

JOHNSTOWN-MONROE LOCAL SCHOOLS

JULY 10, 2023 / 5 PM / JMS MEDIA CENTER

Johnstown-Monroe BOE salutes softball team; eyes move of district offices

The Johnstown-Monroe Board of Education paid tribute to the Johnstown-Monroe Girls Softball Team for its historic season at the board's July 10, 2023, regular meeting.



The team was undefeated 14-0 in home play for the 2023 season. The team also earned recognition as LCL Cardinal League Champions with a 13-1 record (10-0) in its division) and had an overall 26-3 season record.

Johnstown also earned designation as District Champions, Regional Champions and became an Ohio Final Four team, among other honors and recognitions.

Coach Mike Justice, who was also selected as “LCL Coach of the Year,” told the board, “It was an amazing year. We were 26-3 overall, which is a school record for Johnstown. This team actually played 16 winter season games and went 16-0. So, our '23 team was 42-3 overall, which is incredible.”

The board of education also received comments from members of LifeWise Academy, who would like to begin character education lessons during the school day, but offsite at other locations.

Superintendent Dr. Philip Wagner also reviewed the status of the present district office space, located in a former residential structure fronting South Main Street and increasingly succumbing to age and structural failure.

Dr. Wagner said of the current office space, “Obviously, it’s a house. It’s not meant to serve a commercial purpose, and the building is not holding up well.”

He noted floors are sagging, and the office suffered a serious water service failure that has stretched into several days without service, among other issues.

Taking advantage of a limited window of available space, plans call for district administrative staff to temporarily relocate into three classroom spaces within the Intermediate School. The district has also procured some key pieces of office equipment for the temporary spaces at no cost to the district.



Nothing significant or permanent will be done within the rooms, so they can immediately be converted back to classroom space when needed.

“It wouldn’t take a lot to set us up there,” Dr. Wagner told the board, “because our operations are primarily digital.”

Eventually, Dr. Wagner said, the present space within the former residential structure will be razed and a board office needs to be incorporated into district master planning. Eventually, the existing board office could become the site of new district offices or other school facilities.

Because of the current conditions within the existing district headquarters, the move of personnel to the Intermediate spaces will begin as soon as possible.

Board President Tim Swauger described the move as “a good short-term solution” but not a long-term option because of anticipated district enrollment growth.