

Summer  
2018



Lexington Local Schools

www.lexington.k12.oh.us

# MINUTEMAN Report

*Special  
Report:*

## Bond Issue For New Facilities Will Be on November Ballot

### Community Meetings, Surveys, Decisions

As a result of a number of planning and finance committee meetings since last September with members of the community and school staff, several community meetings, several meetings with the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission (OFCC) officials, having surveyed the community regarding a facilities project and hearing the presentation and recommendation of the Finance Committee, the Lexington Board of Education has voted unanimously to place a new facilities bond issue on the November 6, 2018 election ballot.

Lexington community member Brian White, representing the Finance Committee shared, "There are 36 members of the Finance Committee and our mission was to look at the various funding and tax options to cover the costs of the two new buildings indicated by the State facilities planning commission (OFCC) and to come to the

The new buildings will include 21st century learning environments and up-to-date security measures to help prepare our students for the world they will enter after graduation from high school.

Board meeting to make the Committee's recommendation regarding funding the project," White said.

He said key factors studied by the Finance Committee were community income and home values, age of the residents, rental property values, educational attainment within the community, poverty levels, enrollment levels within the school district, agriculture and farming tax levels and the school district's financial condition.

### The Project

The facilities project being presented to the voters in November is a 37 year

property tax bond issue.

This facilities project includes replacing the five current buildings with two new buildings. The PreK-6 building will have separate wings for PreK-3 and 4-6. The 7-12 building will have separate wings for 7-8 and 9-12. Both buildings will be located on land currently owned by the Board of Education. The PreK-6 building will be located behind Central Elementary. The 7-12 building will be located directly behind the current high school. The baseball, softball and soccer fields will be relocated to the land directly south of where the fields are now located.

### State to Pick Up Nearly Half the Tab

Right now the OFCC will provide 48% of the cost of the two new facilities and the school district's local share of the cost is 52%.

The importance of our bond issue being

See **...New Facilities**, page 2

### Inside this Issue:

- 3 Lexington High School Graduation 2018
- 3 Lexington Hires School Resource Officer
- 4 Y Kids Club Program Offered to Lexington
- 5 Academic Teams Take High Honors
- 5 Elementary Students Do Well on State Tests
- 6 Lexington Calendar for 2018-19
- 6 Are You Registered to Vote?
- 7 Digital Academy has Successful Year
- 7 Award Winning Western Educator Team



Lexington High School

# Special Report: ...New Facilities

Continued from page 1



Lexington Junior High School



Central Elementary School



Eastern Elementary School



Western Elementary School

on the November 2018 ballot is because per the OFCC regulations, our school district cannot receive the state's share of the construction money until the second half of the calendar year after the local voters have approved the local share of the money. This means, if our facilities bond issue is approved in November 2018, we are not eligible to receive the state's 48% of the money until the second half of calendar year 2019 (sometime between July and December 2019). The OFCC recommends "getting in line" for the state share of the money as soon as possible.

## Important Considerations

- It is important to consider that the design process for the buildings from discussions with staff and community members to having blueprints ready for the construction bidding process takes approximately 9 to 12 months. Therefore, if all goes perfectly between November 2018 and January 2020, the soonest our district could begin construction is spring 2020.
- Also important to know is per OFCC requirements, a school district's local share of the cost percentage is re-evaluated every September. Our current local share percentage is 52%. That figure will be re-evaluated in September 2018. Our percentage could stay the same, go up or go down.

- And, if our facilities bond issue is approved in November 2018 and we do not receive our state share of the construction money until sometime after September 2019, our local percentage share will be re-evaluated a second time in September 2019.
- Another factor to consider is what the increase there might be in construction costs between now and spring of 2020.
- The other factor to understand is the Board of Education is required to establish the local share dollar amount of the project and submit that figure to the Board of Elections by early August 2018.

## Stay Tuned For Specific Details

Based on the possibility of an increase in construction costs between now and 2020 and the possibility that our local share percentage of the cost could increase in that time span, the OFCC highly recommends including in the cost of the project a 5% increase in construction costs and a 5% increase in the local share percentage of the cost.

