

LAINGSBURG COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Approved MINUTES

Regular Board Meeting

November 19, 2025

Middle School Media Center

The regular meeting was called to order by President Michels at 7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mary Angst, Mark Burley, Renee Gutzman, Andy Hagerty,
Jason Michels, Michael Rourke, Maggie Sayles

MEMBERS EXCUSED:

OTHERS PRESENT: Superintendent Matt Shastal, Julie Nosek, Krissy Pratt, Brandon
Woodworth, Tara Hengesbach, Sheila Freeman, Kerri DeVault

Motion by Sayles to table the minutes from the October 21, 2025, Regular board meeting. Seconded by Rourke. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Hagerty to approve the October 2025 Treasurer's Report. Seconded by Ragsdale. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Burley to approve the October 2025 Warrants:

1. October Accounts Payable - \$ 244,881.41
2. October EFT/ACH/Transfer(s) - \$ 86,360.41
3. October Payroll - \$1,303,355.53
4. October Building & Site - \$ 0

Seconded by Rourke. Motion carried unanimously.

Delegations and Visitors:

Three middle school 8th-grade students gave a presentation about the Washington DC Trip.

Katie Robinson and Katie Nethaway addressed their concerns with student behavior.

Non-Staff Communications and Reports: None

From Superintendent and Staff

- Superintendent Shastal updated the Board on the 2025-26 budget. In June, the budget was at a \$958,967 deficit; tonight, the proposed amended budget deficit is \$956,882. \$443,692 of this deficit is from athletics. He also stated that the amount of revenue received has been decreasing over the last three years. This year also includes an increase in special education expenses by \$265,027.

- Superintendent Shastal spoke about the High School Advantage Agreement with LCC.

- Superintendent Shastal gave a Legislative update.

- Superintendent Shastal gave a Strategic Goal Planning Update: The May 2026 proposal for bond and suggested bringing in Tower Pinkster and Christman in for the December meeting with a mock-up of the elementary.

- Kerri DeVault, ECEC assistant Principal: Both the preschool and kindergarten students got to celebrate Halloween and walk in parades. The kindergarteners had a field trip where they walked around town and made stops at local businesses. Mrs. Mills' class led the pledge at the Veterans Day breakfast. The whole building got to have a block party for the good behavior.

- Sheila Freeman, Elementary Principal: The 5th-graders were able to sing a couple of songs at the Veterans Day breakfast. Mr. Meyer and Mrs. Hutchison's classes went to the Capitol for the Big History Lesson. They have brought back popcorn Fridays. They are getting ready for the December giving tree.

- Tara Hengesbach, Middle School Principal: The Washington DC trip was a huge success, and she has gotten great feedback supporting the trip. They were able to celebrate students who received all A's. The student council was able to serve the food at the Veterans Day Celebration. They are doing their annual collection for the food bank for Thanksgiving. This Friday, they are having a school dance.

- Brandon Woodworth, High School Principal: Veterans Day Breakfast was amazing again this year. He really enjoyed seeing the students from Mr. Chambers' modern Military class directly involved with the veterans. He also likes to see all the students line the hallway on the send-off after the event. Friday, they will have the mentor day with around 40 speakers from a variety of professions. The band concert is on December 15th. Frozen was a huge success, and the students and Mrs. Chamberlin did an amazing job. Last night, they inducted 23 students into NHS. They will also have a blood drive on November 25th.

Board Member Reports

-Veterans Day recap: Great job from everyone involved! The jazz band was phenomenal, and watching the kids sing was very moving.

- Superintendent Evaluation is next month

Unfinished Business - None

New Business

The board acknowledged the retirement of Melissa Russell, Elementary Teacher, and the resignations of Emily Tyner, Varsity Boys Soccer Coach, and Thalia McNeal, Elementary Teacher.

Proposal #22

Motion by Burley to accept the recommendation to hire Erin Brawner, School Social Worker.

Seconded by Sayles. Motion carried unanimously

Proposal #23

Motion by Ragsdale to accept the recommendation to hire Ellie Birchmeier, Paraprofessional.

Seconded by Gutzman. Motion carried unanimously

Proposal #24

Motion by Burley to accept the recommendation to hire Hannah Beauregard, Elementary Teacher, Effective November 20, 2025. Seconded by Rourke. Motion carried unanimously

Proposal #25

Motion by Sayles to approve PowerSchool Litigation Resolution as presented. Seconded by Ragsdale. Motion carried unanimously

Motion by Sayles to go into executive session at 8:10 pm. Seconded by Rourke. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Rourke to move back into open session at 8:17 p.m. Seconded by Ragsdale. Motion carried unanimously.

Proposal #26

Motion by Ragsdale to adopt the 31aa Funding, subject to conditions provided in MCL 388.1631aa, but only to the minimal extent legally required to obtain such funding and under the conditions described in this resolution. Seconded by Burley. Motion carried unanimously.

Proposal #27

Motion by Sayles to approve the 2025-26 Proposed Budget Amendments:

General Fund

Total Revenue:	\$14,905,768
Total Expenditures:	<u>\$15,862,650</u>
Total Fund Equity to Balance:	\$ (956,882)

Food Service

Total Revenue:	\$ 772,354
Total Expenditures:	<u>\$ 772,354</u>
Total Fund Equity to Balance	\$ 0

Seconded by Rourke. Motion carried unanimously

Future Business

Meeting Dates – Regular Board Meeting – December 17, 2025, at 6:30

Preview of Topics for Future Agendas:

2025-26 Budget

Board Policy Review

Motion by Sayles to adjourn at 8:23 pm.

Seconded by Ragsdale. Motion carried unanimously.

Renee Gutzman, Board Secretary