



G.7.b.

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 23, 2025 – 6:30 P.M.**

The Board of Education of the L'Anse Creuse Public Schools district convened a Regular Board Meeting on Monday, June 23, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. at the Harry L. Wheeler Community Center and Administrative Offices, located at 24076 F.V. Pankow Boulevard, Clinton Township, Michigan.

A. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call

Mr. Adam Lipski, President, called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: Mr. Adam Lipski, President
Mr. Al Doss, Vice President
Mrs. Sharon Ross, Secretary
Mr. John Da Via, Treasurer
Mr. Jeffrey Cyprus, Trustee
Mrs. Sandra Hernden, Trustee

Absent: Mr. Shane Sellers, Trustee

Also Present: Mr. Keith Howell, Superintendent
Ms. Lisa Montpas, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction
Mrs. Kathy Konon, Assistant Superintendent for Business & Operations
Dr. Tony Sedick, Director for Elementary Education
Dr. Major Mickens, Director for Community Education and Student Services
Mrs. Beth Disbrow, Director for Finance
Mr. Brandon Streng, Director for Technology
Ms. Cheryl Goodall, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent
Employees and Patrons of the District

B. *Approval of Agenda for the June 23, 2025 Regular Board Meeting

Motion by Mr. Doss, supported by Mrs. Hernden, to approve the June 23, 2025 Regular Board Meeting Agenda with the following changes:

- Move the break to after item C. Presentations
- Move Item J. to be the next item after item D.

Yes: All

No: None

Motion carried.

C. Presentations

C.1. Little Inventors

Mr. Howell introduced Dr. Tony Sedick who gave an overview of the MISD Little Inventors Program which asked Macomb County students to draw a unique invention that generates energy, saves energy or uses energy more efficiently. Out of 1,800 submissions, only 10 were selected by

professional designers and engineers to be made into real-life products, with two being our L'Anse Creuse fourth grade students. He introduced Olivia B. who invented the "Flower Fan", a solar powered fan, and Neyla S. who invented the "Drive-O-Meter 3000", which powers stoplights using the kinetic energy of cars driving on the road.

C.2. Athletics College Signings

Mr. Howell introduced Dr. Major Mickens who recognized eight student athletes from LCHS-N and four from LCHS who have signed to continue competing at the collegiate level.

C.3. State Qualifying Athletes

Dr. Mickens recognized student athletes who qualified for and competed in the State level equivalent of their respective sports including track and field at both high schools and the girls flag football team at LCHS-N.

Mr. Lipski called a break from 6:54 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

D. Human Resources – High School Principal Recommendation

D.1. *LCHS-N Principal – Employment Recommendation

Mr. Howell stated since Mr. Van Camp was unable to attend, he would be speaking on his behalf. He thanked Dr. Meredith Beard for her time as principal at LCHS-N as she is retiring. He then gave a brief overview of Mr. Nick Ellul's background and experience.

Motion by Mr. Doss, supported by Mr. Da Via, to approve the recommendation for Mr. Nick Ellul as the Principal for L'Anse Creuse High School–North.

Mr. Ellul thanked everyone for their support. He introduced his family and thanked them also for their support. He stated that he is honored and grateful for this opportunity.

Yes: All

No: None

Motion carried.

J. Business Office

J.1. **Truth-in-Budget Hearing

Motion by Mr. Cyprus, supported by Mrs. Hernden, to open the Truth-in-Budget Hearing at 7:07 p.m.

Roll Call Vote

Yes: Cyprus, Hernden, Ross, Doss, Da Via, Lipski

No: None

Motion carried.

Mr. Howell introduced Mrs. Kathy Konon who presented an overview of the Amended 2024-2025 Budget and the 2025-2026 Original Budget.

Mr. Howell thanked Mrs. Konon for all of her work and the work of the entire Business Office on the budget over the past several months.

Motion by Mr. Doss, supported by Mrs. Hernden, to close the Truth-in-Budget Hearing at 7:28 p.m.

Roll Call Vote

Yes: Doss, Hernden, Da Via, Lipski, Cyprus, Ross

No: None

Motion carried.

E. Superintendent's Report

- E.1. District Update
- E.2. Choir

Mr. Howell stated that his update is primarily about the choir issue that many spoke about at the previous meeting. He stated there are many factors that go into planning how many sections of a class there are. He stated he believes that all of the choir programs are extremely important. He stated he would like to see momentum building in the program, and find the right person to build the program and would like L'Anse Creuse to have the best choir program possible.

Discussion followed.

