

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of AMHERST EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Special
Meeting

Held at the Powers Elementary School Cafetorium at 5:30 P.M.	Dec 22, 20 21
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Each meeting of the Amherst Board of Education is held in public for the purpose of conducting the School District's business and is not to be considered a public community meeting. There is a time for public participation during the meeting as indicated on the agenda.

President Ron Yacobozzi presided. Called to order at 5:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll call:

Ron Yacobozzi, present; Marc Zappa, present; Rex Engle, present; Teresa Gilles, present; Valerie Neidert, Present.

Steven A. Sayers, Superintendent, present; Amelia R. Gioffredo, Treasurer/CFO, present.

2021-12-01

It was moved by Engle, seconded by Zappa to adopt the agenda as presented, including any addenda.

Roll Call vote:

Engle, aye; Zappa, aye; Gilles, aye; Neidert, aye; Yacobozzi, aye.

Hearing of the public:

The Public Participation section of the Board of Education's agenda is specifically designed for the public to address the Board with their compliments and/or concerns. The Board welcomes and appreciates your comments. If you wish to address the board regarding a problem, please consider the following:

- First: Your comments should be factual and respectful of the rights of others.
- Second: Before addressing the Board with a specific problem, it is the Board's hope that you have first addressed the problem with the appropriate teacher, staff member or administrator. Individual statements should not exceed five (5) minutes and total time shall be a maximum of thirty (30) minutes.

2021-12-02

It was moved by Gilles and seconded by Neidert to appoint Rex Engle as President Pro Tempore to preside over the January 10, 2022, Organizational Meeting.

Roll call vote:

Gilles, aye; Neidert, aye; Engle, aye; Zappa, aye; Yacobozzi, aye.

Good News Reports:

- Chuck Winiarski read Proclamations from the City to recognize the Girls Volleyball Team and the Marching Band.

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- Casey Wolf - Athletic Director gave the following good news athletic report:

Southwestern Conference MVPs

- Luke Bowsby, Boys Cross Country.
Luke won the SWC Cross Country Meet under very wet conditions at Lorain County Community College. He had another tremendous season. He is just a sophomore, so we are excited to see him compete for two more years
- Ryan Yoder, Boys Golf
Ryan entered the Southwestern Conference Golf Championship, in early October, needing to make up 4 shots on the SWC Leader for Conference MVP. They were playing together in the same group. When they stepped on the 18th Tee Box, Ryan was 4 shots up on the leader heading into the day. Ryan made a 4, sinking about a 20-foot putt, and his opponent made a 6 on 18. Ryan, too, is a sophomore, so we are looking forward to being able to watch him for two more years.
- Laken Voss, Volleyball
Laken capped off an amazing career, earning about every award possible this season. Let me try to name them all.... First Team All-Ohio, First Team All-District, First Team All SWC, First Team All Lorain County, Lorain County Division 1 Player of the Year, Southwestern Conference MVP, Lorain County Miss Volleyball.

In addition, it should also be noted that she accomplished a feat that I can't believe many other players anywhere have ever achieved because of the various positions you would need to play to do what she did. Over her 4-year career, Laken recorded at least 1,000 Assists, 1,000 Digs, and 1,000 Kills.

- Felicia Sanchez, Volleyball
Lorain County Division 1 Coach of the Year

Volleyball Team Recognition:

OHSAA Division I Final Four played at Wright State University (11/11/21)
OHSAA Norwalk Regional Champions, defeated St. Joseph Academy (11/6/21)
OHSAA Midview District Champions, defeated Westlake (10/30/21)
Southwestern Conference Champions, 15th SWC Championship in School History
23-4 Overall Record
13-1 Southwestern Conference Record

Marching Comets:

Perkins Competition 1st Place AA, Best Music and Grand Champion
Avon Lake Competition 1st Place AA, Best Music, and Grand Champion
Copley Competition 1st Place AA and Grand Champion

***Undeclared season which is a first for the Marching Comets.

State Qualifiers

This is the 19th year in a row qualifying for State Marching Band Finals
This is the 16th year in a row coming home with the highest rating possible.

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Brian Teppner – Powers Principal

Board Recognition – Reno Contipelli, NE Regional Manager, OSBA

The following board members were recognized for their years of service:

- Marc Zappa – 10 years
- Valerie Neidert – 10 years
- Ron Yacobozzi – 43 years

Chuck Winiarski, Steve Sayers, Amelia Gioffredo, Valerie Neidert, Ron Yacobozzi also spoke.

Ron Yacobozzi was presented with a street sign “Yacobozzi Way”.

