

The Lowellville Board of Education met in regular session on Wednesday, March 18, 2026 in the Lowellville Library; President Jennifer Johnson presiding. Mrs. Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

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

(26-3-8852)

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. It is recommended that the Board move into Executive Session. Moved by Jennifer Johnson, seconded by Brian Wharry, resolved that the Board of Education of the Lowellville School District adjourn to Executive Session at 6:01 p.m. to discuss:
 - A. To consider one or more, as applicable, of the check marked items with respect to a public employee or official:
 1. _____ Appointment;
 2. _____ Employment;
 3. _____ Dismissal;
 4. _____ Discipline;
 5. _____ Promotion;
 6. _____ Demotion;
 7. _____ Compensation of a public employee or official; or
 8. X Investigation of charges/complaints against a public employee, official, licensee, or regulated individual (unless public hearing requested).
 - B. _____ To consider the purchase of property for public purposes, or for the sale of property at competitive bidding, if premature disclosure of information would give an unfair competitive or bargaining advantage to a person whose personal, private interest is adverse to the public interest.
 - C. _____ Conferences with an attorney for the public body concerning disputes involving the public body that are the subject of pending or imminent court action.

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D. _____ Preparing for, conducting, or reviewing negotiations or bargaining sessions with public employees concerning their compensation or other terms and conditions of their employment.

E. _____ Matters required to be kept confidential by federal law or regulations or state statutes.

F. _____ Details relative to security arrangements and emergency response protocols for a public body or a public office, if disclosure of the matters discussed could reasonably be expected to jeopardize the security of the public body or public office.

Action will not be taken.

Moved by Jennifer Johnson seconded by Brian Wharry.

ROLL CALL: Johnson - Sturm - Wharry - Yon - Dubos - all aye
Jennifer Johnson declared the motion carried 5-0

(26-3-8853)

2. It is recommended that the Board return from Executive Session and resume Board Meeting at 6:37 p.m.:

Moved by Brian Wharry seconded by Joe Sturm.

ROLL CALL: Johnson - Sturm - Wharry - Yon - Dubos - all aye
Jennifer Johnson declared the motion carried 5-0

(26-3-8854)

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 February 18, 2026 Regular Board Meeting

B. Financial Reports

- a. Financial reports, list of bills and expenses paid, and payroll for the month ended February 2026

- C. It is recommended that the Board approve the resolution as submitted to accept the amounts and rates as determined by the budget commission and authorize the necessary tax levies and certify them to the county auditor (city, village, or local Board of Education).

Moved by Stephanie Yon seconded by Jennifer Johnson.

ROLL CALL: Johnson - Sturm - Wharry - Yon - Dubos - all aye
Jennifer Johnson declared the motion carried 5-0

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PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:

1. We are currently accepting applications for kindergarten open enrollment. We already have 10 district students registered for kindergarten next fall and 6 approved open enrollment applications and 5 pending applications.
2. Juvenile Court Magistrate Gina DeGenova met with our senior class on Tuesday, March 3rd to discuss attendance expectations. Currently, 19 of our 29 seniors in the building have accumulated 72 or more hours of absences. Magistrate DeGenova reviewed the potential consequences if attendance does not improve.
3. On Tuesday, March 10th, the junior class participated in the state-sponsored ACT test. Ohio permits schools to administer the ACT to juniors once each year at no cost to the student.
4. March 13th was a staff waiver day. In addition to other professional learning activities, all staff were given the opportunity to participate in hands-on CPR and AED training.
5. On March 23rd, we will hold an attendance celebration. All students in grades K–12 have the opportunity to earn an invitation to this special celebration by having fewer than 10 hours of absences between February 6 and March 18.
6. On Tuesday, March 24th, the PTO has scheduled an assembly for all students in grades K-6 titled "Air: The Invisible Wonder," presented by Mobile Ed Productions. This interactive science assembly introduces students to the properties of air and our atmosphere through engaging demonstrations, including the weight and pressure of air, the effects of a vacuum, and key concepts of fluid dynamics. The program connects real-world science concepts to hands-on, high-interest demonstrations for students.

NOTE: Mrs. Parry announced that there has been a change to the presentation and the students in grades K-8 will now experience a presentation related to Forces and Motion.
7. State testing begins this month for students in grades 3-11. As in previous years, teachers worked with students to create growth goals to encourage their best effort. Students who meet their testing goals will be invited to participate in an end-of-year celebration.

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:

1. Rocket Spotlight Students of the Month Recognition

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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.

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.

