

**SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES
JANUARY 8, 2024**

100: CALL TO ORDER & DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

The Linn-Mar Board of Directors meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM in the boardroom of the Learning Resource Center (2999 N 10th St, Marion). Roll was taken to determine a quorum. Present: Buchholz, Foss, Lowe Lancaster, Morey, Rollinger, Walker, and Wall. Administration present: Kortemeyer, Galbraith, Ramos, Christian, Frick, Read, and Wear.

200: ADOPTION OF AGENDA – *Motion 099-01-08*

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

300 PUBLIC HEARING – Refer to Exhibits 601.1 and 602.1 *(Strategic Plan Priority 1.0)*

A public hearing was held regarding the plans and specifications for the Linn-Mar High School/Indian Creek Elementary roof replacement project and the new Linn-Mar performance arts center. No communications were received.

400: AUDIENCE COMMUNICATIONS

(Strategic Plan Priority 1.0)

1. Amanda Snyder, parent, Tetra Tech security assessment

500: INFORMATIONAL REPORTS/UPDATES/DISCUSSIONS

501: Teaching & Learning Report – Exhibit 501.1 *(Strategic Plan Priority 2.0; Board Goal 2.b)*

Erica Rausch, Director of Intermediate/Middle School Teaching & Learning, reported on the 5th-8th grade curriculum including information on the configuration of the grade levels, Professional Learning Communities (PLCs), High Reliability Schools (HRS), science, social studies, literacy, Illustrative Mathematics, Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS), and support and monitoring of guaranteed and viable curriculum.

502: LMHS School Counselors Advisory Report *(Strategic Plan Priority 3.0, Board Goal 2.c)*

Lowe Lancaster reported that student attendance patterns and job/career fairs were discussed during the December 13th LMHS School Counselors Advisory meeting.

503: Board Visit Report

(Board Goal 2.b)

The board reported they enjoyed the showcasing of student/staff interactions during their December 14th visit to Westfield Elementary.

504: Diversity/Equity/Inclusion Committee Report *(Strategic Plan Priority 1.0; Board Goal 2.c)*

Lowé Lancaster reported that during the December 18th DEI Committee meeting, the various voices of the committee allowed a diverse and healthy conversation as they continued to discuss their goals and focus.

505: Policy Committee Report *(Board Goal 1.c)*

Walker reported that the 600 and 700 series were reviewed during the December 20th Policy Committee meeting and that the policies were with the entire board for consideration and questions before being presented for first reading on January 22nd.

506: Marion City Council Report *(Strategic Plan Priority 1.0)*

Wall reported that during the December 21st and January 4th Marion City Council meetings the only items that pertained to the district were community petitions to install a stop sign or stoplight at the intersection of 31st Street and 29th Avenue. Wall reported that the Traffic Advisory Committee recommended against the petitions and the Council agreed with their recommendation.

507: Finance/Audit Committee Report *(Strategic Plan Priority 5.0; Board Goal 3.c)*

Morey reported that during the January 4th Finance/Audit Committee meeting the budget projections for the next three years and the second year of budget cuts based on various projections were reviewed. The committee is recommending a 2-to-2.5-million-dollar budget cut, with the recently offered early separation packages covering approximately half of the recommended cuts.

508: Superintendent's Update – Exhibit 508.1

Superintendent Kortemeyer reported that the state-certified enrollment numbers for 2023-24 are:

- Certified Enrollment: 7,566.62 (down 118.9 students from 2022-23);
- Students Served: 7,302.52 (down 146 students);
- Open Enrolled Out: 887.5 students;
- Open Enrolled In: 623.4 students; and
- Educational Savings Account: 231 students (54 were enrolled in 2022-23 and 69 of the students are kindergarteners).

Kortemeyer also shared a reminder of the LM School Foundation MANE Event, information on recent visits by legislators to the district, and the hiring of the Donovan Group to assist with various district communication initiatives.

600: UNFINISHED BUSINESS

601: Approval of Plans and Specifications – Exhibit 601.1 **Motion 100-01-08**

MOTION by Morey to approve the plans and specifications for the Linn-Mar High School/Indian Creek Elementary roof replacement project. Second by Walker. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

602: Approval of Plans and Specifications – Exhibit 602.1 **Motion 101-01-08**

MOTION by Foss to approve the plans and specifications for the new Linn-Mar performance arts center. Second by Morey. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

700: NEW BUSINESS

701: At-Risk/Dropout Prevention MSA Application – Exhibit 701.1 Motion 102-01-08

MOTION by Walker to approve the 2024-25 At-Risk/Dropout Prevention Modified Supplemental Amount application in the amount of \$1,444,275.00, and for this amount to be submitted to the School Budget Review Committee for consideration of increased spending authority. Second by Wall. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

702: Approval of Resolution Ordering Election – Exhibit 702.1 Motion 103-01-08

MOTION by Wall to approve the resolution ordering election on the question of continuing to levy a voter approved physical plant and equipment property tax on Tuesday, March 5, 2024. Second by Morey. Morey shared a reminder that board members could not tell people to vote in support of the levy. Roll call vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

