



Helping people to live, learn, and work in our community

Dot Yeager  
Superintendent/CEO

fcbdd.org

Administration  
2879 Johnstown Rd.  
Columbus, OH 43219  
614-475-6440

## REGULAR MEETING Minutes June 26, 2025

**Members Present:** Dean Fadel; Gene Harshaw; Katherine Kelly; Marci Straughter; Becky Swartz; Michael Underwood

**Members Excused:** Karen Wilkins

**Staff Present:** Dot Yeager; Angie Franke; Gwynn Kinsel; Larry Macintosh; Amy Magginis; Joe Petrarca; Rita Price; Elizabeth Roberto; Jennifer Schueneman

\*\*\*\*\*

The Regular meeting of the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities was called to order by Board President Dean Fadel.

### MINUTES

Mr. Underwood moved to approve the regular meeting minutes held on May 22, 2025, second by Ms. Swartz. Motion carried unanimously.

### Agency Updates by Superintendent/CEO Dot Yeager

#### **Budget, Finance and Human Resources**

Superintendent/CEO Dot Yeager provided an update on the agency finances for the current reporting period ending May 31, 2025. The budget remains on track at 52.5% of revenue and at 40.3% of expenditures.

Director of Fiscal Services Jennifer Schueneman and Director of Administrative and Support Services Larry Macintosh are working together on the 2024 Cost Report to be submitted to the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities. The State of Ohio budget includes monies for Early Intervention services.

Superintendent Yeager met with Zachary Talarek and Rachel Buske from the Franklin County Commissioners' Office of Management and Budget to discuss the 2026 Budget Guidelines.

Superintendent Yeager provided information to Board Members on the use of contingency funds in the Creative Housing, Inc. contract, to help fund broadband internet in each Creative Housing home. This is approximately 570-600 homes. This will be a good investment and will assist with better safety and communication in the homes for individuals served and providers in each home.

Early Childhood  
& Family Center  
2879 Johnstown Rd.  
Columbus, OH 43219  
614-475-0564

Early Childhood Learning  
Community  
4141 Rudy Rd.  
Columbus, OH 43214  
614-451-6418

Intake  
1650 Watermark Dr.  
Columbus, OH 43215  
614-342-5490

Service Coordination  
1600 Watermark Dr.  
Columbus, OH 43215  
614-464-2743

Transportation  
2879 Johnstown Rd.  
Columbus, OH 43219  
614-475-5910

West Central School  
1481 W. Town Street  
Columbus, OH 43223  
614-276-8231

24-hour abuse, neglect and emergency line: 614-464-2743

Superintendent Yeager shared the Human Resources report for the month of May, 2025, activity is what would be expected for the month of May and Summer. Amy Comford has started as Principal at West Central School. Other positions are continuously being recruited, such as Service Coordinators and Bus Drivers. Summer of 2025, negotiations with OAPSE will begin.

## **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

### **Advocacy**

#### **Special Olympics Ohio**

The Special Olympics Summer Games were held from Friday, June 13 through Sunday, June 15, 2025. Approximately 100 athletes represented the Franklin County Flyers team, supported by 35 coaches. The earlier timing of the Summer Games allows for better coordination with the national games calendar.

Special thanks were expressed for all of the Special Olympics coaches, including Board Member Katherine Kelly and all of the volunteers who worked so hard on the event

Hall of Fame – At the 2025 Summer Games opening ceremony, it was announced that Jed Morison was selected to be installed in the inaugural Hall of Fame class on October 11, 2025. Former Franklin County DD Superintendent Jed Morison was also a former Director of Special Olympics Ohio and was the founder of 'Tent Town.'

#### **Awesome Company**

An online pop-up store with Franklin County DD branded merchandise is open and ready for your order!

- \* The store is through [The Awesome Company](#), a local screen-printing studio that employs people with autism.
- \* All items – apparel and canvas totes – feature our new logo, and most are available in multiple colors.
- \* Merchandise is for personal purchase; pop-up store closes Aug. 29, so order soon.

Special thanks to Sara Faudree and Amanda Lee in Service Coordination for organizing this opportunity. Pro tip: There is a delivery option, but if you list your department, Sara and Amanda have kindly offered to pick up and drop off orders so no one has to pay the delivery fee.

Franklin County DD (The Awesome Company) link:

<https://http-theawesome-com.printavo.com/merch/franklin-county-board-of-developmental-disabilities-store/>

#### **2025 Ohio Tech Summit**

The 2025 Ohio Tech Summit is scheduled for September 12, 2025, at The Conference Center at OCLC (Online Computer Library Center) in Dublin, Ohio. The keynote speaker for the event is Rylin Rodgers, Disability Policy Director at Microsoft. Registration is now open.

