

# Licking Heights Local School District

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## BOARD OFFICERS

Nicole Roth, President  
Richard Wand, Vice President

## BOARD MEMBERS

Brian Bagley  
Tracy Russ

## Licking Heights Local School District Press Release

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**For Immediate Release:** December 12, 2016

## LICKING HEIGHTS BOARD OF EDUCATION APPOINTS PAUL JOHNSON AS ITS NEW BOARD MEMBER



PATASKALA – The Licking Heights Local School District Board of Education is back to five members.

After the recent resignation by longtime board member Matthew Satterwhite, due to a job promotion moving him out of the district, the Board of Education has named Paul Johnson to fill his now-vacant seat on the board.

Mr. Johnson is expected to be officially sworn in to office during the upcoming school board meeting on Tuesday, December 20, 2016.

Though Mr. Satterwhite will be missed by the entire Licking Heights community, the remaining board members are eager to welcome a new member, who will bring fresh ideas and his own unique perspective to the board.

"Mr. Satterwhite will be sorely missed," stated school board president Nicole Roth. "During his nine years on the board, Mr. Satterwhite dedicated himself to the improvement of the district. His dedication to student success is admirable," she said. "We wish Mr. Satterwhite success in his new position."

Mrs. Roth went on to state, "We, as a board, needed to find a replacement who will help further the vision of this district. Mr. Paul Johnson will bring a fresh perspective to the board. His enthusiasm and dedication to the community will be a welcome addition."

School board vice president Richard Wand shares in Mrs. Roth's sentiments. "Mr. Johnson is an active member of the community, volunteering in numerous ways both within and outside the school district."

Mr. Wand continued, “Mr. Johnson has a child in the elementary schools, which provides representation currently absent from the board as current board member's children are middle school, high school or Licking Heights graduates. We look forward to Mr. Johnson hitting the ground running and filling the final year on Mr. Satterwhite's term as a board member.”

Mr. Johnson shared that he is looking forward to the opportunity to join the board. As a seventeen year resident of the community, he views this area, and especially Licking Heights, as his forever home. “Over the years, Kathryn (wife) and I have developed deep friendships with neighbors we view as family,” Mr. Johnson said. “We have been thrilled with what the schools have to offer the kids. We have found that the teachers, administrators and staff are 100% dedicated to the students in the district.”

Mr. Johnson’s goal as a new school board member is to assist the district in its efforts in providing a superior educational experience for its students. “As an Ohio State (Bachelors) and Ashland University (Masters of Business Administration) graduate, I am a firm believer in the benefits of a good education,” Mr. Johnson stated. “My hope is that I can be part of a team, with the community’s support, that helps all students graduate with firm plans in going into the work force, trade school or college.”

The remaining school board members Brian Bagley and Tracy Russ are also eager to welcome Mr. Johnson to the board. “Paul will be a fantastic addition to the team,” Mr. Bagley said. “He will complement the strengths of the rest of the board and allow us to continue moving the district forward.”

“I believe Paul will make a great addition to our school board and will make a positive impact in our district,” Mrs. Russ added. “He has a real passion to bring our community together and to make this a destination district.”

Regarding the process of selecting the newest school board member, superintendent Philip Wagner stated, “The candidate pool was very deep with nine initial applicants. One withdrew and the board took quite a bit of time interviewing the remaining eight candidates. The board also deliberated over the matter for some time. This is a good opportunity for the district as some of the candidates who were not selected at this time will continue to support the school district in their respective roles, as well as, some candidates may be able to engage the district in new ways, while also supporting the larger community.” Furthermore, “I look forward to working with Mr. Johnson. I have known him as an enthusiastic parent and community volunteer and soon I will be able to witness that enthusiasm as a member of the board.”

Moving forward, the school board along with Dr. Wagner encourage the community to attend the December 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016 School Board Meeting. The December 20<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting will be held at Licking Heights High School and is scheduled to begin at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium.