

LMCSD BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES

MONDAY, JULY 13, 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: Wear, Galbraith, Ramos, Lang, Christian, Faber, and Milke.

200: ADOPTION OF AGENDA

– Motion 001.07.13

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

300: DISTRICT HIGHLIGHT MOMENT

(SPG #1-Community Engagement)

Superintendent Wear recognized the district's three Gatorade Players of the Year: Abby Mecklenburg (Track & Field), Drea Kern (Girls Soccer), and Charlies Sarsfield (Baseball).

400: AUDIENCE COMMUNICATIONS

(SPG #1-Community Engagement)

No communications received.

500: INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

501: Indoor Activities Center & Associated Renovations Project Report

Jon Galbraith, Chief Financial/Operating Officer, and representatives from OPN Architects reported on the Indoor Activities Center and Associated Renovations Project including information on funding, phasing options, and design options.

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

502: Marion City Council Report

(SPG #1-Community Engagement / BG #3.d-District Culture)

Directors Buchholz and Thomas reported there were no district-related items presented during the June 18th and July 7th Marion City Council meetings.

503: Superintendent's Report – Exhibit 503.1

(SPG #1-Community Engagement)

Superintendent Wear thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve the district and the administrative Cabinet for their help in the transition. Wear also thanked the O&M grounds staff and custodians for their hard work in preparing the grounds and buildings for the 2026-27 school year. Several district honors were also highlighted, along with information on recent legislative changes.

600: UNFINISHED BUSINESS

700: NEW BUSINESS

701: Approval of Open Enrollment Request

(SPG #2-Learning Excellence & 3-Learner Experience)

MOTION by Buchholz to approve the open enrollment request as presented. Second by Foss. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

– Motion 002.07.13

Approved OUT	Student Name	Grade	Requested District	Reason
	Bennett, Arabella	12	Alburnett CSD	Good cause

702: Approval of Hourly Rates for Aquatic Center Staff – Exhibit 702.1

MOTION by Mansoor to approve the proposed updated hourly rates for the Aquatic Center staff as presented in Exhibit 702.1. Second by Langston. Voice vote, all ayes.

Motion carried. (SPG #4-People/Culture / BG #3.c-District Culture)

– Motion 003.07.13

703: Approval of Special Education Strategists II & III Hiring Incentive

MOTION by Morey to approve the distribution of a financial incentive to aid in the hiring and retention of Strategists II & III Special Education teachers with a hiring bonus of \$5,000.00 to be paid over two years (\$2,500 after each completed year of employment). Second by Thomas. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

– Motion 004.07.13

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

704: Discussion of 2026-27 Legislative Priorities – Exhibit 704.1

(BG #1.c-Visionary Team)

President Lowe Lancaster facilitated an initial review of the IASB 2026-27 legislative priorities platform and clarified the Board would approve their top four priorities during the August 3rd board meeting.

800: CONSENT AGENDA

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

MOTION by Thomas to approve the consent agenda as presented. Second by Mansoor. Congratulations were shared with Kim Ophoff and Donna Robbins on their retirement.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

– Motion 005.07.13

801: Personnel

Certified Staff: Assignments/Reassignments/Transfers

Name	Assignment	Dept Action	Salary Placement
Clark, Dana	WE: Music Teacher	8/12/26	BA, Step 10
Heinsius, Austin	LMHS: Student Support Services Teacher	8/12/26	MA, Step 3
Lovseth, Laura	LMHS: Math Teacher	8/12/26	MA, Step 6
Sebring, Jamie	EX: 7 th Gr Social Studies Teacher	8/12/26	MA+45, Step 24
Smith, Olivia	District: Home School Teacher (16/hrs week)	8/17/26	BA, Step 10
Thul, Catherine	IC: 4 th Gr Teacher	8/12/26	MA, Step 7

