

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES February 26, 2024

100: CALL TO ORDER & DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

The Linn-Mar Board of Directors meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM in the boardroom of the Learning Resource Center (2999 N 10th St, Marion). Roll was taken to determine a quorum. Present: Buchholz, Foss, Lowe Lancaster, Morey, Walker, and Wall. Administration present: Kortemeyer, Galbraith, Christian, Ramos, Read, and Wear. Absent: Frick.

200: ADOPTION OF AGENDA – Motion 147-02-26

MOTION by Walker to adopt the agenda as presented. Second by Wall. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

300: AUDIENCE COMMUNICATIONS

(Strategic Plan Priorities 1.0)

1. Tiffany DeBow, Public Schools Week

400: INFORMATIONAL REPORTS/UPDATES/DISCUSSIONS

401: Marion Economic Development Corporation Report

Emily Russ, MEDCO Director of Workforce & Marketing, and Brady Quinn, MEDCO Business Retention & Small Business Specialist, shared information on the Community Promise programs, Marion Community Build, various partnerships, Venture Academics, and the Business Voice Call program.

(Strategic Plan Priority 1.0; Board Goal 3.d)

402: Winter Assessment Data Report – Exhibit 402.1

(Strategic Plan Priority 2.0; Board Goal 2.b)

Associate Superintendent Bob Read reported on the winter assessment data including information on the Formative Assessment System for Teachers (FAST), district and grade level assessment data for reading and mathematics, areas of strength, and opportunities for growth.

403: Career & Technical Education Advisory Report

(Strategic Plan Priority 1.0; Board Goal 1.c)

Foss reported that during the February 7th CTE meeting the committee discussed their goals, future planning, and that regular course offerings are higher in popularity than CTE courses. Morey requested an update on the potential of the introduction of CTE courses at the middle school level.

404: Board Visit Report

(Board Goal 2.b)

Board members reported they enjoyed the enthusiasm of the student guides and appreciated the staff conversations during their visit to Linn Grove on February 8th.

405: Marion City Council Report

(Strategic Plan Priority 1.0; Board Goal 3.d)

Buchholz and Walker reported there were no items of interest to the district during the February 8th and 22nd Marion City Council meetings.

406: Diversity/Equity/Inclusion Committee Report

(Strategic Plan Priority 1.0; Board Goal 1.c)

Lowé Lancaster reported that the DEI Committee reviewed their Strategic Plan and goals during the February 12th meeting and that the committee would like to share an update with the board during a future board meeting.

407: Finance/Audit Committee Report

(Strategic Plan Priority 1.0; Board Goal 3.d)

Buchholz, Morey, and Foss reported that during the February 19th F/AC meeting the topics included the budget, early separation, State Supplemental Aid (SSA), and facilities.

408: Legislative Update

(Board Goal 3.c)

Morey reported on several bills that passed out of the first funnel deadline during the current legislative session and board members shared they enjoyed their visit to the Capitol for the IASB Day on the Hill Event and meeting with the legislators.

409: Superintendent's Update – Exhibit 409.1

Superintendent Kortemeyer recognized several district highlights and honors and shared information the budget, early separation, a reminder of the PPEL vote on March 5th, and updates on current construction projects.

500: UNFINISHED BUSINESS

501: Amendment to Second Reading of Policy 401.10 – Exhibit 501.1

MOTION by Wall to amend the second reading of Policy 401.10 (Licensed Personnel Early Separation) as presented in Exhibit 501.1. Second by Walker. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried. – **Motion 148-02-26**

502: Early Separation Discussion

(Strategic Plan Priority 5.0; Board Goal 2.d)

Due to the approval of the change to Policy 401.10 in Item 501 above, Superintendent Kortemeyer made the recommendation for the board to offer five early separation packages to the additional licensed personnel at \$50,000/package. It was clarified that early separation is a financial tool for the district, not a bonus program for employees and that funds from the management fund (not the general fund) cover the early separation packages.

MOTION by Morey to approve offering five additional early separation packages at \$50,000 each as discussed. Second by Walker. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried. – **Motion 149-02-26**

600: NEW BUSINESS

601: Appointment of Board Member

President Buchholz reported there were five applications submitted for the vacant board seat and requested feedback from the board members on the applicants. The board thanked the five candidates for their willingness to serve.

