

Liberty Center Local Schools

*The Liberty Link*

October 2019

The “Link” Between the School and the Community

Mr. Richard A. Peters, Superintendent

FROM THE DESK OF RICHIE PETERS:

It’s difficult to believe the first quarter is already complete for the 2019-20 school year! It has been a successful start and we are excited to see what the rest of the year holds for the students here at LC. I want to congratulate and commend all of our students for working hard and encourage them to continue on with that same drive and determination into the second quarter.

The fall sports season is winding down and I would like to acknowledge all students who are involved in extra-curricular activities. One thing I have learned in my short 10 months at Liberty Center is students from pre-school through seniors have numerous opportunities to engage and learn in this wonderful community: from sports, to music, agriculture and more. Students, you have devoted much of your time to improving and honing your talents, and that does not go unnoticed. Parents, thank you for giving your time to your children and encouraging them in their endeavors. We have much to be grateful for at Liberty Center.

In July, the Liberty Center Board of Education entered into a power purchase agreement with enTrust, LLC. This agreement allows for a solar field to be erected on school property. It will cover 2 acres of unusable land and will provide approximately 62% of our electricity at a reduced cost. This is at no cost to our general fund. We’re also working with enTrust on upgrading all of our interior lighting to LED in the 1995 gymnasium. We will reap instantaneous savings from that change. Our goal is to upgrade in ways that are more energy efficient and will cut costs, but also keep our facility functioning at the best level possible. The LED portion of the project will start at the beginning of November and will be completed before the first basketball game on November 28. Installation of the solar field will begin on November 5 and will be completed by Mid-February. It will save the taxpayer money in energy costs for decades to come.

We are in the final stage of the construction process of the new K-12 building. While the building has been occupied for almost two years, we are working diligently to address any construction issues prior to closing out the project. If everything goes according to plan, the project will be closed out this winter. We anticipate leftover funds from the project. These funds, along with additional funds from the Athletic Boosters, will be used to build a new restroom/concession stand for the varsity football field. The goal is to have this project completed by the start of the 2020 football season.

With the current interest rate environment many people are taking advantage of the lower interest rates and refinancing their debt to save money. As a School District, we are in a position to do the same thing with the bonds that were issued in 2014 to pay for our new K-12 building. Our Board approved a resolution in September to begin the process for refinancing our bonds. This bond refunding opportunity could save our taxpayers over \$1 million dollars or .25 mill per year. (One mill equates to one one-thousandth of a dollar or \$1 for every \$1,000 of a taxpayer’s property value.) We are always looking at opportunities to save as much money as possible and to be good stewards of our taxpayer’s dollars.

Go Tigers!

## Important Dates

End of Nine Weeks:	10-25-19
Full Scale Emergency Drill:	11-25-19
Parent Teacher Conferences:	11-26-19
No School-Staff PD Day	
3:30-7:30 p.m.	
Parent Teacher Conferences:	11-27-19
No School	
7:30-11:00 a.m.	
Thanksgiving Break:	11-28-19
	11-29-19
Christmas Break Begins:	12-23-19
School Resumes:	1-6-20

### School Phone Numbers

Elementary- 419-533-2604  
Middle School- 419-533-0020  
High School- 419-533-6641  
Athletic Office- 419-533-6404  
District Office- 419-533-5011

### Finance Office News

**By: Jenell Buenger, Treasurer**

I recently presented the Five-Year Forecast at the October School Board Meeting. The forecast is updated twice per year and submitted to the Ohio Department of Education. It provides information to the state, as well as the local community, on the financial health of the district. This information allows the Board of Education and community to engage in meaningful discussions and planning for the long-term. There are two parts to the forecast: the financial data and the notes, or what some refer to as assumptions. The financial data includes both historical and projected information. The notes portion explains projected financial information.

Over the past year, we have made some changes which have improved the financial health of the District. While we are still projected to be deficit spending in the 2019-20 school year, it is not as much as forecasted a year ago. Looking at the numbers, our anticipated expenses will exceed our revenues by \$388,677.00. We have a cash carry-over balance of \$6,952,991.00, which will cover the deficit spending for a few years. This pushes

out having a negative cash balance until Fiscal Year 2024. Last year's Five-Year Forecast showed a negative cash balance beginning in 2023, so this is a significant improvement for the District and our community.

The data involved in a Five-Year Forecast is constantly changing and is something Mr. Peters, the Board of Education and I review frequently to assess the financial health of the District. Please contact me if you have any questions.

### Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parent-teacher conferences will be on the evening of Tuesday, November 26<sup>th</sup> and the morning of Wednesday, November 27<sup>th</sup>. For all students in grades K-12, sign-ups will be available online through the Liberty Center website beginning October 30<sup>th</sup>. Anyone who has questions or would like assistance scheduling may call the guidance office after October 30<sup>th</sup>.

### Senior Citizen Breakfast

October 31, 2019      8:30 in the Auditoria  
December 19, 2019    8:30 in the Auditoria

### LC Education Foundation Grant and America's Farmers Grow Rural Education Grant

Recently, Liberty Center Schools received two technology grants. The Liberty Center Education Foundation generously provided our school with a grant of over \$7,000 and America's Farmers Grow Rural Education program awarded the school with a \$10,000 STEM grant.

The new technology standards the state of Ohio recently put in place require that students be able to show they understand a concept by creating a video, podcast or other types of media, in addition to taking a paper-pencil test. As more and more teachers begin to integrate these skills into their curriculum, we have a greater need for a variety of devices for students to create with. The Liberty Center Education Foundation recognized that need and generously provided our school with a grant of over \$7,000 to purchase 12 new iPads, cases, and a MacBook air. These devices have already been used this year to create stop

motion videos, green screen videos, and augmented reality objects. Students have also been able to use them to learn how to code. We are very grateful to the Education Foundation for supporting our students with resources that will allow them to learn skills for the 21st century.

Our District has also been fortunate to receive a STEM grant from America's Farmers Grow Rural Education program sponsored by the Bayer Fund. This program partners with farmers to nominate their local school district to apply for STEM grants. Thanks to seven local farmers who nominated us, Liberty Center applied for a grant and was recently awarded \$10,000. This grant has been used to purchase a cart of Virtual Reality goggles using the ClassVR system. This system allows teachers to create lessons that will be delivered through virtual reality goggles. These lessons will provide opportunities for students to experience places and objects that they would not normally be able to visit or see in real life. Teachers will be trained on using this system during the professional development day that will be taking place on November 26th.

### **Middle School Career Day**

On Tuesday November 5th, Liberty Center Middle school will be hosting a Career Day. Area professionals representing skilled trades, healthcare, engineering, law enforcement, broadcasting and other exciting professions will be introducing students in grades six through eight to a wide variety of career opportunities.

Eighth grade students will complete career inventories in their financial literacy rotations to guide them toward careers which may be a good fit for them. In addition, the eighth grade will visit Four County Career Center on February 5, 2020 where they will be introduced to opportunities in vocational education.

### **Local College & Career Expo**

We will be hosting a College & Career Expo on Tuesday November 5<sup>th</sup> from 6pm-8pm in the Auditoria. The event is open to the public, and we are expecting to have 20+ local colleges, employers, training centers and other agencies present to help parents and students navigate their plans for after graduation!

### Also that evening we will be hosting multiple on-site meetings, which include:

5:30pm - Resources with Ohioians with Developmental Disabilities

6:30pm - FAFSA Workshop for Class of 2020.

7:00pm - College Credit Plus Informational Meeting (mandatory for all 2020-2021 interested participants).

### **Thank You Tiger Fans**

The guidance department would like to sincerely thank all those who supported the 2019 yellow ribbon campaign. Students in grades 6-12 were educated about the resources available in our community to lend phone or text support 24 hours a day. Students also learned to recognize the signs of depression in themselves and others. Hundreds of members of the Liberty Center and Delta Communities supported a bake sale duel at the varsity football game on September 20th. On September 26th, a committee of senior students presented a check for the bake sale proceeds in the amount of \$1,102.08 to the Four County Area Suicide Prevention Coalition.

### **Elementary NED Show**

On Monday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, elementary students will be attending the NED show. NED stands for **N**ever Give Up, **E**ncourage Others, and **D**o Your Best. NED's Mindset Mission assembly will teach students about the power of YET. Students will be learning how to use a growth mindset to overcome social, emotional and academic challenges they may encounter.



**Thank you!**

The Liberty Center Public Library Staff, Board of Trustees and Friends are grateful for your support. Your participation in our fundraising efforts help to make our library an asset to our community.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

October 31-Trunk or Treat at the Library  
 November 1- National Family Literacy Day

Christmas Basket Silent Auction on December 7<sup>th</sup>, during the LC Christmas Open House. Donations of items or themed baskets are appreciated.