F. Hearing of School District Patrons

Tom Kortum, teacher at the Pellerin Center, stated he would like to share some of the success stories in alternative education. He stated this year, for the first time, 100% of eligible students took the PSAT, SAT and ACT Work-keys tests. He shared a story of running into a parent who recognized him being from Pellerin and shared how well her daughter is doing now and how grateful she was that this program exists. He also shared that Heather Hassan, who is a graduate of the Pellerin Center, is now an employee in the office there and she was voted staff member of the year by the students.

Desiree Redden, LCHS student and choir president, stated she feels now they are heard and would like to thank the Board and Mr. Howell for their consideration and for listening.

Morgan Walters, LCHS and choir vice president, would like to thank the Board for trying to keep the program going. She stated she knows of students who would be interested in joining.

Ken Grix, vice president of LCEA, stated the Letter of Understanding was approved almost unanimously by the teachers and he appreciates the Board's consideration in this matter.

Pam Sape, resident, stated she would like to see student test scores brought up this coming year and would like to know if there is a plan to do this.

Michael Lynch, teacher and resident, thanked the Board for the work they put in for the district. He also thanked all who were present and watching Board meetings. He encouraged community members to contact the Michigan Legislature about school funding options.

Jacob Mason, resident and former student, stated the importance of keeping Karen Veritz at Tenniswood as she is an integral part of this school. He also stated he was disappointed by the arguments and conflict between Board members at the last meeting and this conduct is driving a wedge in the community and is not supportive to district staff.

Mr. P., resident of the community, questioned why his FOIA requests require an extension. He stated he feels Board members are violating their oaths. He stated since he has not gotten an apology, a lawsuit will ensue.

G. Recommendations for Expulsion

- G.1. **Closed Session – Motion to enter closed session pursuant to Section 8(1)(b) of the Open Meetings Act to consider the dismissal, suspension, or disciplining of a student if the public body is part of the school district, intermediate school district, or institution of higher education that the student is attending, and if the student or the student's parent or guardian requests a closed hearing.

Motion by Mrs. Hernden, supported by Mrs. Ross, to enter into Closed Session at 7:56 p.m.

Roll Call Vote

Yes: Hernden, Ross, Lipski, Doss, Da Via, Cyprus

No: None

Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Hernden, supported by Mrs. Ross, to reconvene to Regular Session at 9:09 p.m.

Roll Call Vote

Yes: Hernden, Ross, Lipski, Doss, Da Via, Cyprus

No: None

Motion carried.

G.2. ****Recommendation for Expulsion of Student #0406**

Motion by Mr. Cyprus, supported by Mr. Da Via, to approve the Resolution for Expulsion of Student #0406 as presented.

Roll Call Vote

Yes: Cyprus, Da Via, Doss, Hernden, Lipski, Ross

No: None

Motion carried.

G.3. ****Recommendation for Expulsion of Student #0409**

Motion by Mr. Cyprus, supported by Mr. Da Via, to approve the Resolution for Expulsion of Student #0409 as presented.

Roll Call Vote

Yes: Cyprus, Da Via, Ross, Hernden, Doss, Lipski

No: None

Motion carried.

G.4. ****Recommendation for Expulsion of Student #0413**

Motion by Mrs. Hernden, supported by Mr. Cyprus, to approve the Resolution for Expulsion of Student #0413 as presented.

Roll Call Vote

Yes: Hernden, Cyprus, Da Via, Ross, Lipski, Doss

No: None

Motion carried.

G.4. ****Recommendation for Expulsion of Student #0419**

Motion by Mrs. Hernden, supported by Mr. Cyprus, to approve the Resolution for Expulsion of Student #0419 as presented.

Roll Call Vote

Yes: Hernden, Cyprus, Lipski, Doss, Da Via, Ross

No: None

Motion carried.

H. **** Consent Agenda**

H.1. Budget Report

H.2. Payment Registers

- H.3. Purchases (None this month)
- H.4. Summary of Investments & Wire/ACH Transfers
- H.5. Employment Recommendations
- H.6. Student Travel Requests
- H.7. Board Meeting Minutes
 - H.7.a. April 14, 2025 Committee of the Whole Minutes
 - H.7.b. April 28, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes
 - H.7.c. May 12, 2025 Committee of the Whole Minutes
 - H.7.d. May 19, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes
 - H.7.e. May 20, 2025 Special Board Meeting Minutes
- H.8. Amended Resolution to Add Middle School East as a Voting Precinct

Motion by Mr. Doss, supported by Mrs. Hernden, to approve the Consent Agenda items as presented.

