



LOWELLVILLE LOCAL SCHOOLS

***52 ROCKET PLACE
LOWELLVILLE, OHIO 44436***

Board of Education

Jennifer Johnson, President
Joseph Sturm, Vice-President
Gerald Dubos
Brian Wharry
Stephanie Yon

Administration

Christine Sawicki, Superintendent
Andrea Apisa, Treasurer
Tracie Parry, Principal
Jeff Hammond, Assistant Principal

REGULAR BOARD MEETING:

AGENDA

DATE: Wednesday, November 20, 2024

TIME: 6:00 p.m.

PLACE: Lowellville Library

1. Call to Order:
2. Roll Call: Wharry - Yon - Dubos - Johnson - Sturm
3. Pledge of Allegiance:

TREASURER'S CONSENT ITEMS

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

A. Minutes

- a. Minutes from the October 16, 2024 regular Board meeting

B. Financial Reports

- a. Financial reports, list of bills and expenses paid, and payroll for the month ended October 2024
- b. Approve the 5 year forecast financial report

C. Donations

- a. Please approve a donation of \$500 from the PTO to be used for RISE day activities.
- b. Please approve a donation of binders from the Conti Corporation
- c. Please approve a donation of the use of a photo booth during Red Ribbon Week from the Mead Family.

Moved by _____, seconded by _____.

Vote: Wharry - Yon - Dubos - Johnson - Sturm

The motion - carried – failed

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.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:

1. Our juniors recently took the ASVAB assessment, which highlights their strengths across various skills. These results will guide career exploration, as students work with counselors to identify potential career paths and post-secondary options that align with their abilities and interests.
2. The Sadie Hawkins Dance for students in grades 9-12 will take place on November 23rd from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm.
3. The PTO will hold a Book Fair on November 25th and 26th.
4. High school students needing to retake end-of-course exams will have the opportunity during the first two weeks of December.
5. The annual spelling bees for both elementary and high school students will be held on December 6th.
6. On December 13th, seniors will participate in an application and scholarship writing workshop.
7. The holiday season is packed with special events:
 - Kindergarten through 2nd grade will visit Packard Music Hall on December 6th
 - Grades 3 and 4 will attend Miracle on Easy Street on December 12th
 - Our Junior High and High School Choir will perform on December 4th at 7:30 pm, with the Band concert following on December 11th
 - 1st and 2nd graders will present their Christmas concert on December 16th at 6:00 PM
 - Santa will visit elementary students on December 16th
 - PTO will host a Santa's Workshop on December 18th and 19th
8. This year, we are implementing an alternative end-of-course testing schedule to create a focused environment for spring assessments. In high school, only students scheduled for testing will attend on designated testing days, while other students will participate in community service or job shadowing. Elementary students will follow their regular schedule, with small group settings provided to make testing more comfortable.

Additionally, our teachers are setting individual growth goals for students, using insights from recent Value Added data. These personalized goals, based on past performance and growth projections, align with our focus on student growth in the Ohio State Report Card. Students who meet their growth targets will be rewarded: high school students will join an end-of-year Olympics on May 27th, while elementary students will celebrate with an ice cream social on May 28th. See the attached letter (attachment A) that will be shared with families.

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S RECOGNITIONS:

1. Rocket Star of the Month Recognition

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Focus on recognizing students that demonstrate initiative, accountability, compassion, leadership qualities and outstanding attendance consistently at school. These are traits that make a real difference in our school community.

K - Ava Rosenberg & Brooklyn Simpson

1 - Aubree Salyers & Lena Ventura

2 - Michael Palumbo

3 - Haley Durkin

4 - Parker Eskins

5 - Aubree Bryner

6 - Alaina Watson & Nolan Tamburino

7 - Tino Alfano

8 - Malena Sturm

10 - Aubrey Kester

2. Bus Buddy of the Month

We're excited to recognize students who consistently demonstrate safe and appropriate behavior on the bus every day! The Bus Buddy of the Month award goes to those who are helpful, respectful, and positive role models for their peers while riding the bus.

- Vinny Taylor

3. Cross Country State Qualifier

Congratulations to Nathan Yon! He competed in the State Cross Country meet on November 2nd at Fortress Obetz, where he finished in 47th place overall (out of 192 runners) with a time of 16:24.71. He also broke his previous school record with this time.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

1. **Fall Sports-** I want to extend my heartfelt congratulations to all of our fall athletes for their incredible dedication and hard work throughout the season. We've celebrated a variety of individual and team accomplishments, and there's so much for our school and community to be proud of. Each student-athlete represented our district with resilience and sportsmanship, and their achievements have truly energized our school spirit. Thank you to the coaches, families, and fans who supported them every step of the way. Together, we made this season one to remember.
2. **OMEA District 5 Honor Choir-** Congratulations to the following students for being selected to participate in the 2024 OMEA District 5 Middle School and High School Honors Choir. The students performed on Saturday, October 26th at Stambaugh Auditorium.