So, the figures you will be seeing in coming months regarding the cost of the new facilities and the cost to us as homeowners/property owners per month/year will include those two contingency cost increase figures.

The good news to all is, if our facilities bond issue is approved in November

2018, the auditor will not begin collecting the new taxes until sometime in the second half of 2019 when the school district receives the state share of the money. And, if the construction cost increase is less than 5% or our local share percentage of the cost stays the same or increases less than 5%, our district can request that the auditor only calculate tax increases on the amount of money actually needed for the project. That decision will need to be made by the second half of calendar year 2019 when the district receives its state share of the money.

We will be sharing specific details regarding the cost of the project that will be on the November 2018 ballot (which will include the contingency funds for the possible increase in construction cost and local share percentage) when the Board of Education passes the final required resolution to approve the ballot issue and submits that paper-work to the Board of Elections in early August.

## Exciting Possibilities

We are excited about the possibilities to provide Lexington children, for generations to come, 21st century learning environments, the most up to date safety/security measures, the ability to utilize modern technology, science labs and be as well prepared as possible for the world they will enter after graduation from high school.



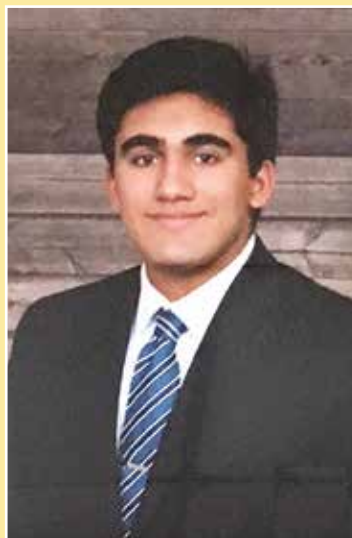


## Class of 2018 Leaves Prepared for What's Next

*Congratulations to the Lexington High School class of 2018! The 120th annual Lexington High School Commencement Ceremony celebrated the graduation of 201 students, many of whom are headed off to college or the military. Of the 201 graduates, 84% are headed to a 2 or 4-year college or university or will be enlisting in a branch of the military. Approximately 74% of the class is headed to college, with several of those students already receiving college credit. The class of 2018 collected a total of 1,035 credits while in high school, and numerous graduates have earned scholarships at their respective schools of choice. This year's graduates totaled a four-year estimate of \$4,837,423 in scholarship dollars! Congratulations and good luck to the class of 2018!*

## Our National Merit Scholarship Finalist

*2018 graduate, Ajit V. has been named a 2018 National Merit Scholarship Finalist. Approximately 1.5 million high school seniors enter the National Merit Scholarship program by taking the SAT/NMSQ examination. Of the 1.5 million students, 15,000 students, less than one percent of the high school seniors in the nation, qualify as National Merit Semifinalists. From the 15,000 semifinalists, 7,500 students are selected as National Merit Scholarship Finalists. Congratulations Ajit!*



## New SRO Helps Promote Safe Environment, Student Success in Lexington Schools



*Officer Mike Davis*

**"Lexington Schools...is excited to partner with (Officer Davis) as part of its on-going efforts to improve the safety and security of its schools..."**

*- Mike Ziegelhofer Superintendent*

A new face will be walking the halls and patrolling the parking lots and playgrounds of the five Lexington school buildings in the fall. Officer Mike Davis of the Lexington Police Department was hired to be the School Resource Officer for the district beginning in August. Officer Davis is a graduate of Lexington High School, a twelve year veteran of the Lexington Police Department, and also serves as a field training officer for new recruits. He has been married for 17 years and he and his wife have a five-year-old daughter. Officer Davis is very eager to begin his new role with the department as the SRO for Lexington Local Schools. In regards to his new role,

Officer Davis stated that he sees "the implementation of a school resource officer is a huge opportunity to further serve the community, as well as the faculty and students of our schools. We have the opportunity to bring the community, police, and educators together with the common goals of maintaining a high standard of education, promoting a safe environment free of violence and bullying, and open the doors of the police department to the people we serve."

