

LINCOLN CONSOLIDATED SCHOOLS
Ypsilanti, Michigan
BOARD OF EDUCATION / REGULAR MEETING
December 9, 2024
6:00 p.m.
District Boardroom-Lincoln High School

OFFICIAL MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Jennifer Czachorski, President
Jennifer LaBombarbe, Vice President
Thomas Rollins, Treasurer
Allie Sparks, Secretary
Matthew Bentley, Trustee

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT

Robert Jansen, Superintendent
Paula Robinette, Human Resources Director
Karensa Smith, Assistant Superintendent Curriculum & Instruction
Adam Snapp, Finance Director

OTHERS PRESENT

Edgar Brown, James Harless, Rod Beaton, Denise Beaton, Barb Bennett, George Bennett, Amy Bachorik, Bob Lawence, Donna Lawrence, Mary Feters, Leonard Sanders, Dave Newmann, Laura Carl, Zachary Roberts and Izayah Day.

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

President Czachorski called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

2.0 ROLL CALL

Roll call showed all Board Members were present with the exception of Moore and Smith.

3.0 ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

A quorum was established.

4.0 PLEDGE TO FLAG

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by Board and audience members.

5.0 PRESENTATIONS

5.1 Donated Benches-Hot Rods Suicide Prevention

5.2 Employee of the Month

I am writing to recommend Laura Carl for the Lincoln Consolidated Schools Employee of the Month recognition. As a dedicated educator and leader at LCS, Laura consistently goes above and beyond in her role, impacting not only the students but her colleagues and the entire LCS community.

Laura is a shining example of commitment and leadership. She single-handedly runs our elementary summer school program with extraordinary skill and dedication, ensuring that students receive enriching and meaningful learning experiences. This summer, after learning just days before the program began that the STEM materials had not shipped, she developed a plan for all classrooms to ensure the students still received enriching STEM learning opportunities daily. Creating a successful experience for students and staff at Lincoln Learning Camp requires immense planning, organization, and follow-through, and Laura executes it

flawlessly making it a desirable place to be.

One of the most significant contributions Laura has made is through her integral role in our Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) process. Her involvement at both the building and district level has been pivotal in ensuring that all students receive the support they need to succeed academically and behaviorally. Her deep understanding of the MTSS process as well as her expertise and enthusiasm when it comes to creating and utilizing spreadsheets have helped to ensure the success of our Tiered Process at all three elementary buildings. Twice a month she leads Tiered Process meetings at Bishop Elementary ensuring that she has a hand in the success of every student in that building.

Laura is someone who arrives early and stays late to support her fellow teachers. Whether it's lending a hand in creating small-group or individualized plans for our Tiered Process, offering guidance with classroom management strategies, or providing encouragement during challenging times, Laura is always there with patience and a smile.

Multiple times, Laura has provided professional learning for her colleagues. Her sessions are extremely informative and help to elevate the quality of instruction at LCS. Most recently, we were thrown a curve ball during our district-provided professional development on August 22nd. Laura volunteered on the spot to provide PD to a room FULL of educators and paraprofessionals around multisyllabic decoding with no preparation whatsoever. Not only did she knock it out of the park, staff left the experience commenting on how they learned things they never knew, discussing how they could apply the learning with students, and asking her to share more resources! Her calmness, creativity, and efficiency are to be commended.

In addition to all of this, I haven't mentioned the job she was actually hired for! Laura Carl is a phenomenal interventionist. She not only provides meaningful and effective skills-based instruction for all the small groups she works with on a daily basis, she reflects on each student as an individual. Laura can regularly be found researching best practices in reading and math instruction to meet the needs of each individual student she works with. If her methods with the group don't work for one student, she will find another way to make sure that kiddo learns. No one gets left behind when Laura Carl is teaching.

In conclusion, Laura embodies the qualities of a true leader, mentor, and the exact kind of educator we want for all our Lincoln students. Her tireless work ethic, unwavering commitment to excellence, and passion for both student and staff success make her more than deserving of the Employee of the Month recognition. I wholeheartedly recommend Laura Carl for this honor, knowing that her contributions have positively impacted countless lives within our Lincoln Community.

