

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES APRIL 8, 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 10th 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, Frick, and Nelson. Absent: Ramos.

200: ADOPTION OF AGENDA – *Motion 164-04-08*

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

300: PUBLIC HEARING

(Strategic Plan Priorities 1.0)

A public hearing was held regarding the Linn-Mar High School extension renovation project. No comments were received.

400: AUDIENCE COMMUNICATIONS

(Strategic Plan Priorities 1.0)

No comments were received.

500: INFORMATIONAL REPORTS/UPDATES/DISCUSSIONS

501: Finance/Audit Committee

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

Buchholz, Morey, and Foss reported that during the March 21st F/AC meeting topics of discussion included the budget, the previous public hearing on the proposed property tax levy, facilities, and the LMHS extension renovation project.

502: Marion City Council

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

Wall reported that during the March 21st Marion City Council meeting a final housing plat off Robins Road was approved, as well as a rezoning ordinance for property east of Highway 13 for 96 townhomes as part of the Rookwood Estates development project. Morey reported that during the April 4th meeting the Wilkins Elementary carnival hold-harmless waiver was approved, 10 plots near the Bowman Woods area were released from a flood plain classification, and the Urban Renewal Project of the Rookwood Estates development east of Highway 13 (96 townhomes) was approved with a 10-year tax deferral.

503: Board Visit

Board members reported they enjoyed seeing the excitement of the students and staff engaged in learning and the welcoming artwork and atmosphere of the building during their visit to Wilkins Elementary on March 28th.

504: Legislative Update

(Board Goal 3.c)

Morey provided a handout of the bills being considered in the legislative session and provided a review of those still in movement. Morey also reported that the Supplemental State Aid (SSA) rate was set 2.5% and the last day of the current session is scheduled for April 16th.

505: Superintendent's Update – Exhibit 505.1

Superintendent Kortemeyer shared several district honors and highlights; welcomed Renee Nelson, Executive Director of Communications; shared kudos with the Venture Academics students for partnering with the City of Marion to research and name an unlabeled creek in Marion as Coopers Creek; provided an update on the current construction projects; and stated that the recent and unfortunate budget cut process was a painful one for the entire district and clarified that certified teachers that were cut have a 12-month recall window. Kortemeyer also urged the classified staff members that were cut to apply for other positions within the district and was happy to report that some of the staff members who were cut have already been rehired by the district.

600: UNFINISHED BUSINESS

601: Approval of Plans/Specifications – Exhibit 601.1 *Motion 165-04-08*

MOTION by Wall to approve the plans and specifications for the Linn-Mar High School extension renovation project. Second by Walker. Galbraith provided a schematic of the project to the board and reviewed the scope of the project as the installation of sprinklers, a fire alarm system, and turning current office spaces back into classrooms. Galbraith also reported that the contractor is scheduled to begin on June 3rd with Phase One of the project (the gym) scheduled for completion by August 1st and Phase Two of the project (the remaining areas) scheduled for completion by August 19th. Wear reported there are up to 400 high school students in the building between Venture Academics, LMHS classes, Compass, and the Atlas program, as well as the POM/Cheer teams who use the gym for their designated practice space. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

602: Review of Board Committee/Advisory Reps *Motion 166-04-08*

President Buchholz clarified that the board committee/advisory reps were being reconsidered due to the recent addition of Director Thomas and that Laura would like to be added to the CTE and DEI committees. Lowe Lancaster shared she would like to be removed from CTE Advisory due to a schedule conflict.

MOTION by Walker to approve the changes to the board committee/advisory representative assignments as discussed. Second by Wall. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

Required Board Committees/Advisories

Committee/Advisory	Current Board Reps	Changes
Finance/Audit Committee (F/AC)	Buchholz, Foss, Morey	
Policy Committee	Buchholz, Walker, Wall	
Career & Technical Education Advisory (CTE)	Foss, Lowe Lancaster	Remove Lowe Lancaster / Add Thomas
School Improvement Advisory Committee (SIAC)	Lowe Lancaster, Morey, Wall	

Additional District Committees/Advisories

Committee/Advisory	Board Representatives	Changes
Diversity/Equity/Inclusion Committee (DEI)	Lowe Lancaster	Add Thomas
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	

700: NEW BUSINESS

701: District Developed Service Delivery Plan – Exhibits 701.1-2

Melissa Frick, Executive Director of Student Services, reported on this plan for special education services including information on the purpose of the plan, who developed the plan, what is in the plan, the development process, the timeline, a review of the five required questions for development of the plan, and what has changed in the plan over the last five years.

