

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
Liberty Center Local Schools Regular Board Meeting
February 24, 2020

The Liberty Center Local Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, February 24, 2020 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.

#23-20 Approve Minutes

The motion was made by Mr. Spangler and seconded by Mr. Weaver to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on January 13, 2020 and special meeting held on February 10, 2020 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 noted the expenditures on the Budget to Actual report are on track for the year; however, the revenues are slightly higher for January as the income tax received was higher than projected. Mrs. Buenger explained the resolution accepting rates as determined by the budget commission and authorizing the necessary tax levies is done each year in February. She also thanked all of the generous donors.

Mrs. Buenger explained the need for the appropriation modifications and amended certificate increases. The grant allocations decreased for Title VI-B and Preschool. The Baseball Moms' are planning a fundraiser, requiring a change to appropriations and the amended certificate.

Mrs. Buenger gave details on the Revised Foundation Deduction Agreement with the NwOESC for fiscal year 2020. The deduction has decreased from \$574,995.72 to \$565,173.78, less the \$75,000 which is not deducted from the foundation payment, and equates to \$490,173.78. This is a decrease of \$9,821.94 for the year. This is partially due to not having students enrolled at the Independence Education Center (IEC) this year.

The State Auditors recommended the board approve a policy for outstanding checks. This is the process the District currently follows; however, now it will be in writing with board approval. It will not need to be approved again unless changes are made to the procedures for outstanding checks.

Mrs. Buenger informed the Board she is recommending Julian & Grube for the District GAAP reporting. In the past, the District has used Sammy Stamm and Company, but there have been issues in our state audit each year due to errors in the GAAP reporting. The cost will go from \$3,800 per year to \$4,500; however, we have had additional costs in the state audit due to the GAAP errors. Overall, the costs have the potential to decrease. The District currently utilizes Julian & Grube for the annual Medicaid audits. They also conducted an OFCC audit during my first year as the treasurer. The state auditors have also recommended we change to avoid future GAAP reporting inaccuracies.

#24-20 CFO/Treasurer's Consent Agenda

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

Approve the financial reports, including the following:
Monthly Bank Reconciliation

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FIN SUM
 Check Register
 Investment Report
 Budget vs. Actual

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

Approve the following donations:

| | | |
|---------------------------------|------------|--|
| Anonymous | \$200.00 | Past Due Lunch Accounts |
| LC Elementary PTO | \$200.00 | The Amazing Shake |
| KK Collision Inc. | \$100.00 | The Amazing Shake |
| The Henry County Bank | \$1,500.00 | Senior Citizen Breakfasts |
| The Toledo Clinic Cancer Center | | Once Source Wall Interactive Dissection Screen |

Approve the following Appropriation Modifications and Amended Certificate Increases:

Increase Appropriations

| | | |
|----------|--------------------------|--------------|
| 516 9714 | Title VI-B Even Year | (\$1,987.68) |
| 587 9700 | Preschool Grant (NWOESC) | (\$6.51) |
| 300 952M | Baseball Mom's | \$750.00 |

Increase Amended Certificate

| | | |
|----------|--------------------------|--------------|
| 516 9714 | Title VI-B Even Year | (\$1,987.68) |
| 587 9700 | Preschool Grant (NWOESC) | (\$6.51) |
| 300 952M | Baseball Mom's | \$1,000.00 |

Approve the following amended student activity budget for the 2019-20 school year:
 Baseball Mom's Group

Ratify the revised Foundation Deduction Agreement with the Northwest Ohio Educational Service Center for Special Education services for fiscal year 2020. The foundation deduction shall be revised to an annual amount of \$490,173.78.

Approve the Outstanding Check Policy as presented.

Approve Julian & Grube, Inc. to prepare the district's GAAP and GASB financial statements for FY20, FY21 and FY22 at a three-year engagement cost of \$4,500.

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

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Principals' Reports

Elementary

Ms. Postl informed the Board the elementary is hosting an Elementary Literacy Showcase on Friday, February 28, 2020 from 1:30-2:30 p.m. The American Reading Company is providing refreshments for the event and the Liberty Press and Northwest Signal were asked to share the invite in their newspapers. On the same day, the American Reading Company is highlighting the elementary and their implementation of ARC in what they call a "Seeing is Believing" event. During this event, other districts will have the opportunity to observe LC teachers implementing the new curriculum, chat with LC Elementary teachers over lunch, and network with other districts who have just started implementing or are considering purchasing ARC for next year. Currently there are approximately 30 registrants from across the state, including teachers, academic coaches and administrators from Delta, Pettisville, Bryan, Springfield, Rossford, Toledo Public, Mad River and Cleveland Metro. The elementary will receive free book bins (an approximate \$250 value) for each "decision maker" who attends the event. There are currently several registered – thank you ARC!

Ms. Postl reported the winter benchmark testing is complete. It took much longer than anticipated due to student illnesses prolonging make-up testing.

On March 3, 2020, the Elementary and Middle School will be hosting a family game night from 5-6:30 p.m. This will also coincide with the book fair, which begins on Monday, March 2nd and ends on Friday, March 6th.

