 funds. Please budget these funds as soon as possible.
- Project Cash Request: Please remember to submit PCRs at least quarterly. Your school should have submitted at least 2 PCRs by the end of this month.

If you have questions or need assistance with federal programs, please contact Nannette Sherman at nsherman@charterschoolspec.com.

College and Career Readiness Corner



The Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V) represents an important opportunity to expand opportunities for every student to explore, choose and follow career-technical education programs of study and career pathways. The federal legislation also provides state funding for implementation of career-technical education programming, so this month, we focus on the timelines and the process that districts need to follow in either renewing "expiring" CTE-26 approved Career-Technical Education Programs provider applications, and/or submitting to the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce a new CTE-26 provider application.

Whether renewing the application, or submitting a new one, it is important to assess regional data related to in-demand occupations. In other words, does the program provide career-technical education opportunities that are directly tied to regional in-demand occupations? As we look at the different regions in Ohio, what may be in-demand in one part of the state, may not be in another part of the state. As you review your currently approved CTE-26 pathways, or are exploring new ones, one tool that is included on the Governor's Office of Workforce Transformation is the [Ohio's Top Jobs List](#), which allows you to sort in-demand jobs by regions, education required, preferred experience, and other filters.

Local districts that are seeking to submit new, or renewal applications for programs in Career-Field Pathways, Career-Based Intervention, Family and Consumer Science, Industry Recognized Only, and Innovative Pathways need to be aware of the [CTE 26 Application and Resources Ohio Department of Education and Workforce](#) website for important dates and deadlines.

As always, if you are in need of technical assistance in navigating the new CTE program, or renewal CTE program process, do not hesitate to reach out to CSS's Director of College and Career Readiness at bross@charterschoolspec.com



Kids Don't Need a Sector. They Need a Movement

Authored By : James N. Goenner, Ph.D.
President & CEO of NCSI

Movements change what's possible. Sectors protect what is.

I'm grateful to be part of the charter schools movement. We are a group of spirited, strong-willed, opinionated mavericks. We don't think alike, act alike, or look alike. But we are united by something deeper: a conviction that every child deserves a great education, and the "one best system" is standing in the way of public education living its ideals.

But let's be honest, our movement is starting to lose some of its mojo. We are beginning to think and sound like a sector. It feels like we are becoming too cautious, too bureaucratic, too permission bound. If we do not confront this drift, we will become the new status quo.

Sector Thinking Leads to Failure

Students do not need another sector. They need doors opened, barriers broken, and leaders who champion and steward possibilities. Sector thinking leads to failure because it turns founders into caretakers, innovators into rule-followers, and the charter schools movement into mush.

Changing paradigms and transforming systems is hard work. It requires courage, conviction, and action. Sector thinking discourages doers and demoralizes change agents. It replaces urgency with hesitation. Instead of asking, "What must we do for kids?" sector thinking says, "Hold on. Wait. Be careful."

Sector thinking also breeds fear and justifies inaction. If you listen closely, you will hear things like, "Don't rock the boat. We can't do that. Stop pushing so hard." Talk like this dampens the fire of those willing to move and make things happen. If we allow sector thinking to grow and take root, our champions will move on, and our movement will not just lose its edge; it will lose its moral clarity and credibility.

Movements Matter

Movements make things happen. They start when people step forward, speak up, and take action. If we want the charter movement to stay a movement, we must reclaim the spirit that launched it, and lead from our why.

Movements provide something sectors never can. They ignite imagination, awaken courage, and pull people toward a purpose so compelling they lean in and start building. That's why movements attract doers.

Movements provide more than a job. They offer a mission and create space for ordinary people to make an outsized impact. They don't win because they have the most resources; they win because they unleash the most resolve and conviction.

Our movement rose and caught fire because it has a purpose bigger than ourselves. Breaking down barriers, launching schools worthy of our kids, empowering people with educational choice and freedom, and laying the foundation for upholding the ideals of public education is something we can pour our hearts and souls into. That's why we pay the price, do the work, and never quit.

Chartering Matters

Chartering matters because it challenges and moves beyond the outdated givens and design of the "one best system." It shows the good things that come when students, parents, and educators are given choices and empowered to vote with their feet.

Chartering shows how excellence thrives when people are trusted, empowered, and held responsible for results. It creates opportunities to design schools where students feel safe, seen, challenged, and inspired. It proves a child's destiny does not have to be determined by their zip code.

