



THE "ROCKET REPORT"

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.

WINTER 2018

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Lowellville Installs 3 New Board Members

Meet Michael Palumbo



My name is Michael Palumbo and as a lifelong resident of Lowellville, I have fond memories of growing up here. It is with age that I realize more and more how fortunate I was to have been raised and educated here. In fact, it was these experiences that led me to the decision to become an educator. In 2007, I graduated from Youngstown State University with a Bachelor's degree in Education and have been employed as a teacher for the past 10 years, serving the last 8 years in the Mathews Local School District. In 2014, I earned a Master's Degree in Educational Administration. In 2015, my wife Stephanie, who is a teacher in the Lakeview School District, and I welcomed our first child, Alivia, into the world. Our son, Michael, was born last year. Needless to say, these two instantly became the focus of our decisions moving forward as a family. As such, we are committed to the Lowellville community. Despite the two of us being employed as educators in Trumbull County, we have decided to raise our children in Lowellville. While it adds to our daily commute, it is a small price to pay knowing that our children will grow and prosper here. I look forward to meeting and learning from all of you as we work together in the best interest of our students. It is my goal to provide our children with limitless opportunities while growing up in the safe, loving community that I am proud to call home.

Meet Brian Wharry



My name is Brian Wharry, a 2004 Lowellville High School Graduate and lifelong resident of the village of Lowellville. I reside in the village along with my wife Adrienne (Logozzo) Wharry and daughter Mila. Beyond high school, I obtained a Bachelor's of Science in Nursing from Youngstown State University in 2009 followed by a Dual Masters in Science in Nursing and Health Administration in 2013 from the University of Phoenix. I currently work as the Nurse Manager of 7 West Orthopaedics at St. Elizabeth Boardman Hospital. I've made a career in the nursing profession in caring as well as advocating for others and I certainly believe this is something I can apply in Lowellville Schools. As an engaged resident of the community, proud alumni, and new school board member I am thrilled to start this journey and represent our students in addition to faculty in helping pave the way for the future. The priority has and always will be the students and I look forward to better positioning them for success in the classroom and beyond.

Meet Stephanie Yon



My name is Stephanie Yon and I am a 1996 Lowellville High School alum, lifelong Lowellville resident, wife, and mother of three Lowellville students (Sophia, Nathan, and Steven). I graduated from Ohio University in 2000 with a Bachelors in Elementary Education and I am currently working as an RTI teacher at Struthers Elementary school. In addition, I am the program director for the Lowellville Summer Recreation program, as well as the community coordinator for a non-profit youth running series in the Mahoning Valley called Healthy Kids Running Series. I train athletes as a certified running coach, help put on local races as a certified race director, and I have taught various fitness classes for people from ages 2-92 as a certified fitness instructor. As a registered Life, Health, and Annuity insurance agent since 2005, I have also worked in my family's financial planning business. Over the past ten years I have taught, coached, created and run programs, served on various committees, and volunteered in the Lowellville Local School District. I strongly believe that by supporting the programs that set us apart and by supporting the people who ran them, Lowellville can maintain the tradition of academic excellence and comprehensive extracurricular opportunities. I am very honored and excited to be elected to the Lowellville School Board.

Lowellville ADOPTS 5-Year Strategic Plan

On November 15, 2017, The Lowellville Local Board of Education formally adopted the new 5-year strategic plan for the District.

This plan was collaboratively developed by a wide array of community members and personnel. Over the past 7 months, the strategic planning committee reviewed and analyzed existing local and state-wide data to develop 6 goals and strategies. These aspects act as a "road

map" to help guide the District and schools to attain goals and meet all students' needs.

One of the unique features of the collaborative strategic planning initiative is the fact that the "process" assists decision makers to identify organizational strengths



and weaknesses and develop a common vocabulary, which can used to articulate a unique visionary plan unlike that of any other.

Comprehensively, the completed plan reflects the beliefs, values and traditions of the community and differentiates the Lowellville School District from all others.

