

LICKING VALLEY LOCAL BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 6, 2022

**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 Regular Session on January 6, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. The following members responded to roll call: Mrs. Jo Lynn Torbert and Mrs. Kim Christian (President Pro-Tem). Mr. Evan Fee, Student Representative was in attendance as well as Dr. David Hile, Superintendent.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**OATH OF OFFICE**

The oath of office was given and recited by our new board members; Carolyn Kollar, Julie Stedman and Casey Williams.

**22-01      TREASURER PRO-TEM      01**

Mrs. Stedman moved and Mrs. Kollar seconded the motion to approve the following.

It is recommended to accept Dr. David Hile as Treasurer Pro-Tem for this Board Meeting.

Ayes: Mrs. Stedman, Mrs. Kollar, Mrs. Torbert, Mr. Williams, Mrs. Christian, Mr. Fee  
Nays: None  
Absent: Mr. Felumlee  
Motion Carried.

**22-02      ELECTION OF BOARD PRESIDENT      02**

Mrs. Stedman moved and Mr. Williams seconded the motion to elect Mrs. Christian for the 2022 Board President.

Ayes: Mrs. Stedman, Mr. Williams, Mrs. Kollar, Mrs. Torbert, Mr. Fee  
Nays: None  
Abstain: Mrs. Christian  
Absent: Mr. Felumlee  
Motion Carried.

**22-03      ELECTION OF BOARD VICE PRESIDENT      03**

Mr. Williams moved and Mrs. Kollar seconded the motion to elect Mrs. Torbert for the 2022 Board Vice President.

Ayes: Mr. Williams, Mrs. Kollar, Mrs. Stedman, Mrs. Christian, Mr. Fee  
Nays: None

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Abstain: Mrs. Torbert  
Absent: Mr. Felumlee  
Motion Carried.

**22-04                      RESOLUTIONS                      04**

Mrs. Stedman moved and Mrs. Torbert seconded the motion to approve the following:

**Establish Time and Date of Regular Monthly Meetings**  
Regular monthly meeting will be held on the second Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at the Licking Valley High School Media Center.

**Establish the Rate of Pay for Board Members**  
The rate of pay for board members shall be \$125.00 per meeting with a maximum payment for 18 local meetings.

**Establish a Service Fund**  
WHEREAS, the Ohio Revised Code, Section 3315.15 provides for setting aside from the general fund a sum not to exceed \$2.00 per child or twenty thousand dollars, whichever is greater, as the “service fund” and

WHEREAS, this money shall be used only in paying members of the Board of Education expenses actually incurred in the performances of their duties; and

WHEREAS, the October enrollment for 2021 was 2,050.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Licking Valley Local School District hereby establishes a service fund to be set aside as an amount within the general fund. The amount established and appropriated will not exceed \$20,000.00, which shall be incorporated in the appropriations for the District for FY22.

**Appoint Purchasing Agent**  
Authorization for the Superintendent to serve as the purchasing agent for the school district for the 2021-2022 calendar year.

**Employment of Temporary Personnel**  
Authorization for the Superintendent to employ temporary personnel as needed. Such employment is to be presented for approval by the Board at the next regular meeting.

**Accept Resignation of Personnel**  
Authorization for the Superintendent to accept resignations of personnel on behalf of the Board of Education.

**Advances on Tax Settlements**  
Authorization for the Treasurer to secure advances from the Auditor when funds are available and payable to our school district, and to grant advances and repayments to all funds when needed.

**Purchase of Faithful Performance Bonds**  
Authorize the purchase of faithful performance bonds at \$100,000.00 per person for the Board President, Superintendent, and Accounts Payable and \$100,000.00 for the Treasurer, and blanket bond coverage for all employees and other board members.

**Payment of Bills**  
Authorization of the Treasurer to pay all bills within the limits of the appropriation resolution as bills are received and when the merchandise has been received in good condition.

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**Applying for Federal and State Grants**

Authorization for the Superintendent to apply for any federal and state grants appropriate for the Licking Valley Local School District.

