

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**Liberty Center Local Schools Regular Board Meeting**  
**November 20, 2023**

The Liberty Center Local Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, November 20, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room. Board members Mr. Jeff Benson, Mr. Neal Carter, Mr. Todd Spangler, Mr. John Weaver and Mrs. Andi Zacharias were in attendance. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**#89-23 Approve Minutes**

The motion was made by Mr. Spangler and seconded by Mr. Benson to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on October 23, 2023 of the Liberty Center Board of Education.

VOTE: Ayes: Mr. Benson, Mr. Spangler, Mr. Weaver, Mrs. Zacharias, Mr. Carter  
Nays: None – Motion Carried

**Treasurer's Report**

Mrs. Buenger reported on the regular monthly reports. She noted two CD's came due in October and she was able to reinvest them at a rate of 5.44%, which is about 2% more than last year's rates. Mrs. Buenger also thanked the very generous donors.

Mrs. Buenger provided the Board with an update on the Five Year Forecast. She noted for FY24, it is expected the District will end the year \$15,278 positive. Forecasting beyond FY24 indicates deficit spending for FY25 through FY28, meaning expenditures are expected to exceed revenues: FY25 – (\$177,416); FY26 – (\$701,627); FY27 – (\$1,253,310); FY28 – (\$1,832,309). Fiscal year 2023 ended with a cash balance of \$8,670,006. If the forecast would hold true for FY25-FY28, the cash balance would decrease to \$4,720,622. Mrs. Buenger noted the forecast is based on conservative numbers.

Mrs. Buenger provided additional information on the projected revenues. She explained a triennial update for property tax values was completed in 2020, which increased residential values and decreased agricultural values. An update was completed again in 2023, with valuations expected to increase slightly. The impact to the District will be minimal because when valuations rise, the millage rate decreases so the same amount is collected. The only increases the District will see will be from new construction projects. Mrs. Buenger informed the Board the county auditor has advised treasurers to conserve cash as much as possible this fiscal year due to pending legislation on House Bill 187. The first settlement payment for property taxes is expected to be received much later than usual as the state lawmakers are still reviewing the legislation. For income taxes, Mrs. Buenger is projecting a 4% increase. In tangible personal property, Mrs. Buenger is forecasting a modest increase over the forecast due to pending litigation with the pipeline companies. She is also projecting steady funding from the State with the new funding formula that was released in 2022. Mrs. Buenger highlighted the open enrollment numbers for the District, with 197 students open enrolled in and 47 open enrolled out for FY24. With the new funding formula, the funding follows the students, which impacts the revenues received from the State.

Mrs. Buenger also provided information on the projected expenditures for the forecast. Salaries and benefits comprise 78% of the total budget. Salaries and benefits are based on negotiated agreements, with the most recent agreements including a 3%, 2.5%, 2.5% raise each year of the agreements. The teachers' contract was ratified in September 2021 and the public school employees' was approved in May 2022. Mrs. Buenger noted historic insurance costs have increased 7-8%, but the most recent increase is 4%. The forecast conservatively estimates 10% increases.

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**Liberty Center Local Schools Regular Board Meeting**  
**November 20, 2023**

Mrs. Buenger also highlighted the District has had approximately \$5 million in renovation projects over the past few years and has not used any General Fund money for the projects.

**#90-23 CFO/Treasurer's Consent Agenda**

Upon the recommendation of the Treasurer, the motion was made by Mr. Weaver and seconded by Mrs. Zacharias that the Board approve the Treasurer's Consent Agenda items as follows:

Approve the financial reports, including the following:

- Monthly Bank Reconciliation
- Cash Summary Report
- Disbursement Summary Report
- Investment Report

Approve the following donations:

Anonymous Donation	Boys Basketball Camp Fund	\$3,000.00
Swanton Welding	Volleyball Team Meal	
Brick N' Brew – Napoleon	Volleyball Team Meal	
Chuck Sharp Memorials	LC FFA	\$2,010.00

Approve the Five-Year Forecast as presented.

Declare transportation to be impractical for one parochial student, who will be attending St. Paul Lutheran School, and offer this student payment in lieu of transportation, the rate to be determined by the Ohio Department of Education for school year 2023-24.

Approve the Sample Plan Document, Section 125 Flexible Benefit Plan for American Fidelity for non-union employees, classified employees and certified employees, as presented.

