



LOWELLVILLE LOCAL SCHOOLS

***52 ROCKET PLACE
LOWELLVILLE, OHIO 44436***

Board of Education

Jennifer Johnson, President
Brian Wharry, Vice President
Gerald Dubos
Joseph Sturm
Stephanie Yon

Administration

Christine Sawicki, Superintendent
Andrea Apisa, Treasurer
Tracie Parry, Principal
Jeff Hammond, Assistant Principal

REGULAR BOARD MEETING:

AGENDA

DATE: Wednesday, September 16, 2026

TIME: 6:00 p.m.

PLACE: Lowellville Library

1. Call to Order:
2. Roll Call: Sturm - Wharry - Yon - Dubos - Johnson
3. Pledge of Allegiance:

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 August 19, 2026 Regular Board Meeting

B. Financial Reports

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

C. Appropriations and Estimated Resources

- a. Approve the FY27 Permanent appropriations and certificate of estimated resources.

Moved by _____, seconded by _____.

Vote: Sturm - Wharry - Yon - Dubos - Johnson

The motion - carried – failed

MISSION

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.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:

1. On Friday, September 18th, we will host a 5th and 6th Grade Tailgate Party beginning at 5:00 p.m. before the Lowellville Football game against Campbell, which will be our Senior Night. Following the game, we will host a 5th Quarter Social at the school for our high school students.
2. Students in grades 2 and 6 will take the Cognitive Abilities Test and Iowa Assessment during the week of September 21st-25th. The results of these tests serve several functions. Test scores are used to drive instructional practices in the classroom. The scores are also used as possible identification for gifted programming.
3. Congratulations to the 2026 Homecoming Court:

Paola Andino Rodriguez
Ella Cataldo
Olivia Clement
Kayleigh Cruz
Kaileen Diaz

Joao Chorilli
Jayden Coon
Daniel Huff
Luka Mastronikolas
Anthony Tuscano

4. Homecoming celebrations begin with the bonfire on Thursday, September 24th, at 7:00 p.m. The parade and crowning of the Homecoming King and Queen will take place Friday evening before the game. The Homecoming Dance will be held Saturday, September 26th, at 6:00 p.m.
5. We are continuing our partnership with the Cleveland Browns Stay in the Game Attendance Campaign as well as our partnership with the Mahoning County juvenile Courts traveling magistrate program. Chronic absenteeism remains a significant challenge for our district, and we are committed to emphasizing the importance of good attendance and working with families to reduce barriers.
6. Students in grades K–6 have completed their beginning-of-year benchmarking assessments in reading and math. High school students have also begun completing benchmark assessments in English, math, and science. Teachers use this data to identify student strengths and areas of need, guide instructional planning, and determine which students may need additional support or intervention. The data provides a baseline for each student and helps teachers monitor progress throughout the year.

Students will be reassessed at the midpoint of the school year to measure growth, evaluate the effectiveness of instruction and interventions, and identify any areas where additional support may be needed.

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ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:

Rocket Staff Spotlight of the Month

Renay Choma - 3rd/4th grade science and social studies teacher

Renay recently created an outdoor garden in our elementary playground area, providing a new hands-on learning space for all of our classrooms! The garden will give students opportunities to explore concepts such as decomposition, pollinators, ecosystems, plant parts, and the natural world. Students will be able to learn about producers, consumers, decomposers, insects, and other wildlife through meaningful, real-world experiences right outside their classrooms.

Renay has been a dedicated member of the Lowellville family for 17 years and has an incredible 35 years of experience in education! When asked what she enjoys most about teaching at Lowellville, Renay shared that it is the opportunity to work with our wonderful staff and students.

Thank you, Renay, for your many years of dedication to education and for creating another special learning opportunity for our students!

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

1. Highlights from the 2025-2026 Ohio School Report Cards - Will be released on September 15, 2026

[Link to Search for Report Cards](#)

[Guide to 2025-2026 Ohio School Report Cards](#) - Helps you understand how districts and schools are rated and how each component of the report card is calculated

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. None

OLD BUSINESS:

- 1.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. The district is currently accepting quotes for snow and ice removal. If you are interested in submitting a quote please contact Superintendent Sawicki at c.sawicki@lowellvilleschool.org.

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PRESIDENT’S REPORT:

1. Public comment on agenda items or other school related issues.

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.

SUPERINTENDENT’S CONSENT ITEMS

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

A. Personnel

1. Exempt Staff Resignation

- a. It is recommended that the Board approve the resignation of Jennifer Lane, Central Office Secretary. Jennifer’s last day of employment was September 4, 2026.

