

Licking Valley Board of Education
Licking Valley High School Media Center, 100 Hainsview Dr., Newark, Ohio
April 20, 2026, at 6:00 PM

Vision 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

☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
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

1. Additions or Deletions to the Agenda

a. Additions

- Page 2 - Item III - Superintendent's Recommendation - Resignation, Scott Beery (moved from Page 4)
- Page 2 - Item IV - Board of Education Reports/Recommendations - Employment of Superintendent, Paul Smathers
- Page 4 - Item VI - Superintendent's Recommendation - Resignation - Sara DeDear and Gaven Dovenbarger
- Page 6 - Substitute Custodian (Daily) - added Elizabeth Anglin and Shawn Hartsough

2. Adoption of the Agenda

Recommended Action: Motion to adopt the agenda as presented.

Motion by: _____ Seconded by: _____

Discussion:

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E. PUBLIC COMMENT (AGENDA ITEMS - 30 MINUTES ALLOTTED)

II. SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION

A. PERSONNEL

It is recommended the personnel changes listed below be accepted.

1. Resignations

First Name	Last Name	Assignment	Effective Date
Scott	Beery	Superintendent	July 31, 2026

Motion by: _____ **Seconded by:** _____

Discussion:

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Mr. McArtor	Mr. Nethers	Mrs. Stedman	Mrs. Torbert	Mr. C. Williams	Mr. Clements	Mr. G. Williams

III. BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Licking Valley Board of Education approve the employment of Paul Smathers as Superintendent of the Licking Valley Local School District under the terms and conditions of the employment contract as presented in the Board packet, subject to satisfactory completion of all pre-employment requirements, background checks, credential verification, and other conditions of employment required by law, Board policy, and the contract, and authorize the Board President and Treasurer to execute the contract and related employment documents on behalf of the Board.

Motion by: _____ **Seconded by:** _____

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IV. REGULAR BUSINESS

F. SPECIAL REPORT

Student Spotlight

- **2026 Trip to Greece and Italy** - Dr. Martha Schenk and students

FFA - Mr. Colton Kreager

- Overnight Trip to Ohio FFA Camp
- Out-of-State Trip to the Washington Leadership Conference
- Officer Retreat

Board Policy Committee Update - Mrs. Julie Stedman

V. TREASURER'S REPORT

A. Meeting Minutes

Recommended Action: Approval of minutes from the March 9, 2026, Regular Board Meeting and the Special Board Meetings listed below:

- March 23, 2026
- April 8, 2026
- April 10, 2026
- April 15, 2026
- April 18, 2026

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. Transfer Funds

Recommended Action: Approve the transfer of funds, as presented:

- Transfer \$1000 from fund 300-9300 to 007-9073.

These funds will be used to provide two (2) Claw Café Student Scholarships for \$500 each.

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VI. SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS

B. 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 3319.291, and receipt of appropriate certificate or license from the Ohio Department of Education.

1. Resignations/Retirements

a. Resignations

First Name	Last Name	Assignment	Effective Date
Keenan	McKee	Elementary Head Custodian	May 1, 2026
Jeffrey	Unternaher	Elementary Custodian	May 1, 2026
Crystal	Walpole	Elementary Substitute Custodian (Daily)	March 18, 2026
Sara	DeDear	High School Aide (1:1 or Unit) Daily	April 24, 2026
Gaven	Dovenbarger	Student Custodial Co-op Worker	April 9, 2026

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b. Retirements

First Name	Last Name	Assignment	Effective Date
Mequila	Archer	Transportation Supervisor	June 30, 2026
Jacquelyn	Collins	Bus Driver	June 30, 2026
Mark	McCullough	Athletic Director	June 30, 2026

Motion by: _____ **Seconded by:** _____

Discussion:

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2. Appointments 2025-2026

Classified

First Name	Last Name	Assignment	Contract	Salary	Reason
Robert	Hays	Elementary Head Custodian	1-Year Limited	Step 12	Replacing Keenan McKee - resigned
Brock	Bradley	Elementary 1st Shift Custodian	1-Year Limited - retroactive to April 20, 2026	Step 11	Replacing Jeff Unternaher - resigned

3. Substitutes 2025-2026

a. Substitute Teacher

Shawn (Tommy) Hay, Margot Short

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b. Substitute Bus Driver (Daily)

Nakia Hines - retroactive to March 30, 2026

Beverly Reinbeau - retroactive to April 1, 2026

c. Substitute Bus Driver (Call In)

Sandra Hanlon

d. Substitute Custodian (Daily)

Tina Stevens, Julie Spellman, Elizabeth Anglin, Shawn Hartsough

4. Supplemental Contract Non-Renewal

Recommended Action: To non-renew all the 2025-2026

Supplemental/Pupil Activity Staff contracts effective June 30, 2026.