Certified Staff: Resignations

Name	Assignment	Dept Action	Reason
Fontenot, Elizabeth	OR/HP: Vocal Music Teacher	6/11/26	Personal
Hajek, Alex	EX: 7 th Gr Social Studies Teacher	6/8/26	Personal
Lang, Ericka	EX: 7 th Gr Reading Teacher (.5 FTE)	7/3/26	Other employment
Mixdorf, Kimberly	EX: Student Support Services Teacher	7/6/26	Other employment
Ophoff, Kim	EH: 3 rd Gr Teacher	6/10/26	Retirement
Young, Jordan	OR: Student Dean/Athletic-Activities Director	6/26/26	Other employment

Classified Staff: Assignments/Reassignments/Transfers

Name	Assignment	Dept Action	Salary Placement
Brennom, Michael	AC: Aquatic Instructor	7/1/26	\$13.00/hour
Egli, Rebecca	District: TAP Specialist	7/20/26	\$54,000/year
Girard, Cora	AC: Aquatic Instructor	6/12/26	\$13.00/hour
Hagerman, Karey	District: TAP Specialist	7/20/26	\$54,000/year
Hastings, Nikki	TR: Regular Sub Bus Driver	6/3/26	Step 1
Holt, Makenzy	EX: Student Support Associate	8/18/26	LMSEAA A, Step 1
Jones, Shawanna	O&M: District Sub Custodian (.75 FTE)	7/1/26	LMSA C, Step 1
Kelley, Sabrina	BW: Student Support Associate	8/18/26	LMSEAA A, Step 1
Keppler, Jacqueline	LG: Student Support Associate	8/18/26	LMSEAA A, Step 1
Krumm, Joe	O&M: From District Sub to LMHS Custodian	6/22/26	Same
LeGrand, DeAnne	O&M: From LMHS to HP Custodian	6/8/26	Same
Mattes, Michael	O&M: LMHS Custodian	7/13/26	LMSA C, Step 1
McCauley, Madison	NE: Student Support Associate	8/18/26	LMSEAA A, Step 1
Mitzel, Madeline	O&M: EX Custodian	6/29/26	LMSA C, Step 1
Nuehring, Michelle	District: Behavior Consultant	8/1/26	\$100,390/year
Schmidt, Bridger	AC: Aquatic Instructor	6/12/26	\$13.00/hour
Stivers, Jordan	AC: Aquatic Instructor	7/6/26	\$13.00/hour
Stolba, Brayden	AC: Aquatic Instructor	6/5/26	\$13.00/hour
Vennie, Nicole	From EH to NE Student Support Associate	8/18/26	Same
Wilson, Tyler	ELC: Payroll Lead	7/20/26	\$65,000/year
Youngkent, Darby	AC: Aquatic Instructor	6/4/26	\$13.00/hour

Classified Staff: Resignations

Name	Assignment	Dept Action	Reason
Adams, Mara	LMHS: Student Support Associate	7/7/26	Personal
Bagsby, Tammy	WE: Early Childhood Paraprofessional	6/30/26	Personal
Bures, Jessica	LMHS: Student Support Associate	7/6/26	Personal
Issa, Deanna	BP: Student Support Associate	6/4/26	Personal
Mallicoat, Laura	ELC: HR Generalist	7/31/26	Personal
Noltensmeier, Claire	IC: Student Support Associate	6/4/26	Personal
Patton, Jean	O&M: HP Custodian	6/3/26	Personal
Robbins, Donna	NS: IC Satellite Manager/General Help	6/4/26	Retirement
Siemering, Kevin	WF: Student Support Associate	6/4/26	Termination
Stivers, Heather	BP: Student Support Associate	6/4/26	Other employment

Stivers, Shelby	BP: Student Support Associate	6/4/26	Personal
Vickery, Karen	BW: Student Support Associate	6/30/26	Relocation
Wei, Sammi	WF: Student Support Associate	6/4/26	Relocation

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

Name	Assignment	Dept Action	Salary Placement
Coyle, Connor	EX: Head Cross Country Coach	8/17/26	\$3,564
Herrera, Samantha	LMHS: Head Varsity Poms Coach (Fall)	8/3/26	\$4,752
Herrera, Samantha	LMHS: Head Varsity Poms Coach (Winter)	8/3/26	\$4,752
Nibaur, Kennedy	LMHS: Assistant Varsity Poms Coach	8/3/26	\$3,564
Waddell, Micah	LMHS: Assistant Varsity Cross Country Coach	8/3/26	\$3,564

