



**LEBANON COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING  
NOVEMBER 9, 2023, 6:00 PM**

Ralston Academy

485 S. 5th Street, Lebanon, OR 97355

## MEETING MINUTES

<b><u>BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:</u></b>	<b><u>EXECUTIVE STAFF PRESENT:</u></b>
Tom Oliver, Chair, Via Zoom Clyde Rood, Member Melissa Baurer, Member Mike Martin, Member Nichole Piland, Member	Jennifer Meckley, Superintendent William Lewis, Chief Operations Officer Steven Proski, Business Director

The meeting minutes were recorded by Executive Secretary Jessica Woody.

### 1. **WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER**

Board Chair Tom Oliver called the meeting to order at 6:04 PM and led the flag salute.

### 2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No public comments were made.

### 3. **SIA ANNUAL REPORT**

Jennifer speaks to the board regarding the annual report for the student investment account, which is apart of the student success act. She describes this as a wonderful grant and lists the outcomes made up of the following- Increase Academic Achievement and Reduce Disparities, Meet Students' Mental or Behavioral Health Needs, Ongoing Community Engagement, Support for English Language Learners, and Career and Technical Education. She explains that this report is a review of how the year has gone and how the district has continued to maintain and improve the programs that come from this grant.

She notes that the IAs, Deans of Student Success, Mental Health Therapists, CTE Program at the Middle School, and Bi-Lingual Assistants and EL teachers are all paid for out of this grant, and without this grant the district would not be able to have those positions. She notes the biggest barrier which is staff shortages, where positions have zero applicants. Jennifer also notes a barrier within community engagement which is parental/family involvement.

She notes that they are adding another bilingual assistant due to population growth, otherwise most everything stays the same.

Mike asks if this is funded annually and Jennifer states that it is funded annually and will be until legislation says no more. Mike also inquires about where the grant dollars are spent and Jennifer

explains that it is used solely for personnel at this time, and in the past had been used for some PD as well as summer school or after school programs.

Melissa inquires about who oversees the grant and the type of outreach taking place regarding community engagement. Jennifer notes that the schools host parent nights and conferences, parent square communication, as well as the welcome center support for the most at-risk families. She explains that the outgoing communication is strong, however the incoming is less than– the hardest part can be engaging the parents. Melissa notes that more back and forth engagement would be nice to see, and she recommends focus groups. Jennifer likes the idea.

#### **4. SEVEN OAK DATA REPORT**

Seven Oak Middle School Principal, Mike Hillman, and Assistant Principal, Ryan King, speak to the board regarding data and addresses the concerns with their data not properly telling their story. Mike explains that they have analyzed thoroughly STAR and SBAC data, GPA, attendance rates, and the trends that may follow. Referring to the slides available in the packet, he explains that not all students participate in the SBAC tests, and specifically notes the high number of students who are opted out. He recognizes the high achievement that came the year following COVID, and references the student incentives that were taking place at that time.

Mike also addresses the change in their master schedule last year which was an effort to increase achievement consisting of double blocks of math and language arts. He explains how this flooded the students, while losing their electives, and forcing cohorts, evidently causing test fatigue as well. Mike explains that they are back to their more usual schedule this year and scores have reflected that positively. Overall, incentives have shown to be a large success, and he describes the middle school dance that took place, and the overall positive impact that it has proved for the students academically, emotionally, and specially in their motivation regarding testing and academics. Mike also notes that the testing window has been changed to provide a larger window with more time between, as well as their focus on students who are identified that need support. Mike notes that teachers are motivated and engaged as well and are working towards department achievement. He believes they are moving in a good direction this year and making good strides.

Clyde inquires about the students who opt out of testing and if incentives can be provided to encourage a smaller amount of opt outs, Mike notes that this is not typically discussed with a parent and if they express that they would like to opt out, it is accepted without question.

Jennifer notes how pleased she is to see how Seven Oak administration has responded to the data, she appreciates their passion and all of the great things they are doing.

Ryan also speaks on the very high number of extra-curricular participation that is taking place, with very high interest in middle school sports, huge theatre interest of over 60 students, and a wonderful music program. It is agreed by the group that it is very exciting to see how many students are getting involved in the extra-curricular activities.