Superintendent Mike Ziegelhofer shares Officer Davis' sentiments and stated, "Lexington Local Schools welcomes Officer Davis to the district and is excited to partner with him as part of its on-going efforts to improve the safety and security of its schools, and to ensure that students can work, learn, and grow in an atmosphere that promotes positivity, safety, and student success and wellness."

## Lex Students Participate in YMCA Youth and Government Program

This past April, Lexington High School students participated in the Ohio YMCA Youth & Government Program at the Ohio Statehouse. The Ohio YMCA's Youth & Government Program enhances the development of the American democratic process for young people through participatory training in the theory and practice of the Ohio state government. Eight Lexington High School students, pictured below, along with History teachers Mr. Kathrein, and Mrs. Rice, learned about the legislative process, how to write and research a bill, and how to participate in elections. They joined over 1,000 students across Ohio serving as delegates, and debating bills on the floor of the legislature.



## Y Kids Club Offers Before and After School Program for 2018-2019 School Year



Beginning the 2018-2019 school year, the Mansfield Area Y will be serving Lexington families with a quality, licensed before and after school program in each elementary school. The Y has been serving neighboring community families with before and after school care for over 35 years and is excited to announce the start of the Y Kids Club.

The Y's Kids Club program provides youth with a safe place to go before and after the bell. More importantly, it helps youth realize who they are and what they can achieve. The Y Kids Club program supports academic achievement, fosters health and wellness, and instills positive social-emotional skills through literacy and reading, nutrition education, character development and exercise. This new program will be offered before school at 6:00 a.m., and after school until 6:00 p.m. Students will receive breakfast, a healthy snack, homework assistance, a positive, values-based program, a free YMCA youth membership, but most importantly, a safe, fun, caring environment. Y Kids Club will also be available for 2-hour delays, snow days, school breaks, and summer enrichment.

The Y's President/CEO, Cristen Gilbert says, "We look forward to serving Lexington families. Meeting the needs of children, strengthening families, and building strong communities have always been, and remain, central to the YMCA's mission."

To learn more about this program, details on pricing, or to register a student contact Velma Bond, Child Care Director at 419.522.3511 x244 or [vbond@mansfieldy.org](mailto:vbond@mansfieldy.org).

- **Y Kids Club will be held at Central, Western, and Eastern Elementary**
- **A FREE YMCA membership is offered to enrolled students**
- **Full-day care on snow days and school holiday breaks, care provided on 2-hour delays**
- **Summer enrichment**
- **Families receive a discounted Y membership**
- **Financial assistance for families who qualify**
- **Lexington faculty and staff will receive a discount for children enrolled**

The Y Kids Club program supports academic achievement, fosters health and wellness, and instills positive social-emotional skills through literacy and reading, nutrition education, character development and exercise.



## 6th Grade Crowned National Champs as Academic Challenge Teams Compete in Washington D.C.

The 4th-grade Academic Challenge team from Central Elementary and the 6th grade Academic Challenge team from Eastern Elementary competed in May at a national championship tournament in Washington D.C. It was a great experience for both teams. The 4th-grade team pictured below, coached by Edwina Brownell, performed well and made Lexington proud.



*Pictured left to right: Front row – Iris P., Jessie H., Back row – Ari C., Addie S., Xander J., and Ben W.*

The 6th grade team, coached by Jen Berry finished 6-2, and originally finished as the National Runner-up. However, following a disqualification of another team, the 6th grade team ended up 7-1 and the National Champions in D.C.! Congratulations to both teams, and to Jen Berry and her 6th grade Academic Challenge team for this incredible accomplishment!