Sincerely,
Amy Baxter

5.3 Chartwell Food Service Presentation

Presented by Zach Roberts

- Base on the numbers we are feeding 23 additional students daily compared to 23-24sy
- With op days considered, a la carte numbers are slightly lower compared to last year, while adult meals show to be higher.
- A la carte sales are down an average of \$6 a day
 - Opportunity for food services to find creative ways to push a la carte
 - A la Carte options in Elementary Schools
- Adult meals are up an average of \$10 a day
- 2024-2025sy
 - 130,257 Lunches
 - 79,257 Breakfast
 - \$25,714.74 A la Carte & Adult Meals

Future Excess Spend Down

- An additional \$400,000 needs to be spent by June 2024

- Focus on Elementary Kitchens
 - Painting
 - Flooring
 - New serving Lines
 - Ovens
 - Steamers

Thinking Green

- Moving away from individual packaged condiments
- Compostable Trays
- Minimizing single use plastic wear

6.0 SUPERINTENDENT AND STAFF REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE

6.1 Superintendent's Report

- Mr. Jansen thanked Allie Sparks and Thomas Rollins for their years of service on the Board of Education.

6.2 Human Resources Report

- High School Principal position posting will close on January 15, 2025, and interviews will follow shortly after.

6.3 Finance Report

6.3.1 November Enrollment Report

The report was included in the Board packet.

6.3.2 November Food Service Report

The report was included in the Board packet.

7.0 BOARD REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE

7.1 Board Executive Committee

The Board Executive Committee met on December 2, 2024, for the last meeting of the calendar year.

7.2 Board Performance Committee Report

The Performance Committee will not meet again for 2024

7.3 Board Planning Committee Report

The Planning Committee scheduled for December 9, 2025 was canceled

7.4 Board Finance Committee Report

The Finance Committee scheduled for December 2, 2025 was canceled

7.5 Board Reports

- President Czachorski thanked both Thomas Rollins and Allie Sparks for their years of service on the Board of Education.

8.0 PUBLIC COMMENT

8.1 Response to Prior Public Comment

- No Prior Public Comment

8.2 Public Comment

Board of Education Public Comment Statement

This is the time set aside by the Board to hear from you, the members of our community. We invite you to address the Board with comments, questions or concerns regarding board actions, policies, or other issues not resolved through appropriate administrative channels. The Board may not immediately respond to concerns presented at this meeting; however, we will respond to inquiries on or before the next board meeting.

Please sign in completing your contact information. Limit individual comments to 5 minutes or less. Comments with respect to the performance of specific district employees are not appropriate during public comment.

Rules for Public Comment:

1. The Board of Education reserves the right to limit the total public comment to 30 minutes in any meeting.
 2. The Board of Education will limit each speaker to one opportunity to speak during any public comment period.
 3. The Board of Education President, or the President's delegee (such as the Superintendent or another District administrator) will respond to your comment.
 4. The Presiding officer may: A) prohibit public comments which are frivolous, repetitive, or harassing; B) interrupt, warn, or terminate a participant's statement when the statement is too lengthy, personally directed, abusive, obscene, or irrelevant; C) request any individual to leave the meeting when that person behaves in a manner that is disruptive of the orderly conduct of the meeting; D) request the assistance of law enforcement officers in the removal of a disorderly person when that person's conduct interferes with the orderly progress of the meeting, and; E) call for a recess or an adjournment to another time when the lack of public decorum so interferes with the orderly conduct of the meeting as to warrant such action.
- Student Council President, Izayah Day, thanked Hot Rods Suicide Prevention group for the donation of the benches.

9.0 CONSENT AGENDA

9.1 Minutes of Previous Meeting

9.1.1 Regular Meeting November 25, 2024

9.1.2 Closed Session November 25, 2024

Enclosed are the minutes of the November 25, 2024, Regular Meeting and Closed Session as presented.

