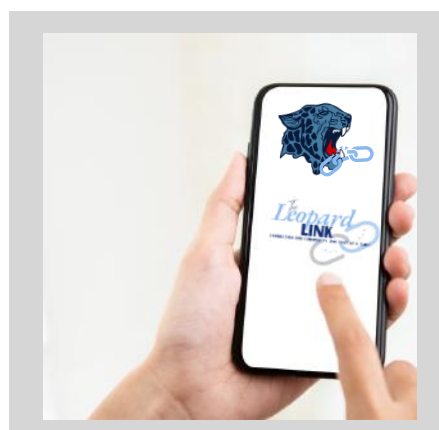




Welcome to The Leopard Link

The Leopard Link: Connecting our community, one spot at a time! We are excited to bring you the latest edition of this newsletter sent directly to your inbox following each Board of Education meeting. Highlights from the district, the board meeting and other important announcements will be found here as a one-stop-shop for all things Louisville!



Upcoming Important Dates:

January 2025

20 - NO SCHOOL - MLK Day

27 - NO SCHOOL - PD Waiver Day

February 2025

17 - NO SCHOOL - President's Day

Don't forget to take a moment to mark your calendars for all of the amazing athletic and fine arts performance and contests throughout January and February! Our basketball teams, swimmers, gymnastics team, speech and debate team, wrestlers and bowlers are all working so hard to defend the Leopard name!

If you are at an event, please take a moment to send your photos to photos@lepapps.org so we can all celebrate the hard work of our students and staff!





Louisville Board of Education Elects New Leadership and Approves 2025 Meeting Schedule

The Louisville City Schools Board of Education kicked off the new year by electing its leadership for 2025. During the recent meeting, Mr. Jon Aljancic was named Board President, and Mrs. Barb DeJacimo was elected as Vice President. Both bring a wealth of experience and dedication to their roles, ensuring strong leadership for the district.

Their first official action as leaders was the approval of the 2025 Board of Education Meeting Schedule, which sets the foundation for transparency, collaboration, and strategic planning. These meetings are vital opportunities for district leadership, staff, and the community to come together to hear about key issues and initiatives that impact Louisville schools.

The following meeting dates and locations were approved:

- February 10, 2025 – Louisville Middle School, 6:30 PM
- March 10, 2025 – Louisville Elementary, 6:30 PM
- April 14, 2025 – Board of Education Office, 6:30 PM
- May 19, 2025 – Louisville Middle School, 6:30 PM
- June 23, 2025 – Board of Education Office, 6:30 PM
- August 11, 2025 – Board of Education Office, 6:30 PM
- September 8, 2025 – Board of Education Office, 6:30 PM
- October 20, 2025 – R.G. Drage Career Center, 6:30 PM
- November 17, 2025 – North Nimishillen Elementary, 6:30 PM
- December 8, 2025 – Louisville Middle School, 6:30 PM
- January 12, 2026 – Board of Education Office, 6:30 PM

These dates ensure consistency and provide the community with clear opportunities to engage with district leadership.

"We are excited to continue fostering open communication and collaborative decision-making to best serve our students and families," said Mr. Aljancic.

For more information about Board meetings or Louisville City Schools, visit the district's website.



A Huge Leopard
Welcome to our newest
employees!

Stacy Johnson
Andrew Hayes
Judy Minich

If you are interested in
joining our Leopard
Family, [click here](#) to view
available positions!



2025-2026 Calendar is
now available!

The Louisville City Schools Board of Education has officially approved the academic calendar for the 2025-2026 school year. The finalized calendar is now available for review on the district's website and provides families, students, and staff ample time to plan for the upcoming year. [Click here](#) to access all district calendars or visit the Louisville City Schools website.



Keep up to date with all Board Policies

Louisville City Schools works each month to revise, update, and adopt a number of NEOLA policies.

Community members are encouraged to familiarize themselves with these policies, as they play a critical role in guiding the district's operations and decision-making. All board policies are available for review on our website at [BoardDocs](#).



Next Board Of Education Meeting

The next regular Board of Education meeting will be held Monday, February 10, 2025 at 6:30 pm at Louisville Middle School, located at 1300 South Chapel Street, Louisville, OH 44641.



Louisville High School Introduces Exciting New Programs of Study for Next Academic Year

At a recent Board of Education meeting, Mr. Tausch, Principal of Louisville High School, presented three innovative classes set to launch in the upcoming academic year. These courses are designed to enrich students' educational experience and prepare them for future success.

New Courses for 2025-2026:

Language and Linguistics

- This grammar-focused course will help students excel in the language section of the ACT, equipping them with essential skills for standardized testing and academic success.

