

Licking Valley Board of Education  
 Licking Valley High School Media Center, 100 Hainsview Dr., Newark, Ohio  
 February 9, 2026, at 6:00 PM

**Mission Statement: Every adult helping every child learn and grow every day**

*"This meeting is a meeting of the Board of Education 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 in agenda items titled Public Comment - Agenda Items Only and Public Comment - Non-Agenda Items Only." Licking Valley Board Policy 0165.1 - REGULAR MEETINGS*

**I. REGULAR BUSINESS**

**A. ROLL CALL**

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. McArtor	Mr. Nethers	Mrs. Stedman	Mrs. Torbert	Mr. C. Williams	Mr. Clements	Mr. G. Williams

**B. MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR PRAYER, REFLECTION, OR MEDITATION**

**C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**D. PRESENTATION and ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**a. Addition to the agenda**

EXECUTIVE SESSION

**b. Adoption of the agenda**

Recommended Action: Motion to adopt the agenda as presented.

**Motion by:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Seconded by:** \_\_\_\_\_

*Discussion:*

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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**E. PUBLIC COMMENT (AGENDA ITEMS - 30 MINUTES ALLOTTED)**

**F. SPECIAL REPORT**

**Student Spotlight**

- Grace Kaepfner, High School Student
- High School Mock Trial Team - Mrs. Caraline Johnston

**High School** - Mr. Adam Arcuri - Out-of-State Baseball Trip

**High School** - Mr. Chad Dennis - Out-of-State Softball Trip

**Board Policy Committee Update** - Mrs. Julie Stedman

**Community Member Spotlight** - Mr. Drake McArtor

**II. BOARD OF EDUCATION RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Resolution Naming the Licking Valley Varsity Baseball Field**

WHEREAS, Mr. Rick Houston has served the Licking Valley community, school district, and baseball program selflessly throughout his lifetime and continues to lead our community in an exceptional manner.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT, AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Licking Valley Board of Education doth name the Licking Valley Varsity Baseball Field the “Rick Houston Field”.

**Motion by:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Seconded by:** \_\_\_\_\_

*Discussion:*

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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**III. TREASURER’S REPORT**

**A. Meeting Minutes**

Recommended Action: Approval of minutes from the January 12, 2026, Regular Board Meeting.

**B. Amending and Filing Certificates**

Recommended Action: Approval of adjusting/filing amended certificates (including the 412 certificates) and appropriation codes to reflect additional incomes, transfers, advances, and expenditures through the end of the month.

- Appropriations and estimated resources

**C. Advances on Tax Settlement**

Recommended Action: To authorize and adopt the resolution for the Treasurer to secure advances from the Auditor when funds are available and to grant advances and repayments to all funds when needed.

**D. Budget Commission/Tax Levies**

Recommended Action: To approve the resolution and amounts and rates as determined by the budget commission, authorize the necessary tax levies, and certify them to the county auditor.

**E. Approval of Forecast**

Recommended Action: Approval of the 2025-2026 forecast projection, notes, and assumptions and give permission for the treasurer to amend, and re-file when necessary.

**Motion by:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Seconded by:** \_\_\_\_\_

*Discussion:*

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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**IV. SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATIONS**

**A. PERSONNEL**

It is recommended the personnel changes listed below be accepted.

*Official employment for all of our new hires is contingent upon the satisfactory completion of a criminal records background check as required by ORC 3319.39, and receipt of appropriate certificate or license from the Ohio Department of Education.*

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**1. Resignations/Retirements**

Resignations

First Name	Last Name	Assignment	Effective Date
Grace	Hoop	Assistant Volleyball Coach	January 22, 2026
Roy	Whisner	Assistant Baseball Coach	February 6, 2026

**Motion by:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Seconded by:** \_\_\_\_\_

*Discussion:*

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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**2. Substitutes 2025-2026**

**a. Substitute Teacher**

Jessica Davis, Jacie Wolfe, Autumn Dutiell

**b. Substitute Daily Aide (Unit or 1:1)**

First Name	Last Name	Effective Date	Reason
Sara	DeDear	Retroactive to February 2, 2026	Replacing Marley Kennedy - resigned