9.2 November 2024 Finance Report

Enclosed are the November 2024 Financial Reports. The Superintendent recommends approval as presented.

9.3 November 2024 Check Register

Enclosed is the November 1-31, 2024, check register in the amount of \$2,450,054.30. The Superintendent recommends approval as presented.

9.4 November 2024 Trust & Agency

Enclosed is the November 2024, Trust & Agency Report. The Superintendent recommends approval as presented.

9.5 Personnel Transactions

ACTION ITEMS					
Name	Position/Building	Date of Hire	Effective Date	Status	Major/Step
Deshawn Clifton	Bus Aide/Transportation	11/21/2024		New Hire	
Jessica Crowley	STEM Coordinator/Curriculum Dept	12/2/2024		New Hire	
Valerie Hill	Bus Driver/Transportation	12/3/2024		New Hire	
Savita Megeri	Associate Teacher/Model ECC	12/3/2024		New Hire	LEAO Step 1
Brittany Thornton	Bus Driver/ Transportation	9/26/2024	11/15/2024	Resignation	
Shannon Brown	Bus Driver/ Transportation	12/09/2024		Re-hire	
Crystal McColl	Noon Supervisor/Model ECC	12/5/2024		New Hire	

Name	Position/Building	Start Leave Date	Return to Work Date	Status	Approved/Not Approved
Jennifer Kellerman	Teacher/ LMS	12/20/2024	6/11/2025	Intermittent FMLA	
Laurie Price	Secretary/Athletic Department	11/1/24	12/31/2024	LOA	
Patricia Erwin	Teacher/ LMA	11/26/2024	2/26/2025	FMLA	Approved

It was moved by LaBombarbe and seconded by Sparks that we accept the Consent Agenda as presented.

Ayes: 5
 Nays: 0
 Motion carried 5-0

10.0 NEW BUSINESS

- 10.1 Board of Education Meeting Schedule Proposal
 A topic for table discussion.

It was moved by LaBombarbe and seconded by Sparks that the Board of Education adopts the new meeting schedule to include Study Session, Committee of the Whole and their Regular Meetings.

Ayes: 5
 Nays: 0
 Motion carried 5-0

- 10.2 Organizational Meeting Date
 A motion is requested Monday evening to schedule the Organizational Meeting for Monday, January 6, 2025, at 6:00 pm.

It was moved by LaBombarbe and seconded by Sparks that we schedule the Board Organizational Meeting for Monday, January 6, 2025, at 6:00 pm.

Ayes: 5
 Nays: 0
 Motion carried 5-0

- 10.3 Superintendent Evaluation
 The Board of Education evaluated the Superintendent on November 25, 2024, using the Michigan Association of School Board’s Evaluation Tool. The outcome of the evaluation resulted in an “Effective” rating for the Superintendent. We thank Mr. Jansen for his service, and dedication to Lincoln Consolidated Schools. Board action is requested.

It was moved by LaBombarbe and seconded by Rollins that we accept the Superintendent’s rating as “Effective” for the 2024-2025 school year as presented.

Ayes: 5
 Nays: 0
 Motion carried 5-0

- 10.4 Superintendent Contract Extension

It was moved by LaBombarbe and seconded by Sparks that we extend the Superintendent's contract for one year to June 30, 2029.

Ayes: 5
 Nays: 0
 Motion carried 5-0

- 10.5 Therapy Dog Updated Policy and Guidelines
 The Planning Committee has been working with Miller Johnson to create a Board policy to address the therapy dog at Brick Elementary. Board table discussion was encouraged.

10.6 Student Trips

10.6.1 Bishop 5th Grade Camp

The Storer Outdoor School is a hands-on total immersion learning center serving more than 120 elementary and middle schools each year. "The Great Outdoors" makes science and related curriculum come alive, and significantly more relevant, for each student. Each year, more than 9,000 students and teachers spend 3-5 days and nights on-site at our Outdoor School. Storer's staff of educators offers more than 30 courses that teach natural sciences, environmental issues, cultural history, and team building through active participation. The importance of outdoor experiences reported in independent studies that show OEE programs raise science scores by as much as 27% and that OEE programs have a positive effect on student achievement in general.