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

MOTION by Morey to approve the District Developed Service Delivery Plan. Second by Thomas. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried. **Motion 167-04-08**

702: Non-Renewal of Probationary Teacher Contracts Motion 168-04-08

MOTION by Foss to approve the termination of probationary teacher contracts as recommended by the administration due to reduction in force. Second by Lowe Lancaster. Buchholz thanked all of the teachers who were being let go for their service to the district and read the following list of names: Katelynn Dewell, Annabell Luke, Olivia Hubler, Erin Pint, Megan Callahan, Sarah Fridono, Emily Klostermann, Allison Clasen, McKenna Keeney, Shanon Lappe, Carrie Larson, Kari Ayangbile, Faith Dobney, Darci Loftsgard, Kathryn Martens, and Hillary Smith. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

703: Set Public Hearing – FY25 Budget – Motion 169-04-08

MOTION by Wall to set a public hearing on the proposed budget for fiscal year 2024-25 for 5:00 PM on Monday, April 22nd in the boardroom of the Learning Resource Center. Second by Morey. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

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

704: Letting of Bus Bids – Exhibit 704.1 Motion 170-04-08 *(Strategic Plan Priority 5.0)*

MOTION by Morey to approve the letting of bus bids for a total of \$588,482.00 for the purchase of three 77-passenger buses and one Bluebird LIFT bus. Second by Wall. Galbraith reviewed the bids received and reported the lead time for receipt of the buses is around 12-15 months. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

800: CONSENT AGENDA – *Motion 171-04-08*

MOTION by Morey to approve the consent agenda as presented. Second by Thomas. Several board members thanked the staff members who were let go as part of the budget/RIF cuts for their service and shared their hope that the district would be able to have them back soon. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

801: Personnel

Certified Staff: Assignments/Reassignments/Transfers

Name	Assignment	Dept Action	Salary Placement
Neighbor, Jenna	OR: From 8 th Gr Math to FCS Teacher	8/16/24	Same
Zebuhr, Amanda	From GW Induction Coach to BP Student Support Services Teacher	8/16/24	Same

Certified Staff: Resignation

Name	Assignment	Dept Action	Reason
Booth, Nicholas	WE: Student Support Services Teacher	5/31/24	Other employment
Yuen (Kauffman), Lauren	HS: Science Teacher	6/3/24	Personal

Classified Staff: Assignments/Reassignments/Transfers

Name	Assignment	Dept Action	Salary Placement
Anderson, Jami	NS/OR: From General Help to Production Manager	4/2/24	\$19.00/hour
Backes, Kristina	IC: Student Support Associate	3/18/24	LMSEAA II, Step 1
Becker, Heidi	WF: From General Ed Assistant to Health Assistant	3/22/24	LMSEAA II, Step 1
Brekke, Tyler	AC: Aquatic Instructor	4/8/24	\$12.00/hour
Burlage, Owen	AC: Aquatic Instructor	4/8/24	\$12.00/hour
Carter, Rowan	AC: Aquatic Instructor	4/8/24	\$12.00/hour
Clement, Elizabeth	AC: Aquatic Instructor	4/8/24	\$12.00/hour
Decker, Kathryn	AC: Aquatic Instructor	4/8/24	\$12.00/hour
Depuydt, Hayden	AC: Aquatic Instructor	4/8/24	\$12.00/hour
Gettemy, Tracy	HS: From General Ed Assistant to Student Support Associate	3/25/24	LMSEAA II, Step 8
Hasan, Gabrielle	AC: Aquatic Instructor	4/8/24	\$12.00/hour
Hatcher, Angela	NS: From HS to OR Cashier	3/18/24	Same
Hopp, Henry	AC: Aquatic Instructor	4/8/24	\$12.00/hour
Krumm, Joe	O&M: From EH to District Sub Custodian	3/19/24	Same
Marotz, Zach	NS: From HS Production Manager to NE Lead Cook	4/2/24	SEIU A+.25, Step 1
Peterson, Dana	NS/HS: From 4.25 to 5.5 hours/day	3/18/24	Same
Rajkumar, Sasha	AC: Aquatic Instructor	4/8/24	\$12.00/hour
Rickels, Kylie	AC: Aquatic Instructor	4/8/24	\$12.00/hour
Rodriguez, Alex	AC: Aquatic Instructor	4/8/24	\$12.00/hour
Schaldecker, Adalynn	AC: Aquatic Instructor	4/8/24	\$12.00/hour
Simpson, Bre	NS/HS: From 4.5 to 5.5 hours/day	3/18/24	Same
Velamarthy, Padma	EH: Student Support Associate	3/20/24	LMSEAA II, Step 1
Wanatee-Diego, Enriqueta	HS: Student Support Associate	3/25/24	LMSEAA II, Step 1
Williams, Jamie	NS/HS: From General Help to Cashier	3/18/24	SEIU A+.25, Step 4