Co/Extra-Curricular Staff (Nonschedule H): Assignments/Reassignments/Transfers

Name	Assignment	Dept Action	Salary Placement
Anderson, David	BP: Summer Band Lessons/Camp	6/8/26	\$4,162.80
Azelborn, Laura	LMHS: Science Olympiad Sponsor	6/5/26	\$1,174
Beke, Cathy	OR: Lego League Sponsor	8/24/26	\$2,500
Berringer, Brooke	LMHS: Science Olympiad Sponsor	6/5/26	\$1,174
Chaloupka, Logan	LMHS: Esports Sponsor	6/5/26	\$5,870
Davies, Michael	EX: Summer Band Lessons/Camp	6/8/26	\$4,159.09
Dupree, Brett	OR: Summer Band Lessons	6/8/26	\$4,755.43
Earnest, Valerie	LMHS: Choir Accompanist	6/8/26	\$350
Good, Sophia	LMHS: Show Choir Director	8/3/26	\$2,772
Griggs, Trevor	LMHS: D&D Club Sponsor	6/5/26	\$1,174
Kainz, Laura	LMHS: Esports Sponsor	6/5/26	\$1,174
Kelly, Sam	OR: Summer Band Lessons	6/8/26	\$4,543.42
Kraeplin, Amy	BP: Summer Band Lessons/Camp (June)	6/8/26	\$5,129.08
Kraeplin, Amy	BP: Summer Band Lessons/Camp (July)	7/1/26	\$2,933.63
Marston, Kathleen	OR: Summer Orchestra Lessons	6/8/26	\$1,839.84
Nuss, Stephanie	HP: Summer Band Lessons/Camp	6/8/26	\$3,433.68
Reznicow, Josh	LMHS: Summer Orchestra Lessons	6/8/26	\$1,101.20
Robson, Alexis	LMHS: Show Choir Choreography	6/1/26	\$3,000
Schamberger, Kristine	HP: Summer Orchestra Lessons/Camp	6/8/26	\$3,811.20
Sentman, Thad	LMHS: Summer Orchestra Lessons	6/8/26	\$1,204.80
Seymour, Ryley	LMHS: Esports Sponsor	6/5/26	\$1,174
Snead, Chelsi	LMHS: HOSA Club Sponsor	6/1/26	\$587
Stone, Sherry	LMHS: Color Guard Instructor	8/3/26	\$1,114
Sylvester, Eric	LMHS: Esports Sponsor	6/5/26	\$3,522
Terrell, Vanessa	LMHS: Color Guard Instructor	8/3/26	\$1,906
Torres Duran, Malory	LMHS: HOSA Club Sponsor	6/1/26	\$587
Vail, Katie	EX: Summer Orchestra Lessons	6/9/26	\$2,973.24

Co/Extra-Curricular Staff: Resignations

Name	Assignment	Dept Action	Reason
Andersen, Jacob	LMHS: Assistant Varsity Track Coach	6/5/26	Relocation

Gaffney, Katie	EX/OR: Head Cross Country Coach	6/5/26	Personal
Kloser, Amanda	LMHS: Assistant Varsity Cross Country Coach	6/5/26	Personal
Lyons, Braden	OR: Assistant 7 th Gr Football Coach	6/3/26	Personal