Theater II

- Building on the success of Theater I, this advanced course will deepen students' skills and knowledge in theater arts. The addition will further enhance Louisville City Schools' already strong Fine Arts program and is expected to attract strong enrollment.

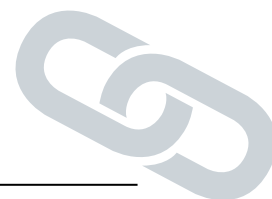
• Life Hacks: Practical Skills for Everyday Success

- Perhaps the most anticipated course, Life Hacks will teach essential real-world skills, such as:
 - Cooking and nutrition
 - Healthy relationships
 - Career preparation
 - Vehicle, home, and yard maintenance
 - Real estate and rental agreements
 - And much more!
- This course addresses a common sentiment among students: the desire for more tangible life skills before entering adulthood.

"These additions reflect our commitment to preparing students not only for academic success but also for the challenges of the real world," said Mr. Tausch.

Looking Ahead

The district eagerly anticipates the launch of these programs and the impact they will have on student learning and engagement. Stay tuned for updates as these exciting courses become part of the curriculum next school year!





Celebrating School Board Recognition Month

January is Ohio School Board Recognition Month, and it's the perfect time for us to honor the Louisville City Schools Board of Education for their exceptional dedication to our district and the community. This team of five selfless individuals works tirelessly to ensure that every student has access to a high-quality education, and they continually place the needs of children at the forefront of their decision-making process.

From approving curriculum advancements to overseeing school operations, board members shoulder the responsibility of guiding the district's direction. It's a commitment that goes far beyond attending monthly meetings. Their role involves countless hours of research, engagement in professional development, and maintaining open dialogue with parents, teachers, and community stakeholders. They do all of this without expecting praise or recognition—steadfast in their mission to enhance the educational experience for every learner in Louisville City Schools.

When asked about their “why,” each board member passionately expressed their desire to see our students succeed. They described the joy they feel when watching students learn, grow, and reach new milestones. This unwavering focus on student achievement makes our board so effective, as every discussion and decision revolves around supporting the future success of Louisville's youth.

Throughout January, we encourage you to join us in acknowledging and thanking these dedicated individuals for their volunteer service and steadfast commitment to our schools. Together, we can celebrate the hard work and sacrifice of our board as they continue to shape a brighter future for Louisville City Schools.

Dr. Brenda Ramsey-L'Amoreaux

Dr. Brenda Ramsey-L'Amoreaux has proudly served on the Louisville City Schools Board of Education for nearly 13 years, with her anniversary approaching this May. A lifelong member of the community, she was inspired to join the Board to give back and ensure a quality education for her children and generations to come. While she finds the greatest joy in connecting with the incredible people in the district, she acknowledges the challenge of navigating criticism from those who may not fully understand the Board's perspective. Dr. Ramsey-L'Amoreaux's dedication to education and her community continues to make a lasting impact.



Mr. Jon Aljancic

Mr. Jon Aljancic is now in his eighth year serving on the Louisville City Schools Board of Education, driven by a deep commitment to helping students reach their full potential. Growing up in the district, he experienced firsthand the opportunities Louisville provided and is passionate about giving back to ensure today's students have the same support. While he strives to be as transparent and forthright as possible, he recognizes the challenges posed by legal constraints that sometimes limit what can be shared. For Mr. Aljancic, the greatest reward is watching students succeed—whether in the classroom or through extracurricular activities—and seeing them thrive as they realize their potential.



Mr. Richard Crislip

Rick Crislip, now in his 8th year on the Louisville City Schools Board of Education, is steadfast in his commitment to students, emphasizing that “it’s all about the kids.” While he finds it challenging to overcome negativity and encourage the community to fully believe in the district’s achievements, he remains focused on showcasing its many strengths. His favorite moments come from watching students shine—whether in the classroom, on the field or court, in fine arts, or through extracurricular activities. Rick takes pride in Louisville’s exceptional students, outstanding teachers and staff, and one of the top communities in the state.



Mrs. Barb DeJacimo

Barb DeJacimo, now in her 6th year on the Louisville City Schools Board of Education, brings a lifetime of dedication to student success from her years as a classroom educator. As a board member, her mission is to provide opportunities for all students, regardless of their interests or abilities, while fostering a strong partnership between the schools and the community. Barb’s favorite part of her role is celebrating the accomplishments and dedication of students, staff, and community helpers, recognizing their contributions both in and out of the classroom. She embraces the challenge of asking the right questions to guide district growth and continues to expand her knowledge about the complex elements of running a school district.

Mr. Frank Antonacci

Frank Antonacci, now in his 26th year on the Louisville City Schools Board of Education, is driven by his belief in the critical role of public education and his commitment to providing the best for Louisville families. While he acknowledges the challenge of making decisions that may not please everyone, his favorite part of serving is watching each graduating class leave equipped with the best possible K-12 education and experiences.

