

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES**APRIL 28, 2025**[Click here for YouTube Recording](#)**100: CALL TO ORDER & DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM**

The meeting of the Linn-Mar Board of Directors was called to order at 5:00 PM in the boardroom of the Educational Leadership Center (3556 Winslow Rd, Marion). Roll was taken to determine a quorum. Present: Buchholz, Foss, Lowe Lancaster, Mansoor, Morey, Thomas, and Walker. Administration Present: Kortemeyer, Galbraith, Ramos, Wear, Christian, and Nelson. Absent: Frick.

200: ADOPTION OF AGENDA – Motion 140-04-28

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

300: PUBLIC HEARING – Refer to Exhibits 901.1-2

(SPG #1-Community Engagement & #5-Resource Management)

President Lowe Lancaster opened the public hearing at 5:01 PM regarding the proposed budget for fiscal year 2025-26. No comments were received. The public hearing was closed at 5:01 PM.

400: AUDIENCE COMMUNICATIONS *(SPG #1-Community Engagement)*

1. Ana Clymer, Parent, Equity for all

500: SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS**501: LIONS/Volunteer Award Recipients**

Karla Christian, Chief Human Resources Officer, and Angela Burke, Community Relations Coordinator, introduced the recipients of this year's LIONS and Volunteer Awards. LIONS Award Recipients: Barry Buchholz (Living Legend), John Christian (Innovator), Erin Gorman & Kelsey Rastetter (Optimizer), Amanda Weaver (Newcomer), Matt Gasper (Service), Cheyenne Boyd and Brian Meyer (LION Pride). Volunteer Award Recipients: Bird Gengler (Above & Beyond), Au Vu (Making A Difference), and Derek Jensen (Unsung Hero).

502: School Board Appreciation Month – Exhibit 502.1

Superintendent Kortemeyer read a proclamation in honor of School Board Appreciation Month (May).

503: National Teacher Appreciation Week – Exhibit 503.1

President Lowe Lancaster read a proclamation in honor of National Teacher Appreciation Week (May 5-9).

600: MISSION MOMENT *(SPG #1-Community Engagement / BG #2.e-Student Learning)*

The Board of Directors highlighted several district successes including the installation of signage regarding Venture Academics Cooper Creek Naming Project, a great performance by the students who were a part of the Spring Musical, thanks to the Indian Creek Volunteers for their help in setting up the student art show, thanks and recognition of School Bus Drivers Appreciation Week, thanks to all the building secretaries on their communications regarding ISASP testing, congratulations to this year's graduates who will be going directly into the workforce, and the 21 students who received PRIDE awards.

700: INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

701: Marion City Council Report *(SPG #1-Community Engagement / BG #3.d-District Culture)*

Vice President Buchholz reported that during the April 17th Marion City Council meeting land near Highway 100 was annexed into the City for the proposed aquatics center.

702: School Improvement Advisory Committee Report

(SPG #2-Learning Excellence / BG #2.b&c-Student Learning)

Director Morey reported that during the April 24th SIAC meeting topics included Title II funding uses, Title I policy review, winter FAST screening data, evaluation of equity of instructional time between grade levels, and K-6 grade parent communication on reading levels.

703: Venture Academics Advisory Report *(SPG #2-Learning Excellence / BG #2.b&c-Student Learning)*

Director Walker reported that during the April 24th Venture Academics Advisory meeting the process for developing community partnerships and ways to grow more partnerships were discussed. Walker also reported there are three year-long strands (Civics, Creative Writing, and Biomedical Science) and that 388 students are enrolled in the Venture program. Additional information was reported about three new ways to raise awareness of the program: 1) student ambassadors, 2) more information being shared with School Counselors, and 3) a preview day prior to freshman class registration.

704: Legislative Report *(BG #3.d-District Culture)*

Director Thomas reported that the educational bills under consideration have not had any movement.

705: Superintendent's Report – Exhibit 705.1 *(SPG #1-Community Engagement)*

Superintendent Kortemeyer shared several district honors and highlights; reported on current construction projects; congratulated the 21 students who received PRIDE Awards; extended thanks to the elected officials for welcoming the Venture Students at the Capitol, those who attended the ELC ribbon cutting and open house, and everyone for their participation in the recent parent/teacher conferences; recognized National Teacher Appreciation Week, and shared a reminder about LMHS Senior Recognition Night.

