

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**Liberty Center Local Schools Regular Board Meeting**  
**February 27, 2023**

The Liberty Center Local Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, February 27, 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.

**#24-23 Approve Minutes**

The motion was made by Mr. Benson and seconded by Mrs. Zacharias to approve the minutes of the Organizational and Regular Meeting held on January 11, 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 highlighted this month's very generous donations. Mrs. Buenger explained the resolution accepting rates as determined by the budget commission and authorizing the necessary tax levies, which is done each year in February. She also explained the 2023-24 Northwest Ohio Educational Service Center contract. It is an increase of approximately 8%, which is \$56,340. This is primarily due to students who attend the Independence Education Center (IEC) for behavioral issues. There has also been an increase to the number of aides in the preschool classrooms, which has increased the costs. This contract is for projected costs. It will be reviewed mid-year and adjustments will be made accordingly. Mrs. Buenger also explained the late application for payment in lieu of transportation. The parent recently found out about the program. The Ohio Department of Education notified the District that the rate can be pro-rated to the date of the request.

Mrs. Buenger provided information to the Board about the amended student activity budget and appropriation and amended certificate modifications. The High School Principal's Fund budget is increasing due to the revenues and expenses for the Leadership Class being run through this account, which was not accounted for in the initial budget. The appropriation and amended certificate modifications are primarily due to changes in grant allocations. The Athletic Fund's modifications are due to a change by the State in how tournament events are handled through the schools. Previously, all tournaments were posted to a different account, 022, but now they go through the Athletic Fund.

Mrs. Buenger explained the increases in pay for substitute aides, substitute secretaries and the Concession Manager. With the January 1<sup>st</sup> increase in minimum wage, we needed to adjust these rates accordingly.

**#25-23 CFO/Treasurer's Consent Agenda**

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

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Approve the following donations:

LC Athletic Boosters	Cross Country Team State Meals	\$326.68
LC Athletic Boosters	Baseball Pitching Machine	\$3,499.99
LC Athletic Boosters	Basketball Mops	\$332.26
LC Athletic Boosters	Bowling Team Fundraiser	\$1,796.00
Anonymous Donor	Students in Need – School Fees	\$175.00
Gleaner Life – Florida Arbor 205	Students in Need – Lunches	\$500.00
Colton United Methodist Church Bible Study Group	Students in Need – Lunches	\$60.00
Nationwide Children’s Hospital- Project Adam	Automated External Defibrillator	\$1,473.80

Approve the resolution accepting the amounts and rates as determined by the Budget Commission and authorizing the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the County Auditor.

Approve the agreement with the Northwest Ohio Educational Service Center (NwOESC) to provide services beginning July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2024 at a cost of \$775,692.29.

Declare transportation to be impractical for one parochial student who will be attending Monclova Christian Academy and offer this student payment in lieu of transportation, pro-rated for half of the school year, at the minimum rate as determined by the Ohio Department of Education for school year 2022-23.

Approve the following amended student activity budget for the 2022-23 school year:

HS Principal’s Fund

Approve the following Appropriation Modifications and Amended Certificate Modifications:

**Appropriation Modifications**

499 9023	Career Exploration and Awareness Funds	\$12.64
499 9019	Safety and Security Grant	\$5,454.90
572 9105	Title I-A Improving Basic Programs	-\$370.67
572 9103	Title I-D Neglected	\$6,702.68
590 9205	Title II-A Supporting Effective Instruction	\$372.12
516 9715	IDEA-B Special Education	\$1,830.84
587 9700	IDEA Early Childhood Special Education	\$7.91
300 950A	Athletic Fund	\$33,087.22
018 982A	HS Principal’s Fund	\$3,000.00

**Amended Certificate Modifications**

499 9023	Career Exploration and Awareness Funds	\$12.64
499 9019	Safety and Security Grant	\$5,454.90
572 9105	Title I-A Improving Basic Programs	-\$370.67
572 9103	Title I-D Neglected	\$6,702.68
590 9205	Title II-A Supporting Effective Instruction	\$372.12
516 9715	IDEA-B Special Education	\$1,830.84
587 9700	IDEA Early Childhood Special Education	\$7.91

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300 950A	Athletic Fund	\$36,800.00
018 982A	HS Principal's Fund	\$3,000.00

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

**Principals' Reports**

**Elementary**

Ms. Postl provided an update for the Elementary. Tonight was the Elementary Literacy/STEM night for students in grades PK-4. The evening included the book fair, PTO bake sale and MS Student Council flower sale. Ms. Postl also informed the Board the PTO is having a fund raiser selling Special Grounds Coffee. Orders and money are due by March 17<sup>th</sup> and will be ready for pickup on April 3<sup>rd</sup> from 3:00-5:30 p.m. Ms. Postl also acknowledged all of the work the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade students are doing for Amazing Shake. Last week, the students had the opportunity to practice their skills during the senior citizen breakfast. Lastly, Ms. Postl informed the Board that parents with children who will be five years old by August 1<sup>st</sup> can begin calling the school to enroll their child in kindergarten on March 1<sup>st</sup>. The kindergarten clinic will be held on Thursday, April 27<sup>th</sup> and Friday, April 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Middle School**