**Notification Official**

Authorize the Treasurer to be the Board’s notification official for the contract situations that involve non-renewal or termination.

**Transfer of Funds**

Authorize the Treasurer to transfer funds if there is a deficit balance in the lunchroom at the end of each month as needed.

**Investments of Inactive Funds**

Authorization for the Treasurer to invest inactive funds at the most productive interest rate whenever inactive funds are available to law.

**Payroll**

Authorization for the Assistant Treasurer, Payroll, to sign payroll checks in the event of the incapacity or absence of the Treasurer.

**Appropriation Modifications**

Authorization for the Treasurer to modify fiscal year appropriations as deemed necessary.

Ayes: Mrs. Stedman, Mrs. Torbert, Mrs. Kollar, Mr. Williams, Mrs. Christian, Mr. Fee

Nays: None

Absent: Mr. Felumlee

Motion Carried.

**RESOLUTIONS/RECOGNITIONS**

**Board Recognition**

The Board itself was recognized for their service to the district in honor of School Board Recognition Month.

**School Board Recognition Month  
Proclamation**

WHEREAS, the mission of the Licking Valley Local School District is to meet diverse educational needs of all children and to empower them to become competent productive contributors to a democratic society and an ever-changing world; and

WHEREAS, school board members are committed to children and believe that all children can be successful learners and that the best education is tailored to the individual needs of the child; and

WHEREAS, school board members work closely with parents, educational professionals, and other community members to create the educational vision we want for our students; and

WHEREAS, school board members are responsible for ensuring the structure that provides a solid foundation for our school system; and

WHEREAS, school board members are strong advocates for public education and are responsible for communicating the needs of the school district to the public and the public’s expectations to the district;

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NOW, THEREFORE, I, David Hile, Superintendent, do hereby declare my appreciation to the members of the Licking Valley School Board and proclaim the month of January 2022, as

SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION MONTH in Licking Valley Local Schools. I urge all citizens to join me in recognizing the dedication and hard work of local school board members and in working with them to mold an education system that meets the needs of both today's and tomorrow's children.

IN OFFICIAL RECOGNITION WHEREOF, I hereby affix my signature this 6<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2022.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR** – None

**SPECIAL REPORT** – None

**22-05      TREASURER’S RECOMMENDATIONS      05**

Mrs. Kollar moved and Mrs. Torbert seconded the motion to approve the following.

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting**

It is recommended to approve the minutes of the December 9, 2021 Regular Board Meeting.

**Financial and Student Activity Reports**

It is recommended to approve the December 2021 Financial and Student Activity reports which include the adjustment of the revenue/appropriations for December.

**Amended Certificates**

It is recommended to approve the adjusting/filing amended certificates (including the 412 certificates) and appropriation codes to reflect additional incomes, transfers, and expenditures through the end of the month.

**Five Year Projection**

It is recommended to approve the updating and re-filing the 2021-2022 five (5) year projection and give permission for the treasurer to amend, and re-file when necessary.

**FY21 Audit Update**

The regular audit is in progress.

**Insurance Recommendation for 2022**

It is recommended to approve the following:

Approval of a Healthcare Flexible Spending Account (FSA) through TASC (125 Plan) Agreement at a cost of \$5.40 per person, per month (board cost) in order that our staff is able to receive a tax benefit if they choose to participate (1/1/2022 – 12/31/2022).

Approval of continuing our Board paid life insurance with CM Regent Solutions with the premium of \$.12 per thousand (basic .10; AD & D .02).

*DISCUSSION: Mrs. Torbert gave a brief overview of the December Financial Report for the Interim Treasurer, Julio Valladares.*

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Ayes: Mrs. Kollar, Mrs. Torbert, Mrs. Stedman, Mr. Williams, Mrs. Christian, Mr. Fee  
Nays: None  
Absent: Mr. Felumlee  
Motion Carried.

