

**SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES  
MARCH 18, 2024**  
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**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 10<sup>th</sup> St, Marion). Roll was taken to determine a quorum. Present: Buchholz, Foss, Lowe Lancaster, Morey, Thomas, Walker, and Wall. Administration present: Kortemeyer, Galbraith, Wear, Read, Christian, Ramos, and Frick.

**200: ADOPTION OF AGENDA – *Motion 154-03-18***

**MOTION** by Wall to adopt the agenda with the modification of moving items 601-602 to immediately following audience communications. Second by Lowe Lancaster. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

**300: SPECIAL RECOGNITION – Exhibit 300**

President Buchholz read a proclamation in honor of the Iowa National Guard and Reserve.

**400: AUDIENCE COMMUNICATIONS**

*(Strategic Plan Priorities 1.0)*

1. Christine Lehman-Engledow, resident, Be Smart gun control program
2. Luann Byerly, Resident, Be Smart gun control program
3. Jami Maxon, resident, Be Smart gun control program
4. Angie Weiland, resident, Be Smart gun control program
5. Amy Plotz, resident, Be Smart gun control program

**600: UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**601: Review of Financial Proposals**

*(Strategic Plan Priority 5.0; Board Goal 3.c)*

Matt Gillaspie, Managing Director of Finance with Piper Sandler, reviewed the financing proposals received regarding the sale of approximately \$18,000,000 School Infrastructure Sales, Services, and Use Tax Revenue Bonds, Series 2024, for use in the construction of the new performance arts center. Gillaspie made the recommendation for the board to reject the proposals received and pivot to a conventional sale in May.

**602: Approval of Financing Proposal – Exhibit 602.1 – *Motion 155-03-18***

**MOTION** by Morey to reject the JP Morgan Chase bid and reopen for a conventional sale on May 6<sup>th</sup> as recommended by Matt Gillaspie, Managing Director of Finance with Piper Sandler. Second by Walker. Roll call vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

## **500: INFORMATIONAL REPORTS/UPDATES/DISCUSSIONS**

### **501: Facilities Advisory Committee**

*(Strategic Plan Priority 5.0; Board Goal 3.c)*

Morey, Buchholz, and Foss reported that the February 28<sup>th</sup> Facilities Advisory Committee meeting included a tour of the high school athletic facilities, a review of the needs of the various athletic groups, and a brainstorming activity. OPN Architects will compile the information from the brainstorming activity and report on it during the March 20<sup>th</sup> Facilities Advisory Committee meeting.

### **502: Marion State of the City Address**

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

Board members reported they enjoyed the March 5<sup>th</sup> Marion State of the City Address and are excited about the City's progressive collaborations and that they are honored the Mayor is a Linn-Mar alumni.

### **503: Finance/Audit Committee**

*(Strategic Plan Priority 5.0; Board Goal 3.c)*

Morey reported that the March 5<sup>th</sup> F/AC meeting centered around the funding of the SAVE bond sales.

### **504: PPEL Update**

*(Strategic Plan Priority 5.0; Board Goal 3.c)*

Jon Galbraith, Chief Financial/Operating Officer, reported there were 2,843 total votes during the March 5<sup>th</sup> special election regarding the Physical Plant and Equipment Levy (PPEL) with 2,128 "yes" votes and 715 "no" votes. This reflected 74.8% of voters supporting the renewal of PPEL. Buchholz thanked the community for their support.

### **505: Budget Update**

*(Strategic Plan Priority 5.0; Board Goal 3.c)*

Superintendent Kortemeyer reviewed the two-year budget process that will include a \$2.5 million reduction for the next school year, timelines, and various impacts on the budget and noted that, unfortunately, the district was in the position of needing to make cuts to both certified and classified staff. Kortemeyer thanked the Cabinet and administrators for all their work on the process.

### **506: Linn County Conference Board**

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

Buchholz reported that during the March 7<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Linn County Conference Board the Cedar Rapids City and Linn County budgets were approved.

