

LICKING VALLEY LOCAL BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2026, at 2:30 P.M.
LICKING VALLEY DISTRICT SERVICE CENTER, 1379 LICKING VALLEY RD., NEWARK,
OHIO

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

ROLL CALL

The Licking Valley Board of Education met in Special Session on September 25, 2026, at 2:30 p.m. in the Licking Valley District Service Center. The following members responded to roll call: Mr. Drake McArtor, Mr. Craig Nethers, Mrs. Julie Stedman, Mrs. Jo Lynn Torbert, and Mr. Casey Williams. Mr. Andrew Douglass, Treasurer, Mrs. Tiffany Schmitz, Director of Teaching and Learning, and Mr. Paul Smathers, Superintendent, were also in attendance.

MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR PRAYER, REFLECTION OR MEDITATION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PURPOSE OF THE SPECIAL MEETING

The purpose of this special meeting/work session is for the Board of Education to review and discuss the District's strategic plan, including its goals, priorities, and implementation. No action is anticipated.

26-167 PRESENTATION AND ADOPTION OF AGENDA 167

Mr. Nethers moved and Mr. Williams seconded the motion to approve the following.

Adoption of the Agenda
The agenda for September 25, 2026, is recommended to be adopted as presented.

DISCUSSION:
None

Ayes: Mr. Nethers, Mr. Williams, Mr. McArtor, Mrs. Stedman, Mrs. Torbert
Nays: None
Motion Carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT (Agenda Items)
None

STRATEGIC PLAN WORK SESSION

Discussion regarding the District's strategic plan, including its goals, priorities, and implementation.

Mr. Smathers began the discussion regarding the Strategic Plan and explained that he would like to review the plan to evaluate the district's progress toward its goals and determine the direction moving forward.

Mr. Williams discussed the district commitments and how they align with the Strategic Plan. The Board reviewed the four goals of the Strategic Plan and further discussed the objectives under each goal. Mr. Smathers discussed potential areas of focus for the upcoming year, including Objectives 1.1, 1.2, and 1.3.

The Board discussed the various action steps, intended outcomes, and measurements associated with the objectives, as well as how the district may determine whether the objectives have been successfully met.

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The Board also discussed the roles of the Board and community in the development of the Strategic Plan and noted that district leadership would be responsible for leading the implementation and measurement of the objectives.

Mr. Smathers discussed his desire to work through the Strategic Plan to prioritize objectives and establish timelines for implementation.

The Board discussed Goal 3 and the investments the district has made toward safety initiatives over the past several years. Mr. Smathers stated that safety will continue to be a priority for the district and that the district will continue to evaluate, evolve, and improve its safety measures.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

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ADJOURNMENT

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Mr. Williams moved and Mrs. Torbert seconded the motion to adjourn. Mr. McArtor closed the meeting at 4:13 PM.

Ayes: Mr. Williams, Mrs. Torbert, Mr. McArtor, Mr. Nethers, Mrs. Stedman

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Drake McArtor, President

Andrew Douglass, Treasurer