#### **5. STUDENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVE**

The sample policy attached to the board packet is referenced, and the board members discuss the options regarding a student board representative. Melissa states that she feels is it important to have student voice and empower the students, as well as providing them with an additional skill

moving forward. It is decided between the district and board members that the high school would assist in working through this process and Jennifer will discuss this with the high school principal, as well as look for ideas at the upcoming board convention.

## **6. LHS MASCOT**

Tom references the conversation that took place regarding this topic at the previous board meeting. Jennifer thanks Clyde for bringing this idea forward. She believes it is important and she explains the history of the mascot over the years. She notes the history where the name “warriors” was kept, but without the imagery. Jennifer also notes the process in adopting a Native American mascot, which is attached to legislation, and the time and funds that it would require. She explains that the district is working towards advancing equity to ensure safety and belonging for all students and she believes that advancing in this area specifically is not a step in the right direction pertaining to equity for all. Jennifer supports a mascot and the process of one, but explains that it does not necessarily have to be a Native American mascot.

Tom believes that he could not support this process at this time due to the significant challenges regarding staffing and could not support the time and money that would need to be allocated to this, at this time. He ultimately believes that this would be a community conversation, though how time and money is spent is up to this group as well. In question by Melissa, it is noted that the amount of staff time can depend on how far into the process you go, as well as legal counsel involvement. Tom agrees that this does not necessarily align with the district’s goals as mentioned by Jennifer.

Clyde references the Kalapuya Indians and their involvement. He explains that he spoke to a representative and the finances and costs could potentially be encompassed in. He explains what he believes is also the purpose in the Native American imagery, which he feels would be the history showing the strength and honor it entails. He imagines that this would require working closely with the Siletz, Grand Rhonde, and Kalapuya tribes.

Jennifer explains that there would be a very detailed process in having a Native American mascot, in following legislation and the ODE, which would require an agreement regarding imagery, history, and teaching.

Clyde understands that this could be a several year long process but he is highly interested in pursuing this. The board’s consensus is to hold off on this process due to the timing, and when the timing is right it can be re-discussed in the future and would definitely require community involvement.

## **7. CONSENT AGENDA**

Nicole motions to approve and Mike seconds the motion. All in favor with a unanimous vote, the consent agenda made up of the October 12, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes, First Reading Policy Updates GCBDA/GDBDA-AR(1), EFAA-AR, and GBED-AR, Second Reading Policy Updates BD/BDA, BDC, GCBDA/GDBDA, LBE, LBEA, and DLBA, and 2023-24 temporary new hire Kristy Lindner is approved in its entirety.

## **8. DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

### **A. Operations**

William presents to the board, first acknowledging the focus areas previously introduced by Jennifer, and explains what part the operations team plays in these areas. He also gives his appreciation to the district's new Business Director, Steven, and his high level of professionalism and financial integrity.

William provides an update regarding the Hamilton Creek playground and the joy that students have had while using the new equipment. He thanks the Hamilton Creek PTC group, as well as the district's Facilities department for their efforts in this project.

He also provides an update to the board regarding the Lacombe roof, the Seven Oak project, and the LHS cafeteria project.

He explains that the Lacombe roof was found to only have 5% asbestos which will hopefully create a savings, and that hopefully in January there will be bids available for board approval. He also hopes to see this officially go underway in June of 2024.

He notes that the concrete has been poured for the Seven Oak project, and provides the square feet, and a drawing of the building which provides the scope of the project and what the building will be equipped with. He shows his appreciation for the safety of students and staff during this construction process.

Regarding the LHS cafeteria update, William explains that the lunch count now compared to past years is much higher, which created the need for the update. He provides imagery regarding the plans and what will be re-done. He reiterates that the funds used for this project are federal dollars that can only be spent on food services, which also goes through ODE for approval. He hopes to also bring this back to the board in January for approval, and construction time would begin in June of 2024. A question is presented whether this will affect the summer meal program, and it could, however meals will still be provided as usual.

William gives his gratitude to Susanne Stefani, Communications Director, for her assistance in putting the operations reports together, and her help in building a webpage on the district website to house this information as well.

### **B. Human Resources**

Nothing to report.

### **C. Finance**

Steven shares that the Fall Audit for the 2022-23 school year took place in October, and went very positively, with one more week of follow up taking place. He also notes that in November property taxes will be coming through.

