

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
Liberty Center Local Schools Regular Board Meeting
March 25, 2024

The Liberty Center Local Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, March 25, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room. Board members Mr. Neal Carter, Mr. John Weaver, Mrs. Andrea Zacharias, and Mr. Ryan Zeiter were in attendance. Mr. Todd Spangler was absent. A moment of silence was held in memory of Jeff Spangler. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mr. Pohlman recognized and commended winter sports athletes and teams.

Mrs. Jimenez, Director of Student Services; Mr. Greg Radwan, High School Principal; and Mr. Kyle Storrer, Middle School Principal, presented an update on the 'Prepared' initiative. The DLT compiled all of the survey information from local businesses, higher education, staff, parents/community and graduates. The following were identified as areas of strength: mathematics and quantitative skills, reading comprehension, and writing skills. The areas of need for preparedness include critical thinking, interpersonal skills, good attendance, time management, problem-solving skills, and collaboration skills. The areas identified as needing improvement include financial literacy, critical thinking skills, real world skills, problem solving skills, public speaking skills, stress management, and punctuality. These results lead to the decision to hire a Life Skills Preparation Teacher. With the open art position that was not filled due to the late resignation of former art teacher Jill Evans, the district was able use this school year to evaluate the needs of the district to determine the best course offerings for the future. The exact course offerings will be decided once the new teacher is hired.

Mr. Zeiter asked if the courses would tie into the required graduation seals. Mr. Radwan informed him that since college, career, and workforce readiness is part of the process, they would help in meeting those indicators for graduation. They also noted the state provides CTE funding at \$1,308.00 per seat to offset the costs of supplies and materials. Mrs. Jimenez also said they would be visiting other districts who have implemented a similar program.

They also explained the next steps in the 'Prepared' initiative. The focus will be on working as a district to improve critical thinking and problem-solving skills, as well as addressing attendance issues, time management skills and stress management skills.

#28-24 Approve Minutes

The motion was made by Mr. Weaver and seconded by Mrs. Zacharias to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on February 26, 2024 of the Liberty Center Board of Education.

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

Treasurer's Report

Mrs. Buenger reviewed the regular monthly reports. She noted a CD came due in February and she was able to reinvest it at a rate of 5.35%. She also thanked the very generous donors. Mrs. Buenger explained the appropriation and amended certificate modifications. For the ONENet Connectivity Grant, the District received \$1,051.43 per building, compared to the usual \$900.00 per building, resulting in an increase of \$454.29 for the year. This required an update to the appropriations and amended certificate. These funds help offset the cost of our internet. The Baseball Camp Fund changes are due to the budget being approved this month. Lastly, Mrs. Buenger explained the depository agreement. The District is required to have an agreement with any bank where the school's funds are held. There are currently two CD's invested at The Hamler State Bank.

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#29-24 CFO/Treasurer’s Consent Agenda

Upon the recommendation of the Treasurer, the motion was made by Mr. Weaver 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
- Disbursement Summary Report
- Investment Report
- Budget vs. Actual

Approve the following donations:

- Project Adam Ohio/Nationwide Children’s Hospital Replacement Pads for AED
- Napoleon Family Vision – Rachel Bostelman, O.D. Solar Eclipse Glasses \$200.00

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

- JV and Varsity Baseball Camp Fund

Approve the following Appropriation Modifications and Amended Certificate Modifications:

Appropriation Modifications

451 9501	ONENet Connectivity Funding	\$454.29
300 951B	Baseball Camp Fund	\$1,200.00

Amended Certificate Modifications

451 9501	ONENet Connectivity Funding	\$454.29
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VOTE: Ayes: Mr. Weaver, Mrs. Zacharias, Mr. Zeiter, Mr. Carter
Nays: None – Motion Carried

Principals’ Reports

Elementary

Ms. Postl provided an update on the elementary. Logan Kline, a Liberty Center graduate, will be visiting the school on Tuesday, April 2nd. He is an artist, high school art teacher, and he has published a book called *Finding Fire*. Students will be reading the book with him and creating their own torch to share with their parents. On April 3rd, three districts will be visiting the elementary to observe the ARC curriculum. Lastly, Ms. Postl informed the Board the elementary is looking into additions to the ELA curriculum for phonics and phonemic awareness from UFLI Foundations and Heggerty.

Middle School

Mr. Storrer provided an update on the middle school. The fifth grade class recently collected over 500 items for the Ronald McDonald House in Toledo as part of the ‘Live to Give Project.’ Seventh graders also recently thanked Teresa Bostelman, Middle School Secretary, and Charlier Krueger, Custodian/Maintenance, for all they

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do at the school. Mr. Storrer also congratulated Henry County Spelling Bee winner Mia Gyurasics and runner-up Celia Shepsko. Lastly, he congratulated the following students of the month for 'Live to Give': August Cooke, Marlena Borstelman, Payton Sattler, and Teagan Oberhauser.

High School

Mr. Radwan provided an update on academics, the arts and athletics in the high school. The National Honor Society recently inducted 26 new members. Nine students received their State FFA Degree. The National Honor Society recently donated over 500 dog toys as a service project for the Fort Defiance Humane Society. Mr. Radwan also informed the Board that Senior Kinze Jaqua and Agriculture Teacher Katherine Bell were recognized at the Franklin B. Walter Scholarship event. Lastly for academics, Vance Norrington placed 10th at the Four County Quiz Bowl League.

For the arts, student Hannah Roth created a State Runner Up football that all of the players signed. The football will be auctioned off at the Athletic Boosters' 'Night at the Races.' Mr. Radwan also informed the Board tickets for this year's musical, 'Matilda,' will go on sale online on March 30th. The shows are April 12th and 13th.