Middle School

Mr. Mariano informed the Board of a new ELA writing initiative in the Middle School titled "RACE/No Excuses." A plan was put together that would benefit the students and teachers after identifying areas where the Middle School can grow. The initiative will increase expectations of all middle school students in every subject area. Students are expected to submit work that is in line with the "No Excuses" expectations, including restating the question in the answer, using spell check and other writing tools on their Chromebooks, no texting language, no abbreviations, no slang, capitalization, indentations, and punctuation. Thanks to the ELA teachers for all of their hard work.

Mr. Mariano reported the Middle School is entering Phase Two of PBIS, which rewards students for positive behaviors. All teachers and staff will actively seek students who are modeling ROAR expectations. These students are recognized and rewarded in a variety of ways. Recognition occurs every Friday and throughout the school year.

Mr. Mariano congratulated Joy Brown for earning 1st place and Reese Kessler for earning 2nd place at the Liberty Center Middle School Spelling Bee held on January 31st. Joy and Reese will represent the District at the Henry County Spelling Bee on March 10th. They will also get to participate in The Blade Bee at Owens Community College on March 14th.

Mr. Mariano recognized the following January students of the month, who were selected for demonstrating exceptional respectfulness: Tyler McDougle, Brianna Taylor, Colbie Strayer, Mykenna Vasko, Vaughn Norrington, Molly Perry, Kaden Soto and Taylor McFadden.

On Friday, February 14th, the Middle School recognized all students who made the Principal List, Honor Roll and Merit Roll by celebrating with a movie in the Auditoria. Over 250 students earned this reward.

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Mr. Mariano provided the following information on upcoming events: March 3rd – Family Game Night, March 5th – Sky Zone Night and March 14th – Mother/Son Dodgeball Tournament.

Lastly, Mr. Mariano congratulated Zack Weaver, Kaden Soto and Xander Myers for their success in wrestling and going to State.

High School

Mr. Black reported the following:

The following students have been chosen as members of the OMEA District 1 - Honors Choir: EricaRae Herrick, junior, Alto 2; Makayla Mays, sophomore, Soprano 2; Adrienne Rae, senior, Alto 2; Shaylee Watchowski, junior, Soprano 1; and Darin Weaver, senior, Tenor 2.

The following students participated in solo and ensemble contest: LCHS Trumpet Trio (Kyle Williams, Erica Minnich, Meredith Bowers): I Superior Rating; LCHS Trombone Trio (Ben Harmon, Reese Kessler, Kristine Minnich): I Superior Rating; Flute Solo (Regina Chadwick): II Excellent Rating; Snare Drum Solo (Sam Storer): II Excellent Rating; and LCHS Saxophone Quartet (EricaRae Herrick, Brenna Storer, MaKayla Hessler, Stone Guernsey): II Excellent Rating.

Cole Zeiter, a Liberty Center Senior, has been recognized as a National Merit Scholarship finalist. He is now in the running for one of approximately 7,500 National Merit Scholarships to be awarded this year. Cole is the first finalist at Liberty Center in 5 years.

Practice is moving forward for the musical Shrek, which will be staged April 2nd, 3rd and 4th at 7:00 p.m. in the Auditoria.

The sophomore class toured Four County Career Center on February 5th. This was an opportunity for students to look at programs that they may be interested in next year.

The Art Department has been active with nine students submitting work in the 5th District Congressional Art Show, 40 students with entries to Doodle for Google and 25 students will have works on display at the Armory Art Show in March.

Athletic Director's Report

Mr. Pohlman gave an update on winter sports. Girls basketball finished their season last week as they fell to Montpelier in the Sectional Semi-Final. Cassidy Chapa earned second team all-league and second team all-district. Sam Graber earned honorable mention all-league and all-district. Alyssa Giesige earned honorable mention all-district.

Boys and girls bowling finished their seasons at the Sectional match last week. Both boys and girls took home 4th place in the league and competed well at Sectionals. Nathan Weirauch received 2nd team all-league recognition and Hayden Guyer, Madison Amstutz, and Hannah Feather all earned honorable mention.

Boys basketball starts their tournament run tomorrow night at Wauseon against Genoa in the Sectional semi-final. They finished the regular season 12-10 and had 3 players named all-league. Carter Burdue received first

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team, Trent Murdock received second team, and Aaron Shafer received honorable mention. Carter received first team all-district honor and Aaron and Trent received honorable mention.

Wrestling competed at the league meet this weekend and brought home second place. There were 3 individual champions: Dylan Matthews at 132, Maguire Vollmar at 138 and Cameron Foster at 160. This weekend they will be competing in the Sectional Tournament at Napoleon High School.

The gymnastics team competed at Districts, hoping to qualify for state and finished 3rd as a team. We had two individual qualifiers for the state meet in Columbus this weekend. Meredith Zeiter qualified on the bars and Bailey Johnson was the District Champion on the beam.

Our competition cheer team competed in the Regional Competition. They will also be competing this weekend in Columbus for State.