Approve the following student activity budget for the 2023-24 school year:

HS Drama

Approve the following Appropriation Modifications and Amended Certificate Modifications:

**Appropriation Modifications**

300 913A	HS Drama	\$18,000.00
----------	----------	-------------

**Amended Certificate Modifications**

300 913A	HS Drama	\$8,200.00
----------	----------	------------

VOTE: Ayes: Mr. Spangler, Mr. Weaver, Mrs. Zacharias, Mr. Benson, Mr. Carter

Nays: None – Motion Carried

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**Liberty Center Local Schools Regular Board Meeting**  
**November 20, 2023**

**Principals' Reports**

**Elementary School**

Ms. Postl provided an update on the Elementary. Tipp City Schools recently visited to observe the ARC reading curriculum in action. They had a principal, literacy coach, curriculum director and five teachers in attendance. Ms. Postl also updated the Board on the recent parent PAX workshops, which were held November 3<sup>rd</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. Lastly, she highlighted activities in the third grade. University of Findlay international students visited the classrooms to teach third graders about different cultures. Third grade students also interacted with senior citizens during the November 2<sup>nd</sup> Senior Citizen Breakfast. During the first quarter, students wrote books based on The Magic Treehouse book series and they shared their stories by reading them to the senior citizens.

**Middle School**

Mr. Storrer provided an update on the Middle School. Remedy Live spoke to middle school and high school students about mental health and healthy forms of escaping stress. This was conducted in partnership with the Henry County Health Department. As part of the 7 Mindsets 'We are Connected' program, 8<sup>th</sup> grade students have been working with 6<sup>th</sup> graders during morning meeting. They are building relationships and working on conversation and leadership skills.

Mr. Storrer announced that Mrs. Panning, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies Teacher, was recently named the Regional Educator of the Year by the Ohio Middle Level Association. He also announced the recent students of the month: Clay Lamb, Madison Meiring, Bray Labie and Jeffery Kleinfelter.

**High School**

Mr. Radwan updated the Board on academics, fine arts and athletics in the High School. 35 students recently attended a Bowling Green State University college visit. Ms. Bell, Agriculture Teacher, also recently took nine students to attend the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis. A college and career fair is scheduled for November 29<sup>th</sup> from 1:15-3:00 for high school students. Mr. Radwan also informed the Board the student council recently held powderpuff football games at the football stadium. LC Tiger Sports Live broadcasted the games, with students from the broadcasting class doing all of the announcing for the games. 'Get Schooled' by Remedy Live was presented to middle school and high school students, with an evening presentation also available to parents about escapism.

In the Arts Department, the marching band held their Sounds of the Stadium event Thursday evening. The music department also announced the spring musical will be Matilda.

**Athletic Director's Report**

Mr. Radwan presented the athletic report as Mr. Pohlman was absent. On November 7<sup>th</sup>, four student athletes, Allie Reckner, Bea Barrett, Cam Kahle and Xander Myers, attended the National Football Foundation Mental Health Leadership Summit at Pinnacle in Maumee. Topics of discussion and presentations included cyberbullying, suicide awareness, substance abuse and mental health strategies for injured student athletes.

Mr. Radwan provided a fall sports update. The girls cross country team competed at the State meet in Columbus on November 4<sup>th</sup>. The girls team placed 6<sup>th</sup>. On Friday, the football team won the Regional Championship. The team will play in the State Semi-Finals this Friday at Sidney Memorial Stadium. Tickets for the game can be purchased online or at the gate with OHSAA prices being \$16.00 for adults and \$13.00 for students. He noted the schools and athletic departments do not receive a portion of the sales.

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**Liberty Center Local Schools Regular Board Meeting**  
**November 20, 2023**

Mr. Radwan also provided a winter sports update. He noted there will be some adjustments to the schedules due to the extended football season with playoffs. He asked the community, parents and students to check Twitter and Facebooks for any changes.

**Superintendent's Report**

Mr. Peters thanked Mrs. Buenger for her work on the Five Year Forecast. He noted the Board has not asked for additional operating money since 2006, which is a direct reflection of a board that is committed to remaining proactive in taking cost effective measures to ensure the District is providing the highest quality education in the most efficient manner possible. He noted the hard work and flexibility of the teachers, support staff and administrators, which contribute to the positive fiscal health of the District.

