

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
Liberty Center Local Schools Regular Board Meeting
December 16, 2024

The Liberty Center Local Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, December 16, 2024 at 7:02 p.m. in the Auditoria. Board members Mr. Neal Carter, Mr. Todd Spangler, Mr. John Weaver, Mrs. Andrea Zacharias, and Mr. Ryan Zeiter were in attendance. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mr. Pohlman recognized and commended fall athletes.

Mr. Radwan presented Mr. Pohlman and the Athletic Department with the Bruce Brown Award of Excellence, which is sponsored by the Ohio Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (OIAAA) and the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA). The object of the Award of Excellence is to recognize Ohio interscholastic athletic departments who are purposefully educating and supporting the mission of education-based athletics in Ohio. Defining success based solely upon “wins and losses” or the number of championship trophies a school/team possesses misses the mark of what our interscholastic athletic programs should be targeting. The award is designed to honor and celebrate those school athletic departments that are attempting to shift the sport culture toward the genuine purpose of why sports are a part of our school and community culture in America. Mr. Radwan commended Mr. Pohlman for achieving this high honor.

#94-24 Approve Minutes

The motion was made by Mr. Weaver and seconded by Mrs. Zacharias to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on November 18, 2024 of the Liberty Center Board of Education.

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

Mr. Carter asked members of the Board if anyone wanted to request to remove an item from the agenda to vote on separately. No one responded. He also asked if there was any discussion on any of the consent agenda items. No discussion was held.

Treasurer’s Report

Mrs. Buenger reported on the regular monthly reports. With the approval of the Five Year Forecast in November, there is now a Budget vs. Actual Report for the board to review. She thanked the very generous donors. Mrs. Buenger also explained the Sample Plan Document, Section 125 Flexible Benefit Plan through American Fidelity. This is approved each year and allows employees to pay for certain qualified medical expenses, such as health premiums, on a pre-tax basis. Mrs. Buenger also provided information on the appropriation and amended certificate modifications, noting they are due to approved budgets and changes in grant funding. Lastly, Mrs. Buenger explained the intra-fund transfers, which are a result of the carryover balances from the previous fiscal year.

#95-24 CFO/Treasurer’s Consent Agenda

Upon the recommendation of the Treasurer, the motion was made by Mr. Spangler and seconded by Mr. Zeiter 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

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Disbursement Summary Report
Investment Report
Budget vs. Actual Report

Approve the following donations:

LC United Methodist Women	Student Lunch Recovery Fund	\$300.00
Henry County Hospital	Sports Physicals	\$2,600.00
Anonymous Donor	Students in Need Fund	\$5,000.00
Anonymous Donor	Trumpet	

Approve the following donations to the Football Moms for team meals:

Kleeberger Contracting Services Inc.	Davis Farm Services Inc.
Lauf & Meents – Doctors of Optometry	The Tiger Den LLC
Linda Klamer	Dental Excellence of Napoleon & Delta
Bryan Plastics Processing LLC	Garmann Miller & Associates
Ohio Asphalt Paving LLC	Red Barn Sales & Service
Sonnenberg Trucking	Rivello McDonalds
Sattler Family Meats	Henry County Hospital
Holgate Metal Fab Inc.	Woolace Electric Corporation
Saul Insurance Agency	Homan Seed Service
Homan Farms	John and Darla Huddle
Tom P. Speiser Electric Ltd.	Meyer Badenhop Insurance
Bert G. Taylor American Legion Post 300	Liberty Center Fire Department
Dutchmen Construction	Delventhal Landscaping & Nursery Inc.
Civista Bank	The Gerken Companies
Loyal Order of Moose 788	Hill Asphalt
Ag Credit – Kirk Sausser & Matt Gray	American Legion Ward L. Adams Post 454
Dave’s Auto Service	4A Housing
Swanton Welding	Cherie Beaudry
Norm Zeiter Family	Herron’s Amish Furniture LLC
Keller Plastering, Ltd.	North Star Bluescope Steel
Worthington Steel	Pisanello’s Pizza
Midwest Community Bank	Henry County Deputy Sheriff’s Association
KK Collision – Kyle & Michelle Kern	Hill Construction
Kevin & Angie Sonnenberg	Gerald Grain Center
Linda Schroeder	Many Anonymous Donors
Napoleon Physical Therapy & Sports Medicine	