*Pictured Left to Right: Ava G., Noah E., Jacob H., Sophie R., Wyatt M., Grant M., and Coach Jen Berry*

## Lexington Elementary Students Score High Marks on State Tests

For the sixth consecutive year since the state's implementation of the Third Grade Reading Guarantee in 2012, all Lexington third graders met or exceeded the Third Grade Reading Guarantee requirements. Following the first round of Ohio's English Language Arts test in October, 95% of third-grade students met the requirements. In April and May, elementary students took state tests in English Language Arts, Mathematics and Science. All third-grade students met the Third Grade Reading Guarantee

**A+**

Congratulations to students and staff for continued excellence, growth and achievement in the classroom...

requirements following the spring administration of the Ohio English Language Arts (ELA) test. There were 146 third graders tested, and 84% of those students scored *Proficient or above* on the ELA test.

However, success was not limited to third graders, or to the ELA tests. Third graders scored high marks on the spring Mathematics test as well, with 84% being *Proficient or above*. Fourth-grade students scored high marks on both ELA and Mathematics, with 87% of students scoring *Proficient or above* in ELA, and 89% in Mathematics. The fifth and sixth graders also accomplished high marks on the Mathematics test with both grade levels scoring 88% *Proficient or above*. The fifth-grade students, in addition to ELA and Mathematics, took the Ohio Science test and 88% were *Proficient or above*.

Congratulations to students and staff for continued excellence, growth and achievement in the classroom, as is reflected in this year's state test scores.

**Lex Staff, Families and Community... a winning combination that influences young lives that will change the world.**

# Lexington Local Schools - 2018-2019 Calendar

Date	Event	Days in Session
Thurs. Aug. 16, 2018	New Teacher Orientation	
Fri. Aug. 17	All Staff Day	
Mon. Aug. 20	First Day of School	
Mon. Sept. 3	<b>NO SCHOOL</b> – Labor Day	
Tues. Sept. 25	Staff Curriculum Meetings - 1 hr. early release	
Fri. Sept. 28	<b>End of First Six Week Grading Period, H.S. &amp; J.H.</b>	29
Thurs. Oct. 11	7-12 Parent/Teacher Conferences 4:30-7:30 p.m.	
Thurs. Oct. 18	7-12 Parent/Teacher Conferences 4:30-7:30 p.m.	
Fri. Oct. 19	<b>End of First Nine Week Grading Period, K-6 (44 days)</b>	
Wed. Oct. 31	Staff Curriculum Meetings - 1 hr. early release	
Thurs. Nov. 1	K-6 Parent/Teacher Conferences, 4:30-7:30 p.m.	
Thurs. Nov. 8	K-6 Parent/Teacher Conferences, 4:30-7:30 p.m.	
Fri. Nov. 9	<b>End of Second Six Week Grading Period, H.S. &amp; J.H.</b>	30
Wed. Nov. 21 – Fri. Nov 23	<b>NO SCHOOL</b> - Thanksgiving Break	
Thurs. Nov. 29	Staff Curriculum Meetings – 1 hr. early release	
Thurs. Dec. 20	<b>End of Third Six Week Grading Period, H.S. &amp; Jr. High</b>	26
	<b>End of Second Nine Week Grading Period, K-6 (41 days)</b>	85
	<b>End of 1st Semester</b>	
Fri. Dec. 21 thru Tues., Jan. 1, 2019	<b>NO SCHOOL</b> – Winter Break	
Wed. Jan. 2, 2019	Classes resume	
Mon. Jan. 21	<b>NO SCHOOL</b> – Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday	
Tues. Jan. 29	Staff Curriculum Meetings – 1 hr. early release	
Fri. Feb. 15	<b>End of Fourth Six Week Grading Period, H.S. &amp; J.H.</b>	32
Mon. Feb. 18	<b>NO SCHOOL</b> – Presidents' Day	
Thurs. Feb. 21	K-6 Parent/Teacher Conferences, 4:30-7:30 p.m.	
Wed. Feb. 27	Staff Curriculum Meetings – 1 hr. early release	
Thurs. Feb. 28	K-6 Parent/Teacher Conferences, 4:30-7:30 p.m.	
Thurs. Mar. 7	7-12 Parent/Teacher Conferences 4:30-7:30 p.m.	
Fri. Mar. 8	<b>End of Third Nine Week Grading Period, K-6 (46 days)</b>	
Thurs. Mar. 14	7-12 Parent/Teacher Conferences 4:30-7:30 p.m.	
Tues. Mar. 19	Staff Curriculum Meetings – 1 hr. early release	
Mon. Mar. 25 – Fri. Mar. 29	<b>NO SCHOOL</b> – Spring Break	
Mon. Apr. 1	Classes resume	
Tues. Apr. 9	<b>End of Fifth Six Week Grading Period, H.S. &amp; J.H.</b>	31
Fri. Apr. 19	<b>NO SCHOOL</b> – Good Friday	
Mon. Apr. 22	<b>NO SCHOOL</b>	
Tues. Apr. 23	Classes resume	
Tues. Apr. 30	Staff Curriculum Meetings - 1 hr. early release	
Thurs. May 23	<b>Last Day of School</b>	
	<b>End of Sixth Six Week Grading Period, H.S. &amp; Jr. High</b>	30
	<b>End of Fourth Nine Week Grading Period, K-6 (47 days)</b>	
Fri. May 24	Teacher Work Day	
	Total Second Semester	93
	<b>Yearly Total</b>	178
Sun. May 26	Graduation – 2:00 p.m.	