**c. Substitute Bus Driver (Daily)**

Karen Gress - retroactive to January 16, 2026

**3. Supplemental**

First Name	Last Name	Assignment	Status	Category	Salary	Reason
Adam	Arcuri	Baseball - Head	2025-26	2	Step - 10	Renewal

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First Name	Last Name	Assignment	Status	Category	Salary	Reason
Jared	Whittington	Baseball - Reserve	2025-26	3	Step - 7	Replacing Justin Holman - resigned
Daniel	Sopher	Baseball - Freshman	2025-26	3	Step - 0	Replacing Jared Whittington - moved to Reserve Baseball
Chad	Dennis	Softball - Varsity	2025-26	2	Step - 5	Renewal
Nathan	Whisner	Varsity Assistant Softball	2025-26	3	Step - 3	Renewal
Dirk	McFarland	Softball - Reserve	2025-26	3	Step - 9	Renewal
Tyler	Kuhnes	Track - Varsity Boys	2025-26	2	Step - 8	Renewal
Matthew	Sorg	Track - Varsity Boys Assistant	2025-26	3	Step - 10	Renewal
Deborah	Fehrman	Track - Middle School Boys	2025-26	3	Step - 10	Replacing Kristie Conley - resigned
Darl	Keller	Middle School Boys Assistant Track	2025-26	4	Step - 0	Replacing Rebekah Kalas - resigned
Jessica	Hoover	Varsity Girls Track	2025-26	2	Step - 10	Renewal
Siarra	Hoover	Varsity Girls Assistant Track	2025-26	3	Step - 1	Renewal

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First Name	Last Name	Assignment	Status	Category	Salary	Reason
Emma	Fehrman	Middle School Girls Track	2025-26	3	Step - 0	Replacing Deborah Ferhman - moved to MS Boys Track

**Motion by:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Seconded by:** \_\_\_\_\_

*Discussion:*

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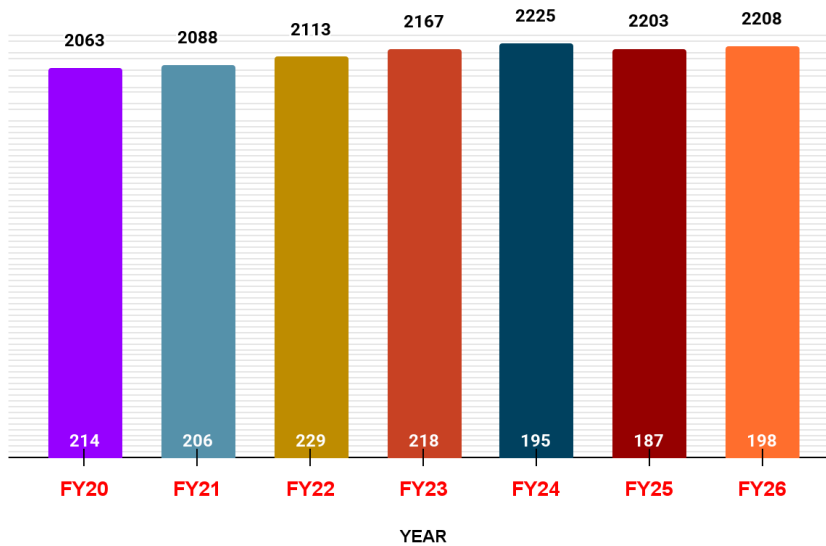
**B. STUDENTS/CURRICULUM**

It is recommended the Student/Curriculum items be accepted.

**1. Enrollment**

**District Head Counts FY20-FY26 (Includes C-TEC)**

NOTE: Incoming open enrollment counts for each year are shown within each bar in the chart.



**2. Licking Valley Local School District Incidents of Bullying Report**  
**2025-2026**

**Board Policy: 5517.01 - Bullying and Other Forms of Aggressive Behavior**

*Harassment, intimidation, or bullying means:*

- A. *Any intentional written, verbal, electronic, or physical act that a student or group of students exhibits toward another particular student(s) more than once and the behavior both causes mental or physical harm to the other student(s) and is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for the other student(s); or violence within a dating relationship.*
  