If you would like to read the entire plan, it can be found on the Lowellville Local School District website or by contacting the central office for a copy.

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The BEST Christmas Pageant Ever



The full cast of *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* The Lowellville Drama Club presented its first K-12 production of *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* on November 30th to a crowd of over 250 (the Drama Club's largest audience to date)! The play featured more than 50 cast members in elementary, junior high, and high school, current high school and alumni crew members, members from our high school band, and a beautiful backdrop painted by our Art Club. The story follows the Herdmans, a family of tough kids from the wrong side of the tracks who cast themselves in the annual Christmas pageant (on the promise of free dessert!) and stir things up at the local church by bringing unique and unpredictable flair to an otherwise predictable Christmas pageant. The play was directed by Ms. Mia DiRienzo Olson and Mrs. Nancy Olander, with the help of Ms. Robbin Carlos, Ms. Christina Freed, Mr. Bob Antonucci, and Ms. Sandi Phillips. Congratulations to the cast and crew of Lowellville's first K-12 production!



Addison Kennedy (5th grade) as Imogene Herdman.



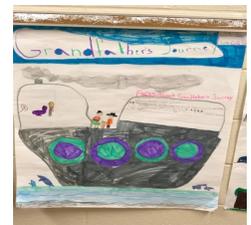
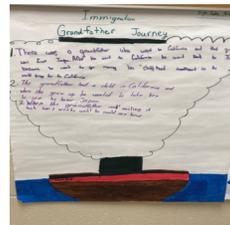
Eliza Primous (3rd grade) as Gladys Herdman

Fourth Grade Takes A "Journey!"

Recently the students in Mrs. Commings's fourth grade language arts and social studies class read a story called "Grandfather's Journey," which combined fourth grade language arts with the social studies academic content standards.

The tale was about the main character's journey from Japan to the United States. The students responded to this story's topic of immigration through their writing and illustrations. Many of the students amazingly connected to the story on a personal level and had their own tales to tell of family members that were immigrants and came to the United States of America.

The holidays are a wonderful time to introduce this topic and learn about various cultures and their traditions and customs.



Lowellville Foundation Sets DATE for REVERSE RAFFLE



The Lowellville Local School District will hold its annual Lowellville Foundation Reverse Raffle fundraising dinner on **April 22, 2018** at the school cafetorium. Last year's event had excellent attendance, great food and excitement toward the efforts of providing the students of Lowellville the best opportunities during their high school years and beyond. **Thanks goes out to all the of the Staff and Patrons that contributed!** For those interested in attending the Lowellville Foundation's Reverse Raffle, please contact Dr. Thomas at the Central Office or any of the Lowellville Foundation Board members.



Fifth Grade “Travels The World!”



Recently, students in Mr. Olson’s fifth grade class learned how locations on the earth’s surface are identified using lines of latitude and longitude, along with how latitude and

longitude can be used to make generalizations about climate (e.g., location relative to the equator, bodies of water, mountains). As the students make observations about location and generalizations about climate, they learn to identify geographic points and imaginary lines on maps and globes (e.g., equator, Arctic Circle, Antarctic Circle, North Pole, South Pole, prime meridian).

In sixth grade, the students are learning that latitude and longitude are imaginary lines used to identify absolute location on the earth’s surface, along with how latitude and longitude lines intersect with each other creating a grid that allows us to identify the absolute location of places using coordinates. The students became familiar with the concept of latitude and longitude and the implications of latitude on climate. This content statement builds on that understanding with the addition of absolute location.



REUNIRSE!

Before winter break, Mrs. Matisi and Mrs. Long invited some of the LHS Spanish students to their classrooms. Students in Mrs. Walski’s third period Spanish III class taught Spanish vocabulary to the third graders to prepare them for their book, *The Legend of the Poinsettia* by Tomie dePaola. *The Legend of the Poinsettia* is a bilingual book that tells the legend of how the poinsettia flower became associated with Christmas in Mexico. The Spanish students taught the list of vocabulary words that appear in the text, practiced the pronunciation of the words and helped the third graders with two activities involving the new vocabulary. The Spanish III students were excited to hear that some of our third graders speak or hear Spanish being spoken at home! As always, a wonderful and festive time was had by all!



