

The Lowellville Board of Education met in regular session on Wednesday, March 20, 2024 in the Lowellville Library; President Jennifer Johnson presiding. Mrs. Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Stephanie Yon- Present  
Gerald Dubos- Present  
Jennifer Johnson-Present  
Joseph Sturm – Present  
Brian Wharry-Present

**(24-3-8563)**

**TREASURER’S CONSENT ITEMS**

**Upon the recommendation of the Treasurer, approve the following items A-D by consent action:**

**A. Minutes**

- a. Minutes from the February 21, 2024 regular Board meeting

**B. Financial Reports**

- a. Financial reports, list of bills and expenses paid, and payroll for the month ended February 2024

- C.** It is recommended that the Board approve the resolution as submitted to accept the amounts and rates as determined by the budget commission and authorize the necessary tax levies and certify them to the county auditor (city, village, or local Board of Education).

**D. Donations**

- a. \$410 donation from an individual who would like to remain anonymous. The donation is to pay off a student lunch debt and accumulated student fees for two students.

Moved by Brian Wharry, seconded by Jennifer Johnson.

ROLL CALL: Yon - Dubos - Johnson - Sturm- Wharry- All Aye  
Jennifer Johnson declared the motion carried 5-0.

**PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:**

1. Mr. Jesse McClain from YSU presented to our 7th to 10th-grade students on Tuesday, March 12th about the Holocaust. McClain shared stories of survivors from our area engaging our students in firsthand accounts. He also brought artifacts for the students to view. Mr. McClain has previously visited our school before the pandemic, addressing our current juniors and seniors.
2. In celebration of National Reading Month, our elementary school students will be participating in Young Author's Day this Thursday, March 21st. This day begins with an all- school assembly by a classically trained mime artist introducing students to the "art of silence". During the program, the performer discusses the differences between writing for the stage and writing for the page as the components of a story are explained. Then students return to their classrooms to write their stories for the performer. During the writing process the performer stops in classrooms to answer questions and help with the

**MISSION**

writing. The day culminates with a second afternoon assembly in which a number of their own stories are selected and are then actually acted out by the performer, live, for the entire school to enjoy.

3. Family Wellness night is scheduled for Thursday, March 21st. Our theme this year is mindfulness. Families have the opportunity to sign up and choose 3 events from beach volleyball, family fitness, music therapy, signing sound bowls, mindful eating, dance, art therapy, and family games.
4. Required statewide testing in English, mathematics, social studies and science will begin in April.
  - April 9th and 10th English language arts grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and ELA II
  - April 15th and 16th Science grades 5 and 8 and Biology I
  - April 18th and 19th Government, US History
  - April 22nd and 23rd Math grades 3,4,5,6,7,8, Algebra I, and Geometry
5. National Honor Society inductions will take place on Friday, April 12th at 1:15 PM.
6. The Lowellville High School Drama Club presents: How To Screw Up Your College Interview. The show will take place on April 19-21, with a showtime of 7:00 PM on Friday and Saturday, and a 2:00 PM matinee on Sunday. Tickets will be \$5 for adults, and \$3 for students.

**ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL’S RECOGNITIONS:**

1. Each month, Mr. Hammond invites teachers to nominate K-12 students who consistently exhibit the qualities of R.I.S.E. (respectful, inclusive, safe, and engaged) in school. Teachers are asked to provide a brief description of the student’s behavior, attitude and work ethic in their classroom.

Mr. Hammond then recognizes each student in school by awarding them a Rocket Spotlight certificate, a formal letter is mailed home informing the student's parents/guardians of their recognition, students have their picture taken as a group and it is shared on the school website, Facebook and school media class publication; and lastly, each student will receive a treat from the cafeteria.

The students nominated and recognized for this month are:

**Rocket Spotlight Students of the Month**

- K- Izabella Williams
- 1 - Bucky Palumbo
- 2 - Angelo Shuey
- 3 - Sophia Watson
- 4 - Alison Nye
- 5 - Reilly Mentzer
- 6 - Sophia Adams
- 7 - Ella Lewis
- 8 - Luka Mastroniklas
- 9 - Gianna Palumbo
- 10 - Sophia Rach
- 11 - Joslyn Delsignore and Kyle England
- 12 - Shannyn Phillips

