

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
Liberty Center Local Schools Organizational and Regular Board Meeting
January 13, 2020

The Liberty Center Local Board of Education met on Monday, January 13, 2020 at 6:45 p.m. in the Board Room for the purpose of reorganization of the Board of Education for calendar year 2020, as well as the regular January meeting.

The Oath of Office was administered to re-elected Liberty Center School Board of Education members Mr. Jeff Benson and Mr. Todd Spangler.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Board members Mr. Jeff Benson, Mr. Neal Carter, Mr. Todd Spangler, Mr. John Weaver, and Mrs. Andrea Zacharias were in attendance.

#1-20 Election of President

President Pro Tempore, Mr. Carter, declared nominations open for the office of President of the Board of Education for the calendar year 2020. Mr. Weaver nominated Mr. Carter. There were no other nominations. Mr. Carter asked for a motion to close the nominations. The motion was made by Mr. Benson and seconded by Mr. Weaver. The vote to close nominations was unanimous with all members voting yes. Motion passed.

Vote for Mr. Carter to serve as President: Mr. Benson, Mr. Spangler, Mr. Weaver, Mrs. Zacharias

Mr. Carter: Abstained

Mr. Carter was declared the 2020 Board President.

#2-20 Election of Vice-President

President Pro Tempore, Mr. Carter, declared nominations open for the office of Vice-President of the Board of Education for the calendar year 2020. Mrs. Zacharias nominated Mr. Spangler. There were no other nominations. Mr. Carter asked for a motion to close the nominations. The motion was made by Mr. Benson and seconded by Mr. Weaver. The vote to close nominations was unanimous with all members voting yes. Motion passed.

Vote for Mr. Spangler to serve as Vice-President: Mr. Benson, Mr. Carter, Mr. Spangler, Mr. Weaver, Mrs. Zacharias

Mr. Spangler was declared the 2020 Board Vice-President.

The Oath of Office was administered by Mrs. Buenger, Treasurer, to the newly elected President and Vice-President. Mr. Carter then took over the meeting.

#3-20 Proposal to Establish Meeting Date and Time

The motion was made by Mrs. Zacharias and seconded by Mr. Spangler to establish the regular meeting date as the fourth Monday of each month at 7 p.m., except for May, June and December, in the Board Room. Below is a schedule of the meeting dates for 2020:

February 24th

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March 23rd
April 27th
May 18th
June 29th
July 27th
August 24th
September 28th
October 26th
November 23rd
December 21st

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

#4-20 Establish District Records Commission

The motion was made by Mr. Weaver and seconded by Mr. Benson that the Board of Education's District Records Commission shall be comprised of the Superintendent, Treasurer, and Board President.

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

#5-20 Authorize the Treasurer to Request an Advance Tax Draw

The motion was made by Mrs. Zacharias and seconded by Mr. Spangler that the Treasurer is hereby authorized to request from the Henry County Auditor and Fulton County Auditor an advance draw of taxes during calendar year 2020 if and/or when necessary funds are available.

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

#6-20 Establish Board Service Fund

The motion was made by Mr. Spangler and seconded by Mr. Benson that the Board establishes a Service Fund for the Board of Education in the amount of \$8,000.00 for calendar year 2020.

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

#7-20 Approve Legal Firms

The motion was made by Mr. Benson and seconded by Mrs. Zacharias that the Board approves the following legal firms for district legal services during calendar year 2020:

Ennis Britton Co. L.P.A.
Plassman, Rupp, Hagans & Newton
Squire Patton Boggs (US) L.L.P.

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

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#8-20 Appoint Superintendent as Purchasing Agent

The motion was made by Mr. Weaver and seconded by Mr. Spangler to appoint Superintendent, Richie Peters, as the purchasing agent for the Liberty Center School District for calendar year 2020.

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

#9-20 Authorize Superintendent to Enter Into Agreements

The motion was made by Mrs. Zacharias and seconded by Mr. Weaver that the Superintendent, Richie Peters, be authorized to enter into collective and individual agreements with Ohio Colleges and Universities, on behalf of the Board of Education, for terms related to the College Credit Plus Program.

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

#10-20 Authorize the Superintendent to Accept Resignations

The motion was made by Mr. Benson and seconded by Mr. Weaver that the Board authorizes the Superintendent, Richie Peters, on behalf of this Board, to accept resignations which have been submitted by employees during times when this Board is not in session, subject to ratification by this Board; provided however, that upon ratification by this Board, such resignations shall be deemed effective as of the date and time of the Superintendent's acceptance. The authorization provided by this resolution shall remain in effect until withdrawn by formal action of the Board.