#### **Summer Center and Transition to Work Summer Programs**

Around 50 students are attending Summer Center at West Central School, which began June 2 and ends July 3. The Transition to Work summer program, also at West Central School and coordinated for FCBDD by the Hattie Larlham agency, begins July 7 and ends July 30, with 31 attendees expected. Early Childhood's summer program begins July 8 and ends July 31 and will be held at Johnstown Road. Thanks to our school and transportation staff for their support of these summer opportunities.

### **West Central School and Transition Services**

After more than thirty years of public service, including three years at our West Central School, Principal Rebecca Holthaus will retire on June 30. Amy Comford, previously the Occupational/ Physical Therapy Supervisor at Columbus Public Schools, with deep expertise in assistive technology, has been selected as the school's next principal and began her tenure on June 17, 2025. Amy will be able to see both Summer Center and the Transition to Work programs before school starts on August 21.

The pool construction has been completed and is pending final inspections and the "green light" for occupancy. In the meantime, staff are gearing up to re-open. A new program will be among the first to use the improved space. Through a new collaboration with Columbus Public Health, nearly one hundred children, both with and without disabilities, will have six lessons on water safety. Interest in this opportunity was so high, the registration was filled in about 48 hours.

### **Fiscal:**

Each property purchased by Creative Housing that is funded by Franklin County DD includes a mortgage issued to the county board for the amount of the purchase price. The recent sale on June 13 by Creative Housing of 2313 Airport Drive returned \$86,015.50 to Franklin County DD.

### **Franklin County DD Provider Fair**

Save the date for September 2, 2025 for the Franklin County DD Provider Fair at the Ohio State Fairgrounds.

### **ADA Celebration on July 11**

If any board member would like to attend the ADA celebration at the Columbus Museum of Art, Franklin County DD is one of the sponsors for the event. Please let Rita Price (Communications Coordinator) know that you would like to attend. ([rita.price@fcbdd.org](mailto:rita.price@fcbdd.org))

### **Superintendent's "Out and About"**

June:

- Service Coordination Staff Appreciation (June 11)
- OACB Superintendent Executive Committee (June 13)
- Special Olympics Summer Games (June 13, 14 & 15)
- Lifetown Legends Luncheon (June 17)

## **RESOLUTIONS**

- a. Ms. Swartz moved to ratify bill payments approved by the Superintendent as presented to the Finance Committee on June 26, 2025, second by Ms. Straughter. Motion carried unanimously.
- b. Ms. Straughter moved to authorize the submission of the Capital and IT Budget to Franklin County, second by Mr. Harshaw. Motion carried unanimously.
- c. Mr. Underwood moved to authorize the Superintendent renew an agreement with Franklin County Family and Children First Council (FCFCFC) in an amount not to exceed \$100,000 for the period beginning July 1, 2025 and ending on June 30, 2026, second by Ms. Straughter. Motion carried unanimously.

- d. Mr. Underwood moved to authorize the Superintendent to renew a contract with Alvis House for behavior support services, at specified rates per hour, in an amount not to exceed \$620,000, for the period beginning July 1, 2025 and ending on June 30, 2026, second by Ms. Straughter. Motion carried unanimously.
- e. Ms. Swartz to authorize the Superintendent to enter into developmental center agreements with the State of Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities for county board funded placements at \$256.07 per day and \$124.00 for the first 180 days for adults age 18 and over, for the period from May 15, 2025 through June 30, 2026., second by Ms. Straughter. Motion carried with abstention by Board Member Kelly.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS** – none

**NEW BUSINESS** – none

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** – Board Member Katherine Kelly gave a special thanks to staff members Megan, Andrea, Avery, Mike and Tim who tirelessly dedicate themselves to Special Olympics during Summer Games. Staff, coaches, volunteers all clean rooms, make beds, stay with the athletes 24 hours a day during the event and not much sleep happens over the weekend. There is a rotation of athletes each year to accommodate giving opportunities for all athletes to attend eventually. Two of the volunteers are nurses who manage the medications. Governor DeWine attends the track events and has very authentic demeanor with our athletes. This is a huge event, so important to the athletes and the staff at Franklin County DD make it an incredible experience for the athletes. Moving athletes in, moving them out, making beds in the Freshman dorms – great experience for all. Chris Melvin, powerlifting athlete went all in with bright orange hair, full on Cheetos clothing.

Board Member Marci Straughter shared upcoming events, including: Project STIR statewide training was in Cincinnati with some teenagers; DODD/Family Services & Advocates on July 9 with Nathan Turner. Ms. Straughter will be attending a Washington D.C. event for the Ohio Statewide independent Living Council.; She is presenting virtually at the APSI conference in South Dakota; OACB Stakeholder meeting will be held soon.

**HEARING OF THE PUBLIC** -

Christine Brown provided an update to the Board on Senate Bill 222, doing audits on aged/ blind/ disabled category on waivers to reduce fraud. Christine provided a report on the budget, some of the DODD line items, waivers and ICFs will be separate line items. ODM is adding back Electronic Visit Verification (EVV).

Respectfully submitted,



Karen Wilkins  
Secretary

KW/am