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 Appropriation Modifications, Amended Certificate Modifications, and Intra-Fund Transfers:

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Appropriation Modification

018 982A	HS Principals Fund	\$10,000.00
451 9501	ONENET Connectivity Fund	\$600.00
572 9105	Title I-A Improving Basic Programs Odd Year	\$1,249.79
572 9103	Title I-D Neglected Fund	\$719.80
200 925A	Spanish Club	\$2,000.00
300 913A	HS Drama Fund	\$6,145.00

Amended Certificate Modification

018 982A	HS Principals Fund	\$10,000.00
451 9501	ONENET Connectivity Fund	\$600.00
572 9102	Title I-D Neglected Fund	\$1,236.60
200 925A	Spanish Club	\$1,700.00
300 913A	HS Drama Fund	\$7,000.00

Intra-Fund Transfers

572 9102	Title I-D Neglected Even Year	(\$33,620.63)
572 9103	Title I-D Neglected Odd Year	\$33,620.63
584 9022	Title IV-A Student Support and Academic Ach.	(\$2,060.18)
584 9023	Title IV-A Student Support and Academic Ach.	\$2,060.18

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

Principals' Reports

Elementary

Ms. Postl provided an update on the elementary. Second and fourth grades held their winter musicals last week. The fourth graders performed *The Great Holiday Bake Off* and the second graders performed *A Bear-y Merry Holiday*. The Napoleon Community Band also performed Christmas songs for entertainment during lunch on Friday, December 13th.

Ms. Postl also highlighted the elementary career day, which featured a park ranger, banker/loan officer, ER nurse, pharmacist, first responders, and staff from Miller Brothers, Biggby, and The Gerken Companies. Lastly, Ms. Postl informed the Board the third grade fall reading scores showed a 61% proficiency.

Middle School

Mr. Storrer updated the Board on the middle school. Students in the Chess Club recently competed in a tournament at Pettisville. Jace Villagomez and Bryce Miller were both winners. Mr. Storrer also noted that middle school students spent the past month collecting essential items for the Orphan Grain Train. Student Council was able to help organize and sort the donations at the Orphan Grain Train for the holiday season. Eighth grade students recently enjoyed a day at a Toledo Walleye game. They also got to experience a variety of STEAM activities and demonstrations throughout the game.

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High School

Mr. Radwan provided an update on academics, arts, and athletics in the high school. The Leadership Class has been concentrating on community service projects over the past few weeks. They made Christmas cards for residents of the Lutheran Home, and then had the opportunity to go there to distribute the cards and play bingo. They are also planning a Bowl-a-Thon to benefit the Liberty Center Parks. Mr. Radwan also informed the Board the Chess Club competed in a tournament against Pettisville, and the FFA hosted a District Leadership Night on November 18th. This Friday, December 20th, there will be a Claws and Claus Challenge for students. Travelin' Tom Coffee Truck will also be here for students and staff on Friday.

In the arts, *The Adams Family* has been announced as the spring musical, which will be held on April 11th and 12th. The band held their winter concert on December 14th. The winter choir concert is on December 17th. The choir also recently performed at the Toledo Zoo and will be featured at the December Senior Citizen Breakfast. The Art Club finished painting a snow plow for Swan Creek Township.

Lastly, Mr. Radwan congratulated all of the fall sports athletes on a great season.

