

The LaBrae Local Board of Education met in Regular Session on April 10, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in the Complex Band Room. Members present on Roll Call: Mr. Sewell, Mr. Gibson, Mr. Gamlin, Mrs. Ancell and Mr. Morton. Also present were Mr. Anthony Calderone, Superintendent and Mr. Bradley Panak, Treasurer.

Pledge of Allegiance

Superintendent's Report

1. Student Recognition

i. February Students of the Month

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Lincoln Douce-1 <sup>st</sup> Grade    | 6. Kyndra Chabek-8 <sup>th</sup> Grade    |
| 2. Kaydence Collins-3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade | 7. Cayman Haynie-8 <sup>th</sup> Grade    |
| 3. Bryce Haynie-6 <sup>th</sup> Grade     | 8. Liam Fiest-9 <sup>th</sup> Grade       |
| 4. Eliana Milliron-6 <sup>th</sup> Grade  | 9. Nicholas Frantz-10 <sup>th</sup> Grade |
| 5. Daisy Peace-7 <sup>th</sup> Grade      | 10. Kaden Lippert-12 <sup>th</sup> Grade  |

ii. Girls Bowling Team-State Tournament Qualifiers

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Courtney Bates-12 <sup>th</sup> Grade   | 3. Jessica Morris-11 <sup>th</sup> Grade |
| 2. Jennifer Johnson-11 <sup>th</sup> Grade | 4. Madison Touart-10 <sup>th</sup> Grade |

Public Participation-None

**Motion** by Mr. Gibson seconded by Mrs. Ancell to approve the minutes of the March 13, 2023 Regular Board Meeting. Roll call: Mr. Gibson, Mrs. Ancell, Mr. Morton, Mr. Gamlin and Mr. Sewell voted YES. Motion carried.

**Motion** by Mrs. Ancell seconded by Mr. Gibson to approve the March Financial Report as presented by the Treasurer. Roll call: Mrs. Ancell, Mr. Gibson, Mr. Morton, Mr. Gamlin and Mr. Sewell voted YES. Motion carried.

**Motion** by Mrs. Ancell seconded by Mr. Gibson to approve a Fiscal Year 2024 Excess Costs Foundation Contract with the Trumbull County ESC for \$1,252,191.00 to be deducted from State Foundation payments to the LaBrae Local School District. Roll call: Mrs. Ancell, Mr. Gibson, Mr. Morton, Mr. Gamlin and Mr. Sewell voted YES. Motion carried.

**Motion** by Mrs. Ancell seconded by Mr. Gibson to approve the following resolution Expressing Support for Strengthening the Fair School Funding Plan and Opposing Proposed Backpack Scholarship Legislation:

**WHEREAS**, the 134th Ohio General Assembly passed into law a new school funding formula called the Fair School Funding Plan, and appropriated funding, which amounted to one-third of the cost of full implementation; and

**WHEREAS**, Governor DeWine has proposed a current biennial budget that continues to phase in the funding of the Fair School Funding Plan but uses FY2018 data inputs to determine base cost funding; and

**WHEREAS**, Ohio's current fiscal position is one of tremendous strength as verified with a recent contribution to the Budget Stabilization Fund of \$727 million, and Ohio state tax revenues continue to far exceed expenditures for the current fiscal year, positioning the State to have a projected budget surplus at the conclusion of the year in excess of \$5 billion; and

**WHEREAS**, the 135th Ohio General Assembly has introduced proposed legislation creating a Backpack Scholarship Program via House Bill 11 and Senate Bill 11, which significantly increase the number and availability of vouchers for students to attend private/parochial schools at the expense of the public taxpayer; and

**WHEREAS**, Ohio's non-partisan Legislative Service Commission has estimated the Backpack Scholarship Program will cost approximately \$1.13 billion in FY2025 of the new biennial budget if all 185,400 newly eligible non-public students take a scholarship under the bill; and

**WHEREAS**, such vouchers will be available to all families and students who have never attended LaBrae Local School District or any other public schools, and for whom state funding has never been provided to LaBrae Local School District or any other public schools; and