2021-12-03

It was moved by Engle and seconded by Neidert to approve the following recommendations:

- A. Amend and/or approve the board minutes for the 11/7/2021 Special Board Meeting.
- B. Amend and/or approve the board minutes for the 11/15/2021 Regular Board Meeting.
- C. Approve the treasurer’s financial reports for the month of November 2021. (See Exhibits 11A,11B, 11C, 11D and 11E.)
- D. Approve the revision of appropriations and the “412 certificate” as per **Exhibit 11F**.
- E. Approve the then-and-now invoice(s), thus certifying that both at the time the contract was made and at the time of the certificate, the amount of the contract was lawfully appropriated for such purposes of the contract. That the appropriation remains unencumbered and the available resources to pay the obligation are on-hand, or in the process of collection to the credit of the appropriate fund, in accordance with Ohio Revised Code §5705.41 as per **exhibit 11G**.
 - Ohio On-line Learning - \$7,060 and \$3,500
 - Elyria Parks & Recreation Department - \$3,675
 - Lorain County Metropolitan Park District - \$3,330
- F. Accept and acknowledge the receipt of the following donations to the Amherst Schools:
 - Allison Allen, \$25 donation to the Steele News Live Telethon.
 - Russell and Emily Marty, \$25 donation to the Steele News Live Telethon.
 - Walter Snyder, \$250 donation to the Steele News Live Telethon.
 - Michelle Webb, \$40 donation to the Steele News Live Telethon.
 - Lacey Reichert, \$20 donation to the Steele News Live Telethon
 - Blue Sky Restaurant, \$100 donation to the Steele News Live Telethon

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- Two anonymous donations, \$50 and \$150 to the Steele News Live Telethon
- Lowes, Lorain store, for a donation of hand sanitizer and bleach in the amount of \$742.43
- Truenorth Energy, LLC for a donation of \$868.04 from the Giving Pump Project in September.
- Steve Sayers and family for a \$5,000 donation to be used for the purpose of providing merit-based scholarships to graduating seniors and to provide assistance to students who are not able to pay for pay to participate or field trip fees.

Roll call vote:

Engle, aye; Neidert, aye; Gilles, aye; Zappa, aye; Yacobozzi, aye.

2021-12-04

It was moved by Neidert, seconded by Gilles to approve the following:

Approve A RESOLUTION SUBMITTING TO THE ELECTORS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT THE QUESTION OF THE RENEWAL OF AN EXISTING 4.9-MILL TAX LEVY FOR THE PURPOSE OF CURRENT EXPENSES, PURSUANT TO SECTION 5705.21 OF THE REVISED CODE.

Roll call vote:

Neidert, aye; Gilles, aye; Engle, aye; Zappa, aye; Yacobozzi, aye.

2021-12-05

It was moved by Neidert, seconded by Gilles to approve the following:

Approve A RESOLUTION DETERMINING TO PROCEED WITH THE SUBMISSION TO THE ELECTORS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE QUESTION OF THE RENEWAL OF AN EXISTING TAX LEVY PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 5705.194 TO 5705.197 OF THE REVISED CODE.

Roll call vote:

Neidert, aye; Gilles, aye; Engle, aye; Zappa, aye; Yacobozzi, aye.

Superintendent's Report:

Mr. Steve Sayers, Superintendent

- Walking track
- Summer projects – Steele gymnasium
- Rachel Mellon – Communications & Community Relations Specialist

Administrative Committee Reports:

Mr. Mike Molnar, Assistant Superintendent

- Each Child Reads grant - \$69,231
- Math Pathways
- Steele Maker Space

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Mrs. Sarah Walker, Director of Student Services

- Walker's Workshop/Wenzell's Comet Creators
- Second Harvest
- Comets Live - Events

Mr. Rex Engle JVS Representative

- None

Other Reports (Administrative Standing Committees)

- None

2021-12-06

Moved by Neidert, seconded by Gilles to approve the following:

A. Accept the following resignations as indicated and authorize the Superintendent and/or Treasurer to execute any necessary documents relating to separation of employment:

- **Christopher Perdue**, FT Bus Driver and PT Monitor at AJH, effective 12/21/2021.
- **William Walker**, Assistant Wrestling Coach, effective for the **2021-2022** school year.

B. Accept the following resignations as indicated for the **purpose of retirement** and authorize the Superintendent and/or Treasurer to execute any necessary documents relating to separation of employment:

- **Connie Cotton**, Teacher Aide, M.L. Steele High School, effective end of day 5/26/2022.