Frank Antonacci honored for 25 Years of Service on the Board of Education

In a heartfelt moment during the 2024 Ohio School Board Association meeting, Mr. Frank Antonacci was celebrated for his remarkable 25 years of dedicated service to the Louisville City Schools Board of Education. This milestone is a rare accomplishment, achieved by very few across the nation, and a testament to Mr. Antonacci’s unwavering commitment to the students, families, and staff of Louisville. Throughout his tenure, Mr. Antonacci has been a guiding force in shaping the district’s growth and success. He currently serves Louisville students by sitting on the board at R.G. Drage and is currently serving as president. His steadfast dedication to public education and his genuine care for the community have left an indelible mark on Louisville schools.

“Frank’s leadership and vision have been pivotal in ensuring the success and well-being of our district,” said Superintendent Shaffer. “His commitment to excellence and his passion for education inspire all of us to do our best for the students of Louisville.”

Over the years, Mr. Antonacci has navigated countless challenges and celebrated numerous achievements alongside the district, always prioritizing what’s best for the students and the community. His ability to build meaningful connections and foster collaboration has been a cornerstone of his leadership.

The Louisville City Schools community expressed deep gratitude for Mr. Antonacci’s unparalleled service. His dedication serves as a shining example of what it means to lead with integrity, compassion, and vision.

“It has been an honor and a privilege to serve this district and its incredible community for the past 25 years,” said Mr. Antonacci. “Together, we’ve achieved so much, and I look forward to seeing what the future holds for Louisville City Schools.”

Louisville City Schools and the community extend their heartfelt thanks to Mr. Antonacci for his extraordinary contributions and his enduring commitment to the district’s success. Congratulations on this incredible milestone!



Board of Education Student Representatives Update

"While it has already been a very snowy season... The cold and icy roads have NOTHING on the Louisville Leopards! Our Leopards have been working so hard to make 2025 the best year yet..

Our winter sports have been kicking it this year with our boys basketball team being 8-4 and our girls having a great start to the season with senior, Courtney Barwick, recently achieving 1000 points! Our swimming teams have been working hard in the pool, recently defeating Alliance, Salem, and Columbiana in their most recent meet. But the swim team isn't the only team taking names at tournaments, our Boys Wrestling team recently took 1st at the EOWL Tournament and our Bowling Team has been doing great with a 5-2 record for the girls and 4-3 record for the boys! To finish up our sports, our Girls Gymnastics team recently attended their first invitational at Wooster and our Louisville Cheerleaders have been doing amazing, competing at competitions with some of the best schools in the state, and our cheerleaders had their Cheer Showcase last night! Great job to all of Louisville's sports teams.

Moving forward to our arts programs, our choir and band students across the middle school and high school had been preparing for the Solo and Ensemble Event held at Massillon High school... Unfortunately, due to bad weather, the event was cancelled. But we encourage our students to stay positive as they move on to bigger and better things. Our speech and debate team has been doing wonderful things. The team now has 3 members of the team pre-qualified to STATE! The team continues to practice and improve as we look forward to districts in February. Great job to our arts programs!

We are so proud of our students at Louisville and cannot wait to see what the new year brings!"



Sydney Stoffer & Morgan Callan, Board Of Education Student Representatives

Registration for LCA Classes Now Open!

Don't miss out on the fun!

Dancing, Escape Rooms, Home
Maintenance and Painting for all
ages!!

Join us for all of our future LCA
Classes!

[Click here to check out our incredible
offerings!](#)



A Heartfelt Thank You to Our Amazing Donors

At the January 2025 Board of Education meeting, we had the privilege of recognizing the incredible donors who have generously supported our district. Without their contributions, many of the amazing opportunities and initiatives we provide for our students wouldn't be possible.

From the bottom of our hearts, thank you for your unwavering support and belief in the success of our schools and community. Together, we're making a difference!

thank you

Begue Construction

\$2,500.00

LES Backpack Program

Anonymous

\$500.00

LMS Library Materials

Anonymous

\$1,000.00

Backpack Program

Ann Yoder

\$100.00

LES Backpack Program



FINANCE FOCUS

The school district participates in the Ohio Medicaid School Program to receive expense reimbursements for eligible school-based therapy services provided to students. By participating in this program, the District is able to bring in a substantial amount of reimbursement revenue. Last fiscal year (July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024), these reimbursements totaled \$285,953.



Click below to access:

[January 13
Organizational Meeting
Agenda](#)

[January 13 Regular
Meeting Agenda](#)

[December 2024
Meeting Minutes](#)