Roll Call Vote

Yes: Doss, Hernden, Da Via, Ross, Cyprus, Lipski

No: None

Motion carried.

I. Curriculum and Instruction

- I.1. *Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) Resolution

Motion by Mr. Cyprus, supported by Mrs. Hernden, to approve the Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) Resolution as presented.

Yes: All

No: None

Motion carried.

J. Business Office

- J.2. *Recommendation to Accept the Final Amended 2024-2025 Budget

Motion by Mr. Doss, supported by Mr. Da Via, to Accept the Final Amended 2024-2025 Budget as presented.

Yes: All

No: None

Motion carried.

- J.3. *Recommendation to Accept the 2025-2026 Original Budget

Motion by Mr. Doss, supported by Mr. Cyprus, to Accept the 2025-2026 Original Budget as presented.

Yes: All

No: None

Motion carried.

- J.4. *Recommendation to Approve the District's Annual Renewal of Insurance with M.A.I.S.L.

Motion by Mr. Cyprus, supported by Mrs. Hernden, to Approve the District's Annual Renewal of Insurance with M.A.I.S.L. as presented.

Yes: All

No: None

Motion carried.

J.5. *Recommendation for Workers Compensation Excess Insurance Policy

Motion by Mr. Cyprus, supported by Mrs. Hernden, to Approve the Workers Compensation Excess Insurance Policy as presented.

Yes: All

No: None

Motion carried.

K. Human Resources

K.1. *LCEA – Letter of Understanding

Motion by Mrs. Hernden, supported by Mr. Doss, to Approve the LCEA – Letter of Understanding as presented.

Mr. Lipski thanked both parties for negotiating in good faith.

Yes: All

No: None

Motion carried.

L. Operations

L.1. *Lawn Mower Purchase for Grounds

Motion by Mr. Cyprus, supported by Mrs. Hernden, to approve the Lawn Mower Purchase for Grounds as presented in the amount of \$37,332.36.

Mr. Lipski stated he appreciates that a solution was found to get ahead in maintaining the grounds in the district.

Yes: All

No: None

Motion carried.

L.2. *Floor Machine for Yacks Elementary

Motion by Mr. Cyprus, supported by Mrs. Hernden, to approve the Floor Machine for Yacks Elementary as presented in the amount of \$10,081.90

Yes: All

No: None

Motion carried.

L.3. *Pool Dehumidification Project

Motion by Mrs. Hernden, supported by Mr. Da Via, to approve the Pool Dehumidification Project as presented in the amount of \$2,118,383.00.

Mr. Cyprus has kids in the swim program and asked if this presents a conflict of interest. There is no conflict of interest.

Yes: All

No: None

Motion carried.

M. Other Matters**M.1. Letter to Prosecutor (Mr. Sellers' Complaint)**

There has been no update or activity regarding Mr. Sellers' complaint. Mrs. Hernden stated she filed a police report regarding the budget and OMA which was sent to the prosecutor on June 17, 2025.

Discussion followed.

M.2. MASB Membership for 2025-2026 School Year

Discussion was had regarding the recently received invoice for membership.

N. Hearing of School District Patrons Follow-up

None at this time.

O. Board Member Comment

Mrs. Ross stated that she appreciates everything that has been done by district staff to get the budget right-sized. She stated with the investment made in one-to-one devices, she questions the elimination of the technology coach position.

Mr. Cyprus thanked Mr. Van Camp, Ms. McDevitt and Mr. Grix for their work on the Letter of Understanding. He stated the public comment portion of the Board meeting is the most open and generous public comment sessions compared to other districts. He stated while comments are welcomed and appreciated, there is also other matter to attend to as well. He stated academic achievement remains the priority of the district. He also stated that thanks should go to the Superintendent for his efforts and time to keep the choir program going.

Mrs. Hernden congratulated the two student inventors. She also stated she liked hearing the success stories about the Pellerin Center. She stated she has confidence in the Superintendent to improve test scores. She stated Counselors in the schools are important as mental health is a huge issue. She stated the football fields needed to be redone last year for safety reasons. She also received positive feedback from other schools about the JAPAC facility after attending a dance recital.

P. *Adjournment

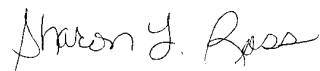
Motion by supported by Mrs. Hernden, supported by Mr. Da Via, to adjourn the meeting at 9:32 p.m.

Yes: All

No: None

Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Sharon L. Ross, Secretary
Board of Education
SLR:cjg