

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**Liberty Center Local Schools Regular Board Meeting**  
**May 20, 2019**

The Liberty Center Local Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, May 20, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room. Board members Mr. Jeff Benson, Mr. Neal Carter, Mr. Todd Spangler, Mr. John Weaver, and Mrs. Andrea Zacharias were in attendance. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**#57-19 Approve Minutes**

The motion was made by Mr. Spangler and seconded by Mr. Benson to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on April 22, 2019 of the Liberty Center Board of Education.

VOTE: Ayes: Mr. Benson, Mr. Spangler, Mr. Weaver, Mrs. Zacharias, Mr. Carter

Nays: None – Motion Carried

**Treasurer's Report**

Mrs. Buenger reported on the regular monthly reports. She explained the donation from Davis Farm Services of crabgrass prevention plus fertilizer, as well as the application on the football field.

Mrs. Buenger presented the 5-Year Forecast. She explained the revenues. Property taxes and real estate taxes are higher due to property values increasing. Income taxes also increased over \$80,000.00 from \$2,418,625 in FY18 to \$2,493,637 in FY19. Open enrollment is up over \$40,000.00 from \$722,444 last year to \$763,307 this fiscal year. Excess costs increased over \$100,000.00, which is mainly due to the number of students at the LEC. Interest income has also doubled from what was previously forecasted. Line 1.035 is where the Foundation Payment is reflected. The Forecast shows the number decreasing each year to reflect the District's decreasing enrollment numbers.

Mrs. Buenger also gave details on the expenditures. Tax collection fees are lower again this year by approximately \$10,000.00. Open enrollment out is \$20,000 high this year at \$200,000.00 compared to \$180,000.00 in FY18. Utilities were also higher due to the costs of running two buildings. Through attrition and realigning staff, the District has made significant savings this year, which will affect the next few years. Mr. Peters also discussed the concern with declining enrollment and the impact it has on the forecast. Line 6.01 was originally forecast to be negative \$944,295 and is currently forecast to be negative \$663,437. However, the final number will not be known until June 30<sup>th</sup>.

Mrs. Buenger provided information on the Non-Union Salary Schedules. The 2.75% increases mirror the OAPSE Negotiated Agreement's increases. She explained that the contract with Julian & Grube, Inc. is the same cost as the last two years. The District has been using their services since 2012. The contract with HPC has remained the same cost for the last five years and the District has utilized their services since 2009. Mrs. Buenger explained the decrease in the Title VI-B in the amount of \$459.02, which will come out of General Fund. Lastly, she told the Board about making the \$40,000.00 Lunchroom Fund Advance from July a permanent transfer. Additionally, there will likely be another transfer of \$30,000.00 next month.

**#58-19 CFO/Treasurer's Consent Agenda**

Upon the recommendation of the Treasurer, the motion was made by Mr. Weaver and seconded by Mrs. Zacharias that the Board approve the Treasurer's Consent Agenda items as follows:

Approve the financial reports, including the following:  
Monthly Bank Reconciliation



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Grandparent's Day for third and fourth graders was held on May 15<sup>th</sup>. It was a huge success with nearly 500 people in attendance. This was the first Grandparent's Day held since the construction project started. Thank you to all of the third and fourth grade teachers for all of their help organizing this event.

The first field day in a number of years was held today. It was an all-day event. A big thank you to the PTO and all of the volunteers for their organization of the event. Even though the weather was cool and cloudy, a fun day was had by all and we are already looking forward to next year.

**Middle School**

Mr. Mariano reported on the celebrations and activities to honor the hard work and efforts of the students. 5<sup>th</sup> grade had their annual carnival full of fun and prizes for the students. 6<sup>th</sup> Grade is off to Camp Wilson today and when they return they will attend a Mud Hens game. We have all kinds of park trips and parties planned.

He gave a special thank you to School Resource Officer Ryan Zumfelde. Ryan has been a constant support throughout the year. He has built relationships with the students and created an atmosphere of safety and trust. Thank you to Deputy Zumfelde.