Steven talks about the construction program that some students have been involved in, and the opportunity to grow this program by purchasing the adjacent property – providing 5 more lots for students to continue this program on. It is explained that the cost is all funded by the revenue of the program itself. Mike inquires about the properties that have been purchased and completed at this time, and what the district's plan is moving forward, he feels it is advantageous that the board fully understand this program and he would love to hear from the teacher of the program, Eric. Steven and Tom explain that the plan is to continue the development which in turn continues to provide the opportunity to students.



Steven explains the terms of the Resolution which was presented to the board for approval. Questions arise about the managerial classified staff numbers, and it is noted that these were just classifications that were changed, there was no new hiring in these referenced areas, and that budget projections have not quite been updated at this point. Nichole motions and Mike seconds the motion, all in favor with a unanimous vote, the updated Resolution 2023-03 is approved by the board.

## **9. COMMUNICATION**

### **A. Board**

Nichole and Melissa thank Mike and Ryan for their recent tour of the middle school, and appreciate seeing all of the great things that are happening and the happy kids. Melissa also thought it was great to see all of the extra-curricular activities that are going on. Tom agrees that it is great to see how far they have come. Melissa also thanks Jessica, Secretary to the Superintendent and School Board, for scheduling those building tours.

### **B. Superintendent**

Jennifer provides her Jen's Zens highlighting first that for the second year in a row, with the support of the local United Way, they have been able to provide book bags for every first grader in the district, consisting of 4 brand-new books for them to keep. She thanks United Way, ATI Materials, Oregon Freeze Dry, Weyerhaeuser, and Knife River Training Center for making this possible.

Jennifer highlights the FFA program for their participation in the 70<sup>th</sup> annual Soils Contest last month at Waterloo. The contest involved evaluating soil properties and determining its ideal agricultural use. Our students took first place in the advanced category that day and went on to place second a few days later at the state competition in Dallas. In April, they will attend the national competition in Oklahoma. The district is proud of their hard work!

Cascades school is also highlighted due to their family engagement at their recent events consisting of Pancakes with Principals and Coffee with the Counselor. These are opportunities for parents and guardians to meet school staff, socialize a bit, and learn about a topic that will help them better understand the school and its programs.

Jennifer also shares the recent Apple Award winners who are Riverview Teacher Maureen Holt, Seven Oak Teacher Kathryn Collins, Seven Oak Teacher Andrew McAteer, and Green Acres Behavior Support Professional Taiah Tippey. Jennifer thanks again the Gillott Home Team, Adam Kirkpatrick Family Dentistry, and 1847 Bar & Grill for their support in providing these Apple Awards to the district's staff.

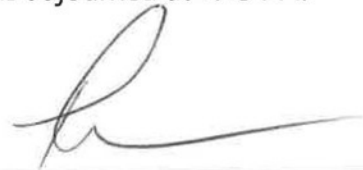
## **10. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

A member of the press, Sarah Brown, addresses the board asking when the Facility Advisory Committee Meetings will begin.

A community member and parent of 6 LCSD students, Elati Bourgeois, addresses the board to speak about the mascot topic. She explains that she is speaking on behalf of herself, and not one single person, race, etc. She asks that her and all of the students' safety be considered in these discussions and plans, as she states that they will be impacted by this. She notes that these discussions can cause divide and ultimately relates to the race of students and people. She feels that this could have a large impact on their safety and academic achievement.

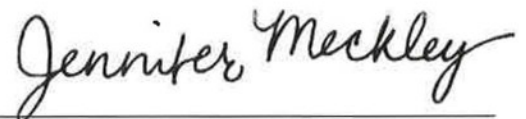
## 11. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:43 PM.



