August 3, 2026

Dear Lowellville Families,

Welcome to the 2026-2027 school year! We look forward to seeing everyone soon. Below are important reminders and updates to help you prepare for a successful start.

SCHOOL START DATES

- Grades 7-12: First day is Monday, August 24th
- Grades K-6: First day is Friday, August 28th

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

A full activities and events calendar is attached and will be available on our website. Please note that dates are subject to change.

UPDATED BREAKFAST AND LUNCH PRICES

Funds may be added through PaySchools Central. Information is available on the district website. Families may also apply online for free and reduced-price meals.

- Breakfast
  - K-12 Paid- $1.50
  - K-12 Reduced- $0.30
- Lunch
  - K-6 Paid- $3.00
  - 7-12 Paid- $3.25
  - K-12 Reduced- $0.40

TRANSPORTATION

Bus stop times will be mailed home prior to the first day of school.

STAFFING UPDATES

- New Staff Members
  - Delaney Finsley, 5th & 6th Grade Language Arts
  - Elizabeth Williams, 5th & 6th Grade Math
  - Thomas Caputo, High School Social Studies
  - Gina Blascak, 2nd Grade
  - Morgan Ryan, 2nd Grade
  - TBD 5th & 6th Grade Social Studies
  - Samuel Faber, High School Guidance Counselor

- Position Changes
  - Angela Killingsworth: Guidance Counselor → 4th Grade Language Arts
  - Debbie Sanders: 5th & 6th Grade Math → Title Math (Grades 3, 4, 7, and 8)
  - Stephanie Havrilla: 5th & 6th Grade Language Arts → Reading Intervention (Grades K-6)
  - Nicole Firmstone: Title Math → 5th & 6th Grade Science

COMMUNICATION

We will continue using ParentSquare for school communication. **Please ensure your phone number and email address are current on your Emergency Medical Form.**

If you need to reach your child during the school day, please contact the school office. Likewise, students who need to contact home must do so through the main office. Students may not use personal cell phones to communicate with parents during the school day.

FORMS AND MEDICATION

- Students will bring home several forms. Please return forms promptly to avoid delays in school services.
    - Emergency Medical Form
    - Prescription Medication Form
    - Sign-Off Sheet covering:
        - Handbook Acknowledgment
        - Technology Agreement
        - Google Services Consent
        - Annual Health Notice

Note: Students requiring medication at school must submit completed medication forms and all required documentation before medication can be administered. Forms are available on the district website and in the main office.

CELL PHONES

Students may bring cell phones to school; however, phones may not be used during the school day, including during lunch, class changes, hallways, restrooms, and classrooms. Any visible or in-use phone during the school day is considered a violation of this policy.

- Phones must remain stored for the entire school day in one of the following locations:
    - Classroom phone storage pouch
    - Student locker
    - Student backpack, purse, or pocket (per building procedures)

Exceptions are limited to documented medical needs (IEP, 504 Plan, or physician documentation) or approval by the Superintendent/designee.

- Disciplinary Consequences
    - 1st Offense: Phone confiscated and released to a parent/guardian. If not picked up the same day, it will be returned to the student the following school day.
    - 2nd Offense: Phone confiscated and released only to a parent/guardian.
    - 3rd and Subsequent Offenses: Phone confiscated and released only to a parent/guardian and additional disciplinary consequences may be assigned.
    - Continued violations may result in further restrictions.

Confiscated phones must be picked up in the main office by 3:00 PM.

OTHER PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Personal electronic devices such as laptops, tablets, gaming systems, and similar technology may not be brought to or used at school unless specifically authorized by administration for instructional purposes.

STUDENT FEES

Student fees are **$20 per student** with a **$50 family maximum**. Payments may be made by cash or check payable to **Lowellville Schools**.

Please note that unpaid school fees or negative lunch balances may result in a student being ineligible to participate in field trips, dances, RISE Days, extracurricular activities, and other school-sponsored privileges. Participation may also be restricted due to attendance concerns, disciplinary issues, or excessive tardiness.

BOOKBAG POLICY

Bookbags must fit inside lockers or cubbies. Wheeled bags are not permitted.

UNIFORM REMINDERS

Please ensure your child follows the school dress code outlined in the student handbook.

- No hoodies, leggings, or sweatpants
- Spirit wear is permitted with uniform pants
- Jeans may be worn on Fridays with a uniform top or spirit wear

Students who are out of dress code will receive disciplinary consequences as outlined below.

- First Infraction: Verbal warning by the teacher or staff member.
- Second Infraction: Assignment to one detention session.
- Third and Subsequent Infractions: Assignment to one detention session and a phone call to the parent/guardian requesting appropriate clothing. If suitable clothing is not available, the student will spend the remainder of the day in In-School Suspension (ISS).

ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

- Morning Arrival
    - Elementary: Back cafeteria doors open at 7:15 AM
    - High School: Front entrance opens at 7:25 AM
    - Student Drivers: Enter through the front doors at 7:25 AM
- Afternoon Dismissal
    - K-6: Exit through the cafeteria; parents should remain in their vehicles
    - • 7-12: Exit through the front or band doors; pickup occurs in front of the gym

ATTENDANCE

Attendance is one of the strongest predictors of student success. We encourage families to prioritize regular attendance and communicate with the school whenever concerns arise. The District will contact families early if attendance begins to become a concern so we can work together before small issues become larger ones.
Under Ohio law:

- All absences—including excused and medically excused absences—as well as late arrivals and early dismissals count toward a student's attendance rate.
- Students who miss **10% or more** of school hours are considered chronically absent and may be subject to attendance interventions, including meetings with support agencies and the Juvenile Court Early Warning Program.
- Families should continue to report absences and provide appropriate documentation. Excused absences allow students to make up missed work.
- Unexcused absences also count toward Ohio's habitual truancy thresholds and may result in additional interventions or legal consequences.

SPORTS/ACTIVITIES ATTENDANCE

Students must be present by the end of homeroom and remain in attendance for the entire school day in order to participate in extracurricular activities, practices, or competitions.

TARDY POLICY (GRADES 7-12)

School begins at 7:40 AM. Any arrival after 7:40 AM is considered tardy. Tardies are unexcused unless due to weather, medical/court documentation, or late buses.

- 1-2 Unexcused Tardies: No penalty
- 3rd Tardy: Warning and parent contact
- 4th Tardy and Beyond: Detentions
- 5+ Tardies: Possible loss of privileges, in-school suspension, or attendance plan

EARLY DISMISSAL & RETURN

Students may return to school the same day only with a valid professional excuse, such as documentation from a doctor, dentist, or healthcare provider.

Please contact us with any questions. We are excited for a great year ahead!

Tracie Parry, Principal
Jeff Hammond, Assistant Principal

Note: This letter includes key updates but does not cover all policies and procedures. Please refer to the Student Handbook, available on our website, for complete information.