**WHEREAS**, voucher programs have recently expanded in New Hampshire, Wisconsin, and Arizona, and students who have never attended a public school now comprise more than 75% of the vouchers being used in each of the aforementioned states; and

**WHEREAS**, under a universal Backpack Scholarship Program, Ohio would be authorizing an excessive, and fiscally irresponsible, rebate/refund program that will subsidize families currently paying tuition at private schools; and

**WHEREAS**, private/parochial schools accepting students with public tax vouchers would not be required to accept all students but would be permitted to retain their selective admission policies without enforcement of other laws applicable to public schools, and

**WHEREAS**, legislators espouse the need for greater competition in education, despite a long history of competition through open enrollment among public schools, and yet refuse to apply identical academic and operational standards, compliance standards, and transparency to private/parochial schools that exist for public schools; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed Backpack Scholarship Program, without parallel operational and compliance standards, creates a protected class without accountability or transparency typically afforded to taxpayers who fund public goods; and

**WHEREAS**, parents using the vouchers will exact far more tax dollars out of the system than they typically pay annually in property tax; and

**WHEREAS**, Ohio taxpayers and local communities will bear the brunt of having to subsidize parent choice for those parents who choose to never enroll their children in Ohio's quality public schools; and

**WHEREAS**, this Board believes that the school choice voucher program as it currently exists, presents serious constitutional issues regarding the separation of church and state and the funding of religious institutions with public tax dollars; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Ohio has the constitutional responsibility to secure a thorough and efficient system of common schools; and

**WHEREAS**, the Backpack Scholarship Program will have exactly the opposite effect by providing funding to private/parochial schools at the expense, and to the detriment of Ohio public schools, their students, and local taxpayers, as the vast expansion of vouchers prevents the State from fully funding the Fair School Funding Plan.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the LaBrae Board of Education that this Board reaffirms its commitment to free accessible public schools, which are adequately and equitably funded to guarantee a comparable education for ALL children, and therefore opposes and respectfully requests the Ohio General Assembly reject the ill-conceived Backpack Scholarship Program proposed for the State of Ohio.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this Board opposes any funding programs, vouchers, educational savings accounts, or otherwise, that have the effect of diverting public tax dollars from public schools to private/parochial schools.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this Board request that the Ohio General Assembly and the Governor of Ohio commit to fully funding the Fair School Funding Plan using FY2022 data inputs rather than the outdated FY2018 data currently under consideration.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Treasurer is hereby authorized and directed to forward copies of this Resolution to all Ohio state legislators, the Superintendent of Public Instruction and Governor of the State of Ohio.

Roll call: Mrs. Ancell (YES), Mr. Gibson (YES), Mr. Morton (NO), Mr. Gamlin (YES) and Mr. Sewell (YES). FOUR YES and ONE NO. Motion carried.

**Motion** by Mrs. Ancell seconded by Mr. Gibson to Education approve the following resolution declaring it necessary to replace an existing 3.0-mill tax levy for the purpose of providing funds for adding to, renovating, remodeling, rehabilitation, furnishing and equipping school buildings for school purposes and improving sites, and requesting the Trumbull County Auditor to make certain certifications, pursuant to sections 5705.03 and 5705.192 of the revised code:

**WHEREAS**, at an election on November 6, 2018, the School District's voters approved the renewal of an existing 3.0-mill ad valorem tax levy in excess of the ten-mill limitation for the purpose of providing funds for adding to, renovating, remodeling, rehabilitation, furnishing and equipping school buildings for school purposes and improving sites, for five years; and

**WHEREAS**, the authority to levy that 3.0-mill tax expires with the levy on the 2023 tax list for collection in calendar year 2024; and