Motion by: _____ Seconded by: _____

Discussion:

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5. Appointments and Assignments 2026-2027

a. Administration

First Name	Last Name	Assignment	Contract	Contract Days	Salary	Reason
Tiffany	Schmitz	Director of Student Services	5-Year Limited	214	Step 9	Renewal
John	Grimm	Primary Principal	5-Year Limited	204	Step 3	Renewal
Nacole	Klick	Elementary Assistant Principal	3-Year Limited	204	Step 4	Replacing Angela Harrison - retire

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b. Certified

First Name	Last Name	Assignment	Contract	Contract Days	Salary	Reason
Alicia	Graham	2nd Grade Teacher	1-Year Limited	184	Bachelors Step 0	Replacing Nancy Donnette Horsley - retire
Andrea	Morris	4th Grade Teacher	Continuing	184	Masters Step 18	Renewal
Andrea	Sopher	5th Grade Teacher	Continuing	184	Masters Step 20	Renewal
Parker	Koch	Middle School Physical Education Teacher	Continuing	184	Masters Step 17	Renewal
Deana	Bennett	High School Intervention Specialist - STAR	Continuing	184	Masters Step 22	Renewal
Kristie	Conley	High School Intervention Specialist	Continuing	184	Masters +30 Step 27	Renewal

c. Classified

First Name	Last Name	Assignment	Contract	Contract Days	Salary	Reason
Sarahee	Rivera	Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent	1-Year Limited	260	Step 11	Replacing Lissa Bennett - retire

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6. Supplemental

First Name	Last Name	Assignment	Status	Category	Salary	Reason
Michael	Hinger	Weight Room (May-August)	2026-27	4	Step - 5	Renewal

7. Classified Extended Contract Days (2025-2026)

First Name	Last Name	Assignment	Days	Salary	Reason
Sarahee	Rivera	Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent	10	Step 10	Training

8. Personal Service Contract (Renewal)

Recommended Action: Approve a personal service contract with Carol Patterson for \$5873.10 per year or \$587.31 per month (10 months), as long as services are rendered, for the district-wide calling of substitute teachers for the 2026-2027 school year. The contract will include cell phone reimbursement as per Resolution #19-66, with the exception that payment will not be paid through payroll.

Motion by: _____ **Seconded by:** _____

Discussion:

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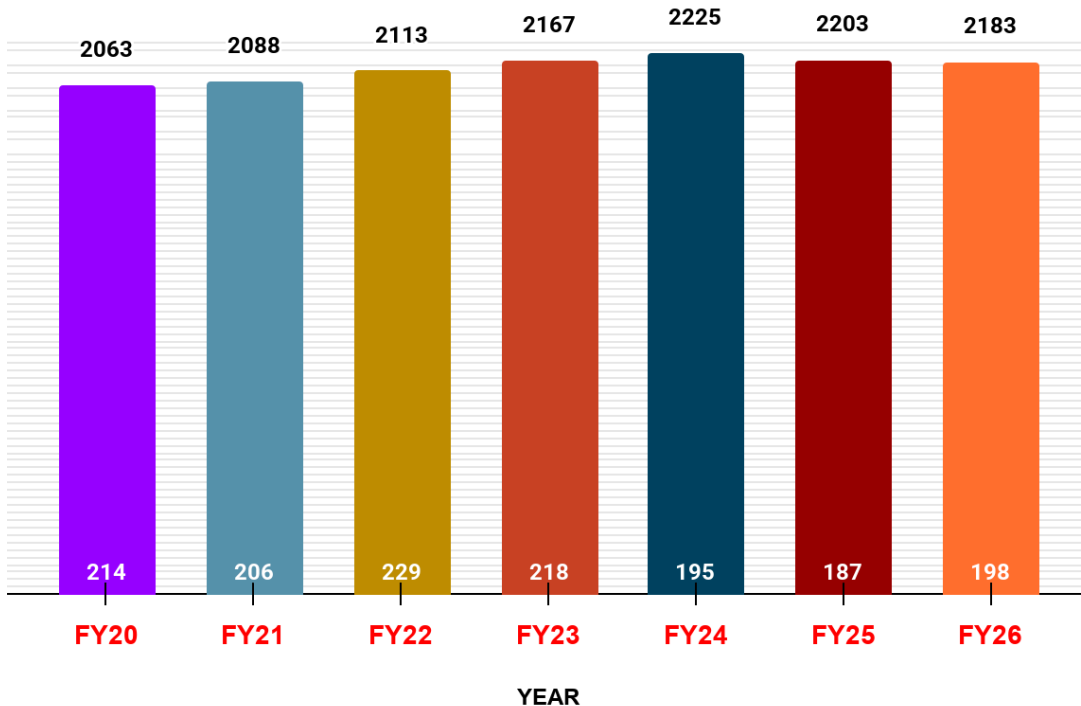
C. STUDENTS/CURRICULUM