Athletic Director's Report

Mr. Pohlman provided an update on athletics. Mr. Pohlman commended and congratulated the football team on their State Runner-Up finish. He also recognized all of the student athletes who competed at the State level and those who earned All-Ohio Honors: Colbie Strayer, Mason Like, Calleigh Stoner, Waylon Rentz, Zander Zeiter, Cam Kahle, Brady Giesige, Garrison Kruse, Ian Rosebrook, Stephen Brogan, and Grady Miller.

Winter sports are now underway, with the exception of a delay for wrestling and boys basketball due to the extended football season. The bowling teams have been in action with the boys current record at 3-2 and the girls are 4-1. The girls basketball team is currently 2-2. The wrestling team competed at the Roughneck Duals this past weekend. They were able to do well despite not having much time to practice with the majority of the team.

Mr. Pohlman noted the seniors from the football team helped with the Henry County Christmas Cheer drive this past week.

There will be several events and tournaments our teams will be participating in over the holiday break. The girls basketball team was able to re-enter the Northwest Signal Holiday Classic. The boys basketball team will be participating in the Meyer Badenhop Holiday Classic at Ayersville. The bowling teams will compete in the Golden Bear Invitational in Bryan. The wrestling team will compete in the Marion Harding Invite, and a few select wrestlers will be competing at the Medina Invitational Tournament, which is one of the most competitive tournaments in the state. Mr. Pohlman thanked the families of the student athletes for adjusting their holiday plans around these events.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Peters presented information on the Student Wellness and Success Fund and the Disadvantaged Pupil Impact Aid. As part of the Student Wellness and Success Funding and Disadvantaged Pupil Impact Aid, we are required to provide a plan on how the district will be utilizing these funds. The purpose of these funds is to provide additional support services that help students overcome obstacles to learning, accelerate learning, and prepare students for future success. At least 50% of the Student Wellness and Success Funding is to be used for physical or mental health services for students.

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We have four community partners for SWSF: Ohio Guidestone, Henry County Hospital, The University of Toledo Medical Center, and the Henry County Sheriff's Office.

The district has partnered with Ohio Guidestone to provide local mental health services to students. The district utilizes these services alongside our three guidance counselors. Guidance counselors meet with students one-on-one, in small groups, and in a whole class setting.

In addition to mental health services, the district partners with Henry County Hospital to have a full time licensed practical nurse and a part time registered nurse at the school to provide services for students' physical well-being. The schools nurses see an average of 45 students per day. Additionally, athletic training services are provided through a partnership with the University of Toledo Medical Center.

The district also partners with the Henry County Sheriff's Office to have a full time School Resource Officer in the district to help ensure the safety and well-being of students.

For FY25, the district will utilize Student Wellness & Success Funds to offset the costs for nursing services and the school resource officer. It will also be used towards the guidance counselors' salaries. Funds from Student Wellness and Success will also go towards the purchase of 7 Mindsets, which is a curriculum to promote mental health, prevent substance abuse, and prevent suicide. The total amount anticipated to be received is \$240,600. The Student Wellness and Success Funds will impact all students in grades K-12.

For DPIA, the district partners with the Northwest Ohio Educational Service Center for professional development for Science of Reading, dyslexia, and math intervention. We also utilize their opportunity school for dropout prevention.

For FY25, the district will utilize Disadvantaged Pupil Impact Aid to purchase English language arts curriculum, instructional materials, and evidence based reading intervention program, as well as professional development, through ARC and UFLL. We will also use the funds for academic interventions with personalized instruction through iReady. Additionally, the funds will be used to offset the costs for dropout prevention through NOVA and the local Opportunity School. The total amount anticipated to be received is \$20,963. The Disadvantaged Pupil Impact Aid will impact students in grades K-12.

Mr. Peters also reviewed the board policy information. The policies were all reviewed by the Policy Committee on December 4th. All of the updates were recommended by NEOLA. The policies that are being rescinded were merged into other policies to condense and simplify them. The Wellness Policy is being reviewed as required.