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

#11-20 Authorize the Superintendent to Offer Employment

The motion was made by Mr. Weaver and seconded by Mrs. Zacharias that the Board authorizes the Superintendent, Richie Peters, during periods when this Board is not in session, to make offers of employment directly to candidates for either teaching or nonteaching positions on behalf of this Board, and to acknowledge acceptance of such offers on behalf of this Board, subject to a subsequent vote of ratification by this Board, provided however, that upon ratification by this Board, the employment shall be deemed effective as of the date and time of the employee's acceptance of the Superintendent's offer. The authorization shall remain in effect until withdrawn by formal action of this Board.

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

#12-20 Committee Appointments by the Board President for Calendar Year 2020

Board Facilities Committee: Todd Spangler and Neal Carter

Board Policy Review Committee: Jeff Benson and Neal Carter

Board Student Achievement Liaisons: Todd Spangler and John Weaver

Board Legislative Liaison: John Weaver

Board Representative to L.C. Schools Education Foundation Board: Andi Zacharias

Board Finance Committee: Jeff Benson and Andi Zacharias

Board Representative to Board Bargaining Teams: Neal Carter

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

#13-20 Henry County Enterprise Zone Tax Incentive Review Council

The motion was made by Mr. Weaver and seconded by Mr. Benson to approve Richie Peters, Superintendent, as the district's representative to the Henry County Enterprise Zone Tax Incentive Review Council (TIRC).

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

#14-20 Treasurer Pro Tempore in the Absence of the Treasurer

The motion was made by Mrs. Zacharias and seconded by Mr. Benson to appoint the Board Vice-President as the Treasurer Pro Tempore in the absence of the Treasurer.

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

The regular January meeting of the Liberty Center Schools Board of Education immediately followed the Organizational meeting with all board members still in attendance. The regular meeting began at 6:57 p.m.

#15-20 Approve Minutes

The motion was made by Mr. Weaver and seconded by Mrs. Zacharias to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on December 16, 2019 of the Liberty Center Board of Education.

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

Treasurer's Report

Mrs. Buenger reported on the regular monthly reports. She also explained that at the beginning of each calendar year, the Board approves the IRS mileage rate, which is \$0.575 per mile, effective January 1st. This is a decrease from \$0.58 in 2019. The Athletic rate remains the same at \$0.32 per mile. Mrs. Buenger informed the Board of her annual submission of the Alternative Tax Budget for Fiscal Year 2020. This is given to the Henry County Auditor. The report includes the five year forecast, fund summary, and debt schedule.

Mrs. Buenger informed the Board she submitted 34 excess cost applications, compared to 40 from last year. The lower number of applications is due to the LEC/Genacross enrolling students from Michigan and other area districts, which means we do not pay for those students. We have 20 LEC students, 11 Liberty Center students and three preschool students. Excess costs are filed on all non-resident students who are educated here or at the LEC and have a disability. Excess costs have to be uploaded by Friday, January 17th and then final submissions are due by January 31st. The District should receive the payment sometime in March. This totals approximately \$500,000.00 in revenue.

#16-20 CFO/Treasurer's Consent Agenda

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

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Approve the financial reports, including the following:

- Monthly Bank Reconciliation
- FIN SUM
- Check Register
- Investment Report
- Budget vs. Actual

Approve the 2020 mileage rate at \$0.575 per mile for all non-union employees. All LCCTA and OAPSE members will receive mileage reimbursement at the current IRS rate of \$0.575 per mile. The Athletic mileage rate is set per the LCCTA Contract at \$0.32 per mile.

Adopt the Alternative Tax Budget Packet for Fiscal Year 2020 (July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020) as shown and that this packet be submitted to the Henry County Budget Commission.

Approve the following donations:

Sauder Woodworking Inc.	\$200.00	The Amazing Shake
LC Athletic Boosters	\$644.00	State Cross Country Hotel Rooms
LC Athletic Boosters	\$3,000.00	Hudl Focus
LC Athletic Boosters	\$750.00	Bowling Bags

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

Principals' Reports

Elementary

Ms. Postl informed the Board the PTO hosted over 400 people for the pancake breakfast for the '2nd Birthday' celebration of our beautiful building. She also reported the NAEP assessment will take place on January 21st for 53 pre-selected 9-year old students in either math or reading. Starting January 14th, the Elementary will begin winter benchmarking.

Ms. Postl said elementary students are focusing on the following Tiger Etiquettes for January: smile, say hello, wave, shake hands, or give a high five. The students are also working on how to respond when someone bumps into you.

Lastly, the Elementary is looking to have a literacy showcase this spring to show the amazing reading and writing that is taking place using the new curriculum.

Middle School

Mr. Mariano reported the Middle School is making growth when comparing the December iReady diagnostic testing to the testing done at the beginning of the school year. He will be meeting with Katie Jimenez and the teachers to discuss the progress, as well as ways to support the teachers through the end of the school year.

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Fifth grade students participated in DARE graduation on January 7th. DARE is provided to our students by Officer Zumfelde. One of the county K-9 units participated in the graduation, showing students how a police dog can track down people or drugs.

