

JOHNSTOWN-MONROE LOCAL SCHOOLS

AUGUST 14, 2023 / 5 PM / JMS MEDIA CENTER

BOE accepts Meta sponsorship; discusses potential refreshing of “Johnnie”

The Johnstown-Monroe Board of Education officially accepted a \$300,000 STEAM sponsorship from the Meta New Albany Data Center at its August 14, 2023, Regular Board Meeting.



Designer Derek Yoder discusses refreshed “Johnnie” & branding concepts.

The following day, board members attended the district’s annual **“Convocation” gathering** that marks the beginning of each new school year. That gathering was immediately followed by an **official ribbon cutting and dedication** of the Meta funded innovation center at Johnstown Elementary School.

Also, the board reviewed a potential refreshed Johnnie and other branding items (school logos, various mascot versions, etc.) that are still being refined for board

consideration. “Everything is conceptual,” Dr. Wagner stressed, “but it is progressing.”

The goal is to ultimately trademark the refreshed Johnnie, logos and other school district branding images to maintain visual consistency and inhibit unauthorized uses.

Dr. Wagner also stressed that the current Johnnie will be retained for use as a “Classic Johnnie.”

Dr. Wagner also provided the board with a high-level review of “2022-23 District Objectives.”

These included accomplishments met in the targeted areas of visioning, communication, policies and governance, instruction, and resources, among others.

Having recently accomplished the adoption of a K-12 math program, the district will focus on adopting a K-12 Science program by late winter or early spring 2024, with a new English curriculum to follow.

In other business, Board President Tim Swauger discussed challenges posed by students grades six through 12 who are vaping.

“Vaping is a very large issue we are experiencing,” he said. “This is an issue that the school board and the administration are going to take on this year. We are going to get a handle on this and try to figure out what is causing it...really trying to get at the source of this problem. This is an issue that is very big.”

Also, Dr. Wagner updated the board regarding the decision by some Licking County League school districts to raise ticket prices for athletic events. Johnstown-Monroe will maintain existing price structures this school year, while continuing to study the issue, Dr. Wagner said. He thanked Director of Operations Derick Busenburg and Athletic Director Robbie Brickner for their assistance regarding the ticket pricing issue.

In conclusion, Dr. Wagner informed the board that work continues to shape a formalized development compensation agreement between the district and the City of Johnstown. "We want to be prepared when a business comes into Johnstown with a compensation agreement. It's a very cooperative relationship, but also the matter is very intricate and detailed."

The superintendent expressed his hope such an agreement might be conceptually agreed upon before the end of September. He also discussed the possibility of a joint meeting between the City of Johnstown and the board of education, possibly in October.