## 7-12 Grading Periods

First Six Weeks – Aug. 20-Sept. 28	(29 days)
Second Six Weeks- Oct. 1-Nov. 9	(30 days)
Third Six Weeks – Nov. 12-Dec. 20	(26 days)
Fourth Six Weeks – Jan. 2, 2019-Feb 15	(32 days)
Fifth Six Weeks – Feb. 19-Apr. 9	(31 days)
Sixth Six weeks – Apr. 10-May 23	(30 days)
	178 days

## K-6 Grading Periods

First Nine Weeks – Aug. 20-Oct. 19	(44 days)
Second Nine Weeks – Oct. 22-Dec. 20	(41 days)
Third Nine Weeks - Jan. 2, 2019-Mar. 8	(46 days)
Fourth Nine Weeks – Mar. 11-May 23	(47 days)
	178 days

## 7-12 Conference Dates (4:30 – 7:30 p.m.)

October 11 & 18, 2018  
March 7 & 14, 2019

## K-6 Conference Dates (4:30 – 7:30 p.m.)

November 1 & 8, 2018  
February 21 & 28, 2019

After five (5) calamity (snow) days, make-up dates will be February 18, May 24, 28, 29,..... Board Approved 3-21-18

# Make Sure You're Registered to Vote!

**Are you registered to vote in the upcoming November 6th general election?** If you have not voted in a few years, you may need to see if you are still registered. First time voters and anyone else who needs to register must do so by October 9th, thirty days prior to the election.

**How do you register to vote?** Simply visit your local county's Board of Elections website to find a registration form you can download, print, and mail to your local elections board office. You may also visit your Board of Elections Office, Village Hall, or Bureau of Motor Vehicles Office to obtain a registration form. Or, simply go to <https://olvr.sos.state.oh.us/> to register to vote or change your address.

**Information** about voter registration, polling places, and absentee voting is also available on your local county Board of Elections website, or you can call your county office. For Richland County residents, the Board of Elections number is 419-774-5530, and for Morrow County residents it is 419-946-4026.

Make sure you are registered to vote, be informed, and cast your ballot to ensure your voice is heard in November!

# Digital Academy Finishes Successful School Year

The Lexington Digital Academy had a very successful 2017-18 school year with continued growth in enrollment. By the end of the year, there were 105 students in grades K-12 who earned grades in full digital, blended, or credit recovery courses. In addition, 29 members of the class of 2018 utilized digital coursework to assist in earning their high school diploma.

As the educational needs of our students and families evolve, the Lexington Digital Academy will continue to provide unique learning opportunities, support student academic growth, and prepare students for whatever comes next.

Lexington Digital Academy also provided the opportunity for 78 students in grades 7-12 to recover credit or accelerate credit through digital courses as part of our Summer School. This program began May 22nd and runs for nine (9) weeks until July 20th. Students who complete their courses will have their grade applied to the 2017-18 school year or the upcoming school year for accelerated courses.