2. Classified Staff Appointments

- a. It is recommended that the Board retroactively approve **Amber Hejduk as a Cafeteria Aide/Cashier “As Needed”** for the 2026-2027 school year. Amber will be placed at step 0 on the Classified Agreement and the hourly compensation will be \$12.01 per hour per the classified agreement. Amber’s first day of employment was August 27, 2026.

3. Athletics -2026-2027 Ticket Sellers

- a. Debbie Donatelli
- b. Carol Tirotta
- c. Lori Wildes

4. Athletic Supplementals Appointments- 2026-2027 School Year

Provided they meet the requirements, prior to working with students, set forth by the Lowellville Board of Education, OHSAA, and the Ohio Department of Education:

- a. Dan Nye- Basketball Girls 8th- 8%
- b. Dana Donatelli- Basketball Girls 7th- 8%

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B. 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 (2026-2027 school year):
 - a. National Honor Society
 - i. SuperSoak the Staff - April/May 2027
 - b. S.A.D.D.
 - i. Boo Suckers - September/October 2026

Moved by _____, seconded by _____.

Vote: Sturm - Wharry - Yon - Dubos - Johnson
The motion - carried – failed

SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. It is recommended that the Board hereby adopts the Special Education Model Policies and Procedures (Model Policies) (as submitted) that were released by the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce (DEW) in December 2024, and directs all staff in the district to use and comply with the Model Policies. The Board further authorizes the Superintendent to notify the DEW of the Board’s adoption of the Model Policies through the DEW’s Monitoring System by uploading a copy of this Board resolution on or before November 30, 2026, and by November 30 for each subsequent school year.

Moved by _____, seconded by _____.

Vote: Sturm - Wharry - Yon - Dubos - Johnson
The motion - carried – failed

2. It is recommended that the Board approve the contract (as submitted) between the Mahoning County Mental Health and Recovery Board, and Lowellville Schools to engage in a collaborative, Project Aware Ohio, and the Mahoning County Mental Health and Recovery Board agrees to pay Lowellville Schools \$27,500 for FY27.

Moved by _____, seconded by _____.

Vote: Sturm - Wharry - Yon - Dubos - Johnson
The motion - carried – failed

3. It is recommended that the Board approve payment in lieu of transportation for the 2026-2027 school year for student Carmen Jakubek. He will attend Holy Family Elementary School located in Poland, Ohio. Reason for impracticality: The following factors were considered in arriving at this determination in accordance with Ohio Revised Code 3327.01 and 3327.02:
 - The number of pupils to be transported
 - The cost of providing transportation in terms of equipment, maintenance, personnel, and administration;

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- Whether and to what extent the additional service unavoidably disrupts current transportation schedules;

Amount to be paid: \$636.75

Date of acceptance by parent: July 30, 2026

Moved by _____, seconded by _____.

Vote: Sturm - Wharry - Yon - Dubos - Johnson
The motion - carried – failed

4. It is recommended that the Board approve payment in lieu of transportation for the 2026-2027 school year for student Dominic Jakubek. He will attend Holy Family Elementary School located in Poland, Ohio. Reason for impracticality: The following factors were considered in arriving at this determination in accordance with Ohio Revised Code 3327.01 and 3327.02:
 - The number of pupils to be transported
 - The cost of providing transportation in terms of equipment, maintenance, personnel, and administration;
 - Whether and to what extent the additional service unavoidably disrupts current transportation schedules;

Amount to be paid: \$636.75

Date of acceptance by parent: July 30, 2026

Moved by _____, seconded by _____.

Vote: Sturm - Wharry - Yon - Dubos - Johnson
The motion - carried – failed

5. It is recommended that the Board approve the following supplemental for the 2026-2027 school year and placed at the appropriate percentage on the Master Contract provided he meets the requirements, prior to working with students, set forth by the Lowellville Board of Education, the Ohio High School Athletic Association and the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce:

Adam Kawecki- Baseball- Varsity- 12%

Moved by _____, seconded by _____.

Vote: Sturm - Wharry - Yon - Dubos - Johnson
The motion - carried – failed

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6. It is recommended that the Board approve the following supplemental for the 2026-2027 school year and placed at the appropriate percentage on the Master Contract provided he meets the requirements, prior to working with students, set forth by the Lowellville Board of Education, the Ohio High School Athletic Association and the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce:

Michael Alfano- Softball- Varsity- 12%

Moved by _____, seconded by _____.

Vote: Sturm - Wharry - Yon - Dubos - Johnson
The motion - carried – failed

7. Other

Moved by _____, seconded by _____.

Vote: Sturm - Wharry - Yon - Dubos - Johnson
The motion - carried – failed

8. Adjournment:

Moved by _____, seconded by _____ to adjourn
the meeting at _____pm.

Vote: Sturm - Wharry - Yon - Dubos - Johnson
The motion - carried – failed

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS (BOARD POLICY: KD)

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