

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
APRIL 27, 2026**

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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 182.04.27

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

300: PUBLIC HEARINGS

(SPG #1-Community Engagement)

301: Plans/Specs for the Oak Ridge Band Room Addition – Refer to Exhibit 701.1

A public hearing was held on the plans/specifications for the Oak Ridge Middle School band room addition. No comments were received.

302: Proposed Certified Budget for Fiscal Year 2027 – Refer to Exhibits 801.1-2

A public hearing was held on the proposed certified budget for fiscal year 2027. No comments were received.

400: DISTRICT HIGHLIGHT MOMENT

401: National Teacher Appreciation Week – Exhibit 401.1

President Lowe Lancaster read a proclamation in honor of National Teacher Appreciation Week (May 4-8).

(SPG #4-People & Culture / BG #3.a-District Culture)

402: School Board Appreciation Month – Exhibit 402.1

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

(SPG #4-People & Culture / BG #3.a-District Culture)

500: AUDIENCE COMMUNICATIONS

No comments were received.

(SPG #1-Community Engagement)

600: INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

601: Transition Alliance Program Report – Exhibit 601.1

Anne Faber, Executive Director of Student Services, shared an overview of the Transition Alliance Program that included information on how the program works and why the program matters; how the program benefits students, educators, and employees; and various outcomes. *(SPG #2-Learning Excellence / BG #2.c-Student Learning)*

602: Policy Committee Report – Refer to Exhibit 802.1 *(BG #1.c-Visionary Team)*

Director Thomas reported that during the April 16th Policy Committee meeting several policies due for annual review were discussed, along with a few IASB Primer recommendations and the 502.4 Series. Thomas also requested that the wording in Series 505.62 be corrected to reflect “parent” phone number instead of “home” phone number, per the committee’s discussion.

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

Director Morey reported that during the April 23rd Marion City Council meeting approvals were made regarding the project calendar for a median landscaping project at 10th Street and 29th Avenue, a resolution for the purchase of a temporary construction easement for the Alburnett Road extension project, and the 2026-27 budget.

604: School Improvement Advisory Committee Report

Director Mansoor reported that during the April 23rd SIAC meeting discussion included improvement priorities, the wellness policies, curriculum review cycles, and Title I & II qualifications. *(SPG #2-Learning Excellence / BG #2.b-Student Learning)*

605: Finance/Audit Committee Report *(SPG #5-Resource Management / BG #3.c-District Culture)*

Director Buchholz reported that during the April 23rd Finance/Audit Committee meeting the bills and proposed 2026-27 certified budget were reviewed.

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

Directors Morey and Thomas reported on the educational bills and the property tax bill still under consideration in the current legislative session.

607: Superintendent’s Report – Exhibit 607.1 *(SPG #1-Community Engagement)*

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

700: UNFINISHED BUSINESS

701: Approval of Plans/Specifications – Exhibit 701.1 – Motion 183.04.27

MOTION by Morey to approve the plans/specifications for the Oak Ridge Middle School Band Room Addition as presented. Second by Langston. Foss asked for clarification on the final layout. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried. *(SPG #5-Resource Management / BG #3.c-District Culture)*

702: Approval of Substantial Completion – Exhibit 702.1 – Motion 184.04.27

MOTION by Mansoor to approve the substantial completion of the early electrical package for the Performance Hall Project and issue final payment to Hawkeye Electrical Contractors for a total of \$18,119.80. Second by Thomas. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

(SPG #5-Resource Management / BG #3.c-District Culture)

703: Approval of Change Order for the Performance Hall Hallway Extension

Jon Galbraith, Chief Financial/Operating Officer, facilitated a discussion on the Performance Hall hallway extension.

– Exhibit 703.1

MOTION by Foss to table change order #15 with McComas-Lacina Construction for the Performance Hall hallway extension as discussed for a date to be set later by leadership before the project closes. Second by Buchholz. Voice vote. Ayes: Buchholz, Foss, Langston, Mansoor, Thomas, and Lowe Lancaster. Nays: Morey. Motion carried.

– Motion 185.04.27

704: Approval of Preliminary Official Statement – Exhibit 704.1

MOTION by Buchholz to approve the Preliminary Official Statement regarding the sale of approximately \$29,545,000 General Obligation School Capital Loan Notes, Series 2026, as presented in Exhibit 704.1. Second by Mansoor. Galbraith clarified this is for the sale of the PPEL notes. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

– Motion 186.04.27

800: NEW BUSINESS

801: Approval of Proposed Certified Budget for FY 2027 – Exhibits 801.1-2

Jon Galbraith, Chief Financial/Operating Officer, shared an overview of the proposed certified budget for fiscal year 2027.