Mr. Storrer provided an update for the Middle School. Last Friday, 32 girls attended the “Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day” at the University of Toledo. They were featured on the UT Engineering website and social media accounts for winning a “tallest tower” competition during their day at UT. Mr. Storrer also informed the Board that a group of middle school students are participating in Mr. Miller’s High School Leadership Class one day a week during the second semester. The spring testing dates have also been released: ELA: 4/18 and 4/19; Science: 4/25 and 4/26; and Math: 5/2 and 5/3. Lastly, Mr. Storrer is in the final stages of hiring a Middle School Guidance Counselor.

**High School**

Mr. Radwan highlighted events and activities in the High School, including academics, arts and athletics. There are 32 students eligible for National Honor Society, with inductions being held on March 16<sup>th</sup>. Juniors are scheduled to take the ACT test on March 14<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Radwan also informed the Board he is working with Northwest State Community College to begin a pre-apprenticeship program as a certified production technician. Funding for this will come from the career technical education funding through the State. Mrs. Zacharias asked who would be teaching the course. Mr. Radwan noted it will either be someone from NWSCC or a staff member from Liberty Center. Mr. Radwan also updated the Board on the high school math opening. Interviews for the position will begin next week.

Mr. Radwan announced the musical for this year is *Footloose*. The shows will be held in the Auditoria on March 31<sup>st</sup> and April 1<sup>st</sup>. The high school art classes will be participating in the ‘Paint a Plow’ contest through the Ohio Department of Transportation. Mr. Radwan also thanked the pep band for performing at home league games.

Mr. Radwan commended the winter athletic teams for their successful seasons. The girls basketball team won Districts and will be playing in the Regional Semi-Finals on Thursday. The boys bowling team is heading to State. Five wrestlers qualified for State. Calla Oelkrug qualified for State in gymnastics. The competition

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cheer team will also be competing at State. The girls bowling team competed in Districts and the boys basketball team made it to Sectional Finals.

**Athletic Director's Report**

Mr. Pohlman was absent. Mr. Peters commended Mr. Pohlman on hosting sectional semi-final games and sectional final games for both girls and boys basketball.

**Superintendent's Report**

Mr. Peters informed the Board of the District's recent Heart Safe Designation through Project Adam. Project Adam aims to prevent cardiac arrest in children and adolescents through education and implementation of life-saving programs. Project Adam helps schools nationwide implement programs to make automated external defibrillators (AEDs) readily available by preparing schools for a cardiac emergency through the establishment of a written cardiac emergency response plan, staff training to recognize a cardiac event, the creation of a cardiac emergency response team and CPR/AED training. Mr. Peters noted the District has worked with Nationwide Children's hospital to complete the written document and the cardiac emergency response team, which consists of 19 staff members, was evaluated by the state coordinator during a cardiac drill. Mr. Peters thanked Marc Dutro from Nationwide Children's Hospital as well as Brian Baker and the local first responders for assisting the District during the drill. After the approval of the plan document and drill evaluation, the District received its Heart Safe Designation on February 8<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Peters also thanked and acknowledged Nationwide Children's Hospital through Project Adam for the donation of a new AED. We had two AEDs that we could no longer get replacement batteries and pads for anymore. The District was able to purchase one new device and tonight the Board is accepting the donation of the second AED. While we hope we are never in a position where we have to utilize our training and AEDs, Mr. Peters highlighted how grateful the District is for the training and accessibility of AEDs here at Liberty Center Schools.

Mr. Peters reviewed the 2023-24 school year calendar that is on the agenda for approval. School will start on August 23, 2023 and end on May 23, 2024. There are also 2-hour delayed starts scheduled throughout the year for staff professional development.

Lastly, Mr. Peters thanked and commended the following employees who submitted their resignation/retirement notifications for their years of service to the District: Mr. Jerry Oberhaus – 35 years, Mr. Dave Grim – 27 years, and Ms. Donna Eickholt – 19 years.

**#26-23 Superintendent's Consent Agenda**

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

Approve the 2023-24 school year calendar.