22-06                      **SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATIONS**                      06

Mrs. Stedman moved and Mrs. Kollar seconded the motion to approve the following.

**PERSONNEL**

**Resignations/Retirements**

It is recommended to accept the following:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Charlotte Chappellear	ES Head Cook	December 20, 2021-resign
Phyllis Modesitt	Sub Cook	December 27, 2021-resign
Roxana Frazier	Sub Cook	December 27, 2021-resign
Jessica Roback	Sub Cook	December 27, 2021-resign
Kay Pickenpaugh	Sub Cook	December 27, 2021-resign
Jennifer Emde	Sub Cook	December 27, 2021-resign
Molly Zeman	Sub Cook	December 27, 2021-resign
Brandy Sensabaugh	Sub Cook	December 27, 2021-resign
Rachel Fyffe	Sub Cook	December 27, 2021-resign
Renee Copper	Sub Cook	December 27, 2021-resign
Gretchen Penick	Sub Cook	December 27, 2021-resign
Todd Carmer	Primary Principal	September 2, 2022-retire

**Substitutes 2021-2022**

It is recommended to appoint the substitute assignments listed below for 2021-2022.

**Substitute Teachers (Not over 28 hours weekly)**

Dorothy Booth

*DISCUSSION: Mrs. Kollar asked if the cooks are going to Chartwells? Dr. Hile replied, “yes”. Mrs. Torbert added that it was as of 12/27. Mrs. Stedman said that she spent most of her time subbing in the Primary. She said Mr. Carmer was great and she will be sad to see him leave.*

Ayes: Mrs. Stedman, Mrs. Kollar, Mrs. Torbert, Mr. Williams, Mrs. Christian, Mr. Fee  
Nays: None  
Absent: Mr. Felumlee  
Motion Carried.

*PROVIDED THAT the District is permitted and able to offer/hold such pupil activity in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. Employee understands and agrees that, if the Board cannot offer the pupil activity at all, this contract will be VOID. Employee further understands that if the Board can offer only a part of the pupil activity, Employee will be paid a prorated portion of the stated rate/stipend based upon the portion of work/duties that are able to be performed and that are performed by Employee [calculated on a daily OR weekly OR monthly basis] with evidence of performed duties provided by Employee.*

Official employment for all of our new hires is contingent upon the satisfactory completion of a criminal records background check as required by ORC 3319.39, and receipt of appropriate certificate or license from the Ohio Department of Education.

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22-07      **SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATIONS**      07

Mrs. Kollar moved and Mrs. Torbert seconded the motion to approve the following.

**Resignations/Retirements**

It is recommended to accept the following:

Name	Assignment	Effective Date
Colleen Holtz	Sub Cook	December 27, 2021

Ayes: Mrs. Kollar, Mrs. Torbert, Mrs. Stedman, Mr. Williams, Mr. Fee  
Nays: None  
Abstain: Mrs. Christian  
Absent: Mr. Felumlee  
Motion Carried.

22-08      **SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATIONS**      08

Mrs. Kollar moved and Mr. Williams seconded the motion to approve the following.

**Rescinded Contracts 2021-2022**

It is recommended to accept the following:

