



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, February 19, 2025

TIME: 6:00 p.m.

PLACE: Lowellville Library

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

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 January 8, 2025 Organizational Board meeting
- b. Minutes from the January 8, 2025 Regular Board meeting

B. Financial Reports

- a. Financial reports, list of bills and expenses paid, and payroll for the month ended January 2025

C. Transfers

- a. Transfer Out 599-7200-910-9024 - \$.80 Ohio K-12 School Grant Program FY24
- b. Transfer In 599-5100-9235- \$.80 Ohio K-12 School Grant Program FY23
- c. Transfer Out 200-7200-910-9134- \$1,172.76 Class of 2023
- d. Transfer Out 200-7200-910-9128- \$2,888.32 Class of 2024
- e. Transfer In 200-5100-9129 \$4,061.08- Class of 2025

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.

D. Donations

- a. Approve a donation of a green screen from the PTO

Moved by _____, seconded by _____.

Vote: Sturm- Wharry- Yon - Dubos - Johnson

The motion - carried – failed

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:

- Congratulations to the Lowellville Class of 2025 Valedictorians Kyle England, Kenzie McCormick, Hadassah Rivera, Elizabeth Rossi and Salutatorian Geno Perry
- On Thursday, February 13th, Mr. Hammond and Mrs. Parry took the attendance challenge winners for December and January on a bowling trip. The senior class had the overall lowest absences, and four seniors met the challenge by having less than 11 hours of absences. The winners by grade were Seniors (with less than 11 hours of absences): Elizabeth Rossi, Connor Anderson, Nick Donatelli, and Morgan Lewis.
- Also on Thursday, students in grades 7-12 who earned all A's and B's on their second-quarter report cards were invited by Mr. Hammond, Mrs. Parry, and Mrs. Sawicki to a special "Breakfast of Champions." Students enjoyed waffles with a variety of toppings, sausage, and juice as a reward for their hard work.
- In the classroom our teachers have been using Pathful Connect, a program that connects students with a wide range of industry professionals for live zoom presentations and Q&A sessions. This gives students the chance to explore countless career options, hear real-world experiences, and ask questions about different career paths. For example, we've had sessions with a forensic pathologist and a former government official speaking on humanitarian aid—just two of the many professionals available across various industries to inspire and guide our students.
- Kindergarten Registration for Lowellville District Resident Students was held Feb 10th to February 13th. At this time we have _____ district students registered for Kindergarten.
- Applications for open enrollment the 2025-2026 school year can be picked up beginning Monday, March 3rd.

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:

1. Rocket Star of the Month Recognition

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 - Giana Tabak, Isla Swartz, Raymond Morgano, Mason Clinton, Sawyer Clinton

1 - Julianna Hartman

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- 2 - Eli Swartz & Paisley Nehr
- 3 - Autumn Mihaly & Matteo Boughner
- 4 - Ruthanne Zimmerman & Elijah Nock
- 5 - Alison Nye
- 6 - Mila Wharry
- 7 - Victoria Tunison
- 8 - Hailey Wolfgang
- 9 - Olivia Clement

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.

Bus Buddy 102 - Addison Woodburn & Olivia Dutton

Bus Buddy 103 - Delaney Sontag

3. Stay in the Game - "1st Team All Pro Attendance"

Thirty - Eight (38) students were recognized for their Outstanding Attendance at the boys varsity basketball game on February 11th, in between the 1st and 2nd quarter.

These students had less than 11 hours of school absences this year thus far!

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

- 1. Congratulations to the following students who participated in the high school solo and ensemble contest that was held on February 1st at Warren G. Harding High School.**

The following students received the highest rating of a one/superior:

- Dominick Blomgren- trombone solo
- Cheyenne Bott- clarinet solo
- Nicholas Likens- tuba solo
- Eliza Primous- vocal solo
- Eliza Primous- snare drum solo
- Kaden Primous- vocal solo
- Zak Sargent- vocal solo
- Laila Stevens- clarinet solo

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- Lucas Williams- french horn solo
- Nathan Yon- euphonium solo
- Eliza Primous, Kaden Primous, Hadassah Rivera, Zak Sargent- vocal quartet
- Tyler Betlyn, Reeve Donatelli, Nicholas Likens, Elizabeth Rossi, Lucas Williams- brass quintet
- Kayleigh Cruz, Morgan Demain, Levi Moore- snare drum trio
- Tyler Betlyn, Nicholas Likens, Lucas Williams- brass trio

The following student received the second highest rating of a two/excellent:

- Tyler Betlyn- trombone solo

2. Signing Day- February 5, 2025

Congratulations to Our Senior Athletes!