MOTION by Foss to appoint Laura Thomas to fill the vacant board seat through the completion of the term in November 2025. Second by Katie Lowe Lancaster. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried. Galbraith administered the oath of office. Thomas assumed a seat at the board table. – **Motion 150-02-26**

602: Open Enrollment Requests – Motion 151-02-26

MOTION by Wall to approve the open enrollment requests as presented. Second by Morey. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

Approved IN	Student Name	Grade	Resident District
	Baker, Keaton	11 th	Marion Independent
	Robertson, Caiden	9 th	Cedar Rapids CSD
	Robertson, Dalton	11 th	Cedar Rapids CSD
	Wright, Eric	11 th	Cedar Rapids CSD

700: CONSENT AGENDA – Motion 152-02-26

MOTION by Wall to approve the consent agenda as presented. Second by Walker. Foss gave a special shout out to June Tipton for her service to the district. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

701: Personnel

Certified Staff: Resignation

Name	Assignment	Dept Action	Reason
Bundy, Deb	EH: School Counselor	5/31/24	Early Separation
Halverson, Ginger	HS: Adaptive PE Teacher	5/31/24	Early Separation
Hofstetter, Cyndi	NE: Early Childhood Teacher	5/31/24	Early Separation
Lordey, Angela	HS: Foreign Language Teacher	5/31/24	Relocation
Matthias, Susan	IC: 4 th Gr Teacher	5/31/24	Early Separation
Murphy, Kathleen	IC: 1 st Gr Teacher	5/31/24	Early Separation
Oakes, Lori	HP: 6 th Gr Teacher	5/31/24	Early Separation
Oxley, Laurie	EH: 1 st Gr Teacher	5/31/24	Early Separation
Ryan, Debbie	WF: Reading Teacher	5/31/24	Early Separation
Sanborn, Symon	BP: Student Support Services Teacher	5/31/24	Other Employment
Saxion, Annette	OR: Student Support Services Teacher	5/31/24	Early Separation
Tipton, June	IC: Reading Teacher	5/31/24	Early Separation
Whitson, Barry	HP: Health Teacher	5/31/24	Early Separation

Classified Staff: Assignments/Reassignments/Transfers

Name	Assignment	Dept Action	Salary Placement
Baxa, Holly	From BW Gen Ed Asst to NS General Help	2/20/24	PTNS, Step 1
Crespo, Katie	BW: Part-Time Gen Ed Assistant	2/21/24	LMSEAA I, Step 1
Decious, Becky	From HP Gen Ed Asst to HS Copy Center Technician	2/19/24	\$16.00/hour

Name	Assignment	Dept Action	Salary Placement
Fish, Megan	LG: Gen Ed Assistant	2/22/24	LMSEAA I, Step 1
Frimml, Melanie	BW: From Gen Ed Asst to Student Support Associate	2/5/24	LMSEAA II, Step 4
Gilbert, Ron	TR: Regular Sub Bus Driver	2/8/24	Step 1
Goodenberger, Beth	LG: From Gen Ed Ass to Paraprofessional	2/19/24	LMSEAA V, Step 1
Liberty, Rachel	NE: Student Support Associate	2/16/24	LMSEAA II, Step 1
McGlynn, Betsy	BW: Part-Time Gen Ed Assistant	2/21/24	LMSEAA I, Step 1
Miller, Sara	EH: Part-Time Custodian	2/16/24	SEIU C, Step 1
Nebel, Lynda	OR: General Help/Cashier	2/12/24	SEIU A+.25, Step 1
Roberts, Sarah	BW: Health Assistant	2/5/24	LMSEAA II, Step 1
Stalin, Rosary Jasmin	WF: Student Support Assoc from 1.0 to .5 FTE	2/21/24	Same

Classified Staff: Resignation

Name	Assignment	Dept Action	Reason
Charipar, Deb	NS: OR Production Manager	3/28/24	Retirement
Cobb, Mandy	NS: OR General Help/Cashier	2/2/24	Personal
Covington, Nicole	NS: NE General Help	2/20/24	Personal
Eulberg, Chloe	WF: Health Assistant	2/20/24	Personal
Hofmeister, Tristan	HS: Student Support Associate	2/16/24	Other Employment
Lanning, Ron	HS: Student Support Associate	5/30/24	Retirement
Liberty, Rachel	NS: BW General Help	1/30/24	Personal
Montgomery, Betty	HS: Student Support Associate	2/16/24	Personal

Co/Extra-Curricular Staff: Assignments/Reassignments/Transfers

Name	Assignment	Dept Action	Salary Placement
Callahan, Megan	HS: Musical Choreographer	2/1/24	\$945
Chaloupka, Logan	HS: Speech Coach	2/8/24	\$1,584
Kobliska, Shelby	OR: Assistant Boys Track Coach	2/20/24	\$3,083
Kostiv, Emma	HS: 9 th Gr Play Director	2/12/24	\$1,927
Patterson, Danielle	HS: Musical Director	2/1/24	\$1,011
Patterson, Danielle	HS: Speech Coach	2/8/24	\$1,584
Thompson, Bryant	HS: Speech Coach	2/8/24	\$528.50

Co/Extra-Curricular Staff: Resignation

Name	Assignment	Dept Action	Reason
Smith, Greg	HS: Drama Director	2/21/24	Personal
McKnight, Andrew	HS: Assistant Varsity Girls Soccer Coach	2/6/24	Personal
Sevening, Christy	HS: Head Varsity Boys Bowling Coach	2/20/24	Personal

702: Approval of February 5th Minutes – Exhibits 702.1a-b

- a. February 5th closed session
- b. February 5th regular meeting

703: Approval of February 15th Closed Session Minutes – Exhibit 703.1

704: Approval of February 19th Special Session Minutes – Exhibit 704.1

705: Approval of Bills/Warrants – Exhibit 705.1

706: Approval of Contracts/Agreements – Exhibits 706.1-13

1. Ahlers & Cooney P.C., to serve as bond counsel
2. Employee Resource Systems amended agreement
3. PowerSchool School Messenger subscription renewal
4. University of Phoenix transfer of agreement to Four Three Education, Inc.
5. Coe College student teaching agreement
6. Morningside University student teaching agreement
7. James Dreier independent contractor agreement for work with Jazz Ensemble
8. Jonathan Welch independent contractor agreement for work with LM Orchestra
9. City of Marion amended Safe Routes to Schools Plan
10. Peak Construction change order #5 regarding new administration building
11. Piper Sandler amended engagement letter
12. Scrapmania commercial licensing agreement
13. ViPS commercial licensing agreement
14. Interagency agreements for special education instructional services with Cedar Rapids CSD (24), College CSD (1), and Marion Independent (1). *For student confidentiality, exhibits are not provided.*

707: Overnight Trip Requests – Exhibits 707.1-5

1. HOSA to attend state leadership conference in Des Moines on March 2-4, 2024
2. FFA to attend leadership convention in Decorah on March 8-9, 2024
3. Boys' soccer to attend tournament in Des Moines on April 12-13, 2024
4. FBLA to attend state leadership conference in Cedar Rapids March 24-26, 2024
5. Robotics to attend regional competition in Cedar Falls on March 20-23, 2024

708: Informational Financial Reports – Exhibit 708.1-2

1. School finances and cash balance reports as of 1/31/23
2. School finances and cash balance reports as of 1/31/24

800: BOARD CALENDAR/COMMUNICATIONS/COMMITTEES

801: Board Calendar & Communications

- Foss shared information on the Iowa Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) and requested that a special recognition be offered during the March 18th board meeting.
- Morey stated a reconsideration of the assignments for representatives on the board/district committees would need to occur at the March 18th board meeting now that the vacant board seat had been filled.
- Thomas thanked the board for being selected to serve on the LM Board of Directors.

Date	Time	Event	Location
Feb 28	5:30 PM	Facilities Advisory Committee	LMHS Lecture Hall
Date	Time	Event	Location
Mar 5	7:30 AM	Finance/Audit Committee (F/AC)	Boardroom
<i>Mar 5</i>	<i>11:30 AM</i>	<i>Marion State of the City Address</i>	<i>Radisson Hotel</i>
<i>Mar 5</i>	--	<i>Special Election – PPEL Vote</i>	--
Mar 7	Noon	Linn County Conference Board	City of CR Admin Bldg
Mar 7	5:30 PM	Marion City Council (<i>Morey</i>)	City Hall

Date	Time	Event	Location
<i>Mar 11-15</i>	--	<i>Spring Break</i>	<i>Districtwide</i>
Mar 18	5:00 PM	Board Meeting	Boardroom
Mar 20	5:30 PM	Facilities Advisory Committee	LMHS Lecture Hall
Mar 21	8:30 AM	Finance/Audit Committee (F/AC)	Boardroom
Mar 21	5:30 PM	Marion City Council (<i>Wall</i>)	City Hall
Mar 25	5:00 PM	Special Board Session	Boardroom
Mar 28	11:00 AM	Board Visit	Wilkins Elementary

802: Required Board Committees/Advisories

Committee/Advisory	Board Representatives
Finance/Audit Committee (F/AC)	Buchholz, Foss, Morey
Policy Committee	Buchholz, Walker, Wall
Career & Technical Education Advisory (CTE)	Foss, Lowe Lancaster
School Improvement Advisory Committee (SIAC)	Lowe Lancaster, Morey, Wall

803: Additional District Committees/Advisories

Committee/Advisory	Board Representatives
Diversity/Equity/Inclusion Committee (DEI)	Lowe Lancaster
Venture Academics Advisory (VAA)	Morey, Walker
LMHS School Counselors Advisory	Lowe Lancaster
MEDCO Community Promise Advisory	Wall
Linn County Conference Board	Buchholz
Legislative Liaisons	Morey, Walker

900: ADJOURNMENT – *Motion 153-02-26*

MOTION by Walker to adjourn the meeting at 6:32 PM. Second by Thomas. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

Barry Buchholz, Board President

Jon Galbraith, Board Secretary/Treasurer