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

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**#27-23 Superintendent's Personnel Recommendations**

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

Approve the NwOESC substitute teacher and paraprofessional list, as presented for the 2022-23 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 2022-23 school year with the 1-Year Temporary Non-Bachelors Substitute Teaching license:

Andrea Aeschliman  
Justin Rupp

Approve the following individuals as chaperones for 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Camp Willson, pending completion of all necessary paperwork:

Kimberly Winterfeld	Tammy Davis	Ronda Miller
Catrinia Hopkins	Sabrina Luedtke	Matt Tammarine
Meagan Bowen	Amanda Burmeister	Autumn Cornell
Susan Patton	Megan Miller	Heather Rohrs
Kyle Pieracini	Chelsea Howe	Jodi Buckenmeyer
Alec Thielman	Brandon Crow	Tammy Crow
Michelle Pieracini	Andrew Pieracini	Trisha Carter
Ashton Kessler	Justin Damman	Kelley McMurtrie
Bryan Ward	Adam DeMoe	Charlyn Barrett
Greg Badenhop		

Approve Desmond Yarnell as a classroom volunteer for the 2022-23 school year, pending completion of all necessary paperwork.

Accept the resignation of David Grim, Classroom Teacher, effective August 31, 2023.

Accept the retirement resignation of Jerry Oberhaus, Classroom Teacher, effective May 31, 2023.

Approve the following individual as a substitute to the department listed for the 2022-23 school year, pending completion of all necessary paperwork and training:

Alisha Pieracini – Secretary

Approve the following individuals as chaperones for the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Washington D.C. trip from June 8-11, 2023, pending completion of all necessary paperwork:

Charlie Krueger	Christy Myers	Emily Hill
Jerry Oberhaus	Tina Hammontree	Kim Jones

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Lynn Leatherman  
Kyle Storrer

Sara Lawniczak

Dylan Bush

Approve increasing the substitute aide pay to \$70.70 per day, effective January 1, 2023.

Approve increasing the substitute secretary pay to minimum wage, effective January 1, 2023.

Approve increasing the hourly rate of pay for the Concession Manager, Tim Reed, to minimum wage, effective January 1, 2023.

Accept the retirement resignation of Donna Eickholt, Cafeteria Supervisor, effective May 31, 2023.

Offer the following certified individuals each a one-year supplemental contract for the position indicated for the 2022-23 school year. Their salary will be per the LCCTA Negotiated Agreement's Supplemental Salary Schedule:

Kerry Homan – Assistant Track Coach  
Matt Bryan – Assistant Track Coach  
Annette Niekamp – Assistant Track Coach (50%)  
Luke Crozier – Jr. High Track Coach  
Raellen Merritt – Assistant Jr. High 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 each a one-year supplemental contract for the position indicated for the 2022-23 school year, pending completion of all necessary paperwork with salary as stipulated per the LCCTA Negotiated Agreement:

Bryan Miller – Jr. High Track Coach  
Kara Behnfeldt – Assistant Jr. High Track Coach  
Peg Zientek – Assistant Softball Coach

Approve the following volunteers for the activity indicated for the 2022-23 school year, contingent upon completion of all necessary paperwork:

Lexi Meyer – Softball  
Danielle Jones – Softball  
Scott Barrett – Softball  
Gary Gladieux – Softball  
Rob Shadday – Baseball  
Josh Drain – Baseball  
Paul Amstutz – Baseball  
Todd Spangler – Track  
Zach Bowers – Track  
Ken Barnes – Track  
Sophie Long – Track

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

**#28-23 OHSAA Membership Resolution**

The motion was made by Mr. Spangler and seconded by Mrs. Zacharias to approve the resolution for continued membership for the 2023-24 school year in the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA).

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

**#29-23 Service Agreement with Sara's Garden**

The motion was made by Mr. Benson and seconded by Mr. Weaver to retroactively approve the Third Party Service Agreement between Liberty Center Schools and Sara's Garden for Title I service at New Horizons Academy as presented.

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

**New Business**

The next Board meeting is March 27, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room.

**#30-23 Executive Session**

The motion was made by Mr. Weaver and seconded by Mr. Benson that the Board adjourn to Executive Session at 7:22 p.m. for the purpose of considering the employment of a public employee of the District.

The Board returned from Executive Session at 8:03 p.m.

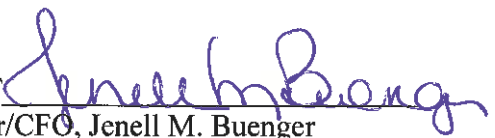
VOTE: Ayes: Mr. Weaver, Mrs. Zacharias, Mr. Benson, Mr. Spangler, Mr. Carter  
Nays: None – Motion Carried

**#31-23 Adjournment**

It was moved by Mr. Weaver and seconded by Mr. Benson to adjourn the February 27, 2023 regular meeting of the Liberty Center Local Board of Education at 8:04 p.m.

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

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

ATTEST   
Treasurer/CFO, Jenell M. Buenger