On May 9<sup>th</sup> we held our annual NJHS induction ceremony. We inducted 27 middle school students. Thank you to Carrie Sines for being the NJHS advisor and her hard work on the ceremony.

On Friday May 3<sup>rd</sup>, members of Liberty Center Middle School's Writer's Club traveled to the Collingwood Arts Center in Toledo, Ohio to attend a performance of the play "The Disappearance". The play was written by students in grades 5-8 via a program of the Toledo Children's Theater Workshop. With the assistance of adviser Aimee Reed, the young writer's composed a 70 minute one act comedy with a message about the many layers of human relationships.

On May 10<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> a team including Mr. Mariano and a few middle school teachers attended a training on implementing PBIS at the Middle School level. This program has already been in place at the elementary. We intend to roll out elements of the program as early as next school year.

The week of May 13<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>, LCMS supported the organization Relay for Life. A special thank you to Heidi Bressler for her efforts raise awareness here at LC. We raised money and encouraged student to participate in a spirit week. The middle school raised over \$1050.00 for RFL.

The end of the school year is here. Here is a list of a few of the highlights as we get closer to the last day of school:

- 5/20: 6<sup>th</sup> grade camp
- 5/22: 8<sup>th</sup> grade field trip to Fallen Timbers battlefield
- 5/24: 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade talent show
- 5/29: 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade talent show
- 5/29 6<sup>th</sup> grade Mud Hens game
- 5/30: Awards Assembly

**High School**

Mr. Black reported on the current events in the High School. The National Honor Society Induction was held on April 24<sup>th</sup>. 28 Juniors and 2 Seniors were inducted during the ceremony. On May 15<sup>th</sup>, the Freshman class

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traveled to the Auburn Cord Duesenberg Museum to look at manufacturing and cultural changes during the growth of the industrial revolution. On May 16<sup>th</sup>, over 100 members of the Spanish club traveled to Fifth Third Field for a Mudhens Baseball game. On May 20<sup>th</sup> the Seniors took a trip to Cedar Point. As for upcoming dates, May 21<sup>st</sup> is Senior Recognition Day at Four County Career Center, May 22<sup>nd</sup> is Senior Night in the Auditoria, graduation practice is May 24<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 until 11:00 with lunch following practice and Commencement for the Class of 2019 will be May 26<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 in the Varsity Gym. Mr. Black concluded by thanking Officer Zumfelde and Brooklyn from A Renewed Mind for their efforts this year.

**Athletic Director's Report**

Mr. Black gave the Athletic Report as Mr. Johnson was coordinating the sports physicals in the Varsity Gym. The baseball and softball seasons are both completed. Track Regionals will be May 22<sup>nd</sup> at Tiffin.

**Superintendent's Report**

Mr. Peters commended the OAPSE negotiating team on their efforts. He noted the trust and respect that was evident as they were able to work quickly and efficiently on an agreement. He also explained the Veteran's Wall project would be delayed due to the wet weather this spring. The football field improvements have also been slowed due to the weather.

Mr. Peters explained the part-time 3.5 hour Lunchroom Aide position. The position is vacant due to Barb Maunz's retirement. The position was reduced from full-time with benefits to 3.5 hours per day with no benefits. He also explained Jeanette Dishop's transfer. The position was vacant due to Jodi Biederstedt's transfer to kindergarten. Mrs. Dishop's transfer will eliminate the cost of paying for Title I services out of the general fund because the District no longer qualifies for elementary Title I funding.

The resignation of High School English teacher Dawn Mericle was also explained. She has accepted a position at Maumee Schools as it will be a much shorter commute. Intervention Specialist Danielle Helberg also resigned as she will be getting married and relocating this summer.