- B. *"Electronic act" means an act committed through the use of a cellular telephone, computer, pager, personal communication device, or other electronic communication device.*  
*Aggressive behavior is defined as inappropriate conduct that is repeated enough, or serious enough, to negatively impact a student's educational, physical, or emotional well being.*

a. Licking Valley High School

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Grade Count</u>
09	0	0	0
10	0	0	0
11	0	0	0
12	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	0	0

b. Licking Valley Middle School

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Grade Count</u>
06	0	0	0
07	0	0	0
08	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	0	0

c. Licking Valley Elementary

<u>Grades K-5</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
TOTAL	0	0

**3. Suspension/Expulsions Report**

a. Licking Valley High School (0 Vape-Related Incidents)

Discipline Type	Day(s)	Incident(s)
In-School Suspension	2	1

b. Licking Valley Middle School (0 Vape-Related Incidents)

Discipline Type	Day(s)	Incident(s)
In-School Suspension	1	11
In-School Suspension	2	4
In-School Suspension	3	1
Out-of-School Suspension	3	2
Out-of-School Suspension	5	1
Out-of-School Suspension	10	1

c. Licking Valley Intermediate (0 Vape-Related Incidents)

Discipline Type	Day(s)	Incident(s)
In-School Suspension	1	4

d. Licking Valley Primary (0 Vape-Related Incidents)

Discipline Type	Day(s)	Incident(s)
Bus Suspension	1	1

**4. Out-of-State Trip**

a. Baseball

Recommended Action: To approve the high school baseball team for the out-of-state trip to Memphis Tennessee USA Baseball Complex during Spring Break.

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b. Softball

Recommended Action: To approve the high school softball team for the out-of-state trip to Pigeon Forge Tennessee Cal Ripken Complex during Spring Break.

**Motion by:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Seconded by:** \_\_\_\_\_

*Discussion:*

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. McArtor	Mr. Nethers	Mrs. Stedman	Mrs. Torbert	Mr. C. Williams	Mr. Clements	Mr. G. Williams

**C. GIFTS/DONATIONS**

**It is recommended to accept the gifts/donations listed:**

**Donations Received Between January 10, 2026 - February 6, 2026**

	<b>Donation Recipient</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Received From</b>
1/12	HS Panther Pantry	\$50.00	Toboso United Methodist in-kind donation of food
1/12	HS Panther Pantry	\$2,312.00	State Farm
1/12	MS Panther Pantry	\$500.00	James & Linda Lawrence
1/12	HS Panther Pantry	\$50.00	Phillip Clark in memory of Millie Clark
1/14	MS Panther Pantry	\$150.00	Hanover American Legion
1/14	HS Panther Pantry	\$150.00	LV Lions Club
1/21	HS Band	\$10.00	Tiffany Robinson
1/22	MS Panther Pantry	\$976.45	RISE Christian Church
1/23	Primary Principals Fund	\$976.45	RISE Christian Church
1/28	Intermediate Principals Fund	\$976.45	RISE Christian Church
1/29	HS Panther Pantry	\$976.45	RISE Christian Church
1/30	Youth to Youth	\$5,000.00	Shawn Phelps

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	<b>Donation Recipient</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Received From</b>
1/30	Student Lunch Balances	\$500.00	Toboso UM Church
2/2	Intermediate Principals Fund	\$354.25	Licking County Sheriff's Office
2/2	MS Panther Pantry	\$354.25	Licking County Sheriff's Office
2/6	Misc Donation	\$50.00	Anonymous donation
2/6	MS Yearbook	\$200.00	Mike Riley
2/6	HS Panther Pantry	\$400.00	James & Robin Hoekstra
2/6	HS Panther Pantry	\$100.00	Judy Schonauer
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$14,086.30</b>	

**Motion by:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Seconded by:** \_\_\_\_\_

*Discussion:*

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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**D. BUSINESS**

It is recommended we accept the Business items listed.

**1. Audit IPA Renewal**

Recommended Action:

Approve the extension agreement with Wilson, Shannon & Snow, Inc. for Independent Public Accountant (IPA) audit services for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2026, 2027, and 2028, as authorized by the Auditor of State. The agreement includes a fixed annual fee of \$27,900, for a total cost of \$83,700 over three years. Authorize the Treasurer to execute the agreement and any related documents.

**Motion by:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Seconded by:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**2. Selection Of The Mowing & Grounds Maintenance Services Contract**

Recommended Action:

To approve Local Roots Property Service as the vendor for Mowing & Grounds Maintenance Services pursuant to the completed Request for Proposals, for an initial two-year term March 1, 2026 through February 28, 2028, with two (2) additional one-year renewal options, and to authorize the Treasurer to execute the contract and any related documents.