Chartering is a catalyst. It demonstrates that public education can be different and better. It proves that millions of families want something different, something better, something that helps children discover their gifts and unleash their potential.

This work was never supposed to be easy. Taking on monopolies and entrenched interests requires courage. Dr. Howard Fuller reminds us that freedom and progress require struggle and agitation. And as Frederick Douglass said so well, "Power concedes nothing without a demand. It never did and it never will."

Chartering Is Systems Change

Ted Kolderie, who taught me that the biggest barrier to improving public education is not the people, but rather the system itself, calls chartering an "institutional innovation." Not a program or reform, but a new design for public education.

Ted saw that the district system could take families for granted, treat teachers like labor, and reduce students to numbers. Before chartering, states and districts had tried nearly everything to force improvement: more money, new funding formulas, performance pay, test-based accountability, rewards, recognition—even public shaming. None of them worked.

Chartering offered a different path. Instead of mandates, it relied on a coalition of the willing. It invited people inside and outside of education to bring forward ideas for how to design and operate a school.

The word charter was never meant to be an adjective describing a type of school. It was a strategy for states to offer choice within public education and harness the dynamics of freedom, competition, opportunity, accountability, and voluntary action.

When Minnesota enacted the nation's first charter law, it did not say what a school must be or prescribe a model. It essentially said, Go try. It gave policymakers and practitioners permission to think beyond the constraints of school districts and the one best system. It allowed for discovery, iteration, and finding better ways to organize and operate education, so it meets the personal needs of students and the public good of taxpayers.

Chartering is not a model to replicate. It is a philosophy built on freedom, trust, responsibility, and results. Charters are supposed to listen, learn, adapt, and measure their success by the success of their students. Ted believed then, and still believes now, that the best ideas come from empowering those closest to the action: teachers and students.

Let's Reignite Our Movement

Let's reignite the spirit that made chartering a movement in the first place, the belief that public education can be better, that students deserve more, and that ordinary people with extraordinary purpose can change the world.

Our kids do not need another sector protecting its turf. They need a movement willing to fight for their future. A movement that attracts builders and doers who wake up every day believing change is possible and refuses to be boxed in by the rules of an old, outdated system.

Let's stand tall. Let's link arms. Let's act with courage and be bold by choice. And let's do the work of a movement:

Push. Build. Innovate. Demand.

And let's not stop until every child in every community gets the education they deserve.

***About the Author:** Jim Goenner President & CEO of the National Charter Schools Institute is a champion for excellence and a member of the National Charter Schools Hall of Fame. He is on a mission to change the arc of education. Jim sees chartering as a powerful strategy for challenging the givens of the educational system and an opportunity to create the conditions where innovation and excellence can thrive.*

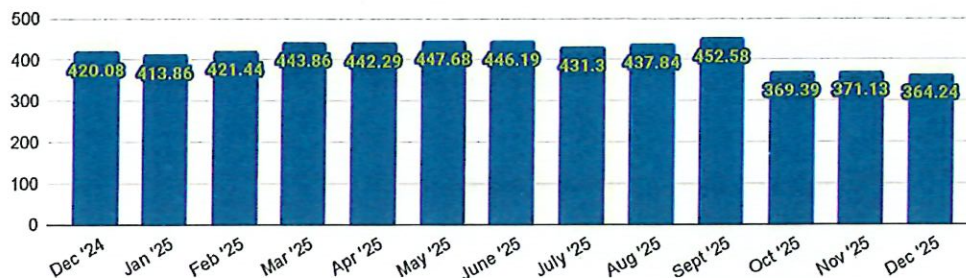
Greater Ohio Virtual School

Your School At-A-Glance Report



Current Student FTE

FTE Information is taken from the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce's Community School Payment Report and includes the previous month's data.



Board Actions

Review School Improvement Plan at each board meeting:

Goals for 2025-2026 school year:

Goal 1: Using STAR Assessments, All Students in High School attending Greater Ohio Virtual School will increase 2.00 % in Reading/Literacy by 06/30/2028.

Goal 2: By 06/30/2028 we will improve the performance of All Students at/in Greater Ohio Virtual School by increasing Engagement by 5% using Seat time.

Discussion questions to consider:

Are the goals, strategies, and action steps aligned to the priority actions that will impact the school report card? Evidence?