Lastly, Mr. Peters addressed the potential threat that was made last Thursday. He invited Mr. Black and Deputy Zumfelde to speak on the incident. Mr. Black received a call from Nick Riley, Band Director. Mr. Black called Deputy Zumfelde, who then went to the house of the student who allegedly made the threat. The letter he found did not justify the potential threat that Mr. Riley was notified about. A Snapchat went viral about a threat to the District. Mr. Black and Deputy Zumfelde interviewed students, talking to everyone involved in the situation. It was concluded that student in question did nothing wrong. Mr. Peters complimented Mr. Black, Officer Zumfelde and Sheriff Bodenbender for their prompt and thorough investigation, as well as ensuring the safety of the students at Liberty Center Schools. Mr. Peters addressed concerns regarding the notification process. The system would not allow him to send out calls or texts that late at night. The only method available was email. The issue is being explored to see how notifications can go out via text and phone calls that late at night in the future. Mrs. Zacharias expressed her appreciation on how well the situation was handled.

Jay Branson, a representative from The Liberty Press, commended the teachers and staff for their actions after Wednesday's accident during student pick-up.

**#59-19 Superintendent's Consent Agenda**

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the motion was made by Mr. Benson and seconded by Mr. Weaver, that the Board approve the Superintendent's Consent Agenda items as follows:

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Approve the Liberty Center Public Library's 2020 proposed budget as presented.

VOTE: Ayes: Mr. Weaver, Mrs. Zacharias, Mr. Benson, Mr. Spangler, Mr. Carter  
Nays: None – Motion Carried

**#60-19 Superintendent's Personnel Recommendations**

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the motion was made by Mr. Spangler and seconded by Mrs. Zacharias that the Board approve the Superintendent's Personnel Agenda items as follows:

Offer employment to Melissa Knapp and Alexis Davis as part-time summer (2019) custodial employees at the hourly rate of \$8.55, with no benefits, beginning approximately June 3, 2019 through approximately August 15, 2019, pending completion of all necessary paperwork.

Approve Heather Underwood and Hillary McBride as tutors for a homebound student for a maximum of 2.5 hours each per week through July 31, 2019 at the LCCTA tutor rate.

Offer employment to Seth Grine as a part-time summer (2019) employee in the Technology Department, at the hourly rate of \$8.55, with no benefits, beginning approximately June 3, 2019 through approximately August 15, 2019, pending completion of all necessary paperwork.

Offer Kim Bergstedt a two year contract as a Lunchroom Aide for 3.5 hours per day, effective September 4, 2019 through September 3, 2021. Her salary and benefits will be per the OAPSE Negotiated Agreement.

Approve the following staff transfer for the 2019-20 School Year:

Jeanette Dishop from Title One Reading Specialist to Third Grade Teacher/Reading Specialist

Offer the following certified individuals each a one-year supplemental contract for the position indicated for the 2019-20 school year. Their salary will be per the LCCTA Negotiated Agreement's Supplemental Salary Schedule:

Senior Class Advisor – Kathy Bailey  
Junior Class Advisor – Ashley Braucksieck  
Sophomore Class Advisor – Heather Underwood  
Freshman Class Advisor – Jeff Ressler  
High School Student Council – Patrick O'Dwyer  
Junior High Student Council – Carrie Sines (50%) and Jerry Oberhaus (50%)  
Elementary Student Council – Holly Weber  
Archery Advisor – Brandon Readshaw (33%), Tracy Krueger (33%) and Stephen Doseck (33%)  
Jr. High Volleyball – Brittany Edwards  
Assistant Football – Matt Bryan  
Assistant Football – Ryan Miller  
Jr. High Cheer – Kaitlynn Yungmann  
Jr. High Cross Country – Kaylene Atkinson  
Jr. High Football – Luke Crozier  
Director of Bands – Nick Riley  
Elementary Musical – Mary Chamberlin (25%)

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Elementary Art Show – Emily Hill  
Art Club – Amy Spieth  
Yearbook Advisor – Jeff Ressler  
National Junior Honor Society – Carrie Sines  
FBLA Advisor – Kati Weaks  
Junior Great Books Advisor – Holly Weber  
High School Quiz Team – Shelley Ahleman  
SADD Advisor – Shelley Ahleman  
Tiger Tales – Matt Bryan  
District Mentor Coordinator – Karen Rettig  
District Mentor – Kathy Bailey, Holly Weber, Carey Pogan, Patrick O’Dwyer, Joanne Junge

Accept the resignation of Intervention Specialist Danielle Helberg effective at the end of the 2018-19 school year.