Name	Assignment	Effective Date
Julie Stedman	Sub Teacher	January 6, 2022

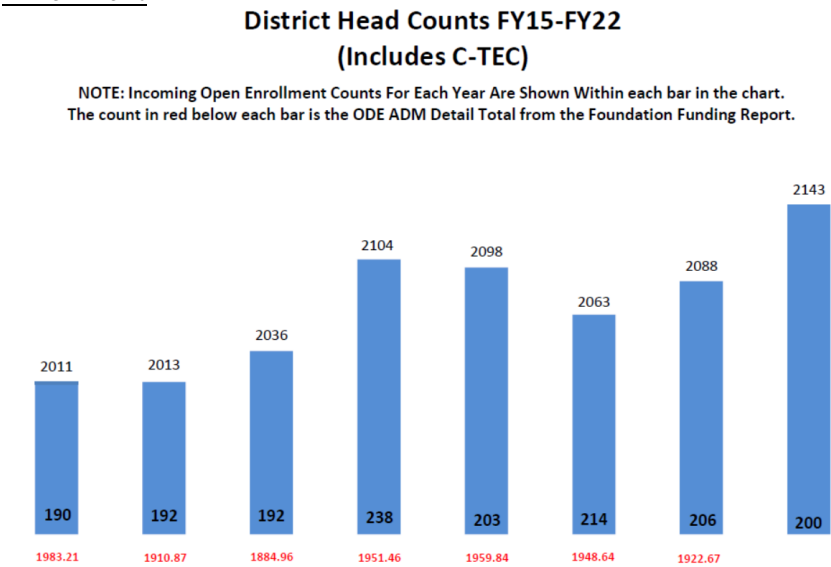
Ayes: Mrs. Kollar, Mr. Williams, Mrs. Torbert, Mrs. Christian, Mr. Fee  
Nays: None  
Abstain: Mrs. Stedman  
Absent: Mr. Felumlee  
Motion Carried.

22-09      **SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATIONS**      09

Mrs. Torbert moved and Mrs. Stedman seconded the motion to approve the following.

**STUDENTS/CURRICULUM**

**Enrollment**



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**Licking Valley Local School District Incidents of Bullying Report 2021-22**

Licking Valley High School

Grade	Males	Females	Grade Count
09	0	0	0
10	0	0	0
11	0	0	0
12	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0

Licking Valley Middle School

Grade	Males	Females	Grade Count
06	0	0	0
07	1	0	1
08	0	0	0
Total	1	0	1

Licking Valley Elementary School

Grades K-5	Males	Females
Total	0	0

**Suspension/Expulsions Report**

LVHS

After School Work Program – 2 days – 2 incidents  
After School Work Program – 3 days – 2 incidents  
Saturday School – 1 day – 15 incidents  
Saturday School – 2 days – 2 incidents  
Saturday School – 5 days – 1 incident  
Saturday School – 8 days – 1 incident  
Out of School Suspension – 3 days – 2 incidents  
Out of School Suspension w/Exp Rec – 10 days – 1 incidents

LVMS

In-School Suspension – 1 day – 7 incidents  
In-School Suspension – 2 days – 1 incident  
In-School Suspension – 3 days – 2 incidents  
In-School Suspension – 5 days – 1 incident  
Out of School Suspension – 2 days – 1 incident  
Out of School Suspension – 3 days – 1 incident  
Out of School Suspension – 10 days – 1 incident

LVIS - none

LVPS – none

*DISCUSSION: Mrs. Kollar asked if those are abnormally high suspension and expulsion numbers. Dr. Hile replied that it varies by year. We have elevated numbers this year because of vaping.*  
*Mrs. Stedman asked if they go to online education when they are suspended or expelled. Dr. Hile explained that they still work with their teachers remotely and are expected keep up with their school work.*

Ayes: Mrs. Torbert, Mrs. Stedman, Mrs. Kollar, Mr. Williams, Mrs. Christian, Mr. Fee  
Nays: None  
Absent: Mr. Felumlee  
Motion Carried.

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22-10

**SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATIONS**

10

Mr. Williams moved and Mrs. Stedman seconded the motion to approve the following.

**Gifts/Donations**

It is recommended to accept the following gifts/donations:

- Numerous donations of old Christmas lights, inflatable decorations and Amazon Wish List Donations for Elementary Christmas Program from various donors.
- 5 - \$100 gift cards for the High School – donated by G & J Pepsi.

