

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**Liberty Center Local Schools Regular Board Meeting**  
**April 22, 2024**

The Liberty Center Local Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, April 22, 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. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mr. Pohlman recognized and commended winter sports athlete Emerson Gray.

The Liberty Center Student Technology team, comprised of Cole Bauman, Xander Damman, Elle Mohler, Gracie Miller, Elliot McMaster, and Addison Naveau, presented to the school board under the direction of Mrs. Stacy Bowers. Their presentation included details about what projects they have been involved with, what they have learned from them, and how they have impacted Liberty Center. Mrs. Bowers began the presentation by describing what the goal of the program is: To teach students life and technological skills while assisting school and community members. Next, Cole Bauman explained how they had served various school organizations, such as the Liberty Center Music Boosters, Amazing Shake, and the LCMS Science Department. Elliot McMaster then elaborated on how the team had used specific technologies, such as 3D printing, to benefit the school. Seniors Elle Mohler and Gracie Miller showcased how the group had used technology to document student activities, such as spirit weeks and staff appreciation. Addison Naveau also shared how they had used technology, such as virtual reality and robots, to mentor younger students. Additionally, Xander Damman explained their work in IT support for the musical and the team's plan to expand this area next year. He also shared some statistics with the board, including the group's combined work hours totaling over 100. To close and summarize the presentation, Mrs. Bowers shared some of the team's plans for next school year, including digital citizenship and social media management.

**#35-24 Approve Minutes**

The motion was made by Mr. Weaver and seconded by Mrs. Zacharias to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on March 25, 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 thanked the Athletic Boosters for their donation. Mrs. Buenger explained the appropriation modification and amended certificate modification were due to increased costs of food and supplies for the cafeteria. She also provided additional information for the Title I Letter of Understanding. There are two students who attend St. Paul Lutheran School but live in the Liberty Center School District. Napoleon Area Schools provide the teacher for the Title I program at St. Paul Lutheran School, resulting in the necessity to reimburse Napoleon Area Schools for the teacher costs associated with the Liberty Center students.

**#36-24 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

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Disbursement Summary Report  
Investment Report  
Budget vs. Actual

Approve the following donations:

LC Athletic Boosters	Turf Fence – Softball Field	\$4,125.00
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Approve the following Appropriation Modification and Amended Certificate Modification:

**Appropriation Modification**

006 0000	Lunchroom Fund	\$65,000.00
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**Amended Certificate Modification**

006 0000	Lunchroom Fund	\$65,000.00
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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. The third grade recently held their carnival in celebration of the students' hard work preparing for the state tests. The second grade hosted speaker Tyson Andrews of Carter's Produce and Farm Market. On April 3<sup>rd</sup>, four different districts visited Liberty Center to observe the ARC curriculum. The ARC CEO and ARC Director of Teaching and Learning also attended the event. Lastly, Ms. Postl updated the Board on upcoming events and activities:

Kindergarten Farm Program: April 24<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.  
Kindergarten Screening for 2024-25: April 25<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> (No kindergarten those days)  
3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Musical: May 9<sup>th</sup>  
1<sup>st</sup> Grade Musical: May 16<sup>th</sup>  
3-4 Field Day: May 21<sup>st</sup> at the spring sports complex  
K-2 Field Day: May 22<sup>nd</sup> at the football field

**Middle School**

Mr. Storrer provided an update on the middle school. The University of Toledo led an educational assembly for middle school students on April 5<sup>th</sup> regarding the solar eclipse. The D.A.R.E. graduation for 5<sup>th</sup> grade students was held on Friday, April 19<sup>th</sup>. SRO Deputy Nicky Ferguson led the program and spoke at the event, along with Sheriff Mike Bodenbender. Mr. Storrer also informed the Board the Students of the Month are: August Cooke, Marlena Borstelman, Peyton Sattler, and Teagan Oberhauser. Lastly, 5<sup>th</sup> grade students Sydney Richardson and Kirstin Silveus designed t-shirts to help raise awareness and funds during child abuse prevention month.