### **507: Marion City Council Report**

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

Morey reported that during March 7<sup>th</sup> Marion City Council meeting the Safe Routes to School Plan was approved (without funding), several purchase agreements were approved related to the Alburnett Road extension project, and a 98-unit, multi-family housing addition was approved that will be located across Highway 13 near the Rookwood Estates area.

### **508: Legislative Update**

*(Board Goal 3.c)*

Morey reported on several bills that passed the first funnel deadline and shared a handout with the board that included additional information.

**509: Superintendent’s Update – Exhibit 509.1**

Superintendent Kortemeyer shared several district honors, thanked the community for their support in passing PPEL, reviewed current construction projects and some special events coming up on the calendar, and thanked the staff, students, and families for their support in hosting successful parent-teacher conferences.

**700: NEW BUSINESS**

**701: Set Public Hearing – Motion 156-03-18** *(Strategic Plan Priorities 1.0)*

**MOTION** by Wall to approve setting a public hearing for 5:00 PM on Monday, March 25<sup>th</sup> in the boardroom of the Learning Resource Center regarding the proposed tax notice. Second by Morey. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

**702: Set Public Hearing – Motion 157-03-18** *(Strategic Plan Priorities 1.0)*

**MOTION** by Walker to approve setting a public hearing for Monday, April 8<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM in the boardroom of the Learning Resource Center regarding the Linn-Mar High School extension renovation project. Second by Thomas. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

**703: Approval of Fundraising Requests– Exhibit 703.1 – Motion 158-03-18**

**MOTION** by Wall to approve the fundraising requests as presented in Exhibit 703.1. Second by Lowe Lancaster. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

**704: Early Graduation Requests – Exhibit 704.1 – Motion 159-03-18**

**MOTION** by Walker to approve the early graduation requests as presented. Second by Morey. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried. *(Strategic Plan Priority 2.0)*

Dupaty, Ar’Mone	Gross, Ashlyn	Yeisley, Hailee
Fishel, Miles	Sweet, Isaac	

**800: CONSENT AGENDA – Motion 160-03-18**

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

**801: Personnel**

**Certified Staff: Assignments/Reassignments/Transfers**

Name	Assignment	Dept Action	Salary Placement
Finchum, Grady	HS: From Student Supervisor to Project Leads the Way (PLTW) Teacher	8/13/24	BA, Step 1

**Certified Staff: Extended Leave of Absence**

Name	Assignment	Dept Action	Reason
McDonald, Alix	Leave of Absence-Extended for 2024-25 School Year	8/1/24	LMEA 1-Year LOA

**Classified Staff: Assignments/Reassignments/Transfers**

Name	Assignment	Dept Action	Salary Placement
Caton, Megan	NS: NE General Help	3/18/24	PTNS, Step 1
Dede, Skylar	TR: From Regular Sub to Bus Driver	2/6/24	Same

Name	Assignment	Dept Action	Salary Placement
Klein, Kennedy	NS: NE from Lead Cook to Production Manager	3/6/24	\$19.00/hour
Kopecky, Randall	TR: From Regular Sub to Bus Driver	2/23/24	Same
Minehart, Amanda	HS: Student Support Associate	2/29/24	LMSEAA II, Step 1
Parke, Brayden	O&M: Summer Help	3/4/24	\$15.00/hour
Weber, Nicholas	O&M: Athletic Grounds/Facilities Coordinator	3/4/24	SEIU E, Step 1
Wilson, Tyler	WE: Student Support Associate	3/7/24	LMSEAA II, Step 1

#### **Classified Staff: Resignation**

Name	Assignment	Dept Action	Reason
Ampey, Anthony	NE: Production Manager	2/29/24	Personal
Cochet, Sandrine	HS: ELL Associate	5/30/24	Personal
Name	Assignment	Dept Action	Reason
Dilley, Jacob	HS: Student Support Associate	3/8/24	Other employment
Frommelt, Abigail	O&M: District Custodian	3/5/24	Termination

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

Name	Assignment	Dept Action	Salary Placement
Hoover-Grindle, Ian	HS: Head Varsity Girls Swim Coach	2/29/24	\$5,780
Swanson, Marie	HS: Assistant 9/10 Softball Coach	4/29/24	\$3,468