**#91-23 Superintendent's Consent Agenda**

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the motion was made by Mr. Benson and seconded by Mr. Spangler, that the Board approve the Superintendent's Consent Agenda items as follows:

Approve an overnight trip to Washington D.C. for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students and staff (Class of 2029 and 2030) from June 5-8, 2025.

Approve membership in Community Improvement Corporation (CIC) of Henry County at a cost of \$250.00.

VOTE: Ayes: Mr. Weaver, Mrs. Zacharias, Mr. Benson, Mr. Spangler, Mr. Carter  
Nays: None – Motion Carried

**#92-23 Superintendent's Personnel Recommendations**

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the motion was made by Mr. Weaver and seconded by Mrs. Zacharias to board approve the Superintendent's Personnel Agenda items as follows:

Through the passage of HB 583 and ORC 3319.36 and 3319.101 approve the following individuals as Substitute Teachers for the 2023-24 school year with the 1-Year Temporary Non-Bachelors Substitute Teaching license:

Jerica Hollenbaugh  
Ashton Kessler  
Maddison Perry

Approve the NwOESC substitute teacher and paraprofessional list, as presented for the 2023-24 school year, to obtain substitute teachers and paraprofessionals.

Approve Kaleb Pohlman as a volunteer van driver for the 2023-24 school year, pending completion of all necessary paperwork and training.

Approve the following substitutes to the department listed for the 2023-24 school year, pending completion of all necessary paperwork and training.

Betsy Salmi – Custodian  
Karen Savage – Cafeteria

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**Liberty Center Local Schools Regular Board Meeting**  
**November 20, 2023**

Approve the following volunteers for the activity indicated for the 2023-24 school year, contingent upon completion of all necessary trainings and paperwork:

Peyton Armev – Junior High Girls Basketball  
Alyssa Giesige – Junior High Girls Basketball  
Aaron Shafer – Boys Basketball

Rescind the appointments of Dianna Szabo and Brittany Meyer to the Elementary Building Leadership Team (BLT), effective November 13, 2023.

Approve the following individuals to serve on the Elementary Building Leadership Team (BLT) with a stipend and hourly rate per the LCCTA Negotiated Agreement, effective November 13, 2023:

Regina Babcock  
Holly Weber (50%)  
Michelle Bailey (50%)

VOTE: Ayes: Mrs. Zacharias, Mr. Benson, Mr. Spangler, Mr. Weaver, Mr. Carter  
Nays: None – Motion Carried

**New Business**

The next Senior Citizen Breakfast is December 14, 2023 at 8:30 a.m. in the Auditoria.

The next board meeting is December 18, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

The Records Commission will be meeting at 6:45 p.m. on December 18, 2023, prior to the regular board meeting.

**Board Members' Committee Reports**

The Finance Committee, consisting of Mr. Benson, Mrs. Zacharias, Mr. Peters and Mrs. Buenger met on Monday, November 13<sup>th</sup> to review the Five Year Forecast. Mr. Peters thanked Mr. Benson and Mrs. Zacharias for their insight and commitment to the fiscal health of the District.

**#93-23 Executive Session**

The motion was made by Mr. Benson and seconded by Mr. Weaver to adjourn to Executive Session at 7:25 p.m. for the purpose of considering the purchase of property for School District purposes.

The Board returned from Executive Session at 7:48 p.m.

VOTE: Ayes: Mr. Spangler, Mr. Weaver, Mrs. Zacharias, Mr. Benson, Mr. Carter  
Nays: None – Motion Carried

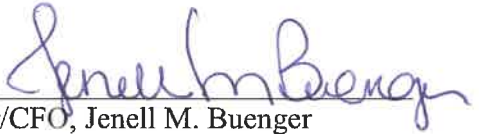
**#94-23 Adjournment**

It was moved by Mr. Benson and seconded by Mr. Weaver to adjourn the November 20, 2023 regular meeting of the Liberty Center Local Board of Education at 7:49 p.m.

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**Liberty Center Local Schools Regular Board Meeting**  
**November 20, 2023**

VOTE: Ayes: Mr. Weaver, Mrs. Zacharias, Mr. Benson, Mr. Spangler, Mr. Carter  
Nays: None – Motion Carried

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
President, Neal Carter

ATTEST   
Treasurer/CFO, Jenell M. Buenger