

The Lowellville Board of Education met in regular session on Wednesday, December 23, 2020 via Virtual Zoom (BOE and Public); President Michael Palumbo presiding. Mr. Palumbo called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Brian Wharry - Present
Gerald Dubos- Present
Joseph Sturm - Present

Stephanie Yon - Present
Michael Palumbo – Present

Minutes:

(20-12-7772)

1. It is recommended that the Board approve the minutes from the regular Board meeting on November 24, 2020 and December 5, 2020:

Mr. Palumbo called for a motion to approve. Moved by Gerald Dubos seconded by Stephanie Yon.

ROLL CALL: Wharry - Yon - Dubos - Palumbo - Sturm - All Aye.
Michael Palumbo declared motion carried 5-0.

Treasurer's Report:

1. Review November financial reports and agenda items for approval. Mr. Dubos questioned tuition amounts being lower. Mr. Schiraldi explained that the tuition is referring to open enrollment which has been lower than previous years. Mrs. Yon thanked Mr. Schiraldi for talking with her earlier in the day regarding the financial report and answering questions.

Treasurer's Recommendations:

(20-12-7773)

1. It is recommended that the Board approve the financial reports, bills and payroll for November 2020, as submitted by the Treasurer:

Mr. Palumbo called for a motion to approve. Moved by Stephanie Yon seconded Joseph Sturm.

ROLL CALL: Wharry - Yon - Dubos - Palumbo - Sturm - All Aye.
Michael Palumbo declared motion carried 5-0.

Principal's Report:

Mrs. Parry started by thanking the cafeteria staff for their hard work and for all the people they are serving. Gabby Rahn, the Cafeteria Manager, recommended and arranged for the cafeteria staff to start delivering meals to families in the Village. Adding the home deliveries increased meals from 65 to 110 being given out to Lowellville students. Also, Gabby organized cookies, treats, and donut kits to be distributed as a nice treat for the families. Mrs. Parry again thanked the cafeteria staff for their extra efforts. Mrs. Parry also thanked Larry for his work and the guidelines he helped put into place for sports. The District recently passed their COVID-19 Compliance examination performed by OHSAA and Larry did a tremendous job of ensuring the District was prepared and followed all guidelines.

Mrs. Yon asked if the ticketing issues have been rectified. Mr. Sammartino informed the Board that yes, they have been rectified. Mrs. Yon also asked how VLA learning is going. Mrs. Parry noted that it was going well, and things were on track. Mrs. Yon went on to ask how remote learning is going. Mrs. Parry informed the Board that remote learning was also going well, and it was a smooth transition back to remote learning.

Communication has been flowing well. The District was prepared because they embraced remote learning early on. Mrs. Yon asked if the recently purchased Chromebooks for K-2 have been passed out. Mrs. Parry noted that yes, thanks to Fred for getting all the Chromebooks ready and we are officially 1-to-1 District wide. There were some issues with connectivity, but hotspots were handed out and the issues were resolved. Mrs. Yon asked if there have been any complaints. Mrs. Parry noted that things were bumpy early on, but everyone has adjusted and improved. Parents have concerns about kids falling behind, but teachers have done a good job of providing one on one time to keep kids on track. Mr. Dubos asked if there will be issues with lining up modalities when transitioning from remote to in-person. Mrs. Parry informed the Board that the District will need to know if any VLA students are transitioning back at the end of the nine weeks (January 15th). It should not be much of an issue and there is not too much concern. Most kids want to stay on VLA, but we will need to know by January 8th. Mr. Dubos went on to ask if the guidance counselors are seeing any issues with students. Mrs. Parry said that they have some concerns about social and emotional support. However, they have done a good job of setting up times to offer support to students and teachers have been doing the same thing.

Superintendent's Report:

Dr. Thomas commended everyone for their continued hard work and noted that an end is in sight. He commended the cafeteria staff for their work and for all the great meals they have been making. Dr. Thomas informed the Board that Governor DeWine and the Department of Health are recommending that schools should delay returning to in-person learning after the holiday. The District will be taking this into consideration and be deciding on it in the coming days. Dr. Thomas also noted that school staff are scheduled to be in the next wave of vaccinations starting as early as mid-January.