Offer Janice Freeman a one year contract beginning July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020, at Step 7 on the Non-Union Wage Schedule for the 2019-20 school year. All insurance, leaves of absences, vacation and holidays will be per Board Policy.

Approve Patricia Hyland, School Psychologist, at the rate of \$80 per hour, beginning with the 2019-20 school year, on an as needed basis with no benefits. She will serve the students at the Liberty Education Center (LEC).

Accept the resignation of Classroom Teacher Dawn Mericle effective at the end of the 2018-19 school year.

Approve the following stipends to Liberty Center classroom teachers who served as mentor teachers to NwOESC preschool teachers for the FY19 school year. The funds will be received from NwOESC.

Patty Hill (year 3 teacher) - \$225  
Karen Rettig (year 2 teacher) - \$400

Accept the resignation of Bus Driver Bailey Tejkl, effective May 8, 2019.

VOTE: Ayes: Mrs. Zacharias, Mr. Benson, Mr. Spangler, Mr. Weaver, Mr. Carter  
Nays: None – Motion Carried

**#61-19 Personnel Recommendations**

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the motion was made by Mr. Benson and seconded by Mr. Spangler that the Board offer Casey Mohler, a certified individual, the following one-year supplemental positions for the 2019-20 school year. His salary will be per the LCCTA Negotiated Agreement’s Salary Schedule:

Head Football Coach  
Jr. High Basketball Coach

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VOTE: Ayes: Mr. Benson, Mr. Spangler, Mr. Weaver, Mr. Carter  
Abstain: Mrs. Zacharias  
Nays: None – Motion Carried

**#62-19 Ohio Association of Public School Employees (OAPSE) Negotiated Agreement**

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the motion was made by Mr. Benson and seconded by Mrs. Zacharias that the Board approve the changes to the OAPSE Negotiated Agreement as voted on and approved by OAPSE #414 for the term of July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2022.

VOTE: Ayes: Mr. Spangler, Mrs. Zacharias, Mr. Benson, Mr. Carter  
Abstain: Mr. Weaver  
Nays: None – Motion Carried

**New Business**

Graduation: May 26, 2019 at 2:30 p.m. in the Varsity Gym

LEC Graduation: May 30, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. at the LEC

Employee Appreciation Breakfast: May 31, 2019 at 8:00 a.m. in the Auditoria

Next Board Meeting: June 24, 2019

**Board Members' Committee Reports**

The Facility Committee needs to set a meeting date.

**#63-19 Executive Session**

The motion was made by Mr. Spangler and seconded by Mr. Weaver that the Board enter Executive Session at 7:37 p.m. for the purpose of:

- a. Consideration of the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee, or official
- b. Investigation of charges or complaints against a public employee, official, licensee, or student unless such employee, official, licensee or student requests a public meeting; except that consideration of the discipline of a Board member for conduct related to the performance of his/her duties or his/her removal from office shall not be held in executive session.

VOTE: Ayes: Mr. Weaver, Mrs. Zacharias, Mr. Benson, Mr. Spangler, Mr. Carter  
Nays: None – Motion Carried

The Board returned from Executive Session at 7:57 p.m.

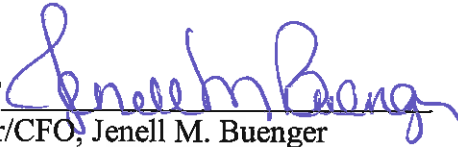
**#64-19 Adjournment**

It was moved by Mr. Weaver and seconded by Mr. Benson to adjourn the May 20, 2019 Regular Meeting of the Liberty Center Local Board of Education at 7:58 p.m.

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VOTE: Ayes: Mrs. Zacharias, Mr. Benson, Mr. Spangler, Mr. Weaver, Mr. Carter  
Nays: None – Motion Carried

  
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President, Neal Carter

ATTEST   
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Treasurer/CFO, Jenell M. Buenger