

LAINGSBURG COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Approved MINUTES

Regular Board Meeting
Middle School Media Center

October 21, 2025

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mark Burley, Renee Gutzman, Andy Hagerty, Christian Ragsdale, Jason Michels

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Michael Rourke, Maggie Sayles

OTHERS PRESENT: Superintendent Shastal, Assistant Superintendent Julie Nosek, Kelly Zemla, Brandon Woodworth, Tara Hengesbach, Kerri Devault

Motion by Burley to approve the minutes from the September 9, 2025, regular board meeting. Seconded by Hagerty. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Hagerty to approve the September 2025 Treasurers report. Seconded by Burley. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Gutzman to approve the September 2025 warrants:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| 1. September Accounts Payable – | \$231,480.00 |
| 2. September EFT/ACH/Transfer(s)- | \$ 76,693.83 |
| 3. September Payroll - | \$829,704.63 |
| 4. September Building & Site - | \$ 0 |

Seconded by Hagerty. Motion carried unanimously.

From Delegations or Visitors

-Auditor Allen Gamble, from Lewis & Knopf, reported on the district's 2024-25 audit. Mr. Gamble reviewed the audit results and indicated that the district had a clean, unmodified opinion. Mr. Gamble also indicated he had no issues or concerns about the district's financial well-being and thanked the central office for their assistance during the audit.

From Non-Staff Communications and Reports - None

From Superintendent and Staff.

Assistant Superintendent Julie Nosek discussed academic outcomes, including recent gains across all subject areas. The district scores above state and county averages in every subject area and in all grades, and is the only district in the county to do so.

Superintendent Shastal gave updates on:

- Pupil Count Day: Thank you to the building secretaries, teachers, and Krissy for their efforts in preparing for and conducting the very important student count month. The “unofficial” count for Fall 2025 was 1090 students. There are 287 school of choice students, which makes up 26% of the total count. There are currently 75 seniors and 57 preschoolers

- 2025/26 Budget Update: In June, we had a (\$958,967) deficit and will amend this in November. See the August State Aid Report for more information.

- Legislative update:

- May 2026 Bond Proposal:

Building Reports:

Elementary School & ECEC – Kerri DeVault: Recently held Parent Teacher Conferences were well attended; they had a 93% participation rate. The new music teacher, Andrea Large, started on Monday, and it's wonderful to have music back in the building. PBIS supports and celebrations are well underway with a focus on student behavior. PAK interventions have also started.

Middle School – Tara Hengesbach: Middle school just held parent-teacher conferences and also had great attendance. Fall sports have now wrapped up, and practices have begun for winter sports. The PALS fun night was very successful and raised over \$4,000. The last parent meeting for the 8th-grade field trip to Washington DC was held this evening. It was well attended, and there is a lot of excitement about this opportunity for our kids. Character Strong lessons, held on Wednesdays, are making a difference in student behavior.

High School - Principal Brandon Woodworth: Once again, the band participated in the MSBO Marching Festival and received all I's. Mrs. Chamberlin and the high school drama department will be putting on Frozen Jr. in November. The high school has a great partnership with the RESD on providing opportunities for our students and their chosen career paths. The sophomores just traveled to Vernon to check out the CTE courses offered there.

From Board Members

Veterans Day Celebration. A Veterans Day Breakfast will be held at LHS on Tuesday, November 11th. Music will be provided by the LHS Jazz Band and a choir performance by our fifth graders.

Wall of Fame nominations are now being accepted. Information has gone out to the public via several media platforms.

Board Committee Reports - None

Unfinished Business – None

New Business

The Board acknowledged the resignation of Danielle Cokonougher, Elementary Teacher.

Proposal #17

Motion by Burley to approve the recommendation to hire Chelsea Fink, Elementary Teacher. Seconded by Ragsdale. Motion carried unanimously.

Proposal #18

Motion by Ragsdale to approve the recommendation to hire Andrea Large, Elementary Teacher. Seconded by Hagerty. Motion carried unanimously.

Proposal #19

Motion by Gutzman to approve the recommendation to hire Tiffany Hanneman, Childcare Employee. Seconded by Burley. Motion carried unanimously.

Proposal #20

Motion by Burley to approve the Recommendation to Approve Letter of Agreement with the Laingsburg Education Association to amend Appendix C: 2025-2026 Calendar. Seconded by Ragsdale. Hagerty abstained. Motion carried unanimously.

Proposal #21

Motion by Gutzman to approve the Recommendation to Approve Letter of Agreement with the Laingsburg Education Association to amend Article 19: Insurance Protection. Seconded by Ragsdale. Hagerty abstained. Motion carried unanimously.

Future Business

Meeting Dates –

Regular Board Meeting – November 19, 2025

Regular Board Meeting – December 17, 2025

Preview of Topics for Future Agendas –

2025-26 Budget Update

Bylaw & Policy Update

Motion by Hagerty to adjourn at 8:15 pm. Seconded by Gutzman. Motion carried unanimously.

Renee Gutzman, Board Secretary