Mrs. Yon mentioned that Poland schools have decided to delay in-person learning until January 19, 2021. Dr. Thomas added that schools in Columbiana County are doing something similar. Mrs. Yon asked how far in advance will parents find out if the school will delay. Dr. Thomas said he hopes to have a decision by Tuesday, but there is some additional information to gather first. Mr. Sturm asked if the delay would be county wide or per individual districts. Dr. Thomas noted that there probably will not be a county mandate, but we will discuss the decision with the county and other districts.

Mr. Dubos asked for an update to the COVID-19 Dashboard. Dr. Thomas noted that the website is now updated. We did not have access to update the website for a few days as it was being migrated to a newly designed site. Mrs. Parry added that there are currently two staff members quarantined.

Committee Reports:

Ad Hoc Committee (Policies) – Dr. Thomas informed the Board that the Ad hoc committee he formed looked at some policies on the District's website and tried to determine if they were still relevant. The committee agreed that the school volunteer's policy should be adjusted to include all volunteers for the school including sports.

Dr. Thomas went on to note that policy BBFA covers Board Members coaching so the separate one posted on the website is not needed. Mrs. Yon was under the impression that the ad hoc committee was just to cover the volunteer policy and is unsure why they are making so many changes. Mr. Palumbo noted that the Board can table the policy recommendations if needed. He went on to note that the committee was to mostly clean up clutter as most of the policies listed are already covered under Ohio Revised Code. Dr. Thomas recited policy BBFA for the Board. Mrs. Yon agreed and reiterated that under that policy Board members can not coach. Dr. Thomas went on to state that Ohio Revised Code 29.21.22 covers the Nepotism policy that was posted on the website. Mrs. Yon added that it is also covered by ethics. She went on to clarify that these policies are redundant and that is why they are being recommended to be eliminated. Dr. Thomas confirmed that was the case and that having them listed separately is not only redundant but can cause some confusion. Mrs. Yon asked that even if they are covered elsewhere can we just remove

them from the webpage without eliminating the policy. Mr. Dubos asked if we could go through the policies one at a time during recommendations. Mr. Palumbo asked for clarification on whether the Board could table the recommendation after the motion. Dr. Thomas informed the Board that yes, they could table the recommendation after the motion.

Dr. Thomas went on to note that the Standing Resolutions are in the minutes of the organizational meeting and do not need listed separately. He then moved on to the supplemental "policy" listed on the webpage and noted that this is not an actual policy but was voted into the athletic handbook. Mr. Wharry asked which policy had the age limit restrictions in it. Dr. Thomas informed the Board that it was within this supplementals that was voted into the handbook. Mr. Dubos noted that the first line of the "policy" states that it is a policy, so it should need voted on to be removed or added. Mrs. Yon stated that she just wants to make it easy for people to see and know what the rules and policies are. The Board agreed to move forward and cover these one by one during recommendations.

Old Business:

Mr. Palumbo noted that the new "All-Call" system (SendIt) worked well, and he received the notification through all platforms that it was sent [call, text, email].

New Business:

Mr. Dubos inquired about teachers updated their webpages and if there is a standard template. Dr. Thomas informed the Board that Mrs. Parry instructed the teachers of a minimum amount of information they need to put on there, but no exact template. Mrs. Parry went on to say that most teachers have all their information on Google Classroom where their students and parents can see it. The webpage will be for viewing only for now with information on how to contact the teacher. Mr. Dubos inquired about how webpages may have listed the periods the teachers were available. Mrs. Parry confirmed that it will be on there.

President's Report:

The Board discussed and agreed to hold their organizational meeting on January 13, 2021 at 6:00 pm with the regular Board meeting following right after.

Superintendent's Recommendation:

(20-12-7774)

1. It is recommended that the Board change the title of Board Policy File: IICC "School Volunteers" to "Volunteers":

Mr. Palumbo called for a motion to approve. Moved by Brian Wharry seconded Michael Palumbo.

Mr. Dubos noted that there is nothing that covers sports, so this will now cover that too and will not require the Board to vote on it as that could bog things down. Dr. Thomas confirmed this and stated that OHSAA has stricter guidelines that sports volunteers must follow in addition to our own policies. Mr. Sammartino agreed regarding the OHSAA guidelines. Mr. Dubos also noted that the certified contract states that there can only be one volunteer per sport and that the administration can handle volunteers. Mrs. Yon clarified that we are changing the name to cover all volunteers and that administration will handle all volunteers.