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Tom Oliver, Board Chair



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Jennifer Meckley, Superintendent

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## ATTENDEE SIGN-IN

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**LEBANON COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

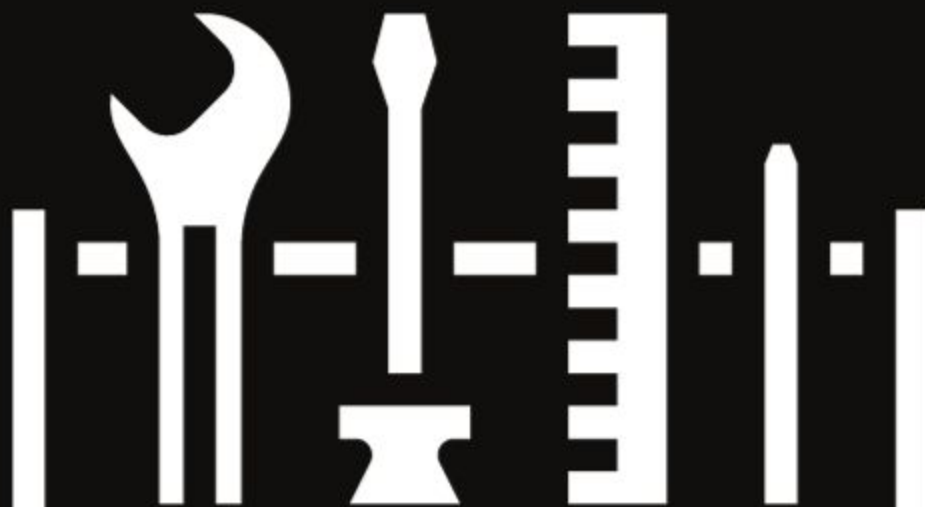
**Board Meeting  
November 9, 2023  
6:00 PM**

## SPEAKER SIGN-IN

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**FACILITIES IMPROVEMENTS**



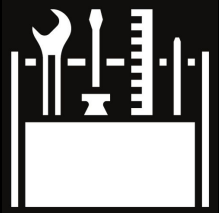
**LEBANON**

Community Schools



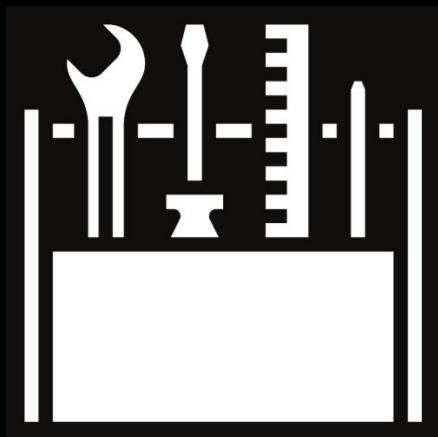
We want to . . .

- **Frame conversations** around these areas more intentionally
- **Increase awareness, understanding, and appreciation** of our systems and how they are *all* necessary to student success
- **Be more explicit and transparent** for all stakeholders



# ***REVIEW: NEW PLAYGROUND AT HAMILTON CREEK***





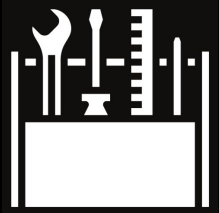
**ROOF REPAIRS: LACOMB**





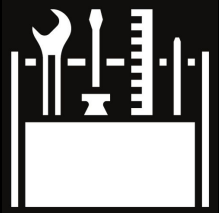
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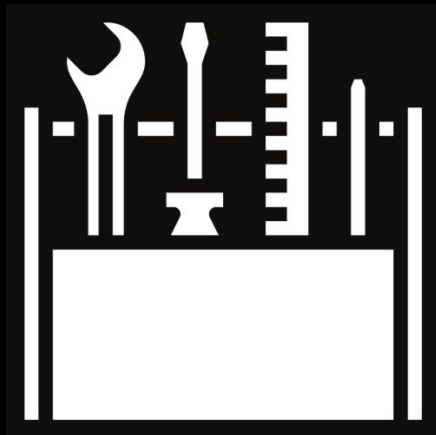
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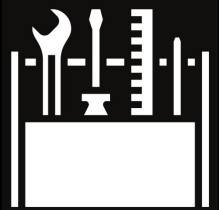
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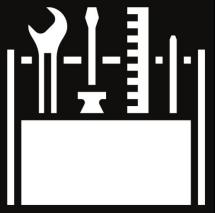
# **CLASSROOM EXPANSION: SEVEN OAK**





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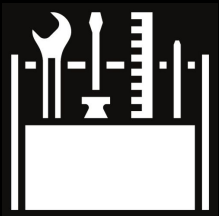