802: Approval of June 8th Board Minutes – Exhibit 802.1

803: Approval of June 22nd Special Session Minutes – Exhibit 803.1

804: Approval of Bills/Warrants – Exhibit 804.1

805: Approval of Contracts/Agreements – Exhibits 805.1-29

1. Character Strong: Renewal of program license (\$55,973.00)
2. Imagine Learning: Renewal of program license for grades K-1 (\$32,163.12)
3. Great Minds PBC: Renewal of Wit & Wisdom program for grades 3-6 (\$56,657.63)
4. Zaner-Bloser: Renewal of Superkids reading program for grades K-2 (\$61,013.70)
5. Lexia Voyager: Renewal of LANGUAGE! Live program for grade 8 (\$24,949.00)
6. Teaching Strategies: Renewal of Iowa Gold program for preschool (\$3,267.00)
7. School AI: Subscription renewal (\$35,302.00)
8. Grant Wood AEA: PowerSchool software and support renewal (\$69,580.28)
9. Grant Wood AEA: Shared Math Consultant (\$30,362)
10. Grant Wood AEA: Shared Literacy Consultant (\$30,362)
11. Grant Wood AEA: Shared Social-Emotional-Behavioral Health Consultant (\$30,362)
12. Kirkwood Community College: Workplace Learning Connection (\$26,385.50)
13. Kirkwood Community College: Concurrent Enrollment Program (\$229/credit hour)
14. Kirkwood Community College: 4+ Transitional Services for Special Education
15. Bureau of Education & Research: Workshop for Special Education Staff (\$6,420)
16. Amore Music Academy: Independent contractor work with LM Orchestra (\$7,500)
17. Braxton Carr: Independent contractor work with In Step Show Choir (\$8,000)
18. Braxton Carr: Independent contractor work with 10th Street Show Choir (\$8,000)
19. Allen Chapman: Independent contractor work with All State Chorus (\$1,500)
20. Matthew Greco: Independent contractor work with Varsity Poms (\$3,500-5,000)
21. Anna Hilty: Independent contractor work with Varsity Poms (\$10,000-13,000)
22. April James: Independent contractor work with 10th Street Show Choir (\$4,500)
23. Graci Pritzkau: Independent contractor work with 10th Street Show Choir (\$3,500)
24. Maggi Pritzkau: Independent contractor work with Varsity Poms (\$3,500)
25. Carol Tralau: Independent contractor work with All State Chorus (\$1,500)
26. Heath Weber: Independent contractor work with 10th Street Show Choir (\$1,500)
27. Hand in Hand: Voluntary preschool program (\$426.83/month per pupil)
28. Hand in Hand: Before/after school daycare and summer daycare program
29. Eastern Iowa Excavating: Change order #2 for Indoor Activities Center & Associated Renovations Project early site package (\$131,331.05)
30. Interagency agreements for Special Education programming with Cedar Rapids CSD (3), Davenport CSD (1), and Marion Independent (1). *For student confidentiality, exhibits are not provided.*

806: Fundraising Requests – Exhibits 806.1-2

1. Excelsior Middle School Track: Kona Ice and Travelin' Toms sales
2. JV Poms: poster sponsorships

807: Overnight Trip Request – Exhibit 807.1

1. FFA to attend officers' retreat in Panora, IA (July 11-13)

808: Informational Financial Reports – Exhibits 808.1-2

1. School Finances and Cash Balance Reports as of May 31, 2025
2. School Finances and Cash Balance Reports as of May 31, 2026

900: BOARD CALENDAR & COMMUNICATIONS

901: Board Calendar & Communications

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

Date	Time	Event	Location
July 20	9:00 AM	Coffee Chat w/Superintendent Wear	Trading Grounds
July 23	5:30 PM	Marion City Council (<i>Thomas</i>)	City Hall
Date	Time	Event	Location
August 3	3:00 PM	Policy Committee Meeting	Board Conf Room
August 3	5:00 PM	LMCSD Board of Directors Meeting	Boardroom
August 6	5:30 PM	Marion City Council (<i>Buchholz</i>)	City Hall
August 17	5:00 PM	LMCSD Board of Directors Meeting	Boardroom
August 18	7:30 AM	Staff Welcome Back	Performance Hall
August 20	5:30 PM	Marion City Council (<i>Thomas</i>)	City Hall
August 24	--	First Day of School K-9 th Grades	--
August 25	--	First Day of School 10 th -12 th Grades	--

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 006.07.13

MOTION by Morey to adjourn the meeting at 6:22 PM. Second by Buchholz. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

Katie Lowe Lancaster, Board President

Jonathan Galbraith, Board Secretary/Treasurer