Classified Staff: Resignation

Name	Assignment	Dept Action	Reason
Anakvar, Shriya	LG: Media Assistant	5/31/24	RIF
Arganbright, Erica	WF: General Ed Assistant	5/31/24	RIF
Bills, Angela	IC: General Ed Assistant	5/31/24	RIF
Birely, Julie	HS: Media Assistant	5/31/24	RIF
Case, Taylor	HS: Student Support Associate	3/20/24	Personal
Chapman, Kimberly	EH: General Ed Assistant	5/31/24	RIF
Chayer, Megan	NE: General Ed Assistant	5/31/24	RIF
Cooksley, Dawn	LRC: Computer Technician	3/20/24	RIF
Crespo, Katie	BW: General Ed Assistant	5/31/24	RIF
Cross, Tanya	NE: Media Assistant	5/31/24	RIF
Delecki, Courtney	HP: Media Assistant	5/31/24	RIF
Fell, Amy	HP: Media Assistant	5/31/24	RIF
Fish, Megan	LG: General Ed Assistant	5/31/24	RIF
Gengler, Piyakit	HP: General Ed Assistant	5/31/24	RIF
Helberg, Christine	WF: Media Assistant	5/31/24	RIF
Hendrickson, Keri	WE: Paraprofessional	5/31/24	Retirement
Huff, Carol	HS: Media Assistant	5/31/24	RIF
Jensen, Niedja	WE: General Ed Assistant	5/31/24	RIF
Kirchner, Danean	BW: General Ed Assistant	5/31/24	RIF
Kulkarni, Usha	OR: Media Assistant	5/31/24	RIF
Marske, Susan	BW: Early Childhood Paraprofessional	4/5/24	Other employment
Masters, Janet	EH: Media Assistant	5/31/24	RIF
McGlynn, Betsy	BW: General Ed Assistant	5/31/24	RIF
Nanke, Jennifer	BP: Media Assistant	5/31/24	RIF
Packingham, Terri	HS: Student Support Associate	3/28/24	Personal
Platten, Michelle	EH: General Ed Assistant	5/31/24	RIF
Ramirez, Priscilla	HS: Building Secretary	3/29/24	Other employment
Sather, Dorcas	NE: General Ed Assistant	5/31/24	RIF
Spencer, Catherine	WE: Media Assistant	5/31/24	RIF
Strimple, Elizabeth	BW: General Ed Assistant	5/31/24	RIF
Strong, Kari	WE: General Ed Assistant	5/31/24	RIF
Tiernan, Carmen	NS/NE: General Help/Baker	3/20/24	Termination
Weldon, Jaime	EX: General Ed Assistant	5/31/24	RIF
Werning, Molly	BW: Media Assistant	5/31/24	RIF
Wheatley, Andrea	NE: General Ed Assistant	5/31/24	RIF
Wylie, Krista	EH: General Ed Assistant	5/31/24	RIF

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

Name	Assignment	Dept Action	Salary Placement
Ginty, Natalie	OR: Math Counts Club Sponsor	3/28/24	\$500
Hachey, Carly	HP: Student Experience Coordinator	4/2/24	\$500
Riniker, Abbi	District CPR Instruction	1/17/24	\$350
Spoelstra, Amy	HP: Math Counts Coordinator	4/2/24	\$1,250
Tompkins, Melissa	OR: Assistant Girls Tennis Coach	3/19/24	\$3,083

