

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES  
MAY 11, 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, and Thomas. Absent: Lowe Lancaster. Administration present: Kortemeyer, Galbraith, Ramos, Wear, Christian, Faber, and Nelson.

**200: ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**– Motion 199.05.11**

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

**300: PUBLIC HEARING – Refer to Exhibit 801.1**

*(SPG #1-Community Engagement)*

A public hearing was held on the amended certified budget for fiscal year 2026. No comments were received.

**400: DISTRICT HIGHLIGHT MOMENT**

In honor of Teacher Appreciation Week, a video was shared of district teachers reflecting on what makes their buildings and the district special.

**500: AUDIENCE COMMUNICATIONS**

*(SPG #1-Community Engagement)*

1. Mike Lorenz, Resident/Volunteer, concerns regarding the performance hall
2. Marie Spehar, Parent, appeal of open enrollment decision

**600: INFORMATIONAL REPORTS**

**601: Facilities Assessment Report**

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

A report was given on the recent facilities assessments including information on the project scope, sample data, initial findings, and next steps.

**602: Venture Academics Advisory Report**

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

Directors Langston, Morey, and Mansoor reported that during the April 30<sup>th</sup> Venture Academics Advisory meeting information was shared on enrollment, a proposed volunteer partnership with the City, the need to reconsider program offerings, and

student classes to raise awareness of property taxes. It was also reported that four of the Venture Academics students would be graduating with cord honors.

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

Director Buchholz reported that during the May 7<sup>th</sup> Finance/Audit Committee meeting topics included a review of the bills, student fees, the amended certified budget for fiscal year 2026, staff negotiations, the MJ Care Medicaid billing agreement.

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

Director Morey reported on the close of the legislative session and the educational and property tax bills that moved on to the Governor.

**605: Superintendent's Report – Exhibit 605.1** *(SPG #1-Community Engagement)*

Superintendent Kortemeyer shared several district honors and highlights, a review of current facilities projects, and highlighted several upcoming events.

**700: UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**701: Second Reading of Policy Recommendations – Exhibit 701.1**

**MOTION** by Langston to approve the second reading of the policy recommendations as presented in Exhibit 701.1. Second by Thomas. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

**– Motion 200.05.11**

**702: Review of Bids – Exhibit 702.1** *(SPG #5-Resource Management / BG #3.c-District Culture)*

Jon Galbraith, Chief Financial/Operating Officer, and Garrett Pochop, with Piper Sandler, reviewed the bids received regarding the sale of approximately \$29,545,000 General Obligation School Capital Loan Notes, Series 2026.

**703: Approval of Resolution – Roll Call Vote – Exhibit 703.1**

Jon Galbraith, Chief Financial/Operating Officer, reviewed the resolution directing the sale of the General Obligation School Capital Loan Notes.

**MOTION** by Buchholz to approve the resolution directing the sale of \$28,125,000.00 General Obligation School Capital Loan Notes, Series 2026, to R. Seelaus & Co, LLC (Summit, NJ) for the purchase price of \$29,229,167.38. Second by Morey. Roll call vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

**– Motion 201.05.11**

**800: NEW BUSINESS**

**801: Approval of Amended FY26 Certified Budget – Exhibit 801.1**

**MOTION** by Mansoor to approve the amended certified budget for fiscal year 2026 as presented in Exhibit 801.1. Second by Buchholz. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

*(SPG #5-Resource Management / BG #3.c-District Culture)* **– Motion 202.05.11**

**802: Approval of Magma Math Subscription – Exhibit 802.1**

Nathan Wear, Associate Superintendent/Chief Academic Officer, shared an overview of the Magma Math program.

**MOTION** by Buchholz to approve the Magma Math subscription agreement for grades 9-12, at \$11,200.00/year for three years, as presented in Exhibit 802.1. Second by Thomas. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried. **– Motion 203.05.11**

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

**MOTION** by Mansoor to approve the open enrollment requests as presented. Second by Thomas. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried. **– Motion 204.05.11**

Approved IN	Student Name	Grade	Resident District	School Year
	Kirksey, Ky'aire	K	Cedar Rapids	2026-27

Approved OUT	Student Name	Grade	Requested District	Reason	School Year
	Seastrom, Easton	10	Springville	Good cause	2026-27

Denied OUT	Student Name	Grade	Requested District	Reason	School Year
	Hanson, Chloe	6	MID Home School	Late, no good cause	2026-27

**804: Approval of Student Fees for 2026-27 – Exhibit 804.1**

**MOTION** by Morey to approve the student fee schedule for the 2026-27 school year as presented in Exhibit 804.1. Second by Mansoor. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried. **– Motion 205.05.11**

**805: Approval of FY27 LMSA Agreement** (SPG #4-People & Culture / BG #3.a-District Culture)

**MOTION** by Mansoor to approve a 3.03% total package increase for the Linn-Mar Service Association for fiscal year 2026-27. Second by Langston. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried. **– Motion 206.05.11**

**806: Approval of FY27 Transportation Department Agreement**

**MOTION** by Langston to approve a 3.00% total package increase for the Transportation Department staff for fiscal year 2026-27. Second by Morey. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried. (SPG #4-People & Culture / BG #3.a-District Culture) **– Motion 207.05.11**

**807: Approval of FY27 PTNS Agreement** (SPG #4-People & Culture / BG #3.a-District Culture)

**MOTION** by Buchholz to approve a 5.53% total package increase for the Part-Time Nutrition Services staff for fiscal year 2026-27. Second by Morey. Galbraith clarified that the increase is to raise the starting wage to \$16.00/hour. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried. **– Motion 208.05.11**