On Wednesday, February 5th, we proudly celebrated Liam Bartlett, Geno Perry, and Hadassah Rivera as they took the next step in their athletic and academic journeys!

- Liam Bartlett – La Roche University, Baseball
- Geno Perry – Westminster College, Football
- Hadassah Rivera – University of Valley Forge, Volleyball

We are so proud of their hard work and dedication, both on and off the field. Wishing them all the best in this next chapter—keep making us Rocket proud!

3. New Care Closet

Thanks to the incredibly generous donation of Dr. Ray Bernat and his wife, Sherry, and the support of the United Way of Youngstown and the Mahoning Valley, we are thrilled to introduce a new resource for Lowellville students—The Ray Bernat Care Closet!

Hours of Operation:

7:30 - 7:45 AM and 8:15 AM - 3:00 PM

Students needing resources outside these hours can contact a staff member for assistance.

The Care Closet is stocked with food, hygiene products, some household items, and some clothing items. A fridge and microwave are also available with kid-friendly, microwavable options. Our goal is to provide a welcoming, judgment-free space where students can access essential resources without stigma. Every student is welcome to use it!

To help keep the Care Closet stocked and organized, high school students have been selected to assist in maintaining the space.

Grand Opening: Monday, March 3rd, at 10:00 AM

(The Care Closet had a soft opening the week of February 10th.)

We are grateful for this opportunity to support our students and ensure their needs are met. Thank you again to Dr. Ray and Sherry Bernat and the United Way of Youngstown and the Mahoning Valley for making this possible!

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COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Building, Grounds, and Safety Committee
 - a. The committee met on January 15, 2025 at 4:00 p.m.
 - b. Agenda Items
 - i. Building and Grounds - Project Updates, Maintenance, and Needs
 - ii. Building and Grounds- Estimated Budget Available for Work to be Completed at This Time
 - iii. Building and Grounds- Estimates for Work to be Completed
 - c. There was a lot of good information provided by Treasurer, Ms. Apisa regarding funds that the district has available, estimates that the district has received thus far, a review of the identified projects that need to be taken care of versus the items that may still be on the wish list. We would like to schedule a work session for the entire Board to discuss further and determine recommendations on how to move forward.

OLD BUSINESS:

- 1.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Records Commission Meeting- Schedule a Date for the Meeting
2. Board Work Session to Further Discuss Building and Grounds Projects and Make Recommendations on Work to be Completed Now- Schedule a Date for the Meeting
- 3.

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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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 **Rafael Soto as a Custodial Aide “As Needed”** for the remainder of the 2024-2025 school year. Rafael will be placed at step 0 on the Classified Agreement and the hourly compensation will be \$11.32 per hour per the classified agreement. Rafael’s first day of employment was on February 3, 2025.
- b. It is recommended that the Board retroactively approve **Timothy Esarco as a Custodial Aide “As Needed”** for the remainder of the 2024-2025 school year. Timothy will be placed at step 0 on the Classified Agreement and the hourly compensation will be \$11.32 per hour per the classified agreement. Timothy’s first day of employment was on February 6, 2025.

2. Classified Staff Retirements

- a. It is recommended that the Board approve the retirement of **Lucille Yarnell as the Cafeteria Aide “As Needed”**. Lucille’s retirement date will be May 30, 2025.

3. Athletic Supplemental Resignations- 2024-2025 School Year

- a. It is recommended that the Board accept the resignation of Wesley David Hodge as the Track- Assistant Girls - High School (8%) for the 2024-2025 school year. Wesley was Board approved for this position on November 20, 2024.