Lastly, Mr. Peters explained an agenda item before the Board to rescind a contract to Lexi Sexton as she is sharing the supplemental contract with MacKenzie Armeiy, which requires them to be split 50/50.

#96-24 Superintendent's Consent Agenda

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

Approve the 2025-26 school year calendar.

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Approve the following new or amended board policies:

#0100	#0142.1	#0151	#0152	#0155	#0163
#0164	#0165	#0166	#0167.2	#0167.7	#4120.08
#4121	#5131	#5136	#5136.01	#5200	#5500
#5780	#6320	#6460	#7530.01	#7530.02	#7540.03
#7540.04	#7540.09	#8310	#9160	#1330	#3113
#4113	#6110	#6111	#6112	#6114	#6325
#6550	#7310	#7450			

Rescind the following board policies:

#0165.1	#0165.2	#0173
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Review and approve policy #8510 – Wellness.

Approve the updated Liberty Center School District Emergency Operations Plan as submitted to the Ohio School Safety Center.

Commend Colbie Strayer for competing in the State Cross Country Meet.

Commend Mason Like for competing in the State Cross Country Meet.

Commend the Football Team for earning State Runner-Up:

Levi Howe	Grady Miller	Ethan Gray
Thomas Mohler	Will Fitzenreiter	Brady Badenhop
Isaiah Badenhop	Cam Kahle	Kaden Kreinbrink
Max Perry	Mason Smith	JT Oelkrug
Ty Jackson	Max Bucher	Blake Garber
Noah Hammontree	Braxton Light	Jackson Bartels
Jaxton Lawniczak	Waylon Rentz	Adam Foster
Ted Wyrembek	Kaden Sonnenberg	Kyelar Kern
Marten Moller	Cole Spangler	Tyler Rohrs
Dakota Szabo	Isaac Orth	Garrison Kruse
Ryan Navarre	Tatum Murdock	Zander Zeiter
Drew Silveus	Brody Jaqua	Colton Szczepasnki
Hayden Dotson	Baxter Barrett	Trenton Nawrocki
Max Walker	Tyler Ley	Levi Spade
Parker Trumbull	Braydon Crow	Brady Giesige
Lucas Navarre	Degan Schwaiger	Trey Flory
Ashton Nagucki	Kellen Wymer	Tate Pieracini
Logan Sifuentes	Stephen Brogan	Mitchell Pieracini
Billy Krueger	Easton Flory	Louis Collins
Mason Tallent	Anthony Alamia	Sawyer Bockelman
Clayton Seel	Gabe Clapp	Grant Bartels

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Henry Fitzenreiter
Cole Shultz
Toby Pieracini

Hunter Spangler
Mark Jensen
Ian Rosebrook

Jon Taormina
Carter Booth
Tristan Grubaugh

Commend the following All State Athletes:

Calleigh Stoner – All Ohio in Girls Soccer
Waylon Rentz – 1st Team All-State in Football
Zander Zeiter – 1st Team All-State in Football
Cam Kahle – 1st Team All-State in Football
Brady Giesige – 3rd Team All-State in Football
Garrison Kruse – Honorable Mention All-State in Football
Ian Rosebrook – Honorable Mention All-State in Football
Stephen Brogan – Honorable Mention All-State in Football
Grady Miller – Honorable Mention All-State in Football

Approve the following overnight trips for the wrestling team and coaches:

December 27-28, 2024 in Marion, OH for the Harding Classic
December 27-28, 2024 in Medina, OH for the Medina Invitational
January 24-25, 2025 in Marion, OH for the Sally George Invite

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

#97-24 Superintendent’s Personnel Recommendations

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

Approve the NwoESC substitute teacher and paraprofessional list, as presented for the 2024-25 school year, to obtain substitute teachers and paraprofessionals.