KG - Sadie Leggett & Alexander Kline

1 - Mason Clinton & Owen Meehan

2 - Ethan O'Dell

3 - Shane Kaliney

4 - Ethan Nye

5 - Camille Miner

6 - Harper Svandrik

7 - Sariah O'Dell & Nolan Tamburino

8 - Dominic McCaughtry & Whitley Arnoto

9 - Mason Dutton

10 - Chloe Necastro

11 - McKenna Lewis

12 - Jordan Nock & Nathan Yon

2. Shoutout to Our Indoor Track Stars!

On Saturday, March 7, 2026 our Rockets represented Lowellville at the OATCCC Indoor State Track meet at Spire Academy. We are extremely proud of our student athletes and excited to carry the momentum into the outdoor season!

- Daniel Huff, Josh Pazel, Nate Rouns and Michael Frohman competed in the 4x200 meter relay and finished 9th place overall with a time of 1:38.99.
- Nathan Yon competed in the 1600 and 3200 meter races. He placed 8th in the 1600 with a time of 4:32.25 and 3rd place in the 3200 with a time of 9:56.47.
- Steven Yon competed in the 3200 and placed 10th with a time of 10:27.93.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

1. Lowellville's Shave- A-Thon to support St. Baldrick's Foundation

On March 12, 2026, Lowellville Schools held its first-ever Shave-A-Thon to raise money for the St. Baldrick's Foundation in support of childhood cancer research. We are incredibly proud of the 8 students and 6 staff members who courageously stepped up to have their heads shaved or trimmed in solidarity with children battling cancer.

Staff Participants:

Cindi Clemens

Bill Stanton

Jared Van Kirk

Bob Ballone

Chad Likens

Chief Elrico Alli, Lowellville Police Chief

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Student Participants:

Lena Ventura – 2nd Grade (Trimmee)
 Hunter Wood – 3rd Grade (Shavee)
 Luca Getsy – 4th Grade (Shavee)
 Jacob Cavna – 7th Grade (Shavee)
 Reilly Mentzer – 7th Grade (Shavee)
 Rex Rolland - 8th Grade (Shavee)
 Steven Yon – 9th Grade (Shavee)
 Zack Stevens – 9th Grade (Shavee)
 Jayden Gibbons – 10th Grade (Shavee)

We are also overwhelmed by the support from our community, staff, and students who donated to this important cause. Our original goal was to raise \$2,000, and we are proud to share that by the day of the event we collected a little over \$17,000.

Thank you to everyone who supported this effort and helped make our first Shave-A-Thon such a meaningful and successful event. Your generosity will help fund critical research and bring hope to children and families battling cancer.

2. Lowellville School Foundation - 3rd Annual Quarter Auction

The Lowellville School Foundation will host its 3rd Annual Quarter Auction on Saturday, April 18, at St. Michael Byzantine Hall in Campbell.

Tickets are now on sale and can be purchased by contacting Mrs. Sawicki by phone at 330-536-8426 or via email at c.sawicki@lowellvilleschool.org. Tickets are \$10 each or \$80 for a table of 8. Community members are encouraged to save the date and join us in supporting this important fundraiser.

The Foundation is also currently seeking donations to support the event, including cash contributions, themed baskets, gift cards, or other items. A donation request letter is available upon request.

We appreciate the continued support of our community in helping the Lowellville School Foundation provide opportunities and resources for our students.

Spring into the Lowellville School Foundation's
3rd Annual Quarter Auction
Saturday April 18th, 2026
 St. Michael Byzantine Hall 463 Robinson Rd Campbell, OH 44406

Doors open at 5:00pm. Last paddle will be sold at 5:45pm so raffle can start promptly at 6:00PM

TONS OF AUCTION ITEMS	DOOR PRIZES	LUCKY DUCKY BONUS GAME	50/50 RAFFLE DRAWING

Tickets are available for purchase from any Board Member or at the entrance. For just \$10, you'll receive a paddle and entry into the door prize draw. Additionally, ALL IN paddles will be available for purchase on the night of the event.

Feel free to bring your own snacks and drinks. This is a CASH ONLY event.

To reserve a table for eight, simply scan the QR code or reach out to Krisay Cruz 330-718-4999 or Superintendent Christine Sawicki 330-536-8426

Join us for a fun filled evening, with all proceeds going towards scholarships for our Lowellville students!

FOLLOW LOWELLVILLE SCHOOL FOUNDATION ON FACEBOOK FOR UPDATES

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Extra-curricular/clubs Board Committee Meeting- Held on February 25, 2026 at 4:00 p.m.

Agenda:

- Overview of the current status of the Mahoning Valley Athletic Conference (MVAC)
 - The MVAC has been informed that three schools—Southeast, Waterloo, and Garfield—will be leaving the league beginning with the 2027–2028 school year. In response, the MVAC has issued a statewide posting inviting schools interested in joining the conference to submit applications. The application period closed on March 1.
- Review of potential league transitions in the near future
 - In addition to the confirmed departures, there have been discussions that Brookfield, Champion, Newton Falls, and LaBrae may also consider leaving the MVAC within the next year.
- Discussion of how possible changes may impact Lowellville Local Schools
 - If several schools leave the conference, there is a possibility that the structure of the league could significantly change or potentially dissolve. In that scenario, Lowellville may need to explore joining another athletic conference or temporarily operating as an independent school.
 - Additionally, if larger schools are accepted into the MVAC, it could create competitive and safety concerns for Lowellville due to differences in enrollment and roster sizes. Some potential member schools have student populations that are two-three times larger than Lowellville, which could create challenges in maintaining balanced and safe competition.
- Consideration of options moving forward
 - Lowellville could request to leave the MVAC and seek membership in another league with schools more comparable in size.
 - Lowellville could remain in the Scarlet Tier of the MVAC and continue competing against the schools that remain in that division.
 - In evaluating any potential changes, the Board of Education and district administration remain mindful of several important factors, including limiting excessive travel, maintaining traditional rivalries when possible, and ensuring a competitive balance where our student-athletes can safely participate each week.
- Identification of next steps and timeline for decision-making
 - At this time, Lowellville will remain in the Scarlet Tier of the MVAC unless new information regarding league membership or structure becomes available. If circumstances change or additional developments occur, the district will revisit the discussion and determine the most appropriate course of action moving forward.

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OLD BUSINESS:

1. None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Schedule an Academic Board Committee meeting to discuss the potential for Academic Challenge Lettering in future years

Discussion: Mrs. Sawicki will work with Mrs. Yon and Mr. Dubos to schedule a meeting before the regularly scheduled April Board meeting.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

1. Public comment on agenda items or other school related issues.
 - a. Kimberly McGinnis- Mrs. McGinnis stated that she and other parents in attendance had concerns regarding the District's lack of transparency surrounding the removal of the 5th/6th grade social studies teacher. She emphasized that communication with families is critical and should be both timely and transparent. Mrs. McGinnis read a letter she drafted expressing her belief that the Board and administration should have communicated more openly with parents. She stated that the administration could have researched professional examples or templates for communicating with families and that the Board, administration, and District missed an important opportunity to be transparent throughout the situation.
 - b. Leslie Zetts- Mrs. Zetts, the parent of a sixth-grade student, addressed the Board during public comment to express her concerns regarding student safety following the recent allegations involving a 5th/6th grade teacher. She stated that teachers play an important role in shaping students' character and asked what the District is doing, or plans to do, to ensure that incidents like this do not happen again.

Mrs. Zetts questioned how the District's policies for both staff and students are monitored and enforced. She also asked what the proper process is for reporting concerns, what safeguards currently exist to protect students, and what additional safeguards may be implemented in the future. Mrs. Zetts emphasized the importance of clear accountability and transparency in order to maintain the trust of families, parents, and students.
 - c. Amy Pinkle- Ms. Pinkle stated during public comment that parents of students in 5th and 6th grade received an email approximately one week after the teacher was placed on leave. She expressed concern that, for the sake of transparency, the same communication should have been shared with the entire school district rather than only with 5th and 6th grade families. Ms. Pinkle reiterated that subsequent communication regarding the teacher's resignation was also only provided to those families. She stated that she believed the situation and the district's communication regarding it should have been handled differently.

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- d. Kimberly McGinnis- Mrs. McGinnis commented further after Mrs. Sawicki read a statement regarding the timeline of events surrounding the allegations and investigation involving Mr. Olson. Mrs. McGinnis commented that the statement was clear and informative. She further shared that if the administration had shared that same message earlier, it would have helped provide greater transparency and been beneficial to the community.

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.