4. Athletic Supplemental Appointments - 2024-2025 School Year

Provided he 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 and Workforce:

- a. Malik Mostella- Track - Asst. Girls High School- 8%
- b. Wesley David Hodge- Track - Volunteer Girls - 0%

5. Athletic Supplemental Appointments - 2025-2026 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. Robert Ballone Jr- Football Assistant- 10%
- b. Nathaniel Bodnar- Football Assistant- 10%
- c. Drew McLaughlin- Football Assistant - 10%
- d. William Ian O’Brien - Football Assistant - 10%

6. Leave of Absence

- a. Alina Wittenauer- Parental Leave of Absence- Effective June 23, 2025 - June 22, 2026 (12 months- 2025-2026 school year)

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- b. Matt Olson- FMLA- Estimated dates of Leave- March 29, 2025 - April 26, 2025 (4 weeks)

B. Field Trips

1. It is recommended that the Board approve an overnight field trip for the Senior Class to Kalahari in Sandusky, Ohio for their class trip. The dates of the field trip will be May 22 - 23, 2025.

C. Building Use

- a. ***Math Tournament Practice*** - (Debbi Sanders)- Tuesdays and Thursdays January 16th - March 4th- 2:45-3:45, Classroom 5
b. ***Softball and Baseball Training Camp*** - (Carla Raseta & Dan Dougherty)- March 15, 2025- 8:30-5:00, Large and Small Gyms
c. ***Team Cure Boys Basketball Practices***- (John Hvisdak)- February - April, 2025 (one to two days /week as availability permits) two hours each use, Large and Small Gyms as available

D. Student Activity Anticipated Budget and Sales Project Potential Forms

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. Baseball
 - o Youth Camp- February - March 2025
 - o BSN Gear Sales- March 2025
 - b. Softball
 - o Youth Camp- February - March 2025
 - c. Character/RISE Avengers
 - o T-Shirt Sale- March 2025

Moved by _____, seconded by _____.

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

SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. It is recommended that the Board approve the 2025-2026 school year calendar as submitted in Attachment A.

Moved by _____, seconded by _____.

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

2. It is recommended that the Board approve the Memorandum of Understanding with Youngstown State University for the purposes of the College Credit Plus Dual Enrollment Program for the 2025-2026 school year as submitted.

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Moved by _____, seconded by _____.

Vote: Sturm- Wharry- Yon - Dubos - Johnson

The motion - carried – failed

3. It is recommended that the Board approve the below resolution to authorize Lowellville Local School District to continue its membership in the Ohio Athletic Association for the 2025-2026 school year.

Whereas, **Lowellville Local School District**, District IRN number: **048330** of **52 Rocket Place**, **Mahoning** County, Ohio

Has satisfied all the requirements for membership in the Ohio High School Athletic Association, a voluntary unincorporated association not-for-profit; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education/Governing Board (“Board”) and its Administration desire for the schools with one or more grades at the 7-12 grade level under their jurisdiction to be voluntary members of the OHSAA;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION/GOVERNING BOARD that all schools listed on the reverse side of this card do hereby voluntarily renew membership in the OHSAA and that in doing so, the Constitution, Bylaws, General/Sport Specific Regulations and Business Rules of the OHSAA are hereby adopted by this Board as and for its own minimum requirements as it pertains to, but not limited to, student-eligibility, coaching requirements, and administrative responsibility. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Board reserves the right to raise the minimum standards as it deems appropriate for the schools and students under its jurisdiction; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the schools under this Board’s jurisdiction agree to conduct their athletic programs in accordance with the Constitution, Bylaws, General/Sport Specific Regulations, Business Rules, interpretations and decisions of the OHSAA and cooperate fully and timely with the Executive Director’s office of the OHSAA in all matters related to the interscholastic athletic programs of the schools. Furthermore, the schools under this Board’s jurisdiction shall be the primary enforcers of the OHSAA Constitution, Bylaws, General/Sport Specific Regulations and Business Rules and the interpretations and rulings rendered by the Executive Director’s office. The administrative heads of these schools understand that failure to discharge the duty of the primary enforcement may result in fines, removal from tournaments, suspension from membership and/or other such penalties as prescribed by Bylaw 11.

Moved by _____, seconded by _____.