**MISSION**

2. "Bus Buddy of the Month" recipients- These students were recognized by their bus drivers for their respectful, safe and responsible behavior on the bus. We would like to acknowledge the students that are role models of expected behaviors on a school bus.
  - Mila Wharry
  - Anthony Tuscano
  - Melissa Hephner
  
3. Congratulations to our student athletes who participated in the state indoor track meet on Saturday, March 2, 2024. Below are the results:
  - Michael Ballone: 60m Hurdles 3rd place with a time of 8.13
  - Michael Ballone: Long Jump 3rd place with a jump of 21-11.25
  - Braylen Dabney: 200m 13th place with a time of 23.05
  - Michael Katula: 3200m 15th place with a time of 9:54.90
  - Matt Lucido: 400m 19th place with a time of 52.91
  - Josh Pazel: 400m 18th place with a time of 52.60
  - Boys 4x200 consisting of Michael Ballone, Braylen Dabney, Matt Lucido, and Josh Pazel: 6th place with a time of 1:32.39
  - Sophia Yon: 1600 m 14th place with a time of 5:16.73

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:**

1. Congratulations to the Girls Varsity Basketball team on being named the 2024 Sectional Champions this year and for a wonderful season.
2. Congratulations to the Boys Varsity Basketball team for being named MVAC Champions this year and for a wonderful season.
3. On Saturday, February 24th, our physics students competed in YSU's Physics Olympics and finished in first place! Congratulations to Elizabeth Rossi, Michael Katula, Geno Perry, Mathew Lucido, Michael Ballone, and Sophia Yon for all of their hard work and representing Lowellville in such a positive manner. Special thanks to Jackie Boila for preparing our students for the Olympics.
4. Congratulations to Senior Mathew Lucido for signing with the University of Mount Union on March 12, 2024. Mathew will continue his academic journey while pursuing his passion for football and majoring in exercise science. Go Raiders!
5. Spring Break- The official spring break for students and teachers will begin on Friday, March 29, 2024. Classes will resume on Monday, April 8, 2024.
6. Solar Eclipse- Monday, April 8th- Based on our location in Lowellville, the total eclipse should occur around 3:16 p.m. I have made a recommendation to amend the 2023-2024 Lowellville Local School District calendar for

**MISSION**

this day so that students will be home before the total eclipse and can partake in the experience of watching it with their families.

- **Calendar revision for April 8, 2024: All K-12 students will be released at 1:45 p.m. on Monday, April 8, 2024. This is a 1 hour early dismissal.**

7. We're thrilled to announce that thanks to the generous support of United Way of Mahoning Valley, our K-12 students now have access to a brand-new book vending machine!

This innovative machine allows students to earn tokens by demonstrating the Rockets R.I.S.E. expectations throughout the day. These tokens can then be used to select a book of their choice from the vending machine.

We are incredibly grateful to United Way of Mahoning Valley for their commitment to education and literacy. This initiative will not only encourage a love for reading but also reward our students for their positive behavior. Thank you, United Way, for helping us inspire young minds!

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

1. Building/Grounds/Safety Committee- Met on March 6, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.
  - Agenda Items
    - Building and Grounds - Project Updates, Maintenance, and Needs
    - Easement of Property - Between the School District and the Village of Lowellville

Notes: Mr. Ryan McNicholas and Mrs. Joann Esenwein attended the meeting and represented the Village of Lowellville. Mr. Jerry Tuscano, Mrs. Toni Tuscano, and Mr. Joe Czap attended the meeting and represented the Lowellville Baseball Association.

- The Village of Lowellville has agreed to terminate the easement earlier than the 2051 end date and provide the land outlined in the easement back to the school as long as everyone agrees to establish a working relationship which continues to allow the Lowellville Baseball Association to utilize the space.
- Moving forward, the Village of Lowellville is also willing to continue to support the school in some capacity of the upkeep of the land (to be established).
- All parties agree that they want a partnership to exist and want details to be outlined so that the details are available for others who may be leading each organization in the future.
- Everything will remain the same for the 2024 season due to the time involved to create final plans. The Village will continue to upkeep and maintain the property until further notice.
- The Lowellville Baseball Association agreed to continue supporting the school this season and in the future by maintaining the fields. They will make sure that the softball field is prepared before each of the girls home games (still have supplies remaining that the school purchased last year). In addition, the Lowellville Baseball Association will sell concessions for the home softball games.
- Mrs. Apisa will work with legal counsel regarding the termination of the easement once given the approval of the Board.