Monetary Donations

Donation	For
\$150.00	Emma Cunningham Scholarship – Freddie’s Inn
\$150.00	MS Food Pantry – Pleasant View United Methodist Church
\$500.00	HS Panther Pantry – First Federal Savings-First Fed. Gives Back
\$100.00	HS Panther Pantry – James & Robin Hosesktra
\$500.00	HS Girls Basketball – Parent Donation
\$100.00	HS Panther Pantry – Heather Pettet
\$100.00	HS Panther Pantry – Hull & Associates
\$185.00	MS Food Pantry – Becky Lawrence
\$100.00	MS Food Pantry – Marlene Unternaher
\$200.00	HS Panther Pantry – James & Linda Lawrence
<b>\$2085.00</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>

*DISCUSSION: Mr. Williams thanked everyone for their donations.*

Ayes: Mr. Williams, Mrs. Stedman, Mrs. Kollar, Mrs. Torbert, Mrs. Christian, Mr. Fee  
Nays: None  
Absent: Mr. Felumlee  
Motion Carried.

22-11

**SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATIONS**

11

Mrs. Torbert moved and Mr. Williams seconded the motion to approve the following.

**OSBA**  
**Legal Assistance Fund**

Whereas, the Licking Valley Board of Education wishes to support the efforts of other boards of education to obtain favorable judicial decisions and,

Whereas, the Ohio School Boards Association Legal Assistance Fund has been established for this purpose.

Therefore, the Board hereby resolves to participate in the OSBA LAF for calendar year 2022 and authorizes the treasurer to pay the LAF \$250.00.

**Membership**

Ohio School Board Association - Annual Membership Dues for 2022 - \$5772.00/OSBA  
Briefcase (Electronic Copy) - Free/School Management News (Electronic Copy) - \$150.00.



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**Waste Away Systems Service Agreement**

It is recommended to accept the Service Agreement with Waste Away Systems. The term on the agreement will be January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022.

**Ohio DAS Cooperative Purchasing Program**

It is recommended to continue the membership with Ohio DAS Cooperative Purchasing Program effective 3/1/2022 - 2/28/2023. The \$100 fee has been waived this year due to pandemic.

**Lee’s Public Water Systems**

It is recommended to continue the membership with Lee’s Public Water Systems to meet the EPA required information for the Licking Valley High School and Licking Valley Elementary School as submitted for the period 1/1/2022 through 12/31/2022.

**Ohio High School Athletic Association**

It is recommended to continue our membership with the Ohio High School Athletic Association for the 2022-2023 school year.

**Surplus**

It is recommended to approve the surplus items listed below

Control #	DESCRIPTION	Reason for Disposal
N/A	Sharp Projector ES Room 204 - A. Evans	Obsolete
N/A	Epson Powerlite Projector - ES Room 314 - C. Smith	Broke

*DISCUSSION: Mr. Williams asked if we pay a fee to OHSAA? Dr. Hile replied that we do pay a minimal amount of \$50 per sport.*  
*Mrs. Kollar commented some community members wanted to know if our money goes to the National Board. She contacted OBSA and confirmed that no money that we pay to them goes to the National Board.*

Ayes: Mrs. Torbert, Mr. Williams, Mrs. Kollar, Mrs. Stedman, Mrs. Christian, Mr. Fee  
Nays: None  
Absent: Mr. Felumlee  
Motion Carried.

**22-12 BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS 12**

Mrs. Torbert moved and Mr. Williams seconded the motion to approve the following.

**OSBA LEGISLATIVE LIAISON/STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT LIAISON**

It is recommended the following Board Members serve as OSBA Legislative Liaison, Alternate and Student Achievement Liaison:  
Legislative Liaison: Mrs. Carolyn Kollar  
Legislative Liaison Alternate: Mr. Casey Williams  
Student Achievement Liaison: Mrs. Julie Stedman

*DISCUSSION: None*

Ayes: Mrs. Torbert, Mr. Williams, Mrs. Kollar, Mrs. Stedman, Mrs. Christian, Mr. Fee  
Nays: None  
Absent: Mr. Felumlee  
Motion Carried.

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### **STUDENT BOARD MEMBER UPDATE**

Mr. Fee reported that 1<sup>st</sup> semester is almost done. High School winter sports are going good but some basketball games have been cancelled or postponed. Wrestling tournament is at home this weekend.