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**High School**

Mr. Radwan provided an update on academics, the arts, and athletics in the high school. The Senior Awards Night is Monday, May 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. The senior trip is scheduled for Tuesday, May 14<sup>th</sup>. Graduation will be on Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 p.m. Mr. Radwan announced the valedictorians for the class of 2024 are Maryn Findling, Shalyn Findling, Kinze Jaqua, Reese Kessler, and Xander Myers. The commencement speakers are Maryn Findling, Kinze Jaqua, and Xander Myers.

Mr. Radwan congratulated the cast and crew on the success of the musical Matilda that was held April 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. He also announced the Henry County Electronics Recycling Day is Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup> from 8:00-12:00. Lastly, Mr. Radwan provided information on the May 1-4, 2025 music department trip to New York City. Students will be visiting the September 11<sup>th</sup> Memorial and Museum, Top of the Rock, tour Radio City Music Hall, attend two theatrical performances, participate in a Broadway Imagined Workshop, and they will perform at St. Paul the Apostle Church.

Lastly, Mr. Radwan wished all of the spring sports teams the best on the final weeks of their sports season.

**Athletic Report**

Mr. Pohlman provided an update on athletics. Two student athletes will be competing in very prestigious all-star games in the coming days. Landon Bockelman will be playing in the North/South All-Star Football Game on Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup> at the Massillon Paul Brown Stadium. Emerson Gray will be playing on Team Ohio in the Nancy Rehm Border Wars Classic held at St. Francis University in Fort Wayne on Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Pohlman thanked the Athletic Boosters for all of their work for the Night at the Races. It was held on April 6<sup>th</sup> and was greatly attended. Mr. Pohlman thanked the many volunteers who made the evening possible. He gave a special thanks to the executive committee members who donated many hours of their time for the event. Mr. Pohlman explained the Athletic Boosters are an integral part of the athletic department, and they do a great job of heightening student athletes' experiences at Liberty Center.

Mr. Pohlman also updated the Board on spring sports. This season has had its challenges due to the weather. Softball is currently 11-1, baseball is 5-4 and the track teams are competing well. The girls track team won the LC Track and Field Invite on April 13<sup>th</sup> that was hosted at Evergreen.

**Superintendent's Report**

Mr. Peters congratulated the 91 seniors as they prepare for graduation in just a few short weeks. Graduation will be on Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 p.m. Mr. Peters also noted the two retire/rehires: Kathy Bishop and Kerry Homan. They are both on the agenda to begin the process of rehiring them. The public hearing will be held in June with the intention to rehire them in July.

**#37-24 Superintendent's Consent Agenda**

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

Commend Emerson Gray for earning 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All Ohio for Girls Basketball.

Approve the NWOESC Mentor Program Agreement for the 2024-25 school year.

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Approve an overnight trip for FFA students and teachers to attend the Ohio FFA Camp in Carrollton, Ohio from June 3-7, 2024.

Approve an overnight trip for band students, choir students, and teachers to go to New York City, New York from May 1-4, 2025.

Approve offering student accident insurance for the 2024-25 school year from Guarantee Trust Life Insurance Company, Glenview, Illinois, through Frost Insurance Agency in Napoleon, Ohio.

Approve the 2024 graduating Seniors from Liberty Center High School, contingent upon the successful completion of graduation requirements established by the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce and the Liberty Center Board of Education.

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

**#38-24 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:

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:

Breanna Gallup  
Jennifer Perry

Retroactively accept the resignation of Shannon Finn, Educational Aide, effective March 27, 2024.

Retroactively approve Brianna Hayden as an educational aide substitute for the 2023-24 school year.

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

Chelsea Wiley – Bus Driver  
Josh Williams – Custodian

Accept the resignation of Kerry Homan, Assistant Track Coach, effective April 10, 2024.

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 individual a one-year supplemental contract for the position indicated for the 2023-24 school year, pending completion of all necessary paperwork with salary as stipulated per the LCCTA Negotiated Agreement:

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Ken Barnes – Assistant Track Coach (50%)

Accept the resignations of Holly Weber and Michelle Bailey from the Elementary Building Leadership Team (BLT), effective April 1, 2024.