ROLL CALL: Wharry - Yon - Dubos - Palumbo - Sturm - All Aye.

Michael Palumbo declared motion carried 5-0.

(20-12-7775)

2. It is recommended that the Board eliminate the "Board Member Coaching" Policy listed on the Board of Education Home Page on the District website:

Mr. Palumbo called for a motion to approve. Moved by Michael Palumbo seconded Brian Wharry.

Mrs. Yon asked for clarification whether they were eliminating the policy or just removing it from the webpage. Mr. Dubos noted that this was a redundancy and a duplicate as it is already in policy elsewhere. This is not needed and is just cleanup. Mrs. Yon established that with removal, Board members still can not coach. Dr. Thomas confirmed.

ROLL CALL: Wharry - Yon - Dubos - Palumbo - Sturm - All Aye.
Michael Palumbo declared motion carried 5-0.

(20-12-7776)

3. It is recommended that the Board eliminate the "Nepotism" Policy listed on the Board of Education Home Page on the District website: Motion to table Policy recommendation.

Mr. Palumbo called for a motion to approve. Moved by Joseph Sturm seconded Brian Wharry.

Mrs. Yon asked for confirmation that this policy was redundant. Dr. Thomas stated that yes, it is covered by the Ethics Commission and under Ohio Revised Code, both of which we already follow. This policy is not needed on our end. Mrs. Yon questioned whether cousins were included under the family stipulation. Dr. Thomas informed the Board that no, cousins are not included. Mr. Wharry looked for clarification asking that if Mr. Palumbo's wife applied and he abstained from the vote, can the Board hire her. Dr. Thomas state that they would need a legal opinion on it. Mrs. Yon noted that it might be ok to leave on the webpage for emphasis. Mr. Dubos asked if we could move it over to Board Policy and the online policy book. Dr. Thomas said he could check with OSBA. Mr. Dubos stated they could table the matter for now.

ROLL CALL: Wharry - Yon - Dubos - Palumbo - Sturm - All Aye.
Michael Palumbo declared motion carried 5-0.

(20-12-7777)

4. It is recommended that the Board eliminate the "Applying For Supplemental Contracts For Coaching Positions" clause listed on the Board of Education Home Page on the District website and adopted May 28, 2010 by the Board of Education as part of the athletic handbook: Motion to table recommendation.

Mr. Palumbo called for a motion to approve. Moved by Michael Palumbo seconded Brian Wharry.

Mrs. Yon asked if the Board could table this one as well and inquired whether the athletic committee had an opportunity to discuss it. Mr. Dubos stated that he wants this added to board policy and the athletic handbook. Mr. Wharry asked if it would stay as is. Mr. Dubos stated that you must be two years out of high school to coach Jr. High and four years out to coach 9-12. Policy was approved in 2010 and should be kept in Board Policy. He also noted that kids right out of high school can volunteer. Mr. Wharry stated that he is not in favor of the age limit. Dr. Thomas added that the minutes say it was approved into the handbook, not policy. Mr. Sturm asked why we would want to eliminate that. Mr. Palumbo asked if the Board could table it. Mr. Sturm agreed and said there needs to be more discussion.

ROLL CALL: Wharry - Yon - Dubos - Palumbo - Sturm - All Aye.
Michael Palumbo declared motion carried 5-0.

(20-12-7778)

5. It is recommended that the Board approve the HB 404 document as submitted pertaining to the sections outlined in HB 404 signed into law on November 22, 2020 by Governor Mike DeWine:

Mr. Palumbo called for a motion to approve. Moved by Michael Palumbo seconded Joseph Sturm.

Mrs. Yon stated that she would like to evaluate formally or informally, the Superintendent and Treasurer. Mr. Palumbo noted that approval will cover teachers, but the Board could still decide to evaluate the Superintendent and Treasurer afterwards. Dr. Thomas confirmed that yes, if approved the Board will still be able to evaluate the Superintendent and Treasurer. He also noted that he and Mr. Schiraldi are open and welcome to evaluations from the Board.

ROLL CALL: Wharry - Yon - Dubos - Palumbo - Sturm - All Aye.
Michael Palumbo declared motion carried 5-0.

