

LAINGSBURG COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Approved MINUTES

Regular Board Meeting
Middle School Media Center

April 15, 2026

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

Motion by Rourke to nominate Sayles as acting secretary. Seconded by Ragsdale. Motion carried unanimously.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Shane Brink, Jason Michels, Christian Ragsdale, Michael Rourke, Maggie Sayles, Renee Gutzman (7:50)

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Mark Burley

OTHERS PRESENT: Superintendent Matt Shastal, Krissy Pratt, Brandon Woodworth, Tara Hengesbach, Sheila Freeman

Motion by Sayles to approve the minutes from the March 18, 2026, regular board meeting. Seconded by Rourke. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Rourke to approve the March 2026 Treasurer's Report. Seconded by Brink. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Rourke to approve the March 2026 Warrants:

March Accounts Payable –	\$260,517.54
March EFT/ACH Transfer(s) -	\$ 64,331.39
March Payroll -	\$839,104.71
March Building & Site -	\$ 0.00

Seconded by Ragsdale. Motion carried unanimously.

From Delegations or Visitors:

Robotics Presentation led by Melissa Kramer. Several students from the elementary school up to the high school spoke about their experience with the program. Enrollment numbers are 46 students in K-3, 19 students in 4th/5th grade, 17 students in 6th-8th grade, and 24 students in high school. Achievements this year are:

For the middle school:

Team 23391 was a finalist at the Capital Area FTC League State Qualifying Tournament, and earned the Inspire Award and advanced to the State Championship held in Muskegon Dec. 12-13, 2025. The team was runner up for the Think Award at the State Championship.

Team 31038 earned the Design Award and advanced to the State Championship held in Muskegon Dec. 12-13, 2025

For the high school:

Team 7166 won their Mt. Pleasant District Event (March 7-8), and they also won the Impact Award at that event, automatically guaranteeing their advancement to the State Championship. The team was a finalist at the Mason District Event (March 28-29), and they earned the Industrial Design Award at the Mason event as well as the State Championship. The team won their division (Hemlock Semiconductor) and advanced to the finals bracket, where they came in 3rd place in the state. Also at the State Championship, the team earned the Industrial Design Award. The team has qualified for the World Championship in Houston, Texas, from April 29 to May 2.

From Non-Staff Communications and Reports:

The board was invited to the Shiawassee Community Foundation Scholarship Awards Night on April 26th at 5 pm at the Durand Area Schools Performing Arts Center.

The board was invited to attend a public hearing regarding zoning at the Laingsburg City Hall on April 20th at 7 pm.

From Superintendent Shastal:

2025-26 Budget Update: Quick recap: July 1st budget was a deficit of \$958,967, on November 19th, a deficit of \$956,882, and in February, a deficit of \$845,120. The big contributors are receiving a late budget, declining enrollment, and the loss of 31aa due to the language. Will give another update in May and present the budget in June.

2026-27 Budget Update: No changes since the March meeting. The projected enrollment is 1074, while the budgeted amount is 1089. New kindergarten numbers are 85, and we were at 66 last year, with 73 current seniors.

Legislative Update: Last year at this time, there were 2 bills signed into law, and they have signed 7 as of today.

District Staffing Update: Depends on State Aid and enrollment numbers for next year.

Strategic Goal Planning Update: The ECEC parking lot and the May sinking fund is complete. He is meeting with Tower Pinkster on Wednesday to discuss the elementary school plan and present to the board in May. The Sports Boosters is fundraising to update the press box, sound system, and renovate the field for football.

Building Reports:

ECEC & Elementary School – Sheila Freeman: At the ECEC, the preschoolers took a trip to Impressions 5, and the kindergarteners went to see the Pout Pout Fish movie. They had kindergarten round-up with a bus tour, where they were able to ride the bus to the other buildings. At the LES, they started the M-Step testing. They have the book fair going on, and they will have the mileage /STEM night in a week or so. The robotics team had a presentation, and every grade has or will take their spring field trips. They will also have the staff perform the Masked Singer again this year, and the 5th grade will have their annual picnic at the park.

Middle School - Tara Hengesbach: The 7th graders took a field trip to the Sloan Museum (Science and History). They also attended the children's theatre, which is located in Flint Whiting Auditorium they saw a Midsummers Night's Dream. Spring testing is underway throughout this month and into May. The 8th grade will have Reality Store on May 1st, which is like the game of Life simulation. The 6th grade is taking a trip to the recycling Center next week, and they will tour the facility. Mrs. Tomlinson will also give extra credit for any student who takes a selfie when they're recycling things at the center.

High School - Brandon Woodworth: Things are busy as they start to close out the year. The juniors have taken the SAT's, and the sophomores took the PSAT's. They had 28 students go on the Spain and France trip. Prom is May 9th, seniors' last day is May 13th, where they will walk the halls and pass the torch to the kindergarteners. Band concert is May 11th, HOSA leaves tomorrow, and Robotics will be streaming live.