Have the planned strategies and action steps been implemented? Discuss evidence.

Which established action steps have been completed within the identified timelines? What obstacles (if any) have prevented implementation?

How do the strategies and action steps differ from past practices? Are the strategies and action steps reflective of evidence-based practices? How do you know?

What data has been collected to determine whether or not the strategies and action steps are positively impacting student learning outcomes?

What is the data telling us? Are the trends changing?

Does the school improvement plan need to be adjusted? What is the evidence?

Are the necessary resources available and being used? If not, why?

Is there additional technical assistance needed from the Management Company, Board, Sponsor, etc.?



Key Dates

Charter Agreement:

- Expiration: 6/30/2034
- High Stakes Review: Fall 2033

Pending Contract Modifications:

- None Noted

Intervention Status Reporting for 25-26:

- Not in Intervention Status

School Improvement Plans for 25-26 Due:

- Received

One Plan Cohort:

- Cohort 2

Onsite Assistance Review:

- To be determined

Compliance Onsite Review:

- Virtual - 10/3/2025
- Onsite - 10/21/2025

Intervention/CAP/Probation:

- None Noted

Contract Terms for Renewal Eligibility

Per Section 11.7 of its contract with St. Aloysius, Greater Ohio Virtual School is eligible for renewal if it:

(1) Receives a grade of Meets Standards or higher in at least one applicable grade card component for the most recent school year; or

(2) Meets the criteria listed below:

a. An overall report card grade that is greater than three of the five comparison group schools, consisting of traditional public schools and charter schools with similar student demographics within 5-10 miles of the school, if possible:

- i. Auglaize County Educational Academy
- ii. Fairborn Digital Academy
- iii. Findlay Digital Academy
- iv. Liberty Preparatory School
- v. Gateway Online Academy of Ohio

Comparison information is displayed below.

The comparison schools for Greater Ohio Virtual School were selected during the contract process. The goal is for the comparison schools to be as similar as possible in demographic characteristics (percentages of families with low income; racial/ethnic minority; students with disabilities; and English Learners) as well as in close proximity to the school, if possible.

Current LRC Data

	Distance from School	Overall School Grade	Combined Graduation Rate	Achievement	Progress	Gap Closing
Greater Ohio Virtual School	***	Meets Standards	Exceeds Standards	Meets Standards	Meets Standards	Meets Standards
Auglaize County Educational Academy	99.3 miles	Exceeds Standards	Exceeds Standards	Exceeds Standards	Exceeds Standards	Meets Standards
Fairborn Digital Academy	38 miles	Exceeds Standards	Meets Standards	Exceeds Standards	Meets Standards	Exceeds Standards
Findlay Digital Academy	133 miles	Exceeds Standards	Exceeds Standards	Exceeds Standards	Exceeds Standards	Exceeds Standards
Liberty Preparatory School	184 miles	Exceeds Standards	Exceeds Standards	Meets Standards	Exceeds Standards	Meets Standards
Gateway Online Academy of Ohio	217 miles	Exceeds Standards	Meets Standards	Meets Standards	Exceeds Standards	Exceeds Standards

Definitions:

Overall School Rating – A combination of the school's Achievement rate, Gap Closing component, Progress component, and Graduation Rates form the school's Overall Rating.

Combined Graduation Rate – Looks at the percentage of students who are successfully completing high school with a diploma in 4,5,6,7 and 8 years.

Achievement (fka High School Test Passage Rate) – Represents the number of students who passed all five state tests that are required for graduation.

Progress – Look at the progress students in grades 9-12 are making in math and reading.

Gap Closing – Reflects how well subgroups of students are meeting the state's performance expectations in reading, math and graduation rates.



Greater Ohio Virtual School

1879 Deerfield Road, Lebanon, OH 45036

OATH OF OFFICE – VICE PRESIDENT

THE STATE OF OHIO

Warren County

I accept the position of **Vice President** of the Greater Ohio Virtual School Governing Board and do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Ohio; and that I will faithfully and impartially discharge my duties to the best of my ability, and accordance with the laws now in effect and hereafter to be enacted, during my continuance in said office and until my successor is chosen and qualified.

Larry Hook

Printed Name

Signature

Sworn and subscribed before me, this 20th day of January, 2026.

Signature

Treasurer