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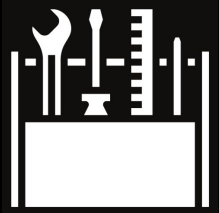




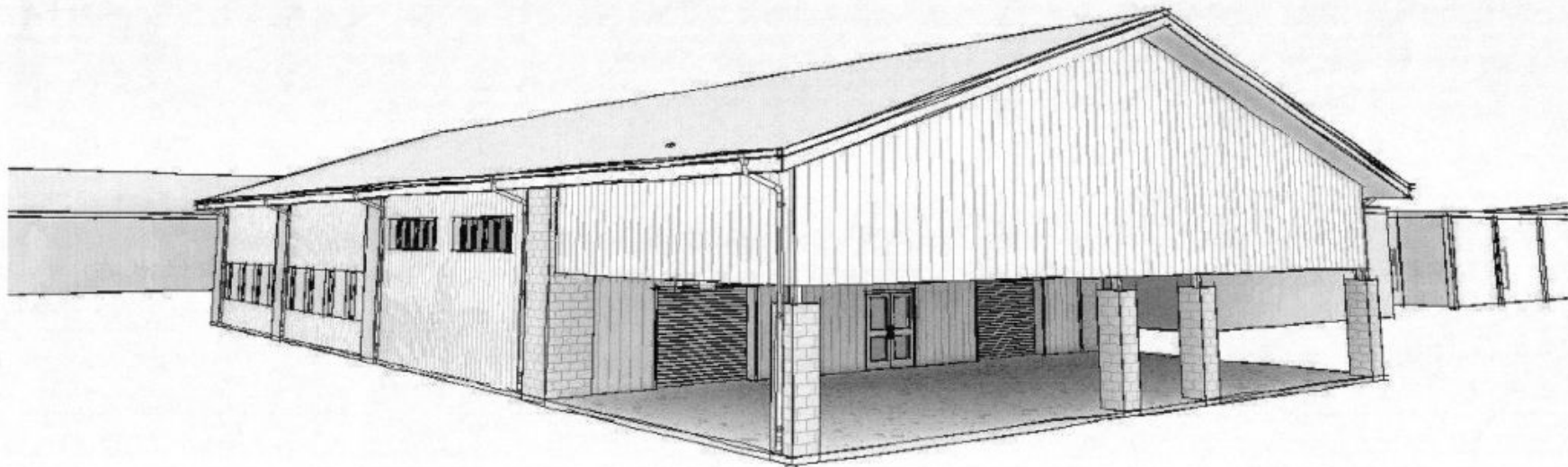


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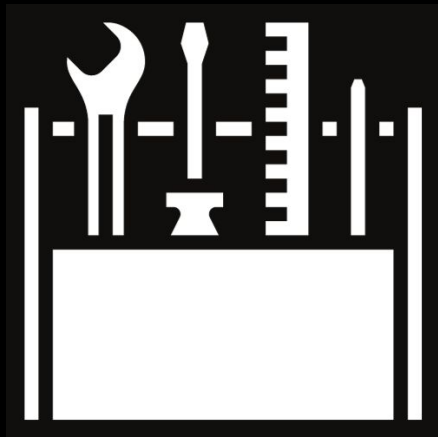