(SPG #5-Resource Management / BG #3.c-District Culture)

MOTION by Morey to approve the proposed certified budget for fiscal year 2027 as presented in Exhibit 801.2. Second by Buchholz. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

– Motion 187.04.27

802: First Reading of Policy Recommendations – Exhibit 802.1

MOTION by Thomas to approve the first reading of the policy recommendations as presented in Exhibit 802.1. Second by Langston. Thomas requested that, prior to the second reading, the language in series 505.62 be changed to “parent” phone number instead of “home” phone number to reflect the Policy Committee’s discussion on April 16th. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

– Motion 188.04.27

803: Approval to Set Public Hearing

– Motion 189.04.27

MOTION by Mansoor to approve setting a public hearing on the amended certified budget for fiscal year 2026 for 5:00 PM on Monday, May 11th in the boardroom of the Educational Leadership Center. Second by Buchholz. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

(SPG #1-Community Engagement & 5-Resource Management / BG #3.c-District Culture)

804: Approval of Fundraising Requests – Exhibit 804.1 – Motion 190.04.27

MOTION by Langston to approve the fundraising requests as presented in Exhibit 804.1. Second by Mansoor. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

805: 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 Morey. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried. **– Motion 191.04.27**

Approved IN	Student Name	Grade	Resident District	Year
	Grabanski, Cash	K	Cedar Rapids CSD	2026-27
	Snow, Rylah	K	Marion Independent	2026-27

Denied IN	Student Name	Grade	Resident District	Reason	Year
	Kenlock-Hiles, Zohra	8 th	Cedar Rapids CSD	Insufficient space	2026-27

Approved OUT	Student Name	Grade	District Requested	Reason	Year
	Chrisman, Ada	4 th	Marion Independent	Good cause	2026-27

Denied OUT	Student Name	Grade	District Requested	Reason	Year
	Mielke, Theodore	6 th	Cedar Rapids CSD	Late, no good cause	2026-27

900: CONSENT AGENDA

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

MOTION by Foss to approve the consent agenda removing item 904.5. Second by Langston. Congratulations were shared with the retirees. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried. **– Motion 192.04.27**

MOTION by Thomas to consider 904.5, the Franklin Covey renewal of the Leader in Me program. Second by Buchholz. Discussion included a request for more information on the program. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried. **– Motion 193.04.27**

MOTION by Buchholz to approve the Franklin Covey renewal of the Wilkins Leader in Me program for \$6,693.50. Second by Lowe Lancaster. Discussion included a request for more information on the program. Voice vote. Ayes: Buchholz and Lowe Lancaster. Nays: Foss, Langston, Mansoor, and Morey. Thomas abstained. Motion failed.

– Motion 194.04.27

901: Personnel

Certified Staff: Assignments/Reassignments/Transfers

Name	Assignment	Dept Action	Salary Placement
Atkins, Elizabeth	OR: Math Teacher	8/12/26	BA, Step 10
Derr, Jacob	OR: PE/Health Teacher	8/12/26	BA, Step 2
Mitzel, Season	BP: From 6 th Gr Teacher to Media Specialist	8/17/26	Same
Vint, Audrey	OR: Science Teacher	8/12/26	BA, Step 3

Certified Staff: Resignations

Name	Assignment	Dept Action	Reason
Gorman, Terry	WF: Student Support Services Teacher	6/5/26	Relocation
Helmke, Shanna	BP: 5 th Gr Teacher	6/5/26	Other employment
Klaren, Samantha	BW: Student Support Services Teacher	4/17/26	Other employment
Renner, Ann	WE: 3 rd Gr Teacher	6/5/26	Retirement
Smith, Marcia	LMHS: English/Speech Teacher	6/5/26	Retirement

Classified Staff: Assignments/Reassignments/Transfers

Name	Assignment	Dept Action	Salary Placement
Burlage, Lucy	AC: Aquatic Instructor	4/16/26	\$13.00/hour
Green, Rebecca	NS: BP Cashier/General Help	4/13/26	PTNS, Step 1+.25
Hanson, Ashley	O&M: NE Custodian	4/1/26	LMSA C, Step 1
Heims, Michael	O&M: Summer Help	4/6/26	\$15.00/hour
Hopkins, Lauren	IC: Building Secretary	4/22/26	LMSEAA C, Step 1
James, Hayleigh	LG: Student Support Associate	8/18/26	LMSEAA A, Step 1

Classified Staff: Resignations

Name	Assignment	Dept Action	Reason
Andersen, Jacob	LMHS: Student Supervisor	6/4/26	Other employment
Kern, Danielle	IC: Health Assistant	4/17/26	Personal
Kuennen, Liebana	BW: Student Support Associate	4/27/26	Personal
Sidman, Christine	NS: OR General Help	4/14/26	Personal