**WHEREAS**, this Board finds that the amount of taxes that may be raised within the ten-mill limitation by levies on the current tax list will be insufficient to provide an adequate amount for the necessary requirements of the School District and that it is necessary to replace that 3.0-mill levy in excess of the ten-mill limitation for the purpose of providing funds for adding to, renovating, remodeling, rehabilitation, furnishing and equipping school buildings for school purposes and improving sites, for five years, commencing with a levy on the tax list for the year 2024 to be first distributed to this Board in calendar year 2025; and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with Section 5705.03(B) of the Revised Code, in order to submit the question of a tax levy pursuant to Section 5705.192 of the Revised Code, this Board must certify to the Trumbull County Auditor a resolution requesting that the County Auditor make certain certifications as described in Section 5705.03(B)(2); and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with Section 5705.03(B)(1), the resolution of this Board as described immediately above must state all of the following, as applicable to the levy: (a) the proposed rate of the tax, expressed in mills for each one dollar of taxable value, or the dollar amount of revenue to be generated by the proposed levy; (b) the purpose of the tax; (c) whether the tax is an additional levy, a renewal or a replacement of an existing tax, a renewal or replacement of an existing tax with an increase or a decrease, a reduction or decrease of an existing tax, or extension of an existing tax to additional territory; (d) the Section of the Revised Code authorizing the submission of the question of the tax; (e) the term of years of the tax or that it is for a continuing period of time; (f) that the tax is to be levied upon the entire territory of the School District; (g) the date of the election at which the question of the tax shall appear on the ballot; (h) that the ballot measure shall be submitted to the entire territory of the School District; (i) the tax year in which the tax will first be levied and the calendar year in which it will be first collected; and (j) each county in which the School District has territory; and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with Section 5705.03(B)(2), upon receipt of a certified copy of a resolution of this Board as described above, the County Auditor is to certify each of the following, as applicable to the levy: (a) the total current tax valuation of the School District; (b) the number of mills for each one dollar of taxable value that is required to generate a specified amount of revenue; (c) either of the following, calculated using the tax list for the current year, and if this is not determined, the estimated amount submitted by the County Auditor to the County Budget Commission: (i) if the levy is to renew, renew and increase, renew and decrease, reduce or decrease, or extend to additional territory an existing levy that is subject to reduction under Section 319.01 of the Revised Code, the levy's estimated effective rate, calculated using the rate described in Section 5705.03(B)(2)(b) or (d), expressed in dollars, rounded to the nearest dollar, for each one hundred thousand dollars of the County Auditor's appraised value, or (ii) for all other levies, the levy's rate, described in Section 5705.03(B)(2)(b) or (d), expressed in dollars, rounded to the nearest dollar, for each one hundred thousand dollars of the County Auditor's appraised value; (d) the dollar amount of revenue, rounded to the nearest dollar, that would be generated by a specified number of mills for each one dollar of taxable value; and (e) an estimate of the levy's annual collections, rounded to the nearest one thousand dollars, which shall be calculated assuming that the amount of the tax list of the School District remains throughout the life of the levy the same as the amount of the tax list for the current year, and if this is not determined, the estimated amount submitted by the County Auditor to the County Budget Commission;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Education of LaBrae Local School District, County of Trumbull, Ohio, that:

**Section 1. Definition.** As used in this Resolution and in accordance with Section 5705.03(B)(1)(a) of the Revised Code, "mills" refers to mills for each one dollar of taxable value.

**Section 2. Declaration of Necessity of Tax Levy.** This Board finds, determines and declares that (i) the amount of taxes that may be raised within the ten-mill limitation by levies on the current tax list will be insufficient to provide an adequate amount for the necessary requirements of the School District, (ii) it is necessary to replace the School District's existing 3.0-mill ad valorem property tax outside of the ten-mill limitation for the purpose of providing funds for adding to, renovating, remodeling, rehabilitation, furnishing and equipping school buildings for school purposes and improving sites, (iii) it intends to submit the question of that replacement tax levy to the electors of the entire territory of the School District at an election to be held on November 7, 2023, as authorized by Sections 5705.03 and 5705.192 of the Revised Code, and (iv) the School District has territory only in the County of Trumbull. If approved, that tax will be levied upon the entire territory of the School District for five years, commencing in tax year 2024, for first collection in calendar year 2025.