(20-12-7779)

6. It is recommended that the Board approve the Lea Fabrizzi as substitute teacher for the 2020-2021 school year and placed at the appropriate step of the Master Contract salary schedule after 60 days of employment:

Mr. Palumbo called for a motion to approve. Moved by Joseph Sturm seconded Stephanie Yon.

ROLL CALL: Wharry - Yon - Dubos - Palumbo - Sturm - All Aye.
Michael Palumbo declared motion carried 5-0.

7. It is recommended that the Board approve the following supplemental contracts for the 2021-2022 school year (unless noted otherwise) and placed at the appropriate percentage on the Master Contract provided they meet 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:

(20-12-7780)

Fred Schriner Golf - Boys 4%

Gerald Dubos asked the question: Is Fred Administrative or Teacher? Geno replied, administrative. Mr. Dubos feels Fred should be listed in a different category.

Mr. Palumbo called for a motion to approve. Moved by Stephanie Yon seconded Michael Palumbo.

Mr. Dubos asked for clarification whether Fred was an administrator or teacher. Dr. Thomas said he was administrative but can coach and have supplementals. Mr. Dubos noted that he knew Mr. Schriner had a different contract and just wanted to confirm.

ROLL CALL: Wharry - Yon - Dubos - Palumbo - Sturm - All Aye.
Michael Palumbo declared motion carried 5-0.

(20-12-7781)

Dan Dougherty Golf - Girls 4%

Mr. Palumbo called for a motion to approve. Moved by Stephanie Yon seconded Brian Wharry.

ROLL CALL: Wharry - Yon - Dubos - Palumbo - Sturm - All Aye.
Michael Palumbo declared motion carried 5-0.

Angel Laudermilt Cheerleading Varsity/JV 10%

(20-12-7782)

Mr. Palumbo called for a motion to approve. Moved by Stephanie Yon seconded Gerald Dubos.

ROLL CALL: Wharry - Yon - Dubos - Palumbo - Sturm - All Aye.
Michael Palumbo declared motion carried 5-0.

Josh Kelly Volleyball - Head Varsity 12%

(20-12-7783)

Mr. Palumbo called for a motion to approve. Moved by Joseph Sturm seconded Brian Wharry.

ROLL CALL: Wharry - Yon - Dubos - Palumbo - Sturm - All Aye.
Michael Palumbo declared motion carried 5-0.

Courtney Kelly Volleyball - JV/Assistant Varsity 8%

(20-12-7784)

Mr. Palumbo called for a motion to approve. Moved by Gerald Dubos seconded Brian Wharry.

ROLL CALL: Wharry - Yon - Dubos - Palumbo - Sturm - All Aye.
Michael Palumbo declared motion carried 5-0.

Abbie BuDay Volleyball - 8th 8%

(20-12-7785)

Mr. Palumbo called for a motion to approve. Moved by Michael Palumbo seconded Stephanie Yon.

ROLL CALL: Wharry - Yon - Dubos - Palumbo - Sturm - All Aye.
Michael Palumbo declared motion carried 5-0.

Madison Kelly Volleyball - 7th 8%

(20-12-7786)

Mrs. Yon asked the question: Is Madison out of school two years? Geno replied yes, two years.

Mr. Palumbo called for a motion to approve. Moved by Brian Wharry seconded Gerald Dubos.

ROLL CALL: Wharry - Yon - Dubos - Palumbo - Sturm - All Aye.
Michael Palumbo declared motion carried 5-0.

Eric Grow Cross Country HS 8%

(20-12-7787)

Mr. Palumbo called for a motion to approve. Moved by Joseph Sturm seconded Michael Palumbo.

ROLL CALL: Wharry - Yon - Dubos - Palumbo - Sturm - All Aye.
Michael Palumbo declared motion carried 5-0.

Andrew Mamula Football - Varsity 21%

(20-12-7788)

Mr. Palumbo called for a motion to approve. Moved by Stephanie Yon seconded Joseph Sturm.

ROLL CALL: Wharry - Yon - Dubos - Palumbo - Sturm - All Aye.
Michael Palumbo declared motion carried 5-0.

Jarrod Vrabel Football - Assistant 10%

(20-12-7789)

Mr. Palumbo called for a motion to approve. Moved by Gerald Dubos seconded Brian Wharry.