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

Name	Assignment	Dept Action	Salary Placement
Becker, Kristin	LMHS: Assistant Varsity Girls Basketball Coach	8/1/26	\$5,872
Jorgensen, Jack	LMHS: Assistant Musical Director	4/14/26	\$625
Nuss, Aaron	LMHS: Assistant Musical Director	4/14/26	\$1,000
Robson, Lexi	LMHS: Musical Director (Spring) Choreographer	4/29/26	\$1,761.50
Stivers, Jon	LMHS: Head Varsity Girls Swim Coach	4/17/26	\$5,872

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

Name	Assignment	Dept Action	Salary Placement
Robson, Lexi	LMHS: In Step Show Choir Choreographer	4/9/26	\$5,500

Co/Extra-Curricular Staff: Resignations

Name	Assignment	Dept Action	Reason
Favero, Mackenzie	LMHS: Assistant POMS Coach	4/17/26	Personal
Hammes, Jen	LMHS: Assistant POMS Coach	4/17/26	Personal
Thomas, Josie	LMHS: Assistant Varsity Girls Basketball Coach	4/17/26	Personal

902: Approval of April 13th Board Minutes – Exhibit 902.1**903: Approval of Bills/Warrants – Exhibit 903.1****904: Approval of Contracts/Agreements – Exhibits 904.1-15**

1. Iowa Workforce Development: Transition Alliance Program agreement (\$45,125)
2. Ability Physical Therapy: strength and conditioning services agreement (\$46,000)
3. Four Oaks Family & Children Services: transportation agreement (\$18,870)
4. Linn Co Emergency Management: evacuation transportation agreement

5. Franklin Covey: renewal of Wilkins Leader in Me program (\$6,693.50)
6. Bohnsack & Frommelt: audit services for fiscal year 2026 (up to \$33,000)
7. Piper Sandler: bond sale dissemination agent amendment agreement (\$2,000/yr)
8. Dryspace: notice of award/contract for Oak Ridge roof replacement (\$375,365)
9. Jim Ecker/Ecker Broadcasting: commercial licensing agreement
10. Braxton Carr independent contractor agreement: In-Step Show Choir (\$6,000)
11. Tom Mackey independent contractor agreement: Frontline Marching Band (\$300)
12. Emily Rafson independent contractor agreement: JV Color Guard clinic (\$500)
13. Emily Rafson independent contractor agreement: JV Color Guard coaching (\$1,500)
14. Sophie Good independent contractor agreement: Musical choreographer (\$800)
15. Upper Iowa University: student clinical placement agreement
16. Interagency agreement for Special Education and/or residential regular education programming with Cardinal CSD (1), Cedar Rapids CSD (1), Central City CSD (1), Marion Independent (1), and Sioux City CSD (1). *For student confidentiality, exhibits are not provided.*

905: Informational Financial Reports – Exhibits 905.1-2

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

1000: BOARD CALENDAR & COMMUNICATIONS

1001: Board Calendar & Communications

President Lowe Lancaster reviewed the board calendar with the reminder that the May 7th Marion City Council meeting was cancelled. Director Mansoor shared she would not be in attendance at the May 7th Special Session. President Lowe Lancaster stated she would attend the May 7th and May 11th meetings virtually and that Vice President Foss would facilitate the May 11th meeting.

Date	Time	Event	Location
April 30	4:00 PM	Venture Academics Advisory	AEC Room 104/105
Date	Time	Event	Location
May 7	8:30 AM	Finance/Audit Committee	ELC Boardroom
May 7	5:00 PM	LMCSD Board of Directors Special Session	ELC Boardroom
May 7	5:30 PM	Marion City Council (Buchholz) Mtg Cancelled	City Hall
May 11	5:00 PM	LMCSD Board of Directors Meeting	ELC Boardroom
May 13	5:15 PM	LIONS & Volunteer Awards	ELC Boardroom
May 21	5:30 PM	Marion City Council (Thomas)	City Hall
May 24	1:00 PM	LMHS Commencement Ceremony	Alliant Energy Powerhouse
May 25	--	No School (Memorial Day Holiday)	--
Date	Time	Event	Location
June 4	--	<i>Last Day of School (2-Hour Early Dismissal)</i>	--
June 4	5:30 PM	Marion City Council	City Hall
June 5	--	Teacher Workday	--
June 8	5:00 PM	LMCSD Board of Directors Meeting	ELC Boardroom
June 18	5:30 PM	Marion City Council	City Hall

1002: 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

1100: ADJOURNMENT

– Motion 195.04.27

MOTION by Buchholz to adjourn the meeting at 7:14 PM. Second by Langston. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

Katie Lowe Lancaster, Board President

Jonathan Galbraith, Board Secretary/Treasurer