**Section 3. Request for Certification.** This Board requests the Trumbull County Auditor to certify to it the certifications set forth in Section 5705.03(B)(2), as applicable to the proposed replacement levy.

**Section 4. Certification and Delivery of Resolution to County Auditor.** The Treasurer is authorized and directed to deliver or cause to be delivered a certified copy of this Resolution to the Trumbull County Auditor.

**Section 5. Compliance with Open Meeting Requirements.** This Board finds and determines that all formal actions of this Board and of any of its committees concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were taken, and that all deliberations of this Board and of any of its committees that resulted in those formal actions were held, in meetings open to the public in compliance with the law.

**Section 6. Captions and Headings.** The captions and headings in this Resolution are solely for convenience of reference and in no way define, limit or describe the scope or intent of any Sections, subsections, paragraphs, subparagraphs or clauses hereof.

**Section 7. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and immediately upon its adoption.

Roll call: Mrs. Ancell (YES), Mr. Gibson (YES), Mr. Gamlin (YES), Mr. Morton (ABSTAIN) and Mr. Sewell (YES). FOUR YES and ONE ABSTAIN. Motion carried.

**Motion** by Mr. Gamlin seconded by Mrs. Ancell to approve the resignation of Janice Kovac-Silvers, a certified staff member, effective August 25, 2023. Roll call: Mr. Gamlin, Mrs. Ancell, Mr. Morton, Mr. Gibson and Mr. Sewell voted YES. Motion carried.

**Motion** by Mrs. Ancell seconded by Mr. Gibson to approve a Family Medical Leave of Absence for Jamie Yarger, a certified staff member, effective March 20, 2023 through June 2, 2023. Roll call: Mrs. Ancell, Mr. Gibson, Mr. Morton, Mr. Gamlin and Mr. Sewell voted YES. Motion carried.

**Motion** by Mrs. Ancell seconded by Mr. Gibson to approve a Memorandum of Understanding on the Retire/Rehire of an Employee with OAPSE Local 278, and subsequently employ the following classified personnel under the terms of this MOU, and grant a one-year limited contract effective July 1, 2023:

- i. John Maurer      Bascom Elementary Head Custodian

Roll call: Mrs. Ancell (YES), Mr. Gibson (YES), Mr. Morton (NO), Mr. Gamlin (YES) and Mr. Sewell (YES). FOUR YES and ONE NO. Motion carried.

Mr. Morton is on record stating that the Board should have opened this position for the public to apply.

Mr. Gamlin asked what the plans are after the one year contract expires.

**Motion** by Mr. Gamlin seconded by Mrs. Ancell to approve a reduction in force, in accord with O.R.C. 3319.171, of the following certified administrative position, effective July 1, 2023.

- i. Assistant Principal, High School

Roll call: Mr. Gamlin, Mrs. Ancell, Mr. Gibson, Mr. Morton and Mr. Sewell voted YES. Motion carried.

**Motion** by Mrs. Ancell seconded by Mr. Gibson to approve a reduction in force, in accord with O.R.C. 3319.171, of the following certified administrative supplemental position, effective July 1, 2023.

- i. Assistant Athletic Director

Roll call: Mrs. Ancell seconded by Mr. Gibson to approve approve in accord with O.R.C. 3319.02, the following Administrative reassignments, effective July 1, 2023.

**Motion** by Mr. Gamlin seconded by Mrs. Ancell to approve approve in accord with O.R.C. 3319.02, the following Administrative reassignments, effective July 1, 2023.

- i. Martin Kelly transferred to LaBrae Intermediate Principal
- ii. Todd Rowe transferred to LaBrae Middle School Principal

Roll call: Mr. Gamlin, Mrs. Ancell, Mr. Morton, Mr. Gibson and Mr. Sewell voted YES. Motion carried.