### **MISSION**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- 1. NONE

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- 1. The regular Board meeting originally scheduled for Wednesday, April 10, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. has been rescheduled for Thursday, April 25, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the Lowellville library. Due to the rescheduling, the meeting on April 25th will be a special meeting where the Board will conduct the business that would have occurred during the Regular Board Meeting previously scheduled on Wednesday, April 10, 2024.

**PRESIDENT’S REPORT:**

- 1. Public comment on agenda items or other school related issues.

No Discussion.

-----

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS (BOARD POLICY: KD)**

In order for the Board to fulfill its obligation to complete the planned agenda in an effective and efficient fashion, a maximum of 30 minutes of public participation may be permitted at each meeting. Each person addressing the Board shall give his/her name and address. If several people wish to speak, each person is allotted three minutes until the total time of 30 minutes is used. At the discretion of the Board President, the time limit may be extended to five minutes. During that period, no person may speak twice until all who desire to speak have had the opportunity to do so. Persons desiring more time should follow the procedure of calling the Board office to request to be placed on the regular agenda at the Superintendent’s discretion. The period of public participation may be extended by a vote of the majority of the Board, present and voting.

-----

(24-3-8564)

**SUPERINTENDENT’S CONSENT ITEMS**

**Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following items A-D by consent action:**

**A. Personnel**

**1. Athletic Supplementals 2024-2025 School Year-**

Provided she meets the requirements, prior to working with students, set forth by the Lowellville Board of Education, the Ohio High School Athletic Association and the Ohio Department of Education:

- a. Casey Slaven- Volleyball 8th- 8%

**B. Building Use**

- a. *Team Cure- Basketball Practices* (Steve Procick)-March -May, 2024 - Times to be scheduled- Will not conflict with school sport schedules- Small and Large Gymnasiums

**C. Student Activity Anticipated Budgets and Sales Project Potential Forms As Submitted (2023-2024 school year)**

**MISSION**

The Lowellville Local School District will educate, empower and challenge our students to reach their individual potentials by providing an environment where tradition, community and excellence create productive members of a global society.

- a. Cheerleading Varsity/JV
  - o Snap Raise - April - May 2024
- b. Cheerleading 7 and 8
  - o Snap Raise - April - May 2024

**D. Field Trips**

- a. It is recommended that the Board approve the field trip to the Carnegie Science Center on March 27, 2024 (8:30-3:30) for the 4th grade students to take part in a STEM class and experiment with different exhibits.

Moved by Jennifer Johnson, seconded by Joe Sturm.

ROLL CALL: Yon - Dubos - Johnson - Sturm- Wharry- All Aye  
Jennifer Johnson declared the motion carried 5-0.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS:**

**(24-3-8565)**

- 1. It is recommended that the Board rescind the Memorandum of Understanding (previously approved on February 21, 2024) with Eastern Gateway Community College for the purposes of the Dual Credit Program for the 2024-2025 school year as submitted.

Moved by Brian Wharry, seconded by Joe Sturm.

ROLL CALL: Yon - Dubos - Johnson - Sturm- Wharry- All Aye  
Jennifer Johnson declared the motion carried 5-0.

**(24-3-8566)**

- 2. It is recommended that the Board approve the Memorandum of Understanding with Kent State University for the purposes of the Dual Credit Program for the 2024-2025 school year as submitted.

Moved by Stephanie Yon, seconded by Jerry Dubos.

ROLL CALL: Yon - Dubos - Johnson - Sturm- Wharry- All Aye  
Jennifer Johnson declared the motion carried 5-0.

**(24-3-8567)**

- 3. It is recommended that the Board approve the Memorandum of Agreement (as submitted) between the Lowellville Local School District and the Youngstown Mahoning Valley United Way where the Lowellville Local School District agrees to deliver a pre-kindergarten summer program to selected incoming kindergarten students and the Youngstown Mahoning Valley United Way agrees to compensate the district up to \$4,500 to support the operating of the program. The pre-kindergarten program will take place from July 29 - August 16, 2024.

Moved by Jennifer Johnson, seconded by Brian Wharry.

ROLL CALL: Yon - Dubos - Johnson - Sturm- Wharry- All Aye  
Jennifer Johnson declared the motion carried 5-0.

**MISSION**

(24-3-8568)

4. It is recommended that the Board permit the Administration to use the legal services of Bricker Graydon LLP “as needed” to advise the Administration in matters of finance, personnel, contract development, insurance, purchasing or any other legitimate matter or concern.