**Motion by:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Seconded by:** \_\_\_\_\_

*Discussion:*

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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**3. Sale of Property**

**AUTHORIZING PUBLIC AUCTION  
 OF REAL PROPERTY OWNED BY THE BOARD**  
 (Clearview Dr., Village of Hanover property)  
 (Pursuant to R.C. §3313.41)

WHEREAS, the Board of Education (the “Board”) of the Licking Valley Local School District (the “School District”) is the owner of approximately 10.976 acres and 0.224 acres of vacant real property located at Clearview Drive in the Village of Hanover, Licking County, Ohio, being Licking County Auditor Tax Parcel Numbers 023-065716-00.000 and 023-065670-00.002 (collectively, the “Property”), as depicted on Exhibit A attached hereto and made a part hereof;

WHEREAS, the Property is no longer needed for school purposes;

WHEREAS, the Board desires to sell the Property; and

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WHEREAS, no start-up community, STEM or boarding schools are located within the territory of the School District entitled to a first offer of the Property pursuant to Ohio Revised Code (“R.C.”) §3313.413(B).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board that:

1. It is found and determined that the Property, which exceeds \$10,000 in value, is no longer needed for school purposes.
2. The Property shall be presented for sale at public auction in the manner prescribed by R.C. §3313.41 after giving at least thirty (30) days’ notice of the sale by publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the School District, in accordance with R.C. §3313.41.
3. The Superintendent and Treasurer are hereby authorized to determine the terms and conditions of the sale of the Property at public auction, which terms and conditions shall include that such sale shall be subject to Board approval.
4. After the auction is complete, the high bid received at auction will be presented to the Board and the Board shall determine whether to accept or reject the high bid.
5. The Superintendent, Treasurer, and/or Board President are hereby authorized and directed to do all things necessary and consistent with this resolution to conduct a public auction of the Property, including paying reasonable costs incurred in connection therewith.
6. It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Board concerning and relating to the adoption of this resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Board, and that all deliberations of this Board and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with applicable law, including R.C. §121.22.

**Motion by:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Seconded by:** \_\_\_\_\_

*Discussion:*

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. McArtor	Mr. Nethers	Mrs. Stedman	Mrs. Torbert	Mr. C. Williams	Mr. Clements	Mr. G. Williams

4. **Safehouse Preparatory Service Agreement 2025-2026 School Year**  
 Recommended Action: To approve the Safehouse Preparatory service agreement for 2025-2026 for (1) one student.

**Motion by:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Seconded by:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**5. Surplus**

Recommended Action: To approve the items listed as surplus.

Tag Number	Item	Qty	Reason	For Bid
NA	HS - 6' Sided Tables - Seckman	29	Replaced	Yes
NA	HS - 8' Tables - Seckman	13	Replaced	Yes
NA	HS - 10' Tables - Seckman	10	Replaced	Yes
NA	DO - Varidesk Adjustable Standing Desk	6	No Longer Used	Yes
NA	MS - Ruckus R610 Wi-Fi Access Point	45	Obsolete/Replaced	No
NA	Inter-Tel Phones - All Buildings	249	Obsolete/Replaced	No

**Motion by: \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by: \_\_\_\_\_**

*Discussion:*

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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- V. STUDENT BOARD MEMBER UPDATE**
- VI. STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT UPDATE**
- VII. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**
- VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT (NON-AGENDA ITEMS - 30 MINUTES ALLOTTED)**

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**IX. BOARD DISCUSSION**

**A. AMERICAN READING COMPANY (ARC) LETTER OF THANKS**

**B. OTHERS**

**X. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board will adjourn to executive session for consideration of the employment or compensation of a public employee, or official.

**Motion by:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Seconded by:** \_\_\_\_\_

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. McArtor	Mr. Nethers	Mrs. Stedman	Mrs. Torbert	Mr. C. Williams	Mr. Clements	Mr. G. Williams

Time out: \_\_\_\_\_ Time back: \_\_\_\_\_

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion by:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Seconded by:** \_\_\_\_\_

*Discussion:*

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Time \_\_\_\_\_