### **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

Dr. Hile mentioned bill restricting districts challenging tax values. The school vouchers lawsuit that was launched this week against the State of Ohio. LV contributed to the lawsuit fund with Equity & Adequacy in School Funding Group.

### **COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR**

**Erin Fee, Middle School Teacher:**

*Below is the speech that Mrs. Fee read to the Board of Education.*

Good evening.

For those who do not know me, my name is Erin Fee. I am a graduate of Licking Valley Schools and am in my 24th year as a teacher in this district that I love.

For months, I have wrestled with thoughts and emotions both as a teacher, a parent, and a member of this community. To be quite honest, I have been shocked, disappointed, and disheartened as I have listened to community members and school board candidates speak unkindly and unfairly about my profession, my coworkers, and the students that I love.

I was raised being told, “It takes all kinds of kinds to make the world a great place.” THAT is the beauty of God’s creation - ALL kinds of kinds. ALL kinds of people with ALL kinds of values. ALL kinds of families with ALL kinds of challenges. ALL kinds of perspectives influenced by ALL kinds of experiences. ALL deserve respect and love.

I thank Dr. Hile for so eloquently putting into words the essence of public education when he crafted the vision statement “Every adult helping every child learn and grow every day.” This is precisely why I felt called to be a PUBLIC educator - because EVERY child deserves my very best in order to support them in being their very best.

Every child means those whose families “look” like mine and those whose “look” different. Every child means those that are Christian, Jewish, Islam, Hindu, Buddhist, Atheist, Spiritual, and everything in between. Every child means those who identify differently than me. Every child means those whose parents are incarcerated and those who are homeless; those who live with two dads or two moms or a single parent. Every child means those who are raised by grandparents and those who are raising themselves. Every child means those who need extra food and extra hugs and well as those who need additional doses of encouragement and support from people other than their family members.

Public education is undoubtedly my calling and I truly love what I get to do each day as a Licking Valley teacher. As we enter 2022 in a world that seems to be a little crazy, let us be reminded that people (both children and adults) are watching and listening. My prayer is that Licking Valley will continue to be a fantastic place to work where teachers and ALL students are loved and supported for who they are and who they aspire to be.

**Wes Weaver, High School Principal:**

*Mr. Weaver’s communication:*

President Christian, Dr. Hile, and members of the board: I am speaking to you this evening as not just the Principal of Licking Valley High School, but as a parent of LVHS graduates and a member of the LV community.

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In front of you is a paper copy of a Facebook post and article that was posted by Mrs. Stedman on December 3<sup>rd</sup> and which remained on her personal Facebook page until it was taken down this week.

In the post, Mrs. Stedman states that “Parents should read this and put these ideas in their pocket to take out and ponder along the way as our culture continues to disintegrate.”

I saw this post and read the article for the first time yesterday, and I agree: We should “take this out” and “ponder it.” The article in front of you, the link to which was provided by Mrs. Stedman in her post, is about exactly what the headline says it is about, which is “Woke schools brainwashing kids using the same tactics deployed by pedophiles.” That’s right. What’s being offered here is that we are ‘using the same tactics deployed by pedophiles.’

Let’s hit a few of the high points. On the second page:

“As it turns out, the very same tactics used by public schools to indoctrinate students into gender theory are used by pedophiles as they groom their underage victims.”

It goes on to quote a trauma therapist about what grooming techniques are – deliberate, carefully orchestrated acts. I quote: “Indeed, this description of pedophile grooming equally describes how corrupt public educators are corrupting American children.”

Later, it says

Another grooming tactic used by both woke educators and pedophiles is the deception of parents.

“They often befriend the parents and are deceptively transparent about their intentions to befriend their children, hoping to mislead the parent into feeling at ease,” Palfy said of pedophile groomers.

These predators make parents feel at ease before manipulating their children behind their backs.

Many schools across the country are doing the exact same thing. In fact, some have even instituted policies requiring staff to not inform parents if their child has socially transitioned (begun identifying as transgender) at school.

Later, it adds:

Many such schools believe they have saved children from their bigoted parents. In doing so, these people are using the same strategy used by pedophiles — leading parents to believe they can be trusted when, in reality, they are secretly grooming their children behind their backs.

It goes on to describe how we are, and I quote: “Stalking and Targeting Vulnerable Children.”

“Perhaps the most disgusting tactic used by pedophiles is the stalking and targeting of vulnerable children.

“Offenders are thought to have a radar for children in disadvantaged situations,” Palfy wrote. “Vulnerable children include those who haven’t yet learned that some people can’t be trusted, those with low self-esteem, and those in need of friends.”

The article makes no attempt to conceal its point. It closes:

These teachers and educators may not be pedophiles, but there’s no denying they’re predators looking to indoctrinate young boys and girls.

In much the same way pedophiles do, these people are grooming your children.

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That such vile, factually-challenged, offensive garbage exists was not a surprise to me. The fact it was shared and remained public for more than a month by an incoming board member is despicable and beyond inappropriate. We are a public school. We are public school educators. You compared us to pedophiles. It's disgusting.

I said I was here as a principal, as a parent, and as a member of our community. My response as a principal is to defend ALL the members of our great staff against these salacious intimations. When I look around here every day, I see people building relationships with kids. It is our mandate. You can't work here if you don't do it. For you to characterize this filth as something to ponder, when it so blatantly states our motivation for these relationships is pedophilia? I don't even have words to describe how angry that makes me.

I come here as a parent of graduates. My girls all three got a great education here and have moved on to success in their personal and professional lives in part because of their experience at LV, and the support of the staff of Licking Valley. Were they here right now they would tell you to your face in language plainer than mine how personally repulsive this is to them. They walk around as proud LV graduates and you are chipping away at the foundation of what made it great for them.

Finally, as a member of this community for most of my life, I am proud to say that this – and much of the rhetoric thrown around in the board election process – bears absolutely no resemblance to reality, or the Licking Valley I know.

(QUESTIONS)

If this is how you intend to “preserve the Valley,” I’m going to be here to tell you just what I think of this point of view. Mrs. Stedman, sharing this article after your election doesn’t just make you fundamentally unfit to take a paycheck from a public school as a board member, in my personal opinion it makes you fundamentally unfit to be a school board member of the Licking Valley Local School District.

This district deserves to move forward without one of its leaders openly advancing an agenda that denigrates those of us who do the work.

**Kendra Corsi, Parent:**

Kendra said Mr. Weaver has posted things on his HS social media page that are offensive. It is her 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment right.

I am upset that I was called out for the things I’ve posted on social media.

I am upset that Mr. Weaver called out Mrs. Stedman on her first night on the Board.

**Tracy Boehmer, High School Media Specialist:**

Tracy said she was sick to her stomach that a school board member would share an article comparing teachers to pedophiles. She asked how could anyone think so poorly of LV Staff. It's horrible and shameful. I hope this isn't setting a precedent.

**Lucinda Wills, Former LV School Board Member:**

Lucinda said she had asked all the candidates at the October “Meet the Candidate Night” if they intended to continue to post things on social media. Julie, you said you would not post things that are political.

Every child matters! We are a public school. We have some fine private schools in this community if you want to send your kid to a private school.

Julie, I thought you would have more integrity.

Mrs. Kollar, I wish you well.

Casey, I'm counting on you.

**Ocean Klein, LV Graduate:**

Would you want to work for someone who called you a pedophile?

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**Josh Green, LV Graduate:**

Josh talked about when he was a student and that he didn't need extra help but the staff was always there for him. The Licking Valley staff reached out to him when his dad passed and he was grateful for that. He said he hasn't attended any meetings but when he heard about this he felt he needed to come support the staff.

**Ainsley Decker, LV Graduate:**

The faculty has always wanted what's best for me and provided me a safe place to be.