Through the passage of HB 583 and ORC 3319.36 and 3319.101 approve the following individual as a Substitute Teacher for the 2024-25 school year with the 1-Year Temporary Non-Bachelors Substitute Teaching license or Pre-Service Teaching License:

Lillian Burkholder
Hayden Dales
Brecken Garretson
Mikaia Jimenez
Jena Mireles
Aubrey Pennington
Brooklyn Reineke
Zoey Ripke
Allison Salmi
Callie Seedorf

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Micah Shelton

Rescind the following supplemental contract for the 2024-25 school year:

Lexi Sexton – JH Cheer Coach

Offer the following certified individuals a one-year supplemental contract for the position indicated for the 2024-25 school year, contingent upon the completion of all necessary paperwork. Their salary will be per the LCCTA Negotiated Agreement's Supplemental Salary Schedule:

Doug Hinton – Assistant Boys Basketball
MacKenzie Armey – JH Cheer Coach (50%)
Pam Righi – Head Girls Track Coach
Kerry Homan – Assistant Track Coach
Matt Bryan – Assistant Track Coach
Annette Niekamp – Assistant Track Coach (50%)
Luke Crozier – JH Track Coach
Kara Behnfeldt – JH Track Coach
Bryan Miller – JH Track Coach

Whereas the Board of Education has offered and advertised the following supplemental positions per ORC 3313.53, and received no interested or qualified licensed employees, move to offer the following non-certified individuals a one-year supplemental contract for the position indicated for the 2024-25 school year, pending completion of all necessary paperwork with salary as stipulated per the LCCTA Negotiated Agreement:

Lexi Sexton – JH Cheer Coach (50%)
Justin Frye – Assistant Boys Basketball Coach
Tyler Short – Assistant Wrestling Coach
Rob Myers – Head Boys Track Coach
Dennis Spade – Assistant Track Coach
Nikole Keil – Head Softball Coach
Darcie Mohler – JV Softball Coach
Paul LaPlante – Head Baseball Coach
Josh Ryan – Assistant Baseball Coach
Spencer Rader – JV Baseball Coach

Approve the following volunteers for the activity listed for the 2024-25 school year, contingent upon the completion of all necessary training and paperwork:

Kristin Shepard – Swimming
Owen Box – Wrestling
Pam Righi – Indoor Track
Rob Myers – Indoor Track
Matt Bryan – Indoor Track
Kerry Homan – Indoor Track
Lexi Meyer – Softball

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Peg Zientek – Softball

Approve the following substitute to the department listed of the 2024-25 school year, pending completion of all necessary paperwork and training:

Melissa French – Custodian

Offer Ellen Bockelman a one-year probationary contract as a Monitoring Aide, effective December 16, 2024. Placement on the salary schedule is pending verification of education and experience. All benefits will be per the OAPSE Negotiated Agreement.

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

#98-24 Election of President Pro Tempore

Mr. Weaver made the motion and Mrs. Zacharias seconded the motion appoint Todd Spangler as the President Pro Tempore for the January 13, 2025 Organizational Meeting.

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

#99-24 PEPPM Membership Resolution

The motion was made by Mr. Weaver and seconded by Mr. Zeiter that the Board approve the Resolution Approving a Contract Membership with PEPPM Cooperative Purchasing.

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

New Business

The Organizational Meeting date is January 13, 2025 at 6:45 p.m. in the Board Room, with the Regular Board Meeting immediately following.

The next Senior Citizen Breakfast is Thursday, December 19, 2024 at 8:30 a.m. in the Auditoria.

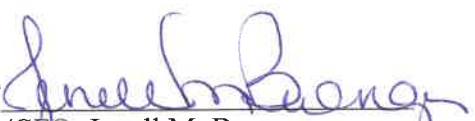
#100-24 Adjournment

It was moved by Mr. Weaver and seconded by Mrs. Zacharias to adjourn the December 16, 2024 regular meeting of the Liberty Center Local Board of Education at 7:33 p.m.

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



President, Neal Carter

ATTEST 
Treasurer/CFO, Jenell M. Buenger