In addition, studies show that outdoor educational experiences positively impact student behavior and interaction with peers as shown through improved conflict resolution skills. This was presented for information only; Board action will be requested at a subsequent meeting.

11.0 OLD BUSINESS

11.1 Crosswalk on Willis Road

Safety remains a top priority for the District, particularly in light of the addition of the roundabout at Willis and Whittaker Roads. We have been closely monitoring traffic speeds along both roads as vehicles exit the roundabout. The District strongly advocates for reducing speed limits on both Willis and Whittaker Roads to establish designated school zones.

However, compliance with the State of Michigan statute governing school zones presents challenges and regulatory hurdles. For example, on Willis Road, there must be connectivity to the Bellmeade subdivision to meet the statutory requirements for a school zone. Once a crosswalk is installed to provide this connectivity, the Washtenaw County Road Commission will proceed with the installation of appropriate signage to designate the area as a school zone.

Whittaker Road presents a more complex issue, which the District will address in coordination with the Washtenaw County Road Commission (WCRC) at a later date. This work will not be completed until the Spring however the approximate cost to the District will be \$8,000-\$10,000. Board action was requested

It was moved by LaBombarbe and seconded by Sparks that we approve the addition of an ADA compliant Crosswalk on Willis Road to provide connectivity to the District for walkers.

Ayes: 5
 Nays: 0
 Motion carried 5-0

11.2 2024-25 Budget Amendment

Presented by Adam Snapp

Revenues	Amount
Local revenue	
Increase in budget related to Toyota grants	\$290,000
Increase in budgeted interest on deposits	25,000
Increase in expected tax revenue	142,000
State revenue	
Decrease in foundation (allowance, Sp Ed Transportation)	(1,100,000)
Increase in grants (31aa, improvement mathematics, safety grant, professional development, early student behavioral, MI Kids back on track, FAFSA Challenge)	1,480,000
Decrease in categorical (MPERS offsets, headlee, enrollment stabilization, early literacy, etc)	(165,000)
Decrease in UAAL (pass-through)	(1,900,000)

Increase in 147a(4) - Replaces the no change in foundation allowance from PY to CY	1,335,000
Federal revenue	
Increase in available Head Start grant funds	224,000
Increase in available IDEA flow-through grant	75,000
Additional GEER II Grant	55,000
Changes to Title grants, Homeless II, GYO	51,000
Inter-District revenue	
Decrease in budgeted GSRP grant to match current enrolled students	(102,000)
Increase in expected ACT 18 revenue - based on PY special education numbers	<u>483,000</u>
Increase in total budgeted revenue	<u>\$893,000</u>
Expenditures	
	Amount
Total increase in budgeted salary (This comes mainly from grants, but some from staffing changes)	\$366,000
Decrease in benefits & taxes (Main change comes from reduction in UAAL. Changes in elected insurance, ORS changes)	(1,920,000)
Increase in non-payroll related costs (not state or federal grant)	
Purchase of Vans through Toyota	112,000
Purchase of Transfinder software	91,000
Increase in approved special projects (from prior year)	117,000
Increase in major repair budget for Bishop and HS	16,000 Corrected \$27,000
Decrease in contracted positions, some unused supply accounts	(32,000)
Increase in non-payroll related costs (state or federal grants)	<u>1,480,000</u>
Increase in total budgeted expenditures	<u>\$230,000</u> Corrected \$241,000

Notes:

Budgeted positions (grant funded) that are posted included in this budget amendment	\$321,000
Budgeted positions (special education funded) that are posted included in this budget amendment	\$560,000
Budgeted positions (NOT grant funded) that are posted included in this budget amendment	<u>\$325,000</u>
	<u>\$1,206,000</u>

It was moved by LaBombarbe and seconded by Rollins that we approve the 2024-25 Budget Amendment as presented by the Finance Director.