800: UNFINISHED BUSINESS

801: Second Reading of Policy Recommendations – Exhibit 801.1

(BG #1.c-Visionary Team)

– **Motion 141-04-28**

MOTION by Walker to approve the second reading of the policy recommendations as presented in Exhibit 801.1. Second by Mansoor. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

900: NEW BUSINESS

901: Approval of Proposed Budget for FY 2026 – Exhibits 901.1-2

(SPG #5-Resource Management)

Jon Galbraith, Chief Financial/Operating Officer, reported on the proposed budget for fiscal year 2025-26 including information on the funding buckets, the proposed FY26 tax rate, certified enrollment trends, an overview of the various funds, tax levy trends, and the tax rate impact.

MOTION by Morey to approve the proposed budget for fiscal year 2025-26 as presented in Exhibit 901.2. Second by Buchholz. Roll call vote, all ayes. Motion carried
– **Motion 142-04-28**

902: Approval to Set Public Hearing – Exhibit 902.1

(SPG #5-Resource Management)

– **Motion 143-04-28**

MOTION by Buchholz to approve the resolution fixing the date for a public hearing on the proposed issuance of approximately \$31,000,000 School Infrastructure Sales, Services, and Use Tax Revenue Bonds, for use in the construction and furnishing of the new Indoor Activities Center & Renovation Projects, for 5:00 PM on Monday, May 12, 2025, in the boardroom of the Educational Leadership Center. Second by Morey. Foss clarified the vote was just to approve setting a public hearing. Roll call vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

903: Approval of Open Enrollment Requests (SPG #2-Learning Excellence & 3-Learner Experience)

MOTION by Thomas to approve the open enrollment requests as presented. Second by Walker. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.
– **Motion 144-04-28**

Approved IN	Student Name	Grade	Resident District	School Year
	Espinosa, Mateo	K	Cedar Rapids CSD	2025-26
	Keller, Audrey	5 th	Cedar Rapids CSD	2025-26
	Wolfe-Conwell, Hakiem	JrK	Cedar Rapids CSD	2025-26

Approved OUT	Student Name	Grade	Requested District	School Year	Reason
	Bahr, Sophia	7 th	Alburnett CSD	2025-26	Good Cause
	Krewson, Sawyer	2 nd	Alburnett CSD	2025-26	Good Cause
	Powers, Americus	11 th	Alburnett CSD	2025-26	Good Cause

904: Approval of Fundraising Requests – Exhibit 904.1 (SPG #5-Resource Management)

MOTION by Walker to approve the fundraising requests as presented in Exhibit 904.1. Second by Mansoor, Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.
– **Motion 145-04-28**

905: Approval to Set Public Hearing (SPG #1-Community Engagement & #5-Resource Management)

MOTION by Morey to set a public hearing at 5:00 PM on May 12, 2025, in the boardroom of the Educational Leadership Center regarding the amended certified budget for fiscal year 2025. Second by Walker. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

– **Motion 146-04-28**

1000: CONSENT AGENDA (SPG #4-People/Culture & #5-Resource Mngmt / BG #3.a, c, d-District Culture)

MOTION by Mansoor to approve the consent agenda as presented. Second by Walker. Congratulations were shared with the retirees. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

– **Motion 147-04-28**

1001: Personnel

Certified Staff: Assignments/Reassignments/Transfers

Name	Assignment	Dept Action	Salary Placement
Phillips, Ryan	LMHS: English Teacher	8/13/25	BA, Step 3
Rasmussen, Becky	From LG 2 nd Gr Teacher to BW Instructional Coach	8/15/25	Same
Schreckengast, Julia	LMHS: Math Teacher	8/13/25	MA, Step 17
Workman, Melissa	EH: Student Support Services Teacher	8/13/25	MA+15, Step 15

Certified Staff: Resignations

Name	Assignment	Dept Action	Reason
Hoobler, Patsy	BP: 5 th Gr Teacher	6/5/25	Retirement
Irvine, Diane	EH: 2 nd Gr Teacher	6/5/25	Retirement

Classified Staff: Assignments/Reassignments/Transfers

Name	Assignment	Dept Action	Salary Placement
Contreras, Scott	LMHS: Student Support Associate	4/21/25	LMSEAA A, Step 1
Dupree, Grant	AC: Aquatic Instructor	4/28/25	\$12.00/hour
Durin, George	AC: Aquatic Instructor	4/17/25	\$13.00/hour
Forrester, Victoria	EX: Student Support Associate	4/15/25	LMSEAA A, Step 1
Getz, Olivea	IC: High School Student Associate	4/21/25	\$12.00/hour
Herdlicka, Peggy	NS: From Sub to IC General Help	4/21/25	PTNS, Step 2
Luck, Addison	AC: Aquatic Instructor	4/21/25	\$12.00/hour
Wiley, Stacie	ELC: Benefits/Payroll Tech (Part-Time)	5/5/25	\$24.00/hour