Vote: Sturm- Wharry- Yon - Dubos - Johnson

The motion - carried – failed

4. It is recommended that the Board approve the following dates as potential make-up dates for staff members during the 2024-2025 school year. In the event of additional calamity days this year the staff will be required to make up days in the following order:

1. If school is canceled for COLD weather, staff will be expected to report. If school is closed due to snow, we will need to proceed with make up days.

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2. Teachers' last day will be moved from 5/30 to 6/2- Teachers will report to work on 5/30 and work a full day. Then, they will have their "report" day/check out day on 6/2.
3. Tuesday, April 22 (staff reports- Spring Break shortened for staff)
4. Thursday, April 17th work until 6:15 p.m. and Thursday, May 29th work until 6:15 p.m.

Moved by _____, seconded by _____.

Vote: Sturm- Wharry- Yon - Dubos - Johnson

The motion - carried – failed

5. It is recommended that the Board hereby adopts the Special Education Model Policies and Procedures (Model Policies) (as submitted) that were released by the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce (DEW) in December 2024, and directs all staff in the district to use and comply with the Model Policies. The Board further authorizes the Superintendent to notify the DEW of the Board's adoption of the Model Policies through the DEW's Monitoring System by uploading a copy of this Board resolution on or before March 30, 2025, and by November 30 for each subsequent school year.

Moved by _____, seconded by _____.

Vote: Sturm- Wharry- Yon - Dubos - Johnson

The motion - carried – failed

6. It is recommended that the Board approve the following revised Board Policies (as submitted):

a. **BDC- Executive Sessions- REVISION**

Moved by _____, seconded by _____.

Vote: Sturm- Wharry- Yon - Dubos - Johnson

The motion - carried – failed

7. Other:

Moved by _____, seconded by _____.

Vote: Sturm- Wharry- Yon - Dubos - Johnson

The motion - carried – failed

8. Adjournment:

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

Vote: Sturm- Wharry- Yon - Dubos - Johnson

The motion - carried – failed

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS (BOARD POLICY: KD)

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ATTACHMENT A

DRAFT Lowellville Local School District 2025-2026 - Version #2 (12/31/24)

BOE APPROVED TBD

August 2025							August	February 2026							
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	11-15	Teacher Flex Day (Work 1 day in place of 10/10)	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2	18 & 19	Teacher Work Days	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	19	Open House - Evening	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	20	First Student Day Grades 7-12	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	26	First Student Day Grades K-6	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	No School							
31							September								
September 2025							1	Labor Day- No School	March 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	October		S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6	9	K-12 Conference Night	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	10	NEOE Day- No School Students	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	24	Waiver Day- No School Students	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	November		22	23	24	25	26	27	28
28	29	30					26	Conf. Compensatory Day No School	29	30	31				
October 2025							27-28	Thanksgiving Break - No School	April 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	December		S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4	22-31	Christmas Break- No School				1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	January		5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	1-2	New Year Break- No School	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	5	Students Return to School	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31		19	Martin Luther King Jr. Day	26	27	28	29	30		
November 2025							February		May 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	12	K-12 Conference Night	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1	13	Conf. Compensatory Day- No School						1	2
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	16	Presidents Day- No School	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	March		10	11	12	13	14	15	16
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	13	Waiver Day- No School Students	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	April		24	25	26	27	28	29	30
30							3	Good Friday- No School	31						
December 2025							6-8	Spring Break - No School	June 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	9	Students Return to School	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6	May			1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	22	Seniors Last Day	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	24	Commencement	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	25	Memorial Day- No School	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31				28	Last Day of School for Students	28	29	30				
January 2026							29	Teacher Report & Last Day	July 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S			S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3		Teacher Work Days (3)				1	2	3	4
4	5	6	7	8	9	10		Waiver Day No School for Students	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
11	12	13	14	15	16	17		First & Last Day Students	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
18	19	20	21	22	23	24		No School	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
25	26	27	28	29	30	31		Conf. Compensatory No School	26	27	28	29	30	31	
Student Days 176 Teacher Days 184							*	Open House - Evening	1st Quarter 08/20 - 10/23 (44 days) 2nd Quarter 10/27 - 1/9 (42 days) 3rd Quarter 01/12 - 03/20 (46 days) 4th Quarter 03/23 - 05/28 (44 days) Total- 176 Days						

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