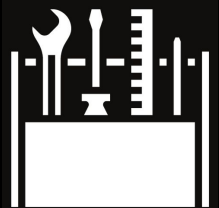
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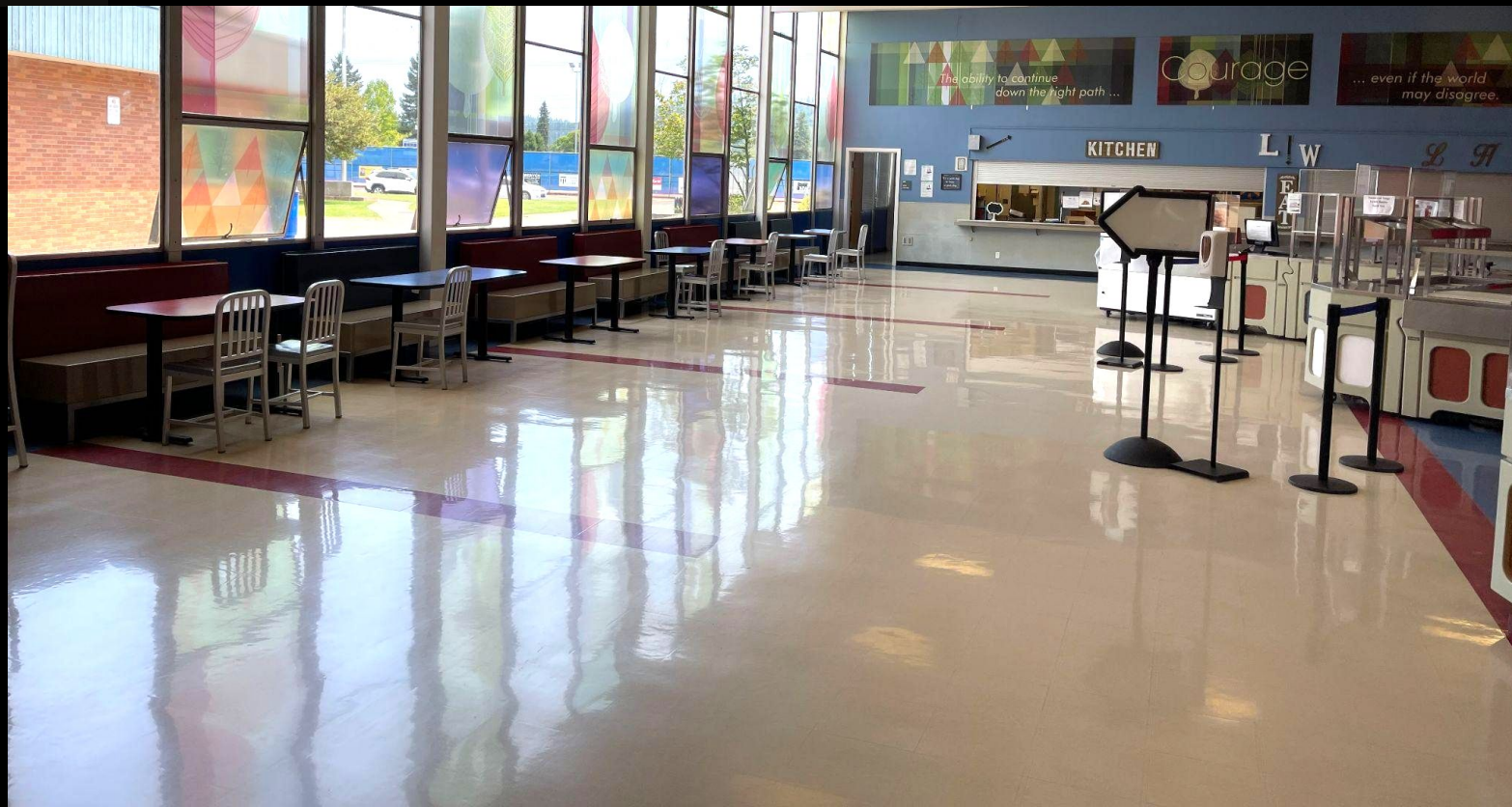


