

CANTON PROFESSIONAL EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION
Paul Palomba, President

BUILDING LEADERSHIP REPRESENTATIVE MEETING

Date 4/13 /2026

I. CALL TO ORDER

Paul Palomba called the meeting of the Executive Leadership Team and Building Leadership Representative Assembly of the Canton Professional Educators Association to order on 4/13/26 at 4:28 p.m.

Manny Halkias motioned to accept the agenda with flexibility, and Jen Eberle seconded the motion. Motion approved.

II. SECRETARY'S REPORT

The following ELT members in **black** were in attendance:

The following ELT members in **red** were not in attendance:

| | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Paul Palomba | 11. Ann Cochrane |
| 2. Lynne Watson | 12. Cheryl Bissmeyer |
| 3. Amanda Gillespie | 13. Juliann Doerschuk |
| 4. Darren Furno | 14. Joslin Shaffer |
| 5. Karen Brank | 15. Randy Bifulchi |
| 6. Sharen Lindberg | 16. Jen Eberle |
| 7. Andrea McSherry | 17. Manny Halkias |
| 8. Jennifer Schott | 18. Jennifer Henderson |
| 9. Ruth Allison | 19. Greg Soper |
| 10. Yvonne Scott | 20. Sandy Rosetta |

__ motioned to accept the secretary's report from the meeting. _ seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Did You Know? Recent budget changes phased out Supplemental Targeted Assistance, a funding stream specifically designed to support high-poverty urban districts and underfunded schools by \$2.75 billion. While the exact proposal did not pass as written, the final 2026-27 state budget still did not fully implement the Fair School Funding Plan. As a result, schools across Ohio received significantly less funding than originally planned, leading to ongoing financial challenges for many districts, not just our own. ([Policy Matters OHIO](#))

III. CORRESPONDENCE – Letter of Thanks from Krista Allison

IV. TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Darren Furno reported out on the Treasurer's Report for April. For expenses, we will monitor the office supplies and special projects budgets as we continue to support political

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campaigns. Repairs and maintenance costs were higher due to snow removal. Property taxes will be lower than usual.

We are being audited for our unemployment tax.

Andrea McSherry motioned, and Ruth Allison seconded the motion to purchase a new computer for the treasurer. Motion passed.

Daniel Woods motioned, and Gretchen Bagley seconded the motion to approve the treasurer's report. Motion passed.

V. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

1. Brit Steiner spoke to the members about her primary candidacy for the Ohio State House 49th District. She shared that she hears our concerns about public education and data centers. Steiner grew up in Wellsville and is a first-generation college grad from Malone. Served as a diplomat for years through USAID. Married mother of two, she lives in Plain Local. She has skills and experience in public policy and working with Republicans. She spoke about her skills and her goals as a representative.
2. Educator of the Year Presentations
 - a. Tina Bradley, presented by Tricia Stanton, Ruth Allison, and Maria Scrub
 - b. Bernetta Harrell-Snell by Amanda Gillespie
 - c. Angela Borland by Desiree Miles
 - d. Linda Deuble by Ben, the ceramics teacher
 - e. Sherry Bogdan by Nichole Kosenski
 - f. Paula Kliem by her colleagues
3. Educator of the Year Vote - Sherry Bogdan won!
4. Jennifer Davis spoke to the members about her candidacy for a seat on the Stark County Court of Common Pleas. Ms. Dave has 32 years of experience at the Stark County Prosecutor's Office.
5. Paul updated the members on the parking lot sale and art installation. \$187,500 sale price. We will earn an overall profit of \$10,000 and no longer have to pay for upkeep. The hospital will lease it back to us for free access for perpetuity. A brief discussion ensued. Andrea McSherry motioned to approve the sale, and Rita McMillen seconded the motion. Motion passed.
6. Paul updated the members on potential plans for scholarship committee fund extras. We are a 501c6 means we may be able to keep 50% of the proceeds of a fundraiser for the membership. If legal, we would like to use some of the funds for political campaigning. Paul recommends using \$ 3,500 of the \$12,000 for a PAC. Randy Bifulchi motioned, and Cheryl Bissemyer seconded. The scholarship committee disagrees with this move and offered reasons. A discussion ensued. Motion failed.
 - a. The scholarship committee will decide how to use the \$12,000.
7. Paul reminded members about our current political climate and the dire situation in public education. Members are strongly urged to have these conversations in the buildings, and are encouraged to bring additional people to the May 22nd Rally. We need 5,000 in the Civic Center to send a message.

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8. Rita McMillen spoke to the members about the OEA political team and her role as a political organizer. Representatives will pick up their blue paper before they leave. Rita shared what members need to do to increase attendance on May 22nd. Rita will be organizing committees and their dates. Members are encouraged to sign up using the Google form in the mailboxes, both electronic and at school. Members will receive Hustle messages; if they opted out or provided a landline, they will not receive messages. Go to the Hustle webpage and check. Can contact Manny Halkias or Rita McMillen to see if your number is on the list. A survey will be coming. A campaign for Truth on Vivek is also active if interested. A discussion ensued.

VI. VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT

1. Memorial Scholarship Drawing
 - a. Ella Corsi
 - b. Alexandra Ault
 - c. Brianna Casto
 - d. Jeremy Thomas
 - e. Taylor Repp
 - f. Olivia Newman
 - g. Gavin France
 - h. Madison Lepley
 - i. Ava Janigian
 - j. Audrey Gordon
2. Announcement of Scholarship winners by the committee
 - a. Sam D: No applicants
 - b. Yvonne Parks: Dajeun Dickerson Jr, Zariyah Williams
 - c. Roberts: Zariyah Williams, Adalyn Hoskins
3. Membership Appreciation Drawing :
 - a. **PK3**: Isabella Ogilvie, Abbey Crouse
 - b. **4-6**: Nichole Wright, Julie Poole
 - c. **MS**: Olivia Gruber, Leda McConaha
 - d. **HS**: Michael Watson, Jonathan Young
4. Lynne shared that release days will be on the Frontline, and the release day will be in the drop-down menu.

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. GRIEVANCE –
2. MEMBERSHIP – Sandy Rosetta reported no change.
3. LEGISLATIVE – no report
4. NEGOTIATIONS – no report
5. SCHOLARSHIP – no report
6. PUBLIC RELATIONS/WEBSITE– no report
7. TEACHER WELFARE – no report
8. CONSTITUTION/ELECTIONS – no report
9. PACE – no report

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10. LPDC/IN-SERVICE – Rita and Andrea discussed changes for next year and offered clarifications. Rita spoke to the email going out to those attending ECOEA RA and the email for the half-day. Terrance Jones won an award, need early people for the luncheon. Deadline is the 15th.
 - a. Reminder: LPDC requests that you submit at least 5, but no more than 20, PD certificates totaling at least 20 clock hours. Link to LPDC One Stop Website: <https://sites.google.com/ccsdistrict.org/ccsds/lpdc/dashboard>
11. RETIRED – no report
12. UNISERV – no report
13. BUILDING AND FACILITIES – no report
14. MAC COMMITTEE – no report
15. AUDIT COMMITTEE – no report
16. ECOEA –no report

VIII. OLD BUSINESS:

IX. NEW BUSINESS:

- X. FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:** Cheryl offers that on social media on May 1st, not to go to work as a demonstration. Lynne will discuss.

- XI. ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Amanda Gillespie
CPEA Secretary