**Be sure and check out upcoming events on the library website:**

<https://www.libertycenterlibrary.org/>

**Meeting Dates: (7PM at the LC Library)**

November 5, 2019

**\*December 3, 2019 (Annual Meeting) \***

January (no meeting)

February 4, 2020

March 3, 2020

April 7, 2020

May 5, 2020

**LIFETIME MEMBERS**

Charlyn Barrett\*Leo Barlow\*Shirley Barlow \*Betty Bartels\*Janice Benson\*Linda Bischoff\*Charlene Bloomfield\*Kelly Bodenbender\*Todd Bodenbender\*Margaret Bollman\*Chris Bonner\*Jennifer Bonner\*Francis Brown\*Justin \*Bucher\*Cecil R. Burkett\*David Busick\*Janette Carpenter\*Michael Carpenter\*Marianne Carpenter\*Mike Carpenter\*Chambers Control\*Cinda Creager\*Ralph Creager\*Cheryl Criswell\* Stan Criswell \*Bev Curtis\*Mike Cymbola\*Davis Farm Service\*Virginia Elling\*Karen Ellinwood\*Chris Engler\*John Engler\*Julia Yaney Engler\*Arla Fry\*Larry Fry\*Blake Garretson\*Erin Garretson\*Heather Garretson\*Karney Garretson\*Shane Garretson\*Sue Garretson\*Margaret Gyurasics\*Robert Gyurasics\*Aletha Halvorsen\*John Hartford\*Jean Hefflinger\*Mary Ellen Hefflinger\*Ron Hefflinger\*Pat Heilman\*Laura Hill\*Mary Hill\*Patty Hill\*Deborah Hoffman\*Terry Hoffman\*Karen Howell\*Kip Kern\* Kyle Kern\* Michelle Kern\*Kip Kern\* Shirley Jean Kern\*Kody Kessler\*LeaAnne Kessler \* Mary Ann Kessler\* Ula Kessler\* Leigh Anne Kraft\* Jack Krueger\* Margaret

Krueger\* Marilyn Krueger\* Phil Krueger\* Judith Kutzli\* Lucille Laver\* Judy Leininger\*Donald C. Loar\*Jack Loudin\*Anna McMaster\* Mike McMaster\*Mary Ann Meyer\* Mary K. Meyers\* Don Mickens\* Sue Mickens\* Rick Miller\* Ronda Miller\*Barb Mitchell\* Ted Mohler\* Margaret Mueller\* Anthony J. Muniz\* Kathy L. Muniz\*Ardith Myers\* James Myers\* John Myles\* Sara Myles\*Rachel Orr\*Bev Overmier\*Cindy Overmier\* Tom Overmier\* Jennie Parsons\*Nancy Perry\*Doris Reighard\*Milt Reighard\*Janice Rohrs\*Nancy Roynon\*Rita Rupp\*James Savage\*Karen Savage\*Select Sanitation\*Kay Showman\*Michelle Slee\*Charleen Snyder\*O.D. Snyder\*Tiffany Soto\*Jeff Spangler\*Colleen Spiess\*Helen Spiess\*Hilda Spiess\* Amy Spieth\* Treva Stevens\* Russell Strayer\*John Strock\*Judy Studer\* Ron Studer Tom Swartzlander\*Becky Utz\*Rick Utz\*Arvis Weaks\*John Weaks\*Katie Weaks\*Elaine Weaver\*Karol Westhoven\* Connie Zeiter

**FAMILY MEMBERS 2019** Jerry & Diane Endicott\*Michael & Marlene Hamlin\*Tenny & Sue Krugh\* Bernice Lee\*Bonnie Ohlrich\* Bill & Sharon Sharpe\* Tree & Linda Wineland\* Marty & Robin Wymer\* Ron & Julie Zenz

**2020-** Bill and Sharon Sharpe\*John and Dawn Sharpe\* Ron and Julie Zenz

**SINGLE MEMBERS 2019** Katy Benson\*Louise Dalton\*Lucille McGary\* Rodger Meyer\*\*Lori Rosiak \*Ana Sims

**2020-** Katy Benson\* Lori Rosiak

**BE A FRIEND**

**RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP NOW FOR 2020**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Single (\$5)

\_\_\_\_\_ Family (\$10)

\_\_\_\_\_ Lifetime (\$100) (per individual)

Please make all checks payable to the Friends of the LC Public Library. Your canceled check is your receipt. Send to P.O Box 66, Liberty Center, OH 43532

I am willing to help with:

\_\_\_ Basket Sale

\_\_\_ Summer Reading

\_\_\_ Other fundraisers