Moved by Jerry Dubos, seconded by Jennifer Johnson.

ROLL CALL: Yon - Dubos - Johnson - Sturm- Wharry- All Aye  
Jennifer Johnson declared the motion carried 5-0.

(24-3-8569)

5. It is recommended that the Board approve the FY25 3313.845 Service Agreement with the ESC of Eastern Ohio as submitted:

Moved by Stephanie Yon, seconded by Jennifer Johnson.

ROLL CALL: Yon - Dubos - Johnson - Sturm- Wharry- All Aye  
Jennifer Johnson declared the motion carried 5-0.

(24-3-8570)

6. It is recommended that the Board approve the amendment listed below for the 2023-2024 Lowellville Local School District calendar:

- Monday, April 8, 2024- There will be a **1 hour early release** for all K-12 students. All students will be released at **1:45 p.m.** so that they may experience the solar eclipse at home with their families. Staff will work a regular day on April 8, 2024.

Moved by Joe Sturm, seconded by Jennifer Johnson.

ROLL CALL: Yon - Dubos - Johnson - Sturm- Wharry- All Aye  
Jennifer Johnson declared the motion carried 5-0.

(24-3-8571)

7. It is recommended that the Board approve the quote submitted on March 10, 2024 from Papa Wayne’s Lawncare, LLC and presented to the Board to continue to provide grass cutting services and landscaping/lawn care maintenance for the 2024 calendar year.

Moved by Stephanie Yon, seconded by Brian Wharry.

ROLL CALL: Yon - Dubos - Johnson - Sturm- Wharry- All Aye  
Jennifer Johnson declared the motion carried 5-0.

8. Other: N/A

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_.

Vote: Yon - Dubos - Johnson - Sturm - Wharry  
The motion - carried – failed

MISSION

(24-3-8572)

9. It is recommended that the Board move into Executive Session. Moved by **Jerry Dubos**, seconded by **Joe Sturm**, resolved that the Board of Education of the Lowellville School District adjourn to Executive Session at **6:35 p.m.** to discuss:

1.   X   The appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion or compensation of an employee or official, or the investigation of charges or complaints against an employee, official, licensee or student, unless the employee, official, licensee or student requests a public hearing;
2.        The purchase of property for public purposes or the sale of property at competitive bidding;
3.        Conferences with the board's attorney to discuss matters which are the subject of pending or imminent court action;
4.   X   Preparing for, conducting or reviewing negotiations or bargaining sessions with employees;
5.        Matters required to be kept confidential by federal law or rules or state statutes;
6.        Specialized details of security arrangements.

Action **will not** be taken.

Moved by Jerry Dubos, seconded by Joe Sturm.

ROLL CALL: Yon - Dubos - Johnson - Sturm- Wharry- All Aye  
Jennifer Johnson declared the motion carried 5-0.

(24-3-8573)

10. It is recommended that the Board return from Executive Session and resume Board Meeting at **7:14 p.m.:**

Moved by Brian Wharry, seconded by Jerry Dubos.

ROLL CALL: Yon - Dubos - Johnson - Sturm- Wharry- All Aye  
Jennifer Johnson declared the motion carried 5-0.

(24-3-8574)

11. Adjournment:

Moved by **Jennifer Johnson**, seconded by **Joe Sturm** to adjourn the meeting at **7:15 pm.**

ROLL CALL: Yon - Dubos - Johnson - Sturm- Wharry- All Aye  
Jennifer Johnson declared the motion carried 5-0.

MISSION

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS (BOARD POLICY: KD)**

In order for the Board to fulfill its obligation to complete the planned agenda in an effective and efficient fashion, a maximum of 30 minutes of public participation may be permitted at each meeting. Each person addressing the Board shall give his/her name and address. If several people wish to speak, each person is allotted three minutes until the total time of 30 minutes is used. At the discretion of the Board President, the time limit may be extended to five minutes. During that period, no person may speak twice until all who desire to speak have had the opportunity to do so. Persons desiring more time should follow the procedure of calling the Board office to request to be placed on the regular agenda at the Superintendent's discretion. The period of public participation may be extended by a vote of the majority of the Board, present and voting.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
President

4/25/2024  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Treasurer

4/25/2024  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**MISSION**

The Lowellville Local School District will educate, empower and challenge our students to reach their individual potentials by providing an environment where tradition, community and excellence create productive members of a global society.