Mr. Radwan wished all of the spring sports teams and athletes good luck on their season.

Athletic Report

Mr. Pohlman provided an update on athletics. The 2023-24 school year continues to be a record setting year. With the league championships for Boys Bowling and Boys Basketball, Liberty Center has now won five league championships across all sports. The Boys Bowling Team placed 4th at State after winning the Sectional Championship and placing 3rd at Districts. The Wrestling Team placed 7th as a Team at State with three qualifiers and two placers. The Boys Basketball Team won the Sectional Championship and lost in overtime to Emmanuel Christian. The Girls Basketball Team won the District Championship and lost to eventual State Runner-Up Ottawa Glandorf in the Regional Semi-Final. Joy Brown placed 5th at the State Diving Championship. The Girls Bowling Team qualified for Districts. The girls currently hold the lead for the NWOAL All-Sport Standings.

Mr. Pohlman announced the Athletic Boosters will be hosting their annual 'Night at the Races' event on Saturday, April 6th. Many of our coaches and community members are volunteering to help make this a great event.

Mr. Pohlman also announced that he is working to schedule another sports physical event. Coaches found it very beneficial last year. Details will be sent to students and parents.

Mr. Pohlman highlighted a few other activities. The softball team was able to take advantage of warm weather even when the field was wet. They utilized the turf football field and hosted Woodmoore for a scrimmage on March 15th. Thank to you the boosters who assisted with purchasing the equipment to make the scrimmage a success. The NWOAL will host its annual Leadership Conference on May 1st. Mr. Pohlman has taken over after the retirement of Chad Savage and will be the facilitator for the event.

The spring sports projects are concluding. The scoreboards are up and running for both baseball and softball. The new technology allows them to be controlled via iPad which creates convenience for operation. The batter's eye is up and Mr. Pohlman is working with the vendor to get the backside of it painted. The fence

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guard for the top of the fence at the track has been ordered. It will match the rest of the fencing at the spring sports complex. Lastly, there were some issues noticed with the new track. Upon inspection, the company thought patching would take care of it, but we still noticed issues. The owner of the company who installed the track came to inspect the work. He deemed it not up to the company's standards and quality. Therefore, the track is currently unusable due to the lack of lines and safety issues for competitive events. We are still able to have track practice on the track; however, we will not be able to host any track events this year. The company will be back this summer to correct the issues. They will power broom the entire track, put two layers of material on the areas with issues, and then do an additional layer over the entire track. Ultimately, the issues will be resolved and we will have a track with a longer life span due to the additional layer.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Peters congratulated all of the winter sports teams and athletes. He also thanked DeeAnn Shafer for her 32 years of service with the District. She went through the retire/rehire process a couple years ago and will now be officially retired effective June 30th.

#30-24 Superintendent's Consent Agenda

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

Approve membership in the Henry County Chamber of Commerce beginning March 1, 2024 and ending February 28, 2025 at a cost of \$100.00.

Commend the Boys Bowling Team for placing 4th at State:

Jacob Sexton
Alan Blair
Stone Roth

Landon Amstutz
Joey Wymer
Wes Wilhelm

Tim Blanton
Maddox Oyer

Commend Jacob Sexton for earning All Ohio in bowling.

Commend Joy Brown for placing 5th at State Diving.

Commend the State Champion Competition Cheer Team:

Jessie Miller
Aleeah Brown
Suzanne Walker
Marleigh Myers

Taylyn Herschberger
Grace Brandeberry
Skylar Bailey
Lillian Case

Lilah Krueger
Libby Zeiter
Madison Foster
Leah Orr

Commend the following wrestling State qualifiers:

Zanders Myers - 2nd Place
Braedyn Tammarine – 3rd Place
Drew Matthews

VOTE: Ayes: Mrs. Zacharias, Mr. Zeiter, Mr. Weaver, Mr. Carter

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Nays: None – Motion Carried

#31-24 Superintendent’s Personnel Recommendations

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

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

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

Peyton Arme
James Clay
Brianna Hayden
Shelden Struble
Zoey Ripke

Accept the resignation of Dee Ann Shafer, Athletic Secretary, effective June 30, 2024

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

#32-24 Depository Agreement

Upon the recommendation of the Treasurer, the motion was made by Mr. Weaver and seconded by Mrs. Zacharias that the Board retroactively approve the Treasurer to enter into a Depository Agreement with The Hamler State Bank, Hamler, Ohio, for a period of five years, beginning March 16, 2024 through March 15, 2029 for the deposit of interim funds of the Board of Education.

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

New Business

The next Board meeting is April 22, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room.

#33-24 Executive Session

Mr. Zeiter made the motion and Mr. Weaver seconded the motion that the Board adjourn to executive session at 8:04 for the purpose of considering the employment of public employees of the District and for the purpose of preparing for negotiations or bargaining sessions with employees concerning compensation or other terms and conditions of their employment.

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

The Board returned from Executive Session 8:45.

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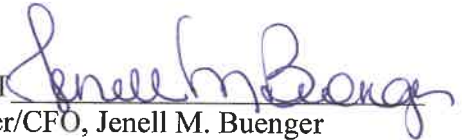
#34-24 Adjournment

It was moved by Mr. Weaver and seconded by Mrs. Zacharias to adjourn the March 25, 2024 regular meeting of the Liberty Center Local Board of Education at 8:46 p.m.

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



President, Neal Carter

ATTEST 
Treasurer/CFO, Jenell M. Buenger