## **900: 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 Thomas. Congratulations with shared with Kathryn Church on her retirement. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

**- Motion 209.05.11**

## **901: Personnel**

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

<b>Name</b>	<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Dept Action</b>	<b>Salary Placement</b>
Behmer, Joe	EX: From Student Dean/Athletics Activities Director to Associate Principal	7/1/2026	\$92,000/year
Dirks, Jessica	EX: Teacher Leader Instructional Coach	8/12/26	MA+45, Step 27
Hayes, Beth	ESY Facilitator	6/1/2026	\$5,000
Ptacek, Lucas	ELC: Director of High School Teaching & Learning	7/1/26	\$130,000/year
Vint, Audrey	OR: 8 <sup>th</sup> Gr Science Teacher	8/12/26	BA, Step 3

### **Certified Staff: Resignations**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Dept Action</b>	<b>Reason</b>
Bolinder, Kiley	OR: 7 <sup>th</sup> Gr Reading Teacher	6/5/26	Relocation
Church, Kathryn	District: Home School Teacher	6/4/26	Retirement
Fontenot, Elizabeth	HP: Vocal Music Teacher	6/5/26	Personal

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

<b>Name</b>	<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Dept Action</b>	<b>Salary Placement</b>
Cook, Robin	NS: OR General Help	4/29/26	PTNS, Step 1
Himmel, Emily	OR: Student Support Associate	4/27/26	LMSEAA A, Step 1
James, Hayleigh	LG: Student Support Associate	8/18/26	LMSEAA A, Step 1
King, Kelly	NS: EX General Help/Cashier	4/29/26	PTNS, Step 1+.25
Rowland, Timothy	LMHS: Student Support Associate	5/4/26	LMSEAA A, Step 1

### **Classified Staff: Resignations**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Dept Action</b>	<b>Reason</b>
Ancheta, Anthony	O&M: LMHS Custodian	5/6/26	Other employment
Buelow, Greg	LG: Student Support Associate	5/8/26	Other employment
Cassill, Jennifer	NS: EX General Help/Cashier	6/4/26	Personal
Johnson, Senica	LG: Student Support Associate	5/22/26	Other employment
Kainz, Laura	LMHS: Student Support Associate	6/5/26	Other employment
Kruger, Tiffany	LMHS: Student Support Associate	4/23/26	Personal
Martin, Joseph	O&M: EX Custodian	5/7/26	Other employment
Minehart, Amanda	LMHS: Student Support Associate	4/17/26	Personal
Seale, Ashley	LMHS: Student Support Associate	4/22/26	Personal
Thompson, Karla	HP: Student Support Associate	6/5/26	Personal

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

<b>Name</b>	<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Dept Action</b>	<b>Salary Placement</b>
Burke, Shawn	LMHS: Spring Musical Director (.5)	4/23/26	\$2,349
Jorgensen, Jack	LMHS: Assistant Musical Director (.3)	4/14/26	\$625
Read, Henry	LMHS: Assistant Sophomore Baseball Coach	5/4/26	\$3,523

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

Name	Assignment	Dept Action	Salary Placement
Earnest, Valerie	WE: Accompanist	4/28/26	\$215

**Co/Extra-Curricular Staff: Resignations**

Name	Assignment	Dept Action	Reason
Blakely, Karla	LMHS: Student Council Sponsor	6/4/26	Personal
Bolinder, Kiley	OR: Assistant 7 <sup>th</sup> Gr Girls Basketball Coach	5/4/26	Personal
Bradley, Rylie	LMHS: Head JV Poms Coach	4/21/26	Personal
Geers, Mike	EX: Head 7 <sup>th</sup> Gr Wrestling Coach	5/5/26	Personal

**902: Approval of April 27<sup>th</sup> Board Minutes – Exhibit 902.1****903: Approval of May 6th Special Session Minutes – Exhibit 903.1****904: Approval of Bills/Warrants – Exhibit 904.1****905: Approval of Contracts/Agreements – Exhibits 905.1-4**

1. PowerSchool: License and subscription renewal (\$60,463.65)
2. MJ Care: LEA Medicaid Billing & Business Associate agreement
3. Lonni Lane Marketing/Candace Fleming: Stories Alive program agreement and independent contractor agreement for presenter (\$12,000)
4. Wendy Morton: Independent contractor agreement for summer band lessons substitute (\$27.33/hour)
5. Interagency contracts for Special Education instructional services with Empowering Excellence Charter School (2). *For student confidentiality, exhibits are not provided.*

**906: Overnight Trip Request – Exhibit 906.1**

FBLA to attend Nat'l Leadership Conference in San Antonio, Texas (June 28-July 3)

**1000: BOARD CALENDAR & COMMUNICATIONS****1001: Board Calendar & Communications**

Vice President Foss reviewed the calendar and requested volunteers for the June Marion City Council meetings.

Date	Time	Event	Location
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	--	Last Day of School (2-Hour Early Dismissal)	--
June 4	5:30 PM	Marion City Council (Mansoor)	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 (Buchholz)	City Hall

## **1002: Board Committees/Advisories**

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

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

<b>Committee/Advisory</b>	<b>Board Representatives</b>
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 210.05.11**

**MOTION** by Buchholz to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 PM. Second by Morey. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

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Justin Foss, Board Vice President

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Jonathan Galbraith, Board Secretary/Treasurer