Co/Extra-Curricular Staff: Resignation

Name	Assignment	Dept Action	Reason
Streicher, Doug	HS: Head Varsity Boys Wrestling Coach	3/8/24	Personal

802: Approval of March 18th Board Minutes – Exhibit 802.1

803: Approval of March 25th Board Special Session Minutes – Exhibit 803.1

804: Approval of Bills/Warrants – Exhibit 804.1

805: Approval of Contracts/Agreements – Exhibits 805.1-14

1. Hand in Hand daycare services agreement for school years 2024-2026
2. Hand in Hand voluntary preschool agreement for the 2024-25 school year
3. Goodwill of the Heartland career exploration/work readiness agreement
4. Goodwill of the Heartland work experience agreement
5. Dryspace agreement for high school/Indian Creek roof replacement project
6. Piper Sandler financial services agreement
7. Ahlers & Cooney bond counsel and disclosure counsel engagement agreement
8. OPN Architects purchase order summary for new admin building furniture
9. Scott Conklin independent contractor agreement
10. Amanda Denny independent contractor agreement
11. Non-commercial licensing agreement with Coach Dalziel (LM10U Silver baseball team)
12. Peak Construction change order #007 for new administration building
13. Peak Construction change order #008 for new administration building
14. Gabrielle Harvey independent contractor agreement
15. Interagency agreement for special education instructional services with College Community (1). *For student confidentiality, exhibits are not provided.*

806: Overnight Trip Requests – Exhibits 806.1-2

1. Robotics to attend championship in Houston, TX on April 16-21 if they qualify.
2. Varsity Boys Basketball to attend competition in Kansas City, MO on June 21-23.

807: Fundraising Request – Exhibit 807.1

LM Robotics summer camps to raise funds to cover competition expenses, supplies, etc.

900: BOARD CALENDAR & COMMUNICATIONS

901: Board Calendar & Communications

Morey and Thomas congratulated the Linn-Mar School Foundation on a great MANE Event and thanked those who were able to attend. Buchholz reported that \$31,000 was raised during the event.

Date	Time	Event	Location
Apr 9	7:00 AM	Finance/Audit Committee (F/AC)	Boardroom
<i>Apr 9</i>	<i>4:30 PM</i>	<i>Ribbon Cutting – New Tennis Courts</i>	<i>Near Oak Ridge MS</i>
Apr 11	11:00 AM	Board Visit	Excelsior Middle School
Apr 15	5:00 PM	Exempt Meeting of the Board	Boardroom
<i>Apr 18</i>	--	<i>LM School Foundation Dine Out for Schools Day</i>	--
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

Date	Time	Event	Location
May 6	5:00 PM	Board Meeting	Boardroom
<i>May 6</i>	<i>7:00 PM</i>	<i>Senior Recognition Night</i>	<i>LMHS Auditorium</i>
<i>May 8</i>	<i>5:00 PM</i>	<i>LIONS/Volunteer Awards</i>	<i>Boardroom</i>
May 9	9:00 AM	Board Visit	Novak Elementary
May 9	5:30 PM	Marion City Council (<i>Buchholz</i>)	City Hall
May 13	5:00 PM	Diversity/Equity/Inclusion Committee (DEI)	Boardroom
May 16	8:30 AM	Finance/Audit Committee (F/AC)	LRC Room 5
May 20	5:00 PM	Board Meeting	Boardroom
<i>May 21</i>	<i>Noon</i>	<i>100-Hour Volunteer Luncheon</i>	<i>Hills Bank, Marion</i>
<i>May 21</i>	<i>3:00 PM</i>	<i>Compass Graduation Celebration</i>	<i>LRC Gym</i>
<i>May 22</i>	<i>1:00 PM</i>	<i>LMHS Graduation Rehearsal</i>	<i>LM High School</i>
May 23	5:30 PM	Marion City Council	City Hall
May 26	1:00 PM	LMHS Commencement	Alliant Energy Powerhouse
<i>May 30</i>	<i>--</i>	<i>Last Day of School with 2-Hour Early Dismissal</i>	<i>Districtwide</i>

1000: ADJOURNMENT – *Motion 172-04-08*

MOTION by Walker to adjourn the meeting at 6:19 PM. Second by Thomas. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

Barry Buchholz, Board President

Jon Galbraith, Board Secretary/Treasurer