High School Students:

Isabella DeBeaulieu

Abbey Grimes

Levi Moore

Nate Rouns

Derek Sida

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John Swanson
Vinny Taylor
Krystalin Vinion

Middle School Students:

Keilani Dominguez
Mackenzie Layton
Alison Eskins
Matthew Bryner

3. **Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade-** Lowellville High School freshman Kayleigh Cruz will be representing Lowellville in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade! Kayleigh is a two-time selected All American Cheerleader from Cheertime Athletics and UCA cheer camps.

Be sure to tune in and cheer Kayleigh on! You can catch the parade live on 21 WFMJ, starting at 8:30 a.m. Thanksgiving Day, and it runs until noon. Let's show our support for Kayleigh as she takes on this exciting opportunity!

4. **Hazel Health -** Our Hazel Health free online therapy and counseling services are now live. Students can now be referred and receive services. Please visit our website or the direct Hazel Health page for more information or to refer a student for services: <https://getstarted.hazel.co/district/lowellvillek12>

We know that staying mentally healthy is critical to engage in learning.

According to the [National Center for Education Statistics](#): 70% of public schools say more students are seeking mental health services.

This school year, we're proud to offer all students with **\$0 access to online therapy and counseling services**, through our partnership with Hazel Health. Services are 100% safe and confidential.

Your student can speak 1-on-1 with a licensed therapist from the convenience of school or home, with your consent. Hazel Health provides high-quality care for all students — no matter their insurance or immigration status.

Hazel Health's licensed therapists can help students navigate a wide range of issues, including:

- Mood/behavior changes, motivation, grief/loss
- Separation anxiety, worry, fear
- Social skills, bullying, peer & family relationships
- Academic stress

Hazel's short-term online therapy program has been proven to reduce symptoms of common mental health concerns — and gives kids tools to cope with challenges they face at school and beyond. Students cannot receive care without your consent, so please take 5 minutes to sign up today at hazel.co.

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5. **Lowellville School Foundation-** The Lowellville School Foundation is excited to announce the “**Just in Time for Christmas**” raffle to help raise money for the foundation which provides scholarships to our students and grants to our teachers. Please consider purchasing a ticket to support our students. Only 500 tickets will be sold and the drawing will be held live once all tickets are sold or on **December 1st**.

1st Prize: \$1,000 Giant Eagle Gift Card

2nd Prize: \$600 Shell Gas Gift Card

3rd Prize: \$400 Amazon Gift Card

You can purchase a \$20 raffle ticket from:

*Mrs. Sawicki or Mrs. Killingsworth at the school

*Any Foundation member

*By calling 330-702-6084

*Or emailing lowellvilleschoolfoundation@gmail.com

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. None Met

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Updates on the track resurfacing
- 2.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Schedule January 2025 Organizational Meeting and Regular Board Meeting
- 2.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT:

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

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.

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2. It is recommended that the Board approve a new contract for the term of five (5) years to reemploy Mrs. Christine Sawicki as Superintendent effective August 1, 2025 and expiring on July 31, 2030. A copy of the negotiated contract of employment has been reviewed by the Board and on file in the Treasurer's office.

Moved by _____, seconded by _____.

Vote: Wharry - Yon - Dubos - Johnson - Sturm

The motion - carried – failed

SUPERINTENDENT'S CONSENT ITEMS

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

A. Personnel

1. Classified Staff Appointments

- a. It is recommended that the Board retroactively approve James Watson III as a **Custodial Aide** "as needed" for the 2024-2025 school year and placed at the appropriate step of the classified master contract (Step 0- \$11.32/hour). His first day of employment was October 25, 2024.

2. Athletic Supplemental Appointments - 2024-2025 School Year

Provided they meet 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 and Workforce:

- a. Joseph Donatelli- Basketball Boys Freshman - 8%
- b. Vince DiMartino- Basketball Boys Volunteer- 0%
- c. Bobby Ballone Jr- Track Head Boys HS - 12%
- d. Lisa Modelski- Track Head Girls HS- 12%
- e. David (Wesley) Hodge- Track Assistant Girls HS- 8%
- f. Jamie DeMain- Track - 7 and 8 Girls - 8%

B. Leave of Absence

- a. Jessica Dent- Unpaid Leave- November 27, 2024 (1 day)

C. Building Use

- a. ***Donuts with Santa*** - (Alyssa Streb- Class of 2025)- Saturday, December 7, 2024- 8:00 a.m. -12:30 p.m., Cafeteria
- b. ***Meet the Team- Winter Sports (Boosters)***- Sunday, December 8, 2024- 3:00-6:00 (event begins at 4:00 p.m.), Large Gym & Cafeteria
- c. ***Blood Drive*** (Student Council)- January 30, 2025, 6:45 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., Small Gym
- d. ***Elementary Youth Boys Basketball Program- Grades 1-6*** (Tony Matisi)- November 10th, 2024 - January 26, 2025 (Sundays) - 3:00 -4:30 p.m.- Small Gym & Large Gym
- e. ***Elementary Youth Girls Basketball Program- Grades 3-6*** (Dana Donatelli)- November 10th, 2024 - March 2025 (Sundays) -12:00 - 2:00 p.m.- Small Gym & Large Gym

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D. Field Trips

- a. It is recommended that the Board approve a field trip for the Middle School Choir to the Villa Maria Center in Pennsylvania to perform for the residents. The date of the field trip will be December 17, 2024.