From Board Members: Christian Ragsdale will attend the SRESB budget presentation on May 4th at 6 pm.

Board Committee Reports: None

Unfinished Business:

Motion by Sayles to approve the Board Bylaws and Policy Update(s).

Bylaws – None

Section 1000 – Administration

Policy 1422 – Nondiscrimination, Equal Employment Opportunity, and Anti-Harassment (Replacement)

Policy 1422.02 – Nondiscrimination Based on Genetic Information of the Employee (Rescind)

Policy 1623 – Section 504/ADA Prohibition Against Disability Discrimination in Employment
(Technical Correction)

Policy 1662 – Anti-Harassment (Rescind)

Section 2000 – Program

Policy 2210 – Curriculum Development – Approved Courses (Revised)

Policy 2260 – Nondiscrimination and Access to Equal Educational Opportunity
(Technical Correction)

Policy 2260.01 – Section 504/ADA Prohibition Against Discrimination Based on Disability
(Technical Correction)

Policy 2266 – Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities (Revised)

Policy 2412 – Homebound Instruction Program (Revised)

Section 3000 – Professional Staff

Policy 3122 – Nondiscrimination, Equal Employment Opportunity, and Anti-Harassment
(Replacement)

Policy 3122.02 – Nondiscrimination Based on Genetic Information of the
Employee (Rescind)

Policy 3123 – Section 504/ADA Prohibition Against Disability Discrimination in Employment
(Technical Correction)

Policy 3362 – Anti-Harassment (Rescind)

Section 4000 – Support Staff

Policy 4122 – Nondiscrimination, Equal Employment Opportunity, and Anti-Harassment
(Replacement)

Policy 4122.02 – Nondiscrimination Based on Genetic Information of the Employee (Rescind)

Policy 4123 – Section 504/ADA Prohibition Against Disability Discrimination in Employment
(Technical Correction)

Policy 4162 – Controlled Substance and Alcohol Policy for Commercial Motor Vehicle (CMV)
Drivers and Other Employees Who Perform Safety-Sensitive Functions (Revised)

Policy 4362 – Anti-Harassment (Rescind)

Section 5000 – Students

Policy 5517.01 – Bullying and Other Aggressive Behavior toward Students (Revised)

Section 6000 – Finances – None

Section 7000 – Property

Policy 7540.02 – Digital Content and Accessibility (Revised)

Policy 7541 – Electronic Data Processing Disaster Recovery Plan (Rescind)

Section 8000 – Operations

Policy 8300 – Continuity of Organizational Operations Plan (Revised)

Policy 8305 – Information Security (Revised)

Section 9000 – Relations – None

Seconded by Michels. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business

The Board acknowledged the retirement of Sherry Wurm, Food Service, Effective June 5, 2026, and the resignations of Chloe Zachary, Preschool Teacher, Effective March 26, 2026, and Ashley O'Dell, Paraprofessional, Effective April 27, 2026.

Proposal #48

Motion by Sayles for Administration and Central Office contract extensions

1. Adam Curtis, Director of Maintenance
2. Kelly Zemla, Business Manager
3. Brandon Woodworth, High School Principal
4. Sheila Freeman, Elementary School Principal
5. Pam Kasik, Payroll Specialist

6. Tara Hengesbach, Middle School Principal
7. Krissy Pratt, Accounting Officer, Administrative Support
8. Jabe Thomas, High School Assistant Principal/Athletic Director
9. Kerri DeVault, Elementary School Assistant Principal
10. Julie Nosek, Assistant Superintendent
11. Carol Hart, Director of School Readiness and Daycare Operations

Seconded by Rourke. Motion carried unanimously.

Proposal #49

Motion by Rourke to approve the Laingsburg Community Schools Administrator/Central Office salary schedule for the 2026-2027 school year as presented for Office of Retirement Services purposes. Seconded by Brink. Motion carried unanimously.

Future Business

Meeting Dates –

- SRES General Fund Presentation Meeting – May 4, 2026, @ 6 pm
- Special Board Meeting – May 20, 2026 – HS Media Center @ 6:30 pm- SRES Budget Presentation
- Regular Board Meeting – May 20, 2026 – HS Media Center @ 6:45 pm
- High School Graduation – May 21, 2026 – 7 pm

Preview of Topics for Future Agendas –

- 2025/26 Proposed Budget
- Board By-Laws/Policy Update

General Discussion to Guide Future Recommendations

Did not go into Executive Session

Motion by Sayles to adjourn at 8:15 pm. Seconded by Ragsdale. Motion carried unanimously.

Renee Gutsman, Board Secretary