**Motion** by Mr. Gibson seconded by Mrs. Ancell to approve the resignation of Todd Rowe, as Athletic Director, effective July 1, 2023. Roll call: Mr. Gibson, Mrs. Ancell, Mr. Morton, Mr. Gamlin and Mr. Sewell voted YES. Motion carried.

**Motion** by Mrs. Ancell seconded by Mr. Gibson to approve the fees in relation to instructional materials, workbooks, and student fees for the 2023-2024 school year. Roll call: Mrs. Ancell, Mr. Gibson, Mr. Morton, Mr. Gamlin and Mr. Sewell voted YES. Motion carried.

**Motion** by Mr. Gibson seconded by Mr. Gamlin to acknowledge and accept the following donation:

<b>Donation From</b>	<b>Donation For</b>	<b>Donation Amount</b>
Angela Sewell	Bascom Library (Morningstar Memorial)	\$100.00

Roll call: Mr. Gibson, Mr. Gamlin, Mrs. Ancell, Mr. Morton and Mr. Sewell voted YES. Motion carried.

**Motion** by Mr. Gibson seconded by Mrs. Ancell to approve the first reading of the following Board Policy addition, revisions and rescission.

**New Policy**

8120 Volunteers (Operations)

**Revised Policies**

0131.1 Technical Corrections (Bylaws)  
1615 Tobacco Use Prevention (Administration)  
2114 Meeting State Performance Indicators (Program)  
2271 CCP (Program)  
2412 Homebound Instruction (Program)  
3215 Tobacco Use Prevention (Professional Staff)  
4215 Tobacco Use Prevention (Classified Staff)  
5310 Health Services (Students)  
5460 Graduation Requirements (Students)  
5512 Tobacco Use Prevention (Students)  
5610 Removal, Suspension, Expulsion, etc. (Students)  
6325 Procurement-Federal Grants-Funds (Finances)  
7434 Tobacco Use Prevention (Property)  
7540 Technology (Property)  
7540.01 Technology Privacy (Property)  
7540.02 Web, Accessibility, Content, Apps, Services (Property)  
7540.03 Student Technology Acceptable Use (Property)  
7540.04 Staff Technology Acceptable Use (Property)  
8300 Continuity of Organizational Operations (Operation)  
8305 Information Security (Operation)  
8315 Information Management (Operation)

**Revised Policies (continued)**

8390 Animals on District Property (Operation)  
8400 School Safety (Operation)  
8420 Emergency Situations at Schools (Operation)  
8462 Student Abuse and Neglect (Operation)  
9160 Public Attendance at School Events (Relations)

**Rescinded Policies**

3120.09 Volunteers (Professional Staff)  
4120.09 Volunteers (Classified Staff)



Roll call: Mr. Gibson (YES), Mrs. Ancell (YES), Mr. Morton (ABSTAIN), Mr. Gamlin (YES) and Mr. Sewell (YES). FOUR YES and ONE ABSTAIN. Motion carried. Mr. Morton asked, how does the Board make changes to policies.

Miscellaneous

Concerns of the Board

Mr. Sewell-thoughts and prayers go out to the Hemburger family.

**Motion** by Mr. Gamlin seconded by Mrs. Ancell to enter into executive session for the following purposes:

- i. Security

Roll call: Mr. Gamlin, Mrs. Ancell, Mr. Morton, Mr. Gibson and Mr. Sewell voted YES. Motion carried.

**Motion** by Mr. Gamlin seconded by Mrs. Ancell to reconvene at 7:15 p.m. Roll call: Mr. Gamlin, Mrs. Ancell, Mr. Morton, Mr. Gibson and Mr. Sewell voted YES. Motion carried.

**Motion** by Mrs. Ancell seconded by Mr. Gibson to adjourn to the call of the chair at 7:16 p.m. Roll call: Mrs. Ancell, Mr. Gibson, Mr. Gamlin, Mr. Morton and Mr. Sewell voted YES. Motion carried.

Next Regular Meeting – Monday, May 8, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in the Complex Band Room

APPROVED  
PRESIDENT \_\_\_\_\_  
ATTESTED

TREASURER \_\_\_\_\_