#### **Co/Extracurricular Staff: Resignation**

Name	Assignment	Dept Action	Reason
Baldwin, Luke	HS: Assistant Varsity Boys Swim Coach	2/29/24	Personal
Baldwin, Luke	HS: Assistant Varsity Girls Swim Coach	2/29/24	Personal

### **802: Approval of February 26th Board Minutes – Exhibit 802.1**

### **803: Approval of Bills/Warrants – Exhibit 803.1**

### **804: Approval of Contracts/Agreements – Exhibits 804.1-11**

1. OPN Architects: Design services for the LMHS extension renovation project
2. OPN Architects: Design services for the LMHS indoor activities center project
3. Terracon Consultants construction observation and materials testing services for the new performance arts center
4. Bi-State Masonry for repairs to Indian Creek Elementary
5. Bi-State Masonry for repairs to Linn Grove Elementary
6. Cornell College agreement for student teaching/field experience agreement
7. University of Northern Iowa agreement for student teaching/field experience
8. Western Governors University agreement for student teaching/field experience
9. Bound renewal for Let's Go Bound Iowa event management software/services
10. McComas-Lacina Construction agreement for the new performance arts center
11. Peak Construction change order for the new administration building
12. Interagency agreements for special education instructional services with Lisbon CSD (1) and Marion Independent (1). *For student confidentiality, exhibits are not provided.*

### **805: Overnight Trip Requests – Exhibits 805.1-2**

1. FFA to attend SSTFI and State FFA Agriscience Fair at ISU April 4-5, 2024
2. Robotics to attend Seven Rivers FRC Regionals in La Crosse, WI April 3-6, 2024

## **806: Informational Financial Reports – Exhibit 806.1-2**

1. School finances and cash balance reports as of 2/28/23
2. School finances and cash balance reports as of 2/29/24

## **807: Disposition of Obsolete Equipment**

Per Iowa Code (§§ 297.22-25) and board Policy 902.6, the district will list for sale obsolete equipment and furnishings on GovDeals.com. *Items for sale: One 2008 Cummins diesel engine (ISB 6.7, Serial#46736100), approximately 800-900 battery-powered paper towel dispensers, and approximately 300 toilet paper dispensers.*

## **900: BOARD CALENDAR/COMMUNICATIONS/COMMITTEES**

### **901: Board Calendar & Communications**

Buchholz clarified the process for board members to submit special recognition ideas and facilitated a discussion on potential changes to the committee/advisory reps.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Location</b>
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
<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Location</b>
Apr 2	3:30 PM	Ribbon Cutting Ceremony	New Tennis Courts
Apr 4	5:30 PM	Marion City Council ( <i>Morey</i> )	City Hall
Apr 5	6:00 PM	LM School Foundation MANE Event	The Radisson
Apr 8	5:00 PM	Board Meeting	Boardroom
Apr 11	11:00 AM	Board Visit	Excelsior Middle School
Apr 15	5:00 PM	Diversity/Equity/Inclusion Committee (DEI)	Boardroom
Apr 18	--	LM School Foundation Dine Out for Schools Day	--
Apr 18	8:30 AM	Finance/Audit Committee (F/AC)	Boardroom
Apr 18	4:05 PM	Venture Academics Advisory (VAA)	LRC Room 304/305
Apr 18	5:30 PM	Marion City Council ( <i>Wall</i> )	City Hall
Apr 22	5:00 PM	Board Meeting	Boardroom
Apr 25	9:00 AM	Board Visit	Bowman Woods Elem
Apr 25	4:00 PM	School Improvement Advisory Committee (SIAC)	Boardroom

### **Required Board Committees/Advisories**

<b>Committee/Advisory</b>	<b>Board Representatives</b>
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

### **Additional District Committees/Advisories**

<b>Committee/Advisory</b>	<b>Board Representatives</b>
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

**1000: ADJOURNMENT – Motion 161-03-18**

**MOTION** by Walker to adjourn the meeting at 6:49 PM. Second by Lowe Lancaster. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

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Barry Buchholz, Board President

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Jon Galbraith, Board Secretary/Treasurer