C. Employ the following individual(s), as indicated, on a 30 or 60-day probationary contract, for the **2021-2022** school year pending completion of all employment requirements, including but not limited to a background check. Proper placement on the negotiated salary schedule pending verification of all prior experience:

- **Jessica Durica**, 60-day probationary contract, Cook/Cashier, AJH, effective 1/4/2022.
- **Lucas Fox**, 60-day probationary contract, FT Assistant Mechanic, effective 1/3/2022.

D. Approve the **administrative contract renewals** as indicated:

- **Nicholas Toney**, M.L. Steele Assistant Principal, three-year contract, beginning 8/1/2022

E. Employ the following individual(s) as certified and/or classified substitutes for the **2021-2022** school year, as indicated, with compensation at the board-approved substitute rates pending completion of all employment requirements, including, but not limited to licensure/certification (if required) and a BCI & FBI background check:

CERTIFIED

- **Jeffrey Braden**, effective 12/20/2021
- **David Scheufler**, effective 1/4/2022
- **Melissa Somers**, effective 12/31/2021

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- **Lesley Hicks**, effective 12/1/2021
- F. Approve the changes in contracted status for the following individuals for the **2021-2022** school year as indicated:
- **Rebecka Hardwick** - Cook/Cashier at AJH from 4 to 4.5 hrs./day
 - **Joe Ann Wade**, from PT Bus Driver to FT Bus Driver, effective 1/4/2022 (still under 60-day probationary contract)
 - **William Walker** - from Assistant Wrestling Coach to Head Wrestling Coach, effective for the **2021-2022** school year.
- G. Grant the following certified personnel a supplemental contract for their services as a home instruction tutor for the **2021-2022** school year inclusive of **summer 2022** if necessary, on an "as needed basis," with compensation at the board approved rate:
- **Diana Beursken**, effective 11/19/2021
 - **Lisa Harcula**, effective 12/10/2021
 - **Mary Jane Loushin**, effective 12/22/2021
 - **Russell Marty**, effective 10/28/2021
 - **Holly Miller**, effective 11/4/2021
- H. Grant the following individuals, who have completed their probationary contract, a limited contract or return to a continuing contract status as indicated:
- **Lindsey Donat**, PT Preschool Aide, Powers, balance of a one-year contract effective 12/4/2021
 - **Weldon Hawk**, PT Monitor, M.L. Steele, balance of a one-year contract, effective 12/14/2021
 - **Tanesha Jackson**, FT Bus Driver, balance of a one-year contract, effective 12/4/2021
 - **Constance Lynch**, FT Bus Driver, balance of a one-year contract, effective 12/2/2021
 - **John Overdorff**, PT Custodian II/Cleaner, M.L. Steele, balance of a one-year contract, effective 12/2/2021
 - **Benjamin Pena**, Assistant Mechanic, balance of a one-year contract, effective 12/30/2021
 - **William Stemmer**, FT Bus Driver, balance of a one-year contract, effective 12/4/2021
 - **Joe West**, PT Bus Driver, balance of a one-year contract, effective 12/9/2021
- I. Approve the unpaid medical leave of absence for **Sydney Bailey**, Monitor, Nord, effective 12/8/2021 through 12/21/2021.
- J. Approve the unpaid medical leave of absence for **Daniel Ortiz**, Custodian II/Cleaner, M.L. Steele, 12/6/2021 through 12/10/2021.
- K. Approve the unpaid medical leave of absence for **Kelly Massa**, English Teacher, M.L. Steele, 12/2/2021 through 1/3/2022.
- L. Approve the unpaid parental leave of absence for **Jessica Stellwagen**, Fourth Grade Teacher, Nord, effective on or about 1/3/2022 through 1/31/2022.

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M. Approve after school tutoring, not to exceed the number of hours given, and to be paid at a rate of \$35.03 per hour, for the **End of Course (EOC) Boot Camp** at M.L. Steele High School:

- **Larissa McNeal**, Biology – not to exceed 2 total hours (replacing **Felicia Sanchez**)

N. Approve a 2% base salary increase for Administrative Staff for the **2022-2023** school year, consistent with the increase granted to the Amherst Teachers Association and authorize the EMIS Coordinator and Special Education Coordinator/Preschool Supervisor positions to be included in the Administrative Handbook.

O. Approve a 2% salary increase for Administrative Support Staff for the **2022-2023** school year.

P. Approve the **revised Ancillary Schedule Table** for the **2021-2022** school year as per **Attachment 14A**.

Q. Approve the following game management and athletic event personnel to be paid according to the approved **2021-2022 Ancillary Salary Schedule** out of the athletic fund as per **Attachment 14B**.

R. Approve **Tim Alcorn** to be paid \$75 per game as the **Comets Live Play by Play Broadcaster** for limited freshman JV events.

S. Amend the previously approved stipend for **Kimberly Haney** as the Wellness Coordinator to \$2,000 for the **2021-2022** school year.

T. Approve the following personnel for extra duty pay, for completion of non-violent crisis intervention training hours as per **Attachment 14C**.

U. Approve the job description for the **Communications and Community Relations Specialist** as per **Attachment 14D**.

V. Approve **Rachel Mellen**, Communications and Community Relations Specialist, on a 60-day probationary contract, effective 1/18/2022, at an approved salary of \$59,000/year, with benefits provided per the Administrative Support Staff handbook.

Roll call vote:

Neidert, aye; Gilles, aye; Engle, aye; Zappa, aye; Yacobozzi, aye.

2021-12-07

It was moved by Zappa seconded by Neidert to approve a 2% salary increase for Superintendent Steven Sayers for the **2022-2023** school year.

Roll call vote:

Zappa, aye; Neidert, aye; Engle, aye; Gilles, aye; Yacobozzi, aye.

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2021-12-08

It was moved by Zappa, seconded by Neidert to approve the following:

- A. Approve the following overnight field trip(s):
- Senior history/English project winners to attend Hamilton on Broadway, in New York, New York 5/31/2022 to 6/2/2022 as per **exhibit 16A**.
 - Amherst Marching Comets to perform at Walt Disney World in Florida, 3/18/2022 to 3/24/2022 as per **exhibit 16B**.
- B. Approve the program of studies for M.L. Steele High School for the **2022-2023** school year as per **exhibit 16C**.
- C. Accept the Memorandum of Understanding(s) (MOU) with **Lorain County Community College (LCCC)** for the **College Credit Plus (CCP)** program for the 2022-2023 school year as per **exhibit 16D**.
- D. That the Amherst E.V. Board of Education approve the agreement with **Jostens** for the purchase of school planners for Amherst Jr. High for the 2022-2023 school year as per **exhibit 16E**.
- E. That the Amherst E.V. Board of Education approve the new and/or revised board policies as per **exhibits 16F 0169.01; 16G 1530; 16H 1617; 16I 1613.0; 16J 2271; 16K 2370.01; 16L 3217; 16M 3430.01; 16N 4217; 16O 4430.01; 16P 5111; 16Q 5111.02; 16R 5200; 16S 5350; 16T 5360.01; 16U 5464; 16V 5516; 16W 6114; 16X 7300; 16Y 7450; 16Z 8330; 16AA 8462; 16BB 8600; 16CC 8651; 16DD 8740**
- F. Approve the service agreement with the **Lorain County ESC** for placement in the **Pathways to Success** program for an Amherst student, as per **exhibit 16EE**.
- G. Approve the agreement with **Wolstein Center at Cleveland State University**, for the purpose of holding the 2022 Amherst M.L. Steele Commencement Ceremony on May 21, 2022, as per **exhibit 16FF**.
- H. Authorize the Superintendent to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Amherst Teachers Association (ATA) for the Data Science Foundations Course Pilot for the **2022-2023** school year.

Roll call vote:

Zappa, aye; Neidert, aye; Engle, aye; Gilles, aye; Yacobozzi, aye.

2021-12-09

It was moved by Neidert, seconded by Engle to approve the following:

- A. Approve the agreement with **Side Effects, Inc. DBA Power Ad Company** for the upgrade to the scoring table in the varsity gymnasium at M.L. Steele, as per **exhibit 17A**.
- B. Approve the **2022 Summer Project** list as per **attachment 17A**.

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C. Authorize the solicitation of bids for the M.L. Steele High School Maker Space Project once the construction drawings are completed.

Roll call vote

Neidert, aye; Engle, aye; Gilles, aye; Zappa, aye; Yacobozzi, aye.

2021-12-10

It was moved by Zappa, seconded by Gilles to adjourn to executive session at 6:53 p.m. to discuss personnel employment item, with no action to be taken.

Roll call vote:

Neidert, aye; Engle, aye; Gilles, aye; Zappa, aye; Yacobozzi, aye.

The board returned from executive session at 7:36 p.m.

2021-12-11

It was moved by Engle, seconded by Gilles to adjourn.

Roll call vote:

Engle, aye; Gilles, aye; Neidert, aye; Zappa, aye; Yacobozzi, aye.

Board President, Ron Yacobozzi adjourned the meeting at 7:37 p.m.

Board President

Treasurer/CFO