703: Early Graduation Requests – Exhibit 703.1 Motion 104-01-08

MOTION by Walker to approve the early graduation requests as presented. Second by Foss. Rollinger congratulated all of the early graduates. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

Bailey, Tara	Hopper, Briley
Casper, Jordan	Jahnke, Damien
Dohrmann, Dylan	Ketcham, Gavin
Harrington, Konner	Lamar, Farrah
Holey, Anastasia	McCoy, Aonica

704: Open Enrollment Request – Motion 105-01-08

(Strategic Plan Priority 3.0)

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

Denied IN	Student Name	Grade	Resident District	Reason
	Finley, Azarion	7 th	Marion Independent	Insufficient space

800: CONSENT AGENDA – Motion 106-01-08

MOTION by Morey to approve the consent agenda as presented. Second by Lowe Lancaster. Foss requested a key to the various acronyms. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

801: Personnel

Certified Staff: Assignments/Reassignments/Transfers

Name	Assignment	Dept Action	Salary Placement
Mayes, Jacob	HS: Agri-Science Teacher	8/13/24	BA, Step 1

Certified Staff: Resignation

Name	Assignment	Dept Action	Reason
McDonald, Charlotte	OR: Family Consumer Science Teacher	5/31/24	Retirement

Classified Staff: Assignments/Reassignments/Transfers

Name	Assignment	Dept Action	Salary Placement
Adams, Casey	O&M: HVAC Technician	1/2/24	SEIU F+\$4.00, Step 1
Balegar, Padmashri	NS: HS General Help	1/3/24	PTNS, Step 1
Betterton, Sydney	BP: Student Support Associate	1/3/24	LMSEAA II, Step 1
Buchanan, Derrick	TR: Regular Sub Bus Driver	12/12/23	Step 1
Clark, Annalissa	From HP to EH Custodian	11/30/23	Same
Covington, Nicole	NS: NE General Help	1/3/24	PTNS, Step 1
Hansen, Victoria	NE: Student Support Associate	12/18/23	LMSEAA II, Step 1
Heinrich, Conway	From EH to HS Custodian	12/1/23	Same
Holey, Anastasia	NS: HS General Help	1/3/24	PTNS, Step 1
Johnson, Meredith	NE: From Counselor Secretary to Building Secretary	1/3/24	LMSEAA IV+.50, Step 4
Kern, Danielle	EH: Student Support Associate	1/3/24	LMSEAA II, Step 1
Kopecky, Randall	TR: From Sub to Regular Sub Bus Driver	12/3/23	Step 1
McCurren, Jean	HS: Student Support Associate	12/21/23	LMSEAA II, Step 1
McNamara, Berna	From EX to HP Custodian	12/11/23	Same
Molle, Grifen	O&M: Athletic Grounds/Facilities Specialists	1/2/24	\$22.00/hour
Navarro, Gleidi	NS: HS General Help from 6 to 7 hrs/day	1/8/24	SEIU A, Step 1
Packingham, Terri	HS: Student Support Associate	1/5/24	LMSEAA II, Step 1
Reeves, Loni	HS: Student Support Associate	1/4/24	LMSEAA II, Step 1
Smith, Lawrence	TR: From Sub to Regular Sub Bus Driver	12/13/23	Step 1
Tuttrup, Jason	TR: From Sub to Regular Sub Bus Driver	12/20/23	Step 1
Unruh, Jason	TR: From Regular Sub to Bus Driver	12/1/23	Same

Classified Staff: Resignation

Name	Assignment	Dept Action	Reason
Ernie, Veronica	WE: Student Support Associate	12/22/23	Personal
Jochimsen, Mel	OR: Student Support Associate	12/22/23	Personal
Kleitsch, Mackenzie	O&M: Athletic Grounds/Facilities Coordinator	12/8/23	Other Employment
Maher, Amanda	NE: Building Secretary	12/22/23	Other Employment
Messerschmitt, Alexa	LG: General Ed Assistant	12/18/23	Other Employment
Rauch, Mollie	NS: BW General Help	12/20/23	Other Employment
Skvor, Leonard	TR: Bus Driver	12/12/23	Personal
Steinwand, Stephanie	NS: OR General Help	12/22/23	Personal

Co/Extra-Curricular: Assignments/Reassignments/Transfers

Name	Assignment	Dept Action	Salary Placement
Barker, Caleb	HS: Assistant Varsity Boys Track Coach	2/19/24	\$4,624
Frangella, Nate	HS: Assistant 10 th Gr Baseball Coach	12/15/23	\$3,468
Gangestad, Sam	HS: From Assistant to Head 9/10 Softball Coach	4/29/24	\$4,624
Stevens, Amy	HS: Restorative Services Center Coordinator	1/3/24	\$2,644.88

802: Approval of December 11th Board Minutes – Exhibit 802.1**803: Approval of Bills/Warrants – Exhibit 803.1**

804: Approval of Contracts/Agreements – Exhibits 804.1-7

1. Hawkeye Electric agreement regarding the new performance arts center
2. City of Cedar Rapids adult crossing guard agreement
3. OPN Architects letter of intent to provide design services for the high school extension project
4. Carson and Picket Fence Family farm lease (15 acres)
5. Carson and Picket Fence Family farm lease (19.57 acres)
6. Fierce, Inc., workshop facilitation agreement
7. PowerSchool license and subscription agreement for test bed hosting

805: Fundraising Request – Exhibit 805.1

Model United Nations trivia night to raise funds for travel to state conference in spring.