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.

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a. Licking Valley High School

Grade	Males	Females	Grade Count
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

Grade	Males	Females	Grade Count
06	0	0	0
07	0	0	0
08	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	0	0

c. Licking Valley Elementary

Grades K-5	Males	Females
TOTAL	0	0

3. **Suspension/Expulsions Report**

a. Licking Valley High School (1 Vape-Related Incidents)

Discipline Type	Day(s)	Incident(s)
In-School Suspension	1	2
In-School Suspension	2	6
In-School Suspension	3	4
Out-of-School Suspension	1	2
Out-of-School Suspension	3	2

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Discipline Type	Day(s)	Incident(s)
Out-of-School Suspension	5	1
Out-of-School Suspension	6	1

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

Discipline Type	Day(s)	Incident(s)
Bus Suspension	7	1
In-School Suspension	1	36
In-School Suspension	2	5
In-School Suspension	3	4
Out-of-School Suspension	1	2
Out-of-School Suspension	2	3
Out-of-School Suspension	3	2
Out-of-School Suspension	4	2

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

Discipline Type	Day(s)	Incident(s)
In-School Suspension	1	3

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

Discipline Type	Day(s)	Incident(s)
None		

4. FFA Trips

a. Overnight Trip

Recommended Action: To approve the FFA overnight trip to attend the Ohio FFA Camp June 22 - 26, 2026, in Carrollton Ohio with their advisor(s), Colton Kreager and/or Haley Skinner.

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b. Out-of-State Trip

Recommended Action: To approve the FFA overnight/out-of-state trip to the Washington Leadership Conference. The conference will be held in Washington DC June 2 - 6, 2026, with their advisor(s), Colton Kreager and/or Haley Skinner.

c. Overnight Officer Retreat

Recommended Action: To approve the FFA overnight Officer Retreat to be held at Mohican Park on July 20-21, 2026, with their advisor(s), Colton Kreager and/or Haley Skinner.

Motion by: _____ **Seconded by:** _____

Discussion:

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D. GIFTS/DONATIONS

It is recommended to accept the gifts/donations listed:

Donations Received Between March 6, 2026 - April 16, 2026

Date	Donation Recipient	Amount	Received From
3/6	HS Choir	\$95.00	Anonymous Donation
3/10	HS Choir	\$300.00	Jo Lynn Torbert
3/11	HS Panther Pantry	\$658.00	Hanover Presbyterian Church Women
3/12	Intermediate Principals Fund	\$300.00	Smith Chapel United Methodist Church
3/17	Student Lunch Balances	\$1,500.00	Brushy Fork United Methodist Church
3/18	LV FFA	\$2,532.00	The Bowerston Shale Company - Paver Donation for FFA Auction
3/23	Youth to Youth	\$5,000.00	Northwestern Mutual Foundation
3/31	HS Panther Pantry	\$409.25	LV Athletic Boosters
3/31	HS Panther Pantry	\$400.00	James & Robin Hoekstra

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Date	Donation Recipient	Amount	Received From
4/1	Student Lunch Balances	\$1,450.00	American Legion Auxiliary
4/6	LV Baseball & Softball Project	\$30,000.00	Houston Plumbing & Heating
4/6	LV Baseball & Softball Project	\$5,000.00	Rick & Kristi Houston
	TOTAL	\$47,644.25	

Motion by: _____ **Seconded by:** _____

Discussion:

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E. BUSINESS

It is recommended we accept the Business items listed.

1. Resolution Adopting a Cybersecurity Program Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 9.64

WHEREAS, the Licking Valley Local Schools is a political subdivision of the State of Ohio; and

WHEREAS, Ohio Revised Code Section 9.64 requires all political subdivisions to develop and adopt a formal cybersecurity program to safeguard data, information technology, and resources; and

WHEREAS, the Licking Valley Local Schools Board of Education finds it in the best interest of the District, its staff, and its member districts to implement a program based on generally accepted best practices;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the Licking Valley Local Schools:

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1. **Adoption of Framework:** The Board hereby formally adopts the **NIST Cybersecurity Framework (CSF) 2.0** as the foundational framework for the Center's cybersecurity program.
2. **Designation of Coordinator:** The Superintendent is hereby designated as the Cybersecurity Coordinator, responsible for the development, implementation, and annual review of the program.
3. **Ransomware Restriction:** In accordance with ORC § 9.64(B), the District shall not pay any ransom or comply with a ransom demand unless this Board formally approves such payment in a separate resolution that specifically states why the payment is in the best interest of the District.
4. **Mandatory Training:** The District shall implement mandatory annual cybersecurity training for all employees, with the level of training corresponding to the employee's specific duties.
5. **Confidentiality:** Pursuant to ORC § 9.64(E) and (F), all records and reports related to the cybersecurity program, incident response plans, and specific IT asset inventories are classified as non-public security records and are exempt from disclosure under Ohio's Public Records Act.

ADOPTED this 20th day of April, 2026.

Motion by: _____ **Seconded by:** _____

Discussion:

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2. Ohio High School Athletic Association (Renewal)

Recommended Action: To continue our membership with the Ohio High school Athletic Association for the 2026-2027 school year.

Motion by: _____ **Seconded by:** _____

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3. Chromebooks

Recommended Action: To approve the purchase of Dell Chromebooks from Columbus Micro Systems, Inc. for the 5th & 9th graders for the 26-27 school year.

4. College Credit Plus

Columbus State Community College

Recommended Action: To approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Columbus State Community College and Licking Valley Local Schools for the 2026-2027 school year.

5. Student Insurance Program for 2026-2027

Recommended Action: To approve the 2026-2027 Student Insurance Program with Student Protective Agency.

6. Surplus

Recommended Action: To approve the items listed as surplus.

Tag Number	Item	Qty	Reason	For Bid
8496	Konica Minolta Bizhub C3100P Printer - High School Cafeteria	1	Broken	No
6373	Southbend Steamer Model STRE-3D - Middle School Cafeteria	1	Broken	No

Motion by: _____ **Seconded by:** _____

Discussion:

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VII. BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORTS/RECOMMENDATION
NEOLA POLICY - First Reading (No Action)

Policy	Title
1540	Suspension of Administrative Contracts (revise)
2105	Mission/Vision of the District (revise)
2131	Educational Accomplishments for Students (rescind)
2440	Summer School (revise)
2451	Alternative School Plans/Programs (revise)
5112	Entrance Requirements (revise)
6320	Purchasing and Bidding (revise)
6325	Procurement - Federal Grants/Funds (revise)
6423	Use of Credit Cards (revise)
7540.02	Digital Content and Accessibility (revise)
7540.09	Artificial Intelligence ("AI") (revise)
8300	Continuity of Organizational Operation Plan (revise)
8305	Information Security (revise)

(Information only, No vote taken)

VIII. STUDENT BOARD MEMBER UPDATE

IX. STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT UPDATE

X. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

XI. PUBLIC COMMENT (NON-AGENDA ITEMS - 30 MINUTES ALLOTTED)

XII. BOARD DISCUSSION

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

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Motion by: _____ **Seconded by:** _____

Discussion:

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Time out: _____ Time back: _____

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by: _____ **Seconded by:** _____

Discussion:

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Mr. McArtor	Mr. Nethers	Mrs. Stedman	Mrs. Torbert	Mr. C. Williams	Mr. Clements	Mr. G. Williams

Time _____