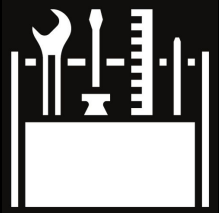


**CAFETERIA UPGRADE: LHS**



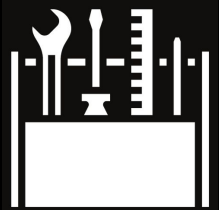
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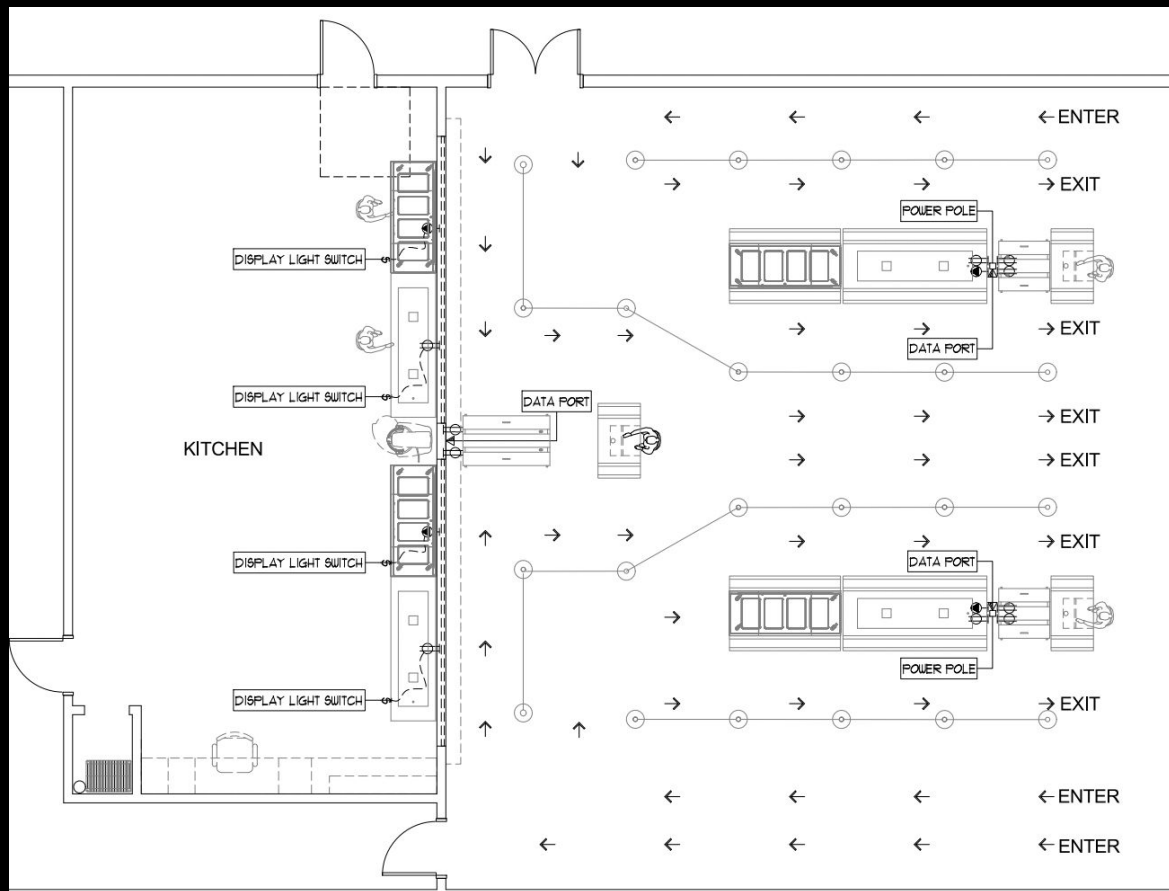


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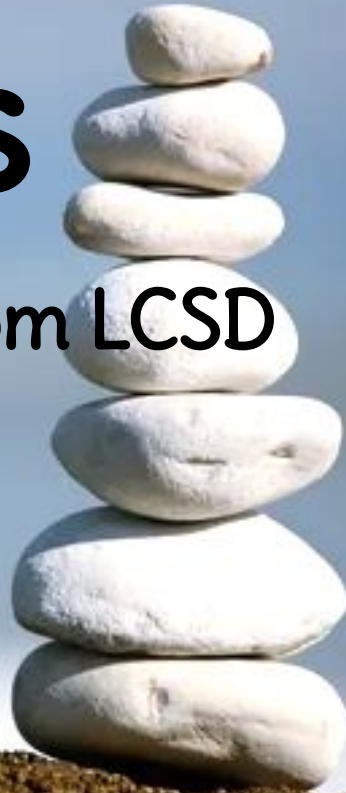




A new webpage sharing current and upcoming facilities and construction projects will be live tomorrow. Members of the public may subscribe for updates.

# Jen's Zens

A Few Happy Stories from LCSD



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# Getting Dirty: FFA Students Head to Nationals





# Colts and Coffee: Cascades Connects with Families



Congratulations, October Apple Award Winner:  
**MAUREEN HOLT**  
2nd Grade Teacher at Riverview



# Congratulations, October Apple Award Winner:

## **KATHRYN COLLINS**

Math Teacher at Seven Oak





Congratulations, October Apple Award Winner:  
**ANDREW McATEER**  
CTE Teacher at Seven Oak





# Congratulations, November Apple Award Winner: