

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES
FEBRUARY 23, 2026
5:00 PM @ ELC BOARDROOM
[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, Langston, Mansoor, Morey, Thomas, and Lowe Lancaster. Administration present: Kortemeyer, Galbraith, Ramos, Wear, Christian, Faber, and Nelson.

200: ADOPTION OF AGENDA

– Motion 141.02.23

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

300: DISTRICT HIGHLIGHT MOMENT

(SPG #2-Learning Excellence / BG #2.e-Student Learning)

Connor F. from Excelsior Middle School and Hayden S. from Linn Grove Elementary were recognized for advancing onto the Iowa Special Olympics State Competition.

400: AUDIENCE COMMUNICATIONS

(SPG #1-Community Engagement)

No audience communications were received.

500: INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

501: Preliminary FY27 Certified Budget Report – Exhibit 501.1

Jonathan Galbraith, Chief Financial/Operating Officer, reported on the preliminary certified budget for fiscal year 2027, with an overview of the budget timeline, various funding buckets, and key factors considered. *(SPG #5-Resource Management / BG #3.d-District Culture)*

502: Board Visit Report

(BG #2-Student Learning)

The board reported that during their February 12th visit to Bowman Woods Elementary they enjoyed seeing the AI curriculum being utilized in the classroom, playing math games with the kindergarteners, and the stories shared by the students during their lunch break.

503: Finance/Audit Committee Report (SPG #5-Resource Management / BG #3.d-District Culture)

Directors Buchholz and Morey reported that during the February 17th Finance/Audit Committee meeting the preliminary certified budget for fiscal year 2027 was reviewed along with the current bills, a proposal for purchasing more buses, and the Inflation Reduction Act energy credit recently received by the district.

504: Marion City Council Reports (SPG #1-Community Engagement / BG #3.d-District Culture)

Director Thomas reported that during the February 5th Marion City Council meeting several traffic advisory actions regarding speed limit signs were approved. Director Morey reported that during the February 19th meeting the potential rezoning of the land near south Munier Road and south 31st Street from agricultural to residential was set for public hearing.

505: Legislative Report (BG #1.c-Visionary Team & 3.d-District Culture)

Directors Morey and Thomas shared an overview of the educational bills that passed through the first funnel deadline and that the Senate approved 2% Supplemental State Aid, which now goes to the Governor for approval.

506: Superintendent’s Report – Exhibit 506.1 (SPG #1-Community Engagement)

Superintendent Kortemeyer shared several district honors and highlights, reviewed the current facilities projects, and highlighted several upcoming events.

600: UNFINISHED BUSINESS

601: Inflation Reduction Act Energy Credit (SPG #5-Resource Management)

Jonathan Galbraith, Chief Financial/Operating Officer, reported that the district qualified for a credit of \$516,918.00 thru the Inflation Reduction Act Energy Credit Program.

700: NEW BUSINESS

701: 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 Mansoor. Voice vote, all eyes. Motion carried. – **Motion 142.02.23**

Approved IN	Student Name	Grade	Resident District
	King, Zoe	7 th	Mt Vernon CSD
	Panchal, Mishka	7 th	Cedar Rapids CSD

Approved OUT	Student Name	Grade	Requested District	Reason
	Jones, Dominick	9 th	Mt Vernon CSD	Good cause

702: Approval to Set Public Hearing (SPG #1-Community Engagement) – **Motion 143.02.23**
MOTION by Morey to set a public hearing for 6:30 PM on Monday, March 30th in the boardroom of the Educational Leadership Center regarding the proposed fiscal year 2027 tax notice. Second by Buchholz. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

703: Approval of Acceptance of Gift (SPG #5-Resource Management) – **Motion 144.02.23**
MOTION by Thomas to approve the acceptance of a \$1,000.00 matching gift donated by the Iowa Treasurer as part of the 2025 Fall ISave 529 College Savings Month Giveaway per Policy 802.7. Second by Morey. Congratulations and thanks were shared Jodan W. from Novak Elementary, who was one of the five winners of the giveaway and chose the district to receive the matching gift donation. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

704: Approval of Bus Purchases – Exhibit 704.1 (SPG #5-Resource Management)
MOTION by Buchholz to approve the purchase of two 77-passenger conventional buses for a total cost of \$315,798.00 from Hogle Bus Company and to purchase one 59-passenger lift bus for a total cost of \$153,428.00 from School Bus Sales. Second by Mansoor. Thanks were shared with the Transportation team for their work on obtaining the bids and ensuring the district has a good bus fleet. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried. – **Motion 145.02.23**

800: CONSENT AGENDA (SPG #4-People/Culture & #5-Resource Mngmt / BG #3.a, c, d-District Culture)
MOTION by Morey to approve the consent agenda as presented. Second by Thomas. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried. – **Motion 146.02.23**

801: Personnel

Certified Staff: Resignations

Name	Assignment	Dept Action	Reason
Franklin-Clark, Kelly	LMHS: Student Support Services Teacher	2/18/26	Personal
Gahring, Nichole	OR: PE/Health Teacher	2/12/26	Other employment
Johnson, Laura	LMHS: English Teacher	6/4/26	Personal
Vaske, Laura	LMHS: Family Consumer Science Teacher	6/4/26	Personal

Classified Staff: Assignments/Reassignments/Transfers

Name	Assignment	Dept Action	Salary Placement
Corbett, Alivia	BW: Student Support Associate	3/2/26	LMSEAA A, Step 1
Holtan, Christine	BP: Student Support Associate	2/16/26	LMSEAA A, Step 1
Johnson, Marga	O&M: Part-Time Custodian	2/12/26	LMSA C, Step 1
Wiggins, Gary	O&M: EH Custodian	2/9/26	LMSA C, Step 1

Classified Staff: Resignations

Name	Assignment	Dept Action	Reason
Bagwell, Hunter	LMHS: Student Support Associate	2/13/26	Other employment
Kvidahl, Eric	O&M: Custodian	2/13/26	Other employment
Kvidahl, James	TR: Bus Driver	2/9/26	Personal
Ware, Jenna	NE: School Counselors Secretary	2/9/26	Personal

Co/Extra-Curricular Staff – Schedule H: Assignments/Reassignments/Transfers

Name	Assignment	Dept Action	Salary Placement
Behning, Brian	OR: Assistant Boys Soccer Coach	2/6/26	\$3,132
Pulis, Madisen	OR: Assistant Boys Track Coach	2/6/26	\$3,132
Smith, Greg	LMHS: Play Director (.25)	2/9/26	\$1,757

Co/Extra-Curricular Staff: Resignations

Name	Assignment	Dept Action	Reason
Gaffney, Katie	OR/EX: head Cross Country Coach	2/11/26	Personal
Lansing, Don	OR/EX: Assistant Cross Country Coach	2/11/26	Personal

802: Approval of February 9th Board Minutes – Exhibit 802.1**803: Approval of February 13th Closed Session Minutes – Exhibit 803.1****804: Approval of February 17th Closed Session Minutes – Exhibit 804.1****805: Approval of Bills/Warrants – Exhibit 805.1****806: Approval of Contracts/Agreements – Exhibits 806.1-2**

1. RJ Carson & Picket Fence Family Farms: Farm lease for 15 acres
2. RJ Carson & Picket Fence Family Farms: Farm lease for 19.57 acres
3. Interagency special education programming agreements with CAM CSD (1), Cedar Rapids CSD (3) and Woodward Granger CSD (1). *For student confidentiality, exhibits are not provided.*

807: Overnight Trip Requests – Exhibits 807.1-3

1. FFA: State Science & Technology Fair @ Ames, IA on March 26-27, 2026
2. FFA: State Leadership Conference @ Ames, IA on April 19-21, 2026
3. Varsity Volleyball: Elite Training Camp @ Lincoln, NE on July 16-17, 2026

808: Fundraising Requests – Exhibits 808.1-4

1. LMHS 9th Gr TAG: host bake sale for Fur a Good Paws February 24-March 13
2. LMHS 9th Gr TAG: collection of donations for service project Feb 24-March 13
3. Hazel Point 6th Grade: host Kids Against Hunger service project April thru May
4. LMHS Science Olympiad: host water stop during Marion marathon on May 16th

809: Informational Financial Reports – Exhibits 809.1-2

1. School Finance and Cash Balance Reports as of January 31, 2025
2. School Finance and Cash Balance Reports as of January 31, 2026

900: BOARD CALENDAR & COMMUNICATIONS**901: Board Calendar & Communications**

President Lowe Lancaster reviewed the calendar and requested volunteers for the March Marion City Council meetings.

Date	Time	Event	Location
February 25	4:15 PM	Career & Technical Education Advisory (CTE)	LMHS E-130
Date	Time	Event	Location
March 2	1:55 PM	LMCSD Board of Directors Special Session	ELC Boardroom
March 5	12:00 PM	Linn County Conference Board	Cedar Rapids City Hall
March 5	12:30 PM	Cedar Rapids Examining Board	Cedar Rapids City Hall
March 5	5:30 PM	Marion City Council (<i>Buchholz</i>)	Marion City Hall
<i>March 9</i>	<i>11:30 AM</i>	<i>Marion State of the City Address (Doors open @ 11)</i>	<i>DoubleTree by Hilton</i>
March 9	5:00 PM	LMCSD Board of Directors Special Session	ELC Boardroom
<i>March 16-20</i>	<i>---</i>	<i>No School – Spring Break</i>	<i>--</i>
March 19	5:30 PM	Marion City Council (<i>Buchholz</i>)	Marion City Hall
March 25	7:30 AM	Finance/Audit Committee	ELC Boardroom
<i>March 25</i>	<i>5:00 PM</i>	<i>Lion Learning Session on Property Tax Notices</i>	<i>ELC Boardroom</i>
<i>March 27</i>	<i>--</i>	<i>No School – Professional Day/Workday</i>	<i>--</i>
<i>March 27</i>	<i>6:00 PM</i>	<i>LM School Foundation MANE Event</i>	<i>DoubleTree by Hilton</i>
<i>March 30</i>	<i>--</i>	<i>No School – Professional Day</i>	<i>--</i>
March 30	5:00 PM	LMCSD Board of Directors Meeting & Special Session	ELC Boardroom

902: Board Committees/Advisories

Required Board Committees/Advisories

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

Additional District Committees/Advisories

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

1000: ADJOURNMENT

– Motion 147.02.23

MOTION by Morey to adjourn the meeting at 5:53 PM. Second by Thomas. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

Katie Lowe Lancaster, Board President

Jonathan Galbraith, Board Secretary/Treasurer

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
WORK SESSION MINUTES
FEBRUARY 23, 2026**

100: CALL TO ORDER & DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

The work session of the Linn-Mar Board of Directors was called to order at 6:05 PM in the boardroom of the Educational Leadership Center (3556 Winslow Rd, Marion). Roll will be taken to determine a quorum. Present: Buchholz, Foss, Langston, Mansoor, Morey, Thomas, and Lowe Lancaster. Administration present: Kortemeyer, Galbraith, Ramos, Wear, Christian, Faber, and Nelson.

200: ADOPTION OF AGENDA

– **Motion 148.02.23**

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

300: WORK SESSION

301: Facilities Planning Discussion

Jonathan Galbraith, Chief Financial/Operating Officer, facilitated a discussion regarding the 10-Year Facilities Plan that included an overview of the district's funding resources (SAVE, PPEL, PERL).

400: ADJOURNMENT

– **Motion 149.02.23**

MOTION by Morey to adjourn the work session at 7:43 PM. Second by Mansoor. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

Katie Lowe Lancaster, Board President

Jonathan Galbraith, Board Secretary/Treasurer