Ayes: 5
 Nays: 0
 Motion carried 5-0

11.3 Curriculum Course Catalog

11.3.1 Middle School PLTW: Magic of Electrons

New Course Proposals for the Middle School - [PLTW: Magic of Electrons](#) This course was brought to the Curriculum Leaders by a middle school teacher. The Curriculum Leaders reviewed the course proposal and approved it. For the PLTW: Magic of Electrons, through hands-on projects, students will explore electricity, the behavior and parts of atoms, and sensing devices. They will learn knowledge and skills in basic circuitry design and examine the impact of electricity on the world around them.

PLTW: Magic of Electrons

- This course is designed to give students basic knowledge in electricity, along with the other current PLTW classes, that would help feed into the Electric Vehicle course and other engineering courses at the high school.
- The course would start the 24-25 school year pending interests, staffing, etc..
- Course is a semester long course as counts as an elective
- No additional FTE is needed at this time
- There is about \$7850 in cost of materials, but the teacher is applying for a grant.

Board action was requested.

It was moved by LaBombarbe and seconded by Sparks that we approve the addition of Middle School PLTW: Magic of Electrons to the Curriculum Course Catalog as presented.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Motion carried 5-0

11.3.2 High School Explore Teaching Course

For EXPLORE teaching, students will discover the teaching profession through guided instruction and scaffolded experiences including hands-on experience in a classroom within the Lincoln Consolidated School district. Instructional and clinical experiences designed to explore a range of grade levels/subjects during class time and allow early and broad thinking about teaching.

[Explore Teaching Course](#)

EXPLORE Teaching:

- This course is designed to raise student awareness of educational strategies, systems and professions. Through classroom assignments and clinical experiences, students will analyze teaching and learning practices as they experience mentorship and participatory learning. Students will use the course content and experiences to reflect on and prepare for their own educational pathways designed to provide an additional senior math course option and could be paired with the financial literacy course that will be a requirement for graduation
- The course would start the 24-25 school year pending interests, staffing, etc..
- Course is a semester long course and counts as an elective credit for all high school students
- No additional FTE is needed at this time
- There is no cost for this course. We applied for the Grow Your Own grant through MDE.

Board action was requested.

It was moved by LaBombarbe and seconded by Sparks that we approve the addition of High School: Explore Teaching Courses to the Curriculum Course Catalog as presented.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Motion carried 5-0

11.3.3 High School Fundamentals of Electric Vehicles

Fundamentals of Electric Vehicles, this is a fully functional electric vehicle that empowers students to build, wire, diagnose, and program an EV while practicing low and high voltage safety procedures. It's a high-impact project that challenges students to build, test and drive an electric vehicle as an educational project. Designed using a component-agnostic approach, it prepares students for careers in electric vehicle technologies.

Fundamentals of Electric Vehicles

Fundamentals of Electric Vehicles:

- For the first semester, this course is designed to introduce students to the basic principles of electrical circuits, both in direct current (DC) and alternating current (AC). Second semester is designed around the Switch Lab EV which is a fully functional electric vehicle that empowers students to build, wire, diagnose, and program an EV while practicing low and high voltage safety procedures.
- The course would start the 24-25 school year pending interests, staffing, etc..
- Course is a year long course for students interested in EV
- No additional FTE is needed at this time

Board action was requested.

It was moved by LaBombarbe and seconded by Sparks that we approve the addition of High School: Fundamentals of Electric Cars to the Curriculum Course Catalog as presented.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Motion carried 5-0

12.0 CLOSED SESSION

12.1 Negotiations

It will be necessary to enter closed session to discuss Negotiations, to return to open session.

A roll call vote will be necessary.

Pursuant to Sections 8(c) of the Open Meetings Act, it was moved by LaBombarbe and seconded by Sparks that we enter closed session to discuss Negotiations, to return to open session.

Ayes: 5 LaBombarbe, Bentley, Sparks, Czachorski and Rollins

Nays: 0

Motion carried 5-0

7:57pm enter Closed Session/8:29pm returned to Open Session

13.0 ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Sparks and seconded by Rolins that we adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Motion carried 5-0

President Czachorski declared the meeting adjourned.