ROLL CALL: Wharry - Yon - Dubos - Palumbo - Sturm - All Aye.
Michael Palumbo declared motion carried 5-0.

Michael Minnie Football - Assistant 10%

(20-12-7790)

Mr. Palumbo called for a motion to approve. Moved by Gerald Dubos seconded Michael Palumbo.

ROLL CALL: Wharry - Yon - Dubos - Palumbo - Sturm - All Aye.
Michael Palumbo declared motion carried 5-0.

Bobby Ballone Jr. Football - Assistant 10%

(20-12-7791)

Mr. Palumbo called for a motion to approve. Moved by Michael Palumbo seconded Gerald Dubos.

ROLL CALL: Wharry - Yon - Dubos - Palumbo - Sturm - All Aye.
Michael Palumbo declared motion carried 5-0.

Michelle Mangine Cheerleading - 7 & 8 5%

(20-12-7792)

Mr. Palumbo called for a motion to approve. Moved by Michael Palumbo seconded Gerald Dubos.

ROLL CALL: Wharry - Yon - Dubos - Palumbo - Sturm - All Aye.
Michael Palumbo declared motion carried 5-0.

John Caputo Boys (basketball) Varsity Assistant 10% (2020-2021 School Year)

(20-12-7793)

Mr. Palumbo called for a motion to approve. Moved by Michael Palumbo seconded Gerald Dubos.

Mr. Dubos asked for an update on Mr. Caputo as he is not at the games. Mr. Sammartino noted that he met with him on December 1, 2020 about expectations and they are awaiting a permit as the Ohio Department of Education is backlogged.

ROLL CALL: Wharry - Yon - Dubos - Palumbo - Sturm - All Aye.
Michael Palumbo declared motion carried 5-0.

Nick Lucente Weight Training 6% (2020-2021 School Year)

(20-12-7794)

Mr. Palumbo called for a motion to approve. Moved by Michael Palumbo seconded Joseph Sturm.

ROLL CALL: Wharry - Yon - Dubos - Palumbo - Sturm - All Aye.
Michael Palumbo declared motion carried 5-0.

(20-12-7795)

Eric Grow Track Assistant Boys HS 8% (2020-2021 School Year)

Mr. Palumbo called for a motion to approve. Moved by Brian Wharry seconded Stephanie Yon.

ROLL CALL: Wharry - Yon - Dubos - Palumbo - Sturm - All Aye.
Michael Palumbo declared motion carried 5-0.

(20-12-7796)

8. It is recommended that the Board move into Executive Session. Moved by Gerald Dubos, seconded by Brian Wharry, resolved that the Board of Education of the Lowellville School District adjourn to Executive Session at 8:11 p.m. to discuss:

- Personnel matters (individuals need not be named)
- Appointment and/or employment
- Dismissal
- Discipline
- Promotion or demotion
- Compensation
- Investigation of charges and/or complaints
- Purchase or sale of property
- Conferences with legal counsel related to pending or imminent court action
- Negotiations
- Security arrangements
- Economic Development
- Matters required to be kept confidential by state or federal law

Action will not be taken

ROLL CALL: Wharry - Yon - Dubos - Palumbo - Sturm - All Aye.
Michael Palumbo declared motion carried 5-0.

(20-12-7797)

9. It is recommended that the Board return from Executive Session and resume Regular Meeting at 8:32 p.m.

Mr. Palumbo called for a motion to approve. Moved by Michael Palumbo seconded Stephanie Yon.

ROLL CALL: Wharry - Yon - Dubos - Palumbo - Sturm - All Aye.
Michael Palumbo declared motion carried 5-0.

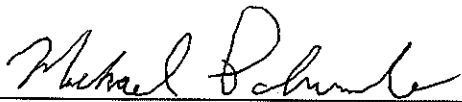
(20-12-7798)

10. Adjournment:

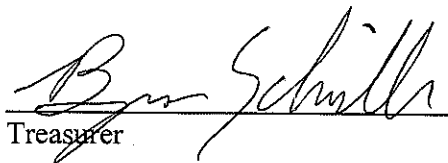
Michael Palumbo moved to adjourn at 8:33 pm. Seconded by Brian Wharry.

ROLL CALL: Wharry - Yon - Dubos - Palumbo - Sturm - All Aye.

Michael Palumbo declared motion carried 5-0.



President



Treasurer