We hosted the 8th Grade Boys Basketball Tournament and the first round of the Freshman Boys Basketball Tournament and had a great turnout. There were a lot of people in attendance.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Peters commended Ms. Postl and the entire Elementary staff for the implementation of the ARC program. He explained that it was an expensive program, but well worth the cost as literacy is the foundation of education. He also commended the board for approving the cost of the program almost a year ago.

Mr. Peters gave an update on the solar project. There was a set-back earlier in the month when a water line was struck during the boring process. School was not in session; however it required school to be cancelled the following day. enTrust is addressing the damage caused, and with the contract the District has with them, we have been assured everything will be fixed at no cost to the District. The solar panels have been completely installed. Completion of the project is expected in March or April when the electricity generated from the solar field is tied into the District's power source and testing is completed in coordination with Toledo Edison.

Mr. Peters also gave an update on the football field restroom/concession project. Final prints are anticipated this week and will be provided to the Board and community. The District will be able to utilize the remaining locally funded portion of the funds from the K-12 building project, along with a donation from the Athletic Boosters to complete the building project. The project is expected to begin in early March with completion before the first home football game.

Mr. Peters explained the resolution opposing the EdChoice Program. EdChoice is a private school voucher program that began in the 1990's. Initially, qualifications were based on household income. Current legislation now bases the voucher program on the school grade card system and the labeling of underperforming districts. The state will take money from districts to provide vouchers for students to attend a private school if a district is classified as underperforming. Mr. Peters emphasized that private schools select which students they accept into their schools, whereas public schools serve all students. Private schools are also not held to the same accountability standards as public schools. The state has admitted the current grade card system is flawed, which means they are utilizing a flawed system and putting an enormous burden on public school districts. Therefore, Liberty Center Local Schools is proposing a resolution opposing the Ohio EdChoice Program.

Mr. Peters gave an update on the Puerto Rico Spanish Club trip dates, which are June 23-30, 2020.

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The next Senior Citizen Breakfast is February 27th at 8:30 a.m. in the Auditoria.

#25-20 Superintendent's Consent Agenda

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

Approve Mr. Dan Brown to serve on the Liberty Center Public Library's Board of Trustees with a term expiring December 31, 2024.

Approve Mr. Judd Thomas to serve on the Liberty Center Public Library's Board of Trustees with a term expiring December 31, 2025.

Approve the contract renewal for the (free) Basic Educational Technology Membership in NWOET for July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

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

#26-20 Superintendent's Personnel Recommendations

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

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

| | | |
|------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Brandy Minnich | Carida Stevens | Michelle Ordway |
| Ashley Foster | Laurie Imhoof | Heather Wilhelm |
| Luke Rohrs | Brad May | Tim Ordway |
| Jeff Pinson | Jeannie Strain | Bill Zeiter |
| Bill Stoner | Tom Oelkrug | Karrie Rentz |
| Michael Scott | Todd Spangler | Brent Overmier |
| Michael McMaster | Leslie Fausnight | |

Approve the following individual as a classroom volunteer for the 2019-20 school year, pending completion of all necessary paperwork:

Debra Cooke

Offer the following certified individuals each a one-year supplemental contract for the position indicated for the 2019-20 school year. Their salary will be per the LCCTA Negotiated Agreement's Supplemental Salary Schedule:

Luke Crozier – Junior High Track Coach
Brian Miller – Junior 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

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individuals a one-year supplemental contract for the position indicated for the 2019-20 school year. Their salary will be per the LCCTA Negotiated Agreement's Supplemental Salary Schedule:

Ron Klostermeier – Assistant Baseball Coach
Kara Behnfeldt – Junior High Track Coach

Approve the following volunteers to the sport indicated for the 2019-20 school year, contingent upon the completion of all necessary paperwork:

Tyler Sharpe – Track
Bob Murdock – Baseball
Chris Righi – Baseball
Rob Shadday – Baseball
Don Johnson – Baseball
Evan Horner – Baseball
Bethany Wolf – Gymnastics
Erika Wolf – Gymnastics

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

#27-20 OHSAA Membership Resolution

It was moved by Mr. Weaver and seconded by Mrs. Zacharias to approve the resolution for continued membership for the 2020-21 school year in the Ohio High School Athletic Association.

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

#28-20 Approve 2020-21 School Calendar

It was moved by Mr. Spangler and seconded by Mr. Benson to approve the 2020-21 school calendar as presented.

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

#29-20 Resolution Opposing the State of Ohio EdChoice Program

The motion was made by Mr. Weaver and seconded by Mr. Benson to approve the resolution opposing the Ohio EdChoice program.

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

New Business

The next Board Meeting is March 23, 2020

#30-20 Executive Session

The motion was made by Mr. Spangler and seconded by Mr. Weaver that the Board adjourn to Executive Session at 7:38 p.m. for the purpose of:

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Consideration of the employment of a public employee; and

Preparing for negotiations or bargaining session with public employees concerning their compensation or other terms and conditions of employment.

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

The Board returned from Executive Session at 8:20 p.m.

#31-20 Adjournment

It was moved by Mr. Spangler and seconded by Mr. Weaver to adjourn the February 24, 2020 regular meeting of the Liberty Center Local Board of Education at 8:21 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