As the educational needs of our students and families evolve, the Lexington Digital Academy will continue to provide unique learning opportunities, support student academic growth, and prepare students for whatever comes next.

Student digital pathways available for the 2018-19 school year are:

- **Full Digital** Students carry a completely digital class load and work on coursework primarily from home. About 20% of our students select this option.
- **Blended** Learning occurs online and as part of a “brick and mortar” school. This pathway often allows students to have some control over time, place, path or pace of learning. In many blended learning situations, students spend some of their face-to-face time with the teacher in a whole class setting, some face-to-face time with a teacher as part of a small group, and some of their time learning independently. About 65% of our students select this popular pathway.
- **Credit Recovery** Students who are under-credited and are in danger of falling behind grade-level or not graduating. These students are primarily “brick and mortar” students and are enrolled in the Academy if they have a study hall or sufficient free time in their schedule. Over the past three years over 30 LHS seniors have been able to graduate on time utilizing this pathway.

If you are interested in receiving more information about Lexington Digital Academy please contact Tucker Bacquet at 419-884-1111 ext. 1920 or bacquet.tucker@lexington.k12.oh.us

# Western Educator Team Wins Awards

Congratulations to Jill Williams, Chris Kmetz, Ashley Smith, Connie Pritchard and Stephanie Coffman for being awarded the Franklin B. Walter Outstanding Educator Team Award for 2018 at this year’s State Support Team Region 7 Outstanding Achievement Awards banquet on May 8th. The award was given to honor educators who have made impactful and outstanding contributions by improving access to and progress in the general curriculum for students with disabilities.

The ladies were also selected as the educator representative for Region 7, and were invited to attend the state Horn Walter Outstanding Achievement in Special Education Awards luncheon on June 12th in Columbus.

Congratulations, and thank you, for being an excellent team of educators that continue to make a difference for the kids you serve!



*Top photo: Western team at the SST7 Awards*

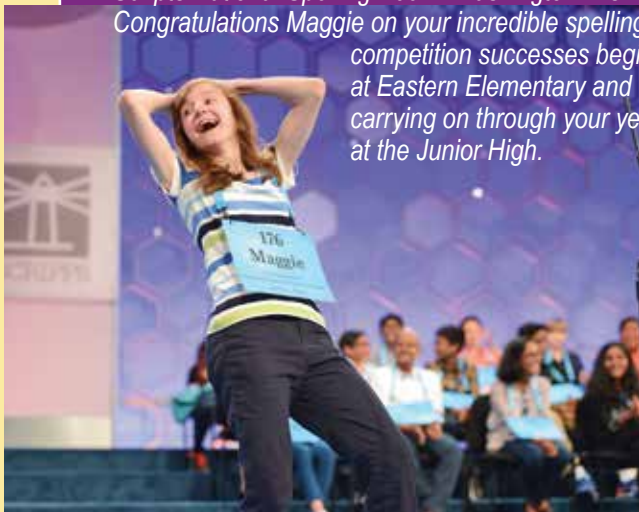
*Bottom photo, left to right: Connie Pritchard, Stephanie Coffman, Jill Williams, Ashley Smith and Chris Kmetz.*





## Lexington 8th Grader Competes in National Spelling Bee

*For the second consecutive year, Lexington 8th grader, Maggie S. qualified and competed in the Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington D.C. Congratulations Maggie on your incredible spelling bee competition successes beginning at Eastern Elementary and carrying on through your years at the Junior High.*



## Eastern Elementary Hosts Math Camp

*Our district, in partnership with OSU-Mansfield, welcomed 170 students in grades K-6 to a week-long math camp this summer at Eastern Elementary.*

*OSU professors and Lexington teachers developed lessons, activities, and games that were led by camp teachers which strengthened the students' mathematical thinking, reasoning, and problem-solving skills.*

*Throughout the week, students in all grades experimented, played, practiced, and communicated math concepts and skills through engaging lessons all in an effort to deepen their understanding of math and develop them as student mathematicians.*