

The Lowellville Board of Education met in a work session on Wednesday, November 19, 2025 in the Lowellville Library; President Jennifer Johnson presiding. Mrs. Johnson called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

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

1. Work Session:

- To review, discuss, and establish priorities for projects that need to be completed, while exploring available funding sources and financing options to ensure timely and effective implementation.

Discussion:

- Ms. Apisa shared with the Board some funding projections that could occur if HB 186, HB129, and HB 309 are passed. Lowellville Local Schools will lose some funding with some of the new projections.
- Ms. Apisa stated that districts will not need to sustain a two year look back period on reducing funds as previously discussed in the legislature but instead will be a period from now moving forward.
- The district is due to put the permanent improvement levy back on the ballot in November 2026. It also appears that there may be a property tax referendum on the November 2026 ballot.
- The district's forecast will look different in February 2026 due to the house bills mentioned above.
- If the permanent improvement levy does not pass in November 2026, the district will begin to see a loss in funding in 2028.
- HB309- This provides the county budget commission authority to reduce school district budgets if they feel the districts have adequate funds.
- Ms. Apisa and Mrs. Sawicki discussed some of the follow up items they worked on after the last work session:
 - The painting of the inside of the school building has not been done since 2021. They are looking at splitting the painting up into two summers in order to get everything completed. The painting will need to formally be put out for bid. Ms. Apisa will begin working on the notices in order to put it out to bid.
 - Resanding and painting the gym floors- The district has received one quote so far and are waiting on another one that should arrive this week. The goal will be to have a formal quote for the Board to consider and hopefully approve at the December board meeting. Mrs. Sawicki will follow up with both vendors to establish a timeline for the work to be done in order to determine if the district will have adequate gym space for summer activities and sports.
- Sidewalks around campus- one vendor came to look at the property but was unsure what to quote. He wanted to be told specifically what the district wanted to be done. The district will call a few more vendors to come out and provide suggestions of what they believe can

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be done to save certain areas of the concrete. Administration is aware that some of the sidewalks are separating from the curb and there are several large cracks that need to be corrected. This may also be a project that may need to be formally bid out.

- Board members would like to establish PMS codes for the (navy and gold) paint so that the district can use the same colors on projects moving forward.
- Conversation regarding the baseball complex- The district is prepared to take ownership of the complex. There is work that needs to be done in order to have the softball fields in playable condition for spring. Drainage in the area is a priority and needs to be addressed. In addition, the dug outs are an area identified as a priority.
 - Electric bills are estimated to run \$170 / month.
 - Mrs. Johnson will check with Aqua regarding the water bill and cost per month.
 - The district inquired about the CASLO grant to see if they have an application available. The district would like to write a grant to help offset some of the costs associated with the repairs of the baseball complex.
 - The district will need to employ someone on an as needed basis in order to check on the property periodically and maintain some basic items (trash removal, restrooms, etc) throughout the spring and summer.
- Without taking out any debt, Ms. Apisa stated that there will be funds available to repair the visitors side bleachers at the field. Depending on the project and repairs desired, this will most likely need to be bid out.
- Ms. Apisa stated that the next steps should be to begin working through the process of completing the projects previously mentioned and then come back together as a board to discuss the final costs and see what funds are remaining in order to complete any other projects.
- Ms. Apisa stated that it is essential to have funds in reserve in case there are emergencies that need to be addressed (ex- if a boiler or chiller needs repaired).
- Mr. Dubos asked when the permanent improvement levy will go on the ballot. Ms. Apisa stated that it will be on the ballot in November 2026 and that the resolutions will go out in the spring of 2026.

(25-11-8800)

2. Adjournment:

Moved by Brian Wharry, seconded by Jennifer Johnson to adjourn the work session at 5:54 pm.

ROLL CALL: Dubos- Johnson - Sturm - Wharry- Yon

Jennifer Johnson declared the motion carried 5-0

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

Date

Treasurer

Date

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