Approve Brittany Meyer to serve on the Elementary Building Leadership Team (BLT) for the 2023-24 school year, with a stipend and hourly rate per the LCCTA Negotiated Agreement, effective April 1, 2024.

Offer the following contracts to non-certified staff beginning with the 2024-25 school year, subject to assignment by the Superintendent. Salary and benefits will be per the OAPSE Negotiated Agreement:

**Two Year Contract**

Mike Weaver – Lunchroom Aide

**Continuing Contract**

Sara Bateman – Lunchroom Aide

Debra Cooke – Playground Monitor

Julie Shultz – Educational Aide/Crossing Guard

Offer Stacey Dietrich a two-year contract beginning September 5, 2024 through September 4, 2026 as a bus driver, subject to assignment by the Superintendent. Salary and benefits will be per the OAPSE Negotiated Agreement.

Offer the following contracts to certified staff beginning with the 2024-25 school year, subject to assignment by the Superintendent. Salary and benefits will be per the LCCTA Negotiated Agreement:

**One Year Contract**

MacKenzie Arme

Zoey Berger

Alexandra Geahlen

Jessica Lang

**Two Year Contract**

Regina Babcock

Dylan Bush

Carrie Cowger

**Three Year Contract**

Sharon Brown

Mary Chamberlin

Andrea Dennie

Hillary McBride

Raellen Merritt

Andrew Watson

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**Continuing Contract**

Ashley Chapa  
Brittany Gonzalez

Approve the transfer of Kathy Bailey from High School Intervention Specialist to Life Skills Preparation Teacher for the 2024-25 school year.

Offer Clarence Weirauch a five-year Maintenance Supervisor contract, effective July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2029.

Offer Kaleb Pohlman a five-year 220-day Athletic Director/Dean of Student Activities contract, effective August 1, 2024 through July 31, 2029.

Offer Allison Postl a five-year 220-day Elementary Principal contract, effective August 1, 2024 through July 31, 2029.

Non-renew all 2023-24 Supplemental Contracts as of June 30, 2024.

Accept the resignation of Renee Meyer, Educational Aide, effective August 31, 2024.

Retroactively approve additional hours for Dustin Mays to assist with the audio/visual production for the school musical.

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

**#39-24 Resolution to Initiate**

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the motion was made by Mr. Zeiter and seconded by Mr. Weaver to adopt the Resolution to Initiate the retire/rehire process of Kathy Bishop, whose retirement resignation was approved in Resolution #24-24.

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

**#40-24 Resolution to Initiate**

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the motion was made by Mr. Weaver and seconded by Mrs. Zacharias to adopt the Resolution to Initiate the retire/rehire process of Kerry Homan, whose retirement resignation was approved in Resolution #24-24.

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

**#41-24 Title I Letter of Understanding**

Upon the recommendation of the Treasurer, the motion was made by Mr. Weaver and seconded by Mr. Zeiter to retroactively approve the Title I Letter of Understanding for the 2023-24 school year with Napoleon Area City Schools for non-public student(s) attending St. Paul Lutheran School.

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

**New Business**

The next Board meeting is May 20, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room.

The Retire/Rehire Public Hearing for Kathy Bishop will be held June 24, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. during the regular board meeting.

The Retire/Rehire Public Hearing for Kerry Homan will be held June 24, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. during the regular board meeting.

**Board Members' Committee Reports**

The Finance Committee is meeting on Tuesday, May 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 a.m.

The Policy Committee will be scheduling a meeting prior to the May Board Meeting.

**#42-24 Executive Session**

Mr. Weaver made the motion and Mr. Zeiter seconded the motion that the Board adjourn to executive session at 7:37 p.m. 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. Zeiter, Mr. Weaver, Mrs. Zacharias, Mr. Carter  
Nays: None – Motion Carried


The Board returned from Executive Session 8:07 p.m.

**#43-24 Adjournment**

It was moved by Mr. Weaver and seconded by Mrs. Zacharias to adjourn the April 22, 2024 regular meeting of the Liberty Center Local Board of Education at 8:08 p.m.

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

  
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President, Neal Carter

ATTEST   
Treasurer/CFO, Jenell M. Buenger