Moved by _____, seconded by _____.

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

SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. It is recommended that the Board approve the following Student Activity Anticipated Budget and Sales Project Potential Forms As Submitted (2024-2025 school year):

- a. Student Council
 - Texas Roadhouse Gift Card Sale-November 21, 2024- December 2024

Moved by _____, seconded by _____.

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

2. It is recommended that the Board approve the resolution (as submitted) to amend section 3B of the program agreement for the ACCESS Council Assembly.

Moved by _____, seconded by _____.

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

3. It is recommended that the Board approve the Model Emergency Action Plan for the Use of an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) (as submitted).

Moved by _____, seconded by _____.

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

4. It is recommended that the Board approve the following revised Board Policies (as submitted):
 - a. **KGB-** Public Conduct on School Property- REVISION
 - b. **IGBEA-R-** Reading Skills Assessment and Intervention (Third Grade Reading Guarantee)- REVISION
 - c. **IKF-** Graduation Requirements- REVISION
 - d. **JFCK-** Use of Cell Phones and Electronic Communications Devices by Students- REVISION

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Moved by _____, seconded by _____.

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

5. It is recommended that the Board approve the following new Board Policies (as submitted):

- a. **EDEC**- Artificial Intelligence- NEW
- b. **EHC**- Cybersecurity- NEW

Moved by _____, seconded by _____.

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

6. Other: It is recommended that the Board accept the resignation of Ariana Daniels, 8th grade girls basketball coach for the 2024-2025 season. Ariana's resignation date was November 19, 2024.

Moved by _____, seconded by _____.

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

7. Adjournment:

Moved by _____, seconded by _____ to adjourn
the meeting at _____ pm.

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

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Attachment A

Dear Lowellville Families,

As we prepare for the upcoming spring testing season, we want to share our plans and emphasize the importance of students giving their best effort. This year, we are implementing new testing environments for both secondary and elementary students to encourage success.

For High School Students (Grades 7-12):

We will implement an alternative testing schedule to create a focused environment for assessments. Only students scheduled for testing will come to school on designated testing days. Transportation will operate as usual in the morning, meaning all high school students scheduled to test will ride the bus or be dropped off at the regular time. After testing, students will be released early, with two bus runs planned: one for the early release of high school students and a second for the regular elementary dismissal.

Please Note: Students who do not have to test will participate in community service projects or job shadow experiences. They will not report to school. More information about these opportunities will be shared with the students.

High School Testing Schedule Overview:

- **ELA Testing (Grades 7, 8, and 10)**
 - Day 1: Monday, April 7th – ELA Part 1
 - Day 2: Tuesday, April 8th – ELA Part 2
 - *Students Reporting:* Only grades 7, 8, and 10; Grades 9, 11, and 12 will participate in job shadowing or community service.
 - **Schedule:**
 - 8:00 AM - Breakfast in the cafeteria
 - 8:30 AM - Students report to testing rooms
 - 9:00 AM - Testing begins (105 minutes, ending at 10:45 AM)
 - 11:00 AM - Lunch, followed by early dismissal
- **Math & Government Testing (Grades 7, 8, Algebra 1, Geometry, and Government)**
 - Day 1: Monday, April 28th – Math & Government Part 1
 - Day 2: Tuesday, April 29th – Math & Government Part 2
 - *Students Reporting:* Only grades 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11; Grade 12 will engage in job shadowing or community service.
 - **Schedule:**

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Attachment A (continued)

- 8:00 AM - Breakfast in the cafeteria
- 8:30 AM - Students report to testing rooms
- 9:00 AM - Testing begins (90 minutes, ending at 10:30 AM)
- 10:45 AM - Lunch, followed by early dismissal
- **Additional Testing Days During the School Day:**
 - **Science Testing (Grades 8 and Biology):** April 15th and April 16th
 - **US History Testing:** April 24th and April 25th
 - *These tests will occur during the regular school day. All students are expected to attend school as normal on these days.*

For Elementary Students:

While elementary students will follow their regular school schedule, we will create small group settings during the school day to provide a more comfortable testing environment. Our goal is to ensure all students are set up for success during this important time.

Incentives for Success:

Our teachers are helping students set individual growth goals based on past performance data. Achieving these goals supports both our school's performance and each student's personal progress. To keep motivation high, we're offering exciting incentives:

- **High School Incentive:** Students in grades 7-12 who meet their targets will earn entry to our end-of-year "Olympics" on May 27th, featuring competitions, food, and activities planned by class officers.
- **Elementary Incentive:** Elementary students who meet their goals will be invited to an ice cream social on May 28th, complete with a sundae bar and a DJ.

Please Note: Students in grades K-2 will have the opportunity to also participate in the incentive based on their reading and math benchmarks.

We believe these new testing environments and incentives will keep students engaged and help them recognize the value of their efforts. Thank you for your support in encouraging your child to do their best. Please reach out with any questions or for more information.

Sincerely,
Tracie Parry

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