**Deb Dingus, Parent and Executive Director of United Way of Licking County:**

I ran for school board but didn't win. I want to help this community. I don't use social media much. I was unaware of Julie's post. We are called to love one another. We are called to care for one another. I am sad we are losing our superintendent. I am sad about the things I am hearing from teachers. I am going to pray for you all. I want this to get better. We, as Christians are called to stand up for those who can't stand up for themselves. We need to work this out.

**Julie Stedman, Parent and School Board Member:**

Thank you for coming and telling me this here publically. A teacher called me last night and confronted me about the post. I would welcome your calls.

*Below is a statement that Mrs. Stedman prepared to read but did not read it verbatim.*

A teacher called me Wednesday night to have a hard conversation. Because a month ago I shared my personal thoughts on an article in a news journal with my friends. I read that article as a mommy and then as a mother I shared a strong warning to my FB friends. The author wrote about a disturbing parallel between the predatory grooming strategy of child abusers and the insidious way that children at school could become desensitized to things I personally consider very dangerous to my own kids.

It did not occur to me, at all, as a mommy, that my opinion about the article could possibly be construed as an accusation aimed at our own LV teachers. I was embarrassed and ashamed to hear this last night from a teacher, a mom like me, who herself felt lumped into my seeming accusation. I want to say very publicly and clearly to our LV teachers: that was not my intention, that was never even a thought in my head and I ask for your forgiveness.

As an American, I am sincerely afraid for the state of education in our country. I am prepared to stand guard here at Licking Valley to protect our students. I am disappointed and discouraged that not one other teacher has spoken with me about this.

I think teachers and parents are afraid for the future. I was not aware that my words had fed that fear.

We are Licking Valley - not Chicago, not San Francisco, not even Columbus. Teachers, please forgive me if my words were hateful or unkind to your ears. As a mommy, that was not my intention. And please talk to me - as your board member.

We are in a season at LV that could be very unsettling, scary even - none of us would have chosen to start this new year with a treasurer and superintendent search. Community, please help us choose wisely by offering your insights and praying for us. Give us a chance to show we are trustworthy.

**Casey Williams, Parent and School Board Member:**

I don't think anyone up here would make any decisions that would hurt a child.

## **BOARD DISCUSSION**

Mrs. Stedman asked about video recording/live streaming all Board meetings. It is important for the public to see the happenings of the Board. It is a convenience for people who can't come to the meetings but there are people who would take advantage of the recordings/streaming.

Mr. Williams commented that he would need more information about the legal issues and tech migration issues. He said he would need a lot more information.

LICKING VALLEY LOCAL BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
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Mrs. Torbert reported the they had tried recording meetings in the past and our attorney discouraged it then as well.

Mrs. Kollar stated she would like more information about how other districts are doing it.

Mr. Fee spoke to Mrs. Stedman and told her how the article hurt him and others here tonight. He said he believed we deserve an apology.

Mrs. Stedman replied to Mr. Fee's concern. She said she thought her words were sincere. She also stated, if it makes you feel better, please accept my apology. I'll do my best. I don't think I want to serve 2 terms.

22-13 EXECUTIVE SESSION

13

Mrs. Torbert moved and Mr. Williams seconded the motion to adjourn to Executive Session at 7:38 pm to consider the employment of public employees.

Ayes: Mrs. Torbert, Mr. Williams, Mrs. Kollar, Mrs. Stedman, Mrs. Christian, Mr. Fee

Nays: None

Absent: Mr. Felumlee

Motion Carried.

The Board returned to regular session at 9:03 pm.

**22-14 ADJOURNMENT**

14

Mrs. Torbert moved and Mrs. Stedman seconded the motion to adjourn.

Mrs. Christian closed the meeting at 9:03 p.m.

Ayes: Mrs. Torbert, Mrs. Stedman, Mrs. Kollar, Mr. Williams, Mrs. Christian

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

**Kim Christian, President**

David Hile, Treasurer Pro-Tem