Accelerating Student Learning (LLI)

Ms. Angelilli’s Title I Reading and LLI (Leveled Literacy Intervention) has been a success for the elementary students here at Lowellville Elementary School. The students have been engaged with hands on manipulatives, reading independently and in whole groups, practicing phonics and letter work, writing and have been interacting with their classmates daily to help encourage one another with their reading and comprehension skills. The students have shown tremendous progress over the past few months of school. The students are becoming more confident when reading and answering higher order thinking questions. They have experienced so much laughter and excitement by working together in the classroom. The children are becoming brighter and are filled with knowledge! As the teacher, I am overjoyed to see the hard work, dedication and progress that has been made in Lowellville’s students!

LOWELLVILLE Rockets

Lowellville Local School District
52 Rocket Place
Lowellville, Ohio 44436

PHONE: 330-536-8426
FAX: 330-536-8468

MISSION

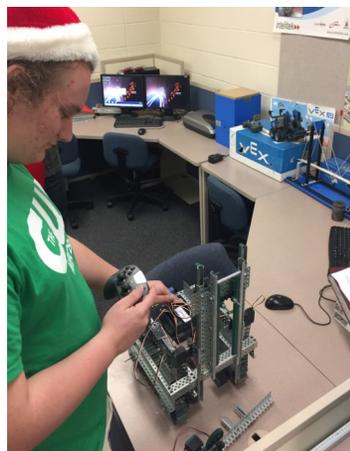
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We're on the Web:
www.lowellville.k12.oh.us

S.T.E.M. (Robotics)

Mr. Dougherty's STEM class is working on many innovative projects. Currently, the robot that they have been working on has allowed the class to enter in the VEX Competition at Mahoning County Career & Technical Center on February 3rd. Six seniors have done a great job putting it together; Carl LaRosa, Tanner Stellmar, Liam Boyd, Olivia Sotlar, Isabella Sotlar, and Rebecca Wetherill.



Character Avengers ON THE Move “NEWS”

The 2017/2018 school year kicked off with Lowellville students in grades K-6 experiencing a play presented by our Avenger Team and several elementary students. This play helped launch our “Character of Excellence Program” which promotes positive character in the areas of Responsibility, Trustworthiness, Respect, Citizenship, Fairness and Caring. Our slogan this year is “Change Begins With ME!” T-shirts with our slogan were sold in the fall and will also be for sale this winter with long sleeves.

Our Avenger Team also presented our first “Character of Excellence Assembly” to recognize all students in grades K-6 who earned 10 “Character Punches,” therefore enabling them to receive their Character Wristbands. Thirty-six students were presented with a wristband and had the opportunity to take pictures with our Avenger Team after the assembly. Our next assembly will be in January. Keep up the great work students!

The Character Avengers took their show on the road and joined the Mahoning Valley Council of the International Reading Association (MVCIRA) at Barnes and Noble for a celebration of Literacy. The Avengers introduced themselves to families and students from area schools explaining their important role in the Character of Excellence program. The Avengers read stories to the students, participated in a Scavenger Hunt and took photo frame pictures! Students left with a smile on their face, a bookmark in hand and a bit of each Avenger's Character Trait.

For Christmas, our Avengers visited our elementary students and read the story of “How the Grinch Stole Christmas.” The students worked with partners then wrote about teaching the Grinch a lesson using their grade level Character trait! To mention a few, the second graders helped teach the Grinch about being fair, third graders wrote about showing the Grinch how to be a good citizen and the first graders showed the Grinch how to be caring. Their writings were impressive and will be shared with other students! Look out Grinch! You are going to be a Character of Excellence!

Our Avenger Team will be making several appearances in the New Year. Look for them at Family Fitness Night- March 14, Literacy Night- March 19, Elementary Field Days and a few other surprises!