



Agenda
Staff Council Regular Meeting
Tuesday, June 9, 2026
2:00-3:00 p.m.
Virtual
Microsoft Teams

Welcome (Megan)

Approval of Minutes for May 12, 2026 Staff Council General Meeting (Craig)

- Handout: May 12, 2026 Minutes

Thoughts on Changes and Looking Ahead (Megan & Craig)

Staff Council Retreat - Tuesday, July 14th, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. (Megan)

- Date change back to originally scheduled meeting date
- Location: Heer Hall
- Please RSVP using the form posted in the Teams channel

Committee Reports and Business (Megan)

- See Appendix A

Adjournment



Minutes
Staff Council Regular Meeting
Tuesday, June 9, 2026
2:00-3:00 p.m.
Virtual
Microsoft Teams

Attendance:

Present: Craig Berger, Erin Beseda, Meagan Blake, Zach Boggs, Matthew Cola, Patti Davis, Stephanie Evans, Sally Fadorsen, Carmen Grubbs, Melissa Halozan, Aimee Johnson, Jaclyn Macomber, Madison Massey, Katie Mattise, Nikki Mills, Monica Morson, Phillip Nelson, Barbara Ozimek, Jennifer Richmond, Shaunte Rouse, Rachel Rundo, Jennelizabeth Sepulveda, Megan Smeznik, Heather Stupecki, Jen Villanueva, Judy Yasenosky

Absent: Kara Barnett (Excused); Matthew Cola (Excused); Matthew Craver (Excused); Carmen Grubbs (Excused); Darcy McBride (Excused); Tiffany Williams (Excused)

Welcome (Megan)

Meeting called to order at 2:01 p.m.

Minutes Approval (Craig)

Craig presented the May 12, 2026, minutes. Judy Yasenosky motioned to approve, Nikki Mills seconded, and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Thoughts on Changes and Looking Ahead (Megan & Craig)

- **Leadership Reflections:** Megan and Craig shared reflections on recent Staff Council changes and considerations as the Council looks ahead.



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- **Discussion:** Council members were invited to offer comments; no additional comments were shared.

Staff Council Retreat - Tuesday, July 14th, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. (Megan)

- **Date and Location:** The retreat will take place on the originally scheduled meeting date, Tuesday, July 14, from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. in Heer Hall.
- **RSVP:** Council members were asked to RSVP using the form posted in the Teams channel.
- **Calendar Invitation:** Judy asked whether the meeting invitation would be updated and re-sent; Megan confirmed that it would.

Committee Reports and Business (Megan)

- **Submitted Reports:** See Appendix A for committee reports submitted in advance of the meeting.
- **Membership Committee (Nikki)**
 - **Membership Changes:** With two vacancies in the general membership, Heather Stupecki and Patti Davis are becoming full members. Dana Whittlesey and Susan Weber are serving as alternates.
 - **Officer Nominations:** One nominee for secretary and one nominee for treasurer accepted their nominations. Council members were asked for input on how to proceed; Melissa suggested moving forward with the individuals who accepted their nominations.
 - **Staff Shout-Outs:** Twenty-one nominations were received. Honorees will receive a certificate and recognition, including attendance at a banquet hosted by the President. Comments will also be shared with everyone who was nominated so they receive the words of affirmation submitted on their behalf.
 - **Staff Council Visibility:** The committee is exploring a QR-code sticker for tabling and will consult University Communications and Marketing to determine whether approval is required.
 - **Kent Connections Speaker Series:** A new speaker series was proposed in which guests would be invited periodically - potentially monthly, quarterly, or once per semester - to speak with Kent State staff.



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- **Homecoming and Morale:** The committee is also developing Homecoming Spirit Week activities, including possible participation in the Homecoming Parade, as part of broader efforts to strengthen staff morale and engagement.
- **Communications Committee (Madison)**
 - **Staff Council Newsletter:** The newsletter launched at the end of May, with a goal of distributing future editions on the last Wednesday of each month.
 - **Newsletter Analytics:** Analytics provided by People, Culture and Belonging showed a 49 percent open rate and 199 clicks. Monthly analytics will continue to be shared with the Communications Committee.
 - **Committee Leadership:** Madison will be going on leave, and Melissa will assume the committee chair role during her absence.
 - **Staff Voices:** The Staff Voices link remains available for staff members to share concerns, events, and other information they believe Staff Council should know about.
- **Bylaws & Elections Committee (Shaunte)**
 - **Bylaws Review:** The committee has begun its review of the Staff Council Bylaws. The process is open for Council members to help shape proposed revisions, and the review timeline and process were shared in the meeting chat.
 - **Council Input:** Members were invited to review the shared Bylaws document and add comments or possible changes. Committee chairs and co-chairs were specifically asked to review how their committees are described and identify any provisions that do not reflect current practice.
 - **Timeline:** The committee hopes to bring the revised Bylaws forward for final approval in August, before the academic year begins.
 - **Application Process:** Nikki asked whether the application process could be moved to the Bylaws & Elections Committee. Shaunte noted that this is the type of suggestion the committee hopes members will add to the review document for consideration.



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- **Advocacy Committee (Stephanie)**
 - **Committee Update:** The committee's most recent meeting was canceled, so no full report was available.
 - **Anti-Bullying Policy:** The committee continues to advance work related to an anti-bullying policy and expects to provide additional updates at the next meeting.

New Business

- **Community Agreement Updates**
 - Katie shared updates and feedback related to Staff Council's Community Agreement work. The materials were uploaded to the meeting chat and the "Liaison" folder in the Staff Council shared files. Feedback includes comments on specific sections as well as possible additions not tied to existing sections.
 - Katie plans to create a Microsoft Form that will allow Council members to vote on each individual provision. Provisions receiving majority support would be added to the Community Agreement, with additional consideration needed regarding the details of the voting process.
 - When Megan asked about a timeframe for responses, Katie proposed two weeks. Council members expressed consensus that two weeks would be sufficient.
- **Cathy Zingrone:** Cassie informed Council members of Cathy Zingrone's passing. Services were scheduled for Friday, June 19, at 1:00 p.m. at First Congregational Church of Hudson, 47 Aurora Street, Hudson, Ohio 44236.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 2:34 p.m.



Appendix A: Submitted Committee Reports - as of June 8, 2026

Bylaws & Elections Committee:

- *No report submitted since last general meeting.*

Communications Committee:

- Last meeting took place on Thursday, June 4.
- Staff Council Newsletter distributed on May 28; next edition will be sent June 24 (draft expected by June 17).
- Will be sending Staff Shout-Out information to Faculty/Staff News.
- Next meeting: July 2, 2026.

Membership Committee:

- Last meeting took place on Tuesday, May 12.
- Staff Shout-Out procedures moving forward.
- Employee engagement: Coffee and Community and staff spirit weeks.
- Planned meeting with Bylaws & Elections Committee.

Advocacy Committee:

- *No report submitted since last general meeting.*