Classified Staff: Resignations

Name	Assignment	Dept Action	Reason
Brewer, Wyatt	OR: Student Support Associate	4/9/25	Personal
Hunting, Jan	EH: Paraprofessional	6/4/25	Retirement
McCurren, Charlotte	LMHS: Student Support Associate	4/17/25	Other Employment
Peterson, Dana	NS: LMHS General Help	4/30/25	Personal
Rutledge, Sadie	O&M: LG Custodian	4/11/25	Personal

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

Name	Assignment	Dept Action	Salary Placement
Gotto, Jacob	OR/EX: Asst 8 th Gr Boys Wrestling Coach	4/9/25	\$2,000
Robson Alexis	LMHS: Musical Choreographer	4/10/25	\$1,952

1002: Approval of April 14th Board Minutes – Exhibit 1002.1

1003: Approval of Bills/Warrants – Exhibit 1003.1

1004: Approval of Contracts/Agreements – Exhibits 1004.1-4

1. Cornell College student teaching agreement for 2025-26
2. Tom MacKey independent contractor agreement-LMHS Marching Band minicamp
3. Tom MacKey independent contractor agreement-LMHS Marching Band camp
4. Kent Stock independent contractor agreement-Venture Academics guest speaker
5. Interagency agreements for Special Education instructional services with Cedar Rapids CSD (1), Davenport CSD (1), and Marion Independent (1).

1005: Informational Financial Reports – Exhibits 1005.1-2

1. School Finance & Cash Balance Reports as of March 31, 2024
2. School Finance & Cash Balance Reports as of March 31, 2025

1100: BOARD CALENDAR & COMMUNICATIONS

President Lowe Lancaster reviewed several upcoming events and requested a volunteer to attend the June 5th Marion City Council meeting.

1101: Board Calendar & Communications

Date	Time	Event	Location
May 1	8:30 AM	Board Visit	Westfield Elementary
May 1	10:00 AM	Policy Committee	Boardroom
<i>May 5</i>	<i>7:00 PM</i>	<i>LMHS Senior Recognition Night</i>	<i>LMHS Auditorium</i>
May 8	8:30 AM	Finance/Audit Committee (F/AC)	Boardroom
May 8	5:30 PM	Marion City Council (<i>Thomas</i>)	City Hall
May 12	5:00 PM	LMCSD Board of Directors Meeting & Closed Session	Boardroom
May 14	4:00 PM	LMHS School Counselors Advisory	LMHS College/Career Ctr
<i>May 14</i>	<i>5:30 PM</i>	<i>Lions/Volunteer Awards (Reception @ 5:00 PM)</i>	<i>Boardroom</i>
<i>May 21</i>	--	<i>LMHS Seniors Last Day</i>	--
May 22	5:30 PM	Marion City Council (<i>Morey</i>)	City Hall
May 25	1:00 PM	LMHS Graduation Ceremony	Alliant Powerhouse
<i>May 26</i>	--	<i>No School – Memorial Day</i>	--
Date	Time	Event	Location
<i>June 4</i>	--	<i>Last Day of School – 2-Hour Early Dismissal</i>	--
<i>June 5</i>	--	<i>Teacher Workday</i>	--
June 5	5:30 PM	Marion City Council (<i>Buchholz</i>)	City Hall
June 9	5:00 PM	LMCSD Board of Directors Meeting	Boardroom
<i>June 19</i>	--	<i>District Closed – Juneteenth</i>	--
June 19	5:30 PM	Marion City Council	City Hall
Date	Time	Event	Location
July 3	5:30 PM	Marion City Council	City Hall
<i>July 4</i>	--	<i>District Closed – Fourth of July</i>	--
July 14	5:00 PM	LMCSD Board of Directors Meeting	Boardroom
July 17	5:30 PM	Marion City Council	City Hall

1102: Board Committees/Advisories

Required Board Committees/Advisories

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

*SPG = Strategic Plan Goal/ BG = Board Goal

Additional District Committees/Advisories

Committee/Advisory	Board Representatives
Facilities Advisory Committee	Foss, Mansoor, Morey
Venture Academics Advisory (VAA)	Morey, Walker
LMHS School Counselors Advisory	Mansoor, Walker
MEDCO Community Promise Advisory	Buchholz
Linn County Conference Board	Buchholz
Legislative Liaisons	Foss, Thomas

1200: ADJOURNMENT – Motion 148-04-28

MOTION by Buchholz to adjourn the meeting at 6:14 PM. Second by Thomas. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

Katie Lowe Lancaster, Board President

Jonathan Galbraith, Board Secretary/Treasurer