(26-3-8855)

SUPERINTENDENT'S CONSENT ITEMS

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

A. Personnel

1. Rescind Athletic Supplemental Staff Contracts for the 2025-2026 School Year

- a. Braden Butler- Baseball Assistant- 6%
- b. Christian Myers- Baseball Assistant- 6%

2. Rescind Athletic Supplemental Staff Contracts for the 2026-2027 School Year

- a. Madison Johns- Volleyball 8th- 8%

3. Athletic Supplementals Appointments- 2025-2026 School Year

- a. Spiro Schialdone- Baseball Assistant- 6%

B. Building Use

- a. **LHS Danceline Clinics** (Bob Antonucci/Sara Sandora)- March 23, 24, and 25 2026-4:00-5:00 p.m. , March 26th- 5:00-6:00 p.m., and March 27th- 3:30-5:00 p.m.-Large Gym and Small Gym
- b. **Easter Egg Hunt** (Lowellville Enrichment Group- Ryan McNicholas)- March 29, 2026- 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. -Football Field, Concession Area and Restrooms
- c. **Camp Fitch Parent Meeting** (Tracie Parry)- April 2, 2026- 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. -Cafeteria

C. 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 (2025-2026 school year):

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- a. Yearbook
 - Dine and Donate- Texas Roadhouse- April 2026
- b. National Honor Society
 - Augustine's Pizza- April 1- 10, 2026

D. Leave of Absence

- 1. Betsy Wilson- Unpaid Leave- March 2, 2026 (1 day unpaid)

E. Field Trip Request

- 1. 5th grade trip to Camp Fitch- Springfield, Pennsylvania- April 29 and 30, 2026 and May 1, 2026.

Moved by Brian Wharry seconded by Joe Sturm.

ROLL CALL: Johnson - Sturm - Wharry - Yon - Dubos - all aye
Jennifer Johnson declared the motion carried 5-0

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS:

(26-3-8856)

- 1. It is recommended that the Board approve the contract between ACCESS and Lowellville Local School District where ACCESS wishes to provide Internet access and application services to the Lowellville Local School District subject to the terms and conditions outlined in the submitted agreement. This initial term of this Agreement shall be for the period of one (1) year beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027 as outlined in Exhibit A.

Moved by Jennifer Johnson seconded by Stephanie Yon.

ROLL CALL: Johnson - Sturm - Wharry - Yon - Dubos - all aye
Jennifer Johnson declared the motion carried 5-0

(26-3-8857)

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

Moved by Stephanie Yon seconded by Jerry Dubos.

ROLL CALL: Johnson - Sturm - Wharry - Yon - Dubos - all aye
Jennifer Johnson declared the motion carried 5-0

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(26-3-8858)

3. It is recommended that the Board approve the quotes submitted on February 27 and March 6, 2026 from Papa Wayne's Lawncare, LLC and presented to the Board to continue to provide grass cutting services and landscaping/lawn care maintenance for the 2026 calendar year.

Moved by Stephanie Yon seconded by Brian Wharry.

ROLL CALL: Johnson - Sturm - Wharry - Yon - Dubos - all aye
Jennifer Johnson declared the motion carried 5-0

(26-3-8859)

4. It is recommended that the Board approve the resolution (as submitted) to suspend a portion of board policy BF (Board Policy Development and Adoption) and amend board policy AC (Nondiscrimination).

Moved by Jennifer Johnson seconded by Joe Sturm.

ROLL CALL: Johnson - Sturm - Wharry - Yon - Dubos - all aye
Jennifer Johnson declared the motion carried 5-0

(26-3-8860)

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

- a. **EFD**-Misbranded Foods and Cultivated-Protein Food Products- NEW

Moved by Brian Wharry seconded by Jennifer Johnson.

ROLL CALL: Johnson - Sturm - Wharry - Yon - Dubos - all aye
Jennifer Johnson declared the motion carried 5-0

(26-3-8861)

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

- a. **JEB**- Entrance Age (Mandatory Kindergarten)- REVISED
b. **EDEC**- Artificial Intelligence- REVISED

Moved by Jerry Dubos seconded by Stephanie Yon.

ROLL CALL: Johnson - Sturm - Wharry - Yon - Dubos - all aye
Jennifer Johnson declared the motion carried 5-0

(26-3-8862)

7. It is recommended that the Board accept the resignation of David Olson, 5th & 6th grade social studies teacher at the end of business day on March 12, 2026.

Moved by Brian Wharry seconded by Jerry Dubos.

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ROLL CALL: Johnson - Sturm - Wharry - Yon - Dubos - all aye
Jennifer Johnson declared the motion carried 5-0

(26-3-8863)

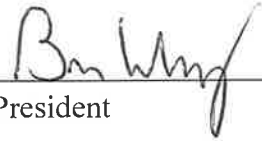
8. Adjournment:

Moved by Jennifer Johnson, seconded by Joe Sturm to adjourn the meeting at 7:03 pm.

ROLL CALL: Johnson - Sturm - Wharry - Yon - Dubos - all aye
Jennifer Johnson declared the motion carried 5-0

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS (BOARD POLICY: KD)

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President



Treasurer

4/22/2026

Date

4/22/26

Date

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