806: Overnight Excursion/Trip Request – Exhibit 806.1

LMHS Music Department to travel to Orlando, FL in March for students to participate in a Disney workshop.

807: Informational Financial Reports – Exhibits 807.1-4

1. School Finance and Cash Balance Reports as of 10/31/22
2. School Finance and Cash Balance Reports as of 10/31/23
3. School Finance and Cash Balance Reports as of 11/30/22
4. School Finance and Cash Balance Reports as of 11/30/23

900: BOARD CALENDAR/COMMUNICATIONS/COMMITTEES

Walker and Morey shared information on the Venture Academics civic duty panel event and congratulated the Venture students for a job well done. Morey congratulated the Show Choir students and directors for their recent successes.

901: Board Calendar & Communications

Date	Time	Event	Location
Jan 11	11:30 AM	Board Visit	Indian Creek Elementary
<i>Jan 12</i>	--	<i>No School – Professional Day/Workday</i>	<i>Districtwide</i>
<i>Jan 15</i>	--	<i>No School – Professional Day</i>	<i>Districtwide</i>
Jan 15	5:00 PM	Diversity/Equity/Inclusion Committee	Boardroom
Jan 17	6:00 PM	Lion Learning (<i>Buchholz, Foss, Morey</i>)	Boardroom
Jan 18	5:30 PM	Marion City Council (<i>Morey</i>)	City Hall
Jan 22	5:00 PM	Board Meeting & Closed Session	Boardroom
Jan 25	Noon	Board Visit	Echo Hill Elementary
Date	Time	Event	Location
Feb 1	8:30 AM	Finance/Audit Committee	Boardroom
Feb 1	Noon	Linn County Conference Board	City of CR Admin Bldg
Feb 5	5:00 PM	Board Meeting	Boardroom
Feb 7	4:15 PM	Career & Technical Education Advisory	LRC Room 304/305
Feb 8	8:40 AM	Board Visit	Linn Grove Elementary
Feb 8	5:30 PM	Marion City Council (<i>Buchholz</i>)	City Hall
Feb 12	5:00 PM	Diversity/Equity/Inclusion Committee	Boardroom
<i>Feb 12-13</i>	--	<i>IASB Day on the Hill</i>	<i>Des Moines</i>
Feb 19	5:00 PM	Board Meeting	Boardroom
Feb 22	9:00 AM	Board Visit	Novak Elementary
Feb 22	5:30 PM	Marion City Council (<i>Walker</i>)	City Hall

902: Required Board Committees/Advisories

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

903: Additional District Committees/Advisories

Committee/Advisory	Board Representatives
Diversity/Equity/Inclusion Committee (DEI)	Lowe Lancaster
Venture Academics Advisory (VAA)	Morey, Walker
LMHS School Counselors Advisory	Lowe Lancaster
MEDCO Community Promise Advisory	Wall
Linn County Conference Board	Buchholz
Legislative Liaisons	Morey, Walker

1000: ADJOURNMENT – Motion 107-01-08

MOTION by Wall to adjourn the meeting at 6:10 PM. Second by Morey. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

Barry Buchholz, Board President

Jon Galbraith, Board Secretary/Treasurer

**BOARD CLOSED SESSION MINUTES
JANUARY 8, 2024**

100: CALL TO ORDER & DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

A closed session of the Linn-Mar Board of Directors was called to order at 6:20 PM in the boardroom of the Learning Resource Center (2999 N 10th St, Marion). Roll was taken to determine a quorum. Present: Buchholz, Foss, Lowe Lancaster, Morey, Rollinger, Walker, and Wall. Administration present: Kortemeyer and Galbraith. Also in attendance electronically: Miriam Van Auken, Ahlers & Cooney, PC.

200: ADOPTION OF AGENDA – *Motion 108-01-08*

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

300: CLOSED SESSION

301: Move into Closed Session – *Motion 109-01-08*

MOTION by Wall to move into closed session at 6:21 PM as provided by Iowa Code Section 21.5(1)(c) of the open meetings law to discuss strategy with counsel in matters that are presently in litigation or where litigation is imminent where its disclosure would be likely to prejudice or disadvantage the position of the governmental body in that litigation. Second by Rollinger. Morey asked for clarification from Rollinger if he was one of the petitioners against the district. Rollinger clarified he was not. Roll call vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

302: Return to Open Session – *Motion 110-01-08*

MOTION by Morey to return to open session at 7:37 PM. Second by Wall. Roll call vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

400: ADJOURNMENT – *Motion 111-01-08*

MOTION by Wall to adjourn the session at 7:38 PM. Second by Rollinger. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

Barry Buchholz, Board President

Jon Galbraith, Board Secretary/Treasurer