Mr. Mariano informed the Board the Fine Arts Department selected the December Students of the Month based on their achievements in visual arts, choir and band: Isabelle Genson, Natalie Huber, Ethan Gray, Collin Westrick, Owen Gebers, Braxton Light, Aletha Fausnight, Jackson Zeiter, Addison Naveau, Stone Roth, Aiden Bowser, Audrey Branson, Hunter Spangler, Alexa Munoz, Aleah Minnich, Savannah Hernandez, Bea Barrett, Lilah Krueger, Jillian Stevens and Lucas Wheeler.

The Middle School Spelling Bee will be held on January 31st. Liberty Center Mayor, Jay Branson, will join us and read the words for spelling bee.

High School

Mr. Black was ill and not in attendance. Mr. Mariano explained the three new local graduation seal options for graduation requirements: fine arts seal, community work/service seal and student engagement seal.

Athletic Director's Report

Mr. Pohlman reported on the winter sports season. The boys and girls basketball seasons are just about at the halfway point. The boys are 6-5 and the girls are 6-6. The boys and girls bowling season is also going well. The boys are 5-3 and the girls are 3-5. The wrestling team has had a few tournaments. They placed 3rd as a team at the Marion Harding Classic and at the Findlay Invitational. The gymnastics team competed at the Patrick Henry Invitational and placed 2nd as a team, with three individual champions in single events.

Mr. Pohlman informed the Board of an OHSAA ruling change that will now allow for track and field to start practice on the same day as baseball and softball.

Mr. Pohlman explained the Athletic Boosters have been very generous in donating towards the needs in the Athletic Department. They have donated towards Hudl focus, software for basketball film, bowling team bags, and have agreed to help offset the cost for fall varsity jacket patches for league and district champion teams.

The Athletic Boosters are selling tickets for the March 21st Night at the Races fundraiser being held at the Napoleon American Legion. There are multiple sponsors and it looks to be a fun night.

Lastly, Mr. Pohlman announced some of the events the District has hosted or will be hosting: Junior High Wrestling Tournament with over 19 teams, Bidy Tournament, freshman boys basketball first round, and 8th grade boys basketball first and second round.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Peters acknowledged the members of the Liberty Center Board of Education and thanked them for their service. He presented each of them with a certificate for Board Appreciation Month.

Mr. Peters updated the Board on the solar project. The racking is completed and approximately 75% of the panels have been installed. The project is currently ahead of schedule. Completion is still expected in mid-March or early April.

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Mr. Peters also reported Rupp-Rosebrock was the lowest bid for a future restroom/concession facility at the football field. The District has combined efforts with the Athletic Boosters, who were looking to update the current concession building. By working together, we will be able to get the best building to meet both needs. Mr. Peters will be meeting with Garmann-Miller, who has assisted with the design-build project, Rupp-Rosebrock and Athletic Booster President, Mark Bly, to discuss the project. The plan is to have the project completed by mid-August.

The District recently received notification in regards to closing out the K-12 building project. The funds remaining from this will be used for the restroom/concession building project.

Mr. Peters informed the Board the District will utilize this year's school safety grant funds to purchase three door security boots for the preschool classrooms, which are located in the administrative building. Any remaining funds will be used for trainings and assemblies.

Lastly, Mr. Peters reported the 2020-21 calendar will be presented at the February board meeting. A change was proposed to have parent-teacher conferences earlier in the year, which requires a memorandum of understanding with the union.

#17-20 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 membership in the Ohio School Boards Association at the cost of \$4,927.00 for calendar year 2020.

Approve participation in the OSBA Legal Assistance Fund Consultant Service at the cost of \$250.00 for calendar year 2020.

Approve the Varsity Wrestling team and coaches for an overnight trip to attend the Sally George Wrestling Invite in Marion, OH on January 24-25, 2020.

Approve the Fine Arts Seal, Community Work/Service Seal and Student Engagement Seal as additional local-designed criteria for the graduation requirements beginning with the class of 2021.

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

#18-20 Superintendent's Personnel Recommendations

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

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

Rodney Metzger – Bowling

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Whereas the Board of Education has offered and advertised the following supplemental position 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 2019-20 school year, with their salary as stipulated per the LCCTA Negotiated Agreement.

Brian Dotson – Assistant Wrestling Coach

Approve the following individual as a substitute to the department listed for the 2019-20 school year, pending completion of all necessary paperwork:

Kim Dukes – Lunchroom

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


#19-20 Adjournment

It was moved by Mr. Weaver and seconded by Mr. Benson to adjourn the January 13, 2020 organizational and regular meeting of the Liberty Center Local Board of Education at 7:25 p.m.

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



President, Neal Carter

ATTEST 

Treasurer/CFO, Jenell M. Buenger