BOARD OF EDUCATION

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE & REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

OCTOBER 19, 2026 – 6:30 P.M.

The Board of Education of the L'Anse Creuse Public Schools district convened a Committee of the Whole and Regular Board Meeting on Monday, October 19, 2026 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 for the COTW/Regular Board Meeting, Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call

Mr. Al Doss, Vice President, called the Board Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: Mr. Al Doss, Vice President
Mr. Jeff Cyprus, Secretary
Mr. John Da Via, Treasurer
Mrs. Sandra Hernden, Trustee
Mr. Shane Sellers, Trustee

Absent: Mr. Adam Lipski, President
Mrs. Sharon Ross, Trustee

Also present: Mr. Keith Howell, Superintendent
Ms. Lisa Montpas, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction
Mrs. Amy Horgan, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services
Mrs. Kathy Konon, Assistant Superintendent for Business & Operations
Mrs. Kim Rawski, Director for Secondary Education
Mr. Aaron Ondra, Director for Special Education
Ms. Anita Dzieszkowski, Director for Human Resources
Mr. Brandon Streng, Director for Technology
Mr. Pat Ward, Director for Operations
Employees and Patrons of the District

B. *Approval of Agenda for the October 19, 2026 COTW/Regular Board Meeting

Motion by Mr. Cyprus, seconded by Mrs. Hernden, to approve the October 19, 2026 Board Meeting Agenda as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

C. Presentations

C.1. Student Athlete Recognition: L'Anse Creuse Special Olympics Team

Mr. Howell introduced coaches Brent and Jean Nielubowicz who recognized the L'Anse Creuse Special Olympics soccer team for being awarded the gold medal in their division. Student Christopher Butts also addressed the Board about the team's accomplishments.

D. Business Office

D.1. *Recommendation to Accept the 2025-2026 Audit

Ms. Jennifer Watkins, CPA, of Yeo & Yeo Audit Firm, presented the audit results for L'Anse Creuse Public Schools for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2026. Discussion followed.

Motion by Mr. Cyprus, seconded by Mr. Da Via, to approve the recommendation to accept the 2025-2026 Audit as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

D.2. *Resolution to Collect the 2027 Summer Taxes

Motion by Mr. Sellers, seconded by Mr. Cyprus, to approve the Resolution to Collect the 2027 Summer Taxes.

Motion carried unanimously.

D.3. *Kitchen Renovations Recommendation – Bid Package 27-03

Motion by Mrs. Hernden, seconded by Mr. Da Via, to approve the Kitchen Renovations Recommendation – Bid Package 27-03 as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

E. Hearing of School District Patrons

Mr. Michael Lynch, resident in the district, addressed the Board regarding rising fuel costs and it's impact on school funding and the district appearing in the news.

Ms. Samantha Solomon, parent in the district, addressed the Board regarding the process of scheduling IEP meetings in the district.

Ms. Kelly McDevitt, teacher in the district, addressed the Board regarding "Teacher Triumphs", recognizing Tanya Leon, Instructional Technology Coach, and her contributions to staff and student support in utilizing technology for learning.

F. Student Expulsion

F.1. **Recommendation for Expulsion of Student #0448

Motion by Mr. Da Via, seconded by Mr. Cyprus, to approve the recommendation for expulsion of Student #0448.

Roll Call Vote
Yes: Da Via, Cyprus, Sellers, Hernden, Doss
No: None
Motion carried.

G. **Consent Agenda

Please note: Unless removed from the Consent Agenda, items identified within the Consent Agenda will be acted on at one time.

G.1. Budget Report
G.2. Payment Registers
G.3. Summary of Investments & Wire/ACH Transfers
G.4. Employment Recommendations
G.5. Student Travel Requests *(None this month)*
G.6. Board Meeting Minutes – September 21, 2026 COTW/Regular Meeting

Motion by Mrs. Hernden, seconded by Mr. Cyprus, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Roll Call Vote
Yes: Hernden, Cyprus, Da Via, Sellers, Doss

No: None
Motion carried.

H. Bond

H.1. *2027 Districtwide Improvements – Bid Packages 27-01 and 27-02

Motion by Mrs. Hernden, seconded by Mr. Da Via, to approve the 2027 Districtwide Improvements – Bid Packages 27-01 and 27-02 as presented. Discussion followed.

Motion carried unanimously.

H.2. *High School Mobile Device Charging Locker Recommendation

Motion by Mr. Cyprus, seconded by Mr. Da Via, to approve the High School Mobile Device Charging Locker recommendation as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

I. Other Matters

I.1. *31aa Resolution

Motion by Mr. Cyprus, seconded by Mrs. Hernden, to approve the 31aa Resolution as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

I.2. Resolution to Amend Board Policy, Article X, Section 5 – Second Reading

Motion by Mr. Da Via, seconded by Mr. Sellers, to approve the Resolution to Amend Board Policy, Article X, Section 5 with the additional amendments listed below. Discussion followed.

- Add "i.e., Schoology" after Learning Management System so that people understand what an example of a Learning Management System is.
- Suggested language - add in bold: *When circumstances reasonably require communication through another method, including an emergency or immediate student safety concern, the communication shall remain professional, be limited to the legitimate school-related purpose, and be appropriately documented* ***and shared with supervisor as soon as possible.***

Motion carried unanimously.

I.3. ****Closed Session** – Motion to Enter into a Closed Session

- Pursuant to Section 8(1)(c) of the Open Meetings Act for strategy and negotiation session connected with the negotiation of collective bargaining agreements.
- Pursuant to Section 8(1)(h) of the Open Meetings Act to consider material exempt from discussion or disclosure by state or federal statute, being documents subject to the attorney-client privilege which are exempt from the Freedom of Information Act pursuant to MCL 15.243(1)(g).

Motion by Mr. Cyprus, seconded by Mr. Sellers, to enter into Closed Session at 7:20 p.m.

Roll Call Vote
Yes: Cyprus, Sellers, Hernden, Da Via, Doss
No: None
Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Sellers, seconded by Mr. Da Via, to come out of closed session and reconvene to the COTW/Regular meeting session at 8:35 p.m.

Roll Call Vote
Yes: Sellers, Da Via, Cyprus, Hernden, Doss
No: None
Motion carried.

J. Hearing of School District Patrons Follow-up

No patrons addressed the Board at this time.

K. Board Member Comment

Mr. Sellers congratulated the LCHS-N football team on a strong season and wished them luck on their next game.

Mrs. Hernden congratulated the Special Olympics soccer team and the LCHS-N football team. She thanked the student council for the invitation to the homecoming parade and also thanked the middle school teachers for conferences and their support of student and parents.

Mr. Da Via, congratulated the Special Olympics athletes and student speaker Christopher Butts. He also thanked the District administration and the business office for the encouraging audit presentation and the hard work that went into it.

L. *Adjournment

Motion by Mrs. Hernden, seconded by Mr. Da Via, to adjourn the meeting at 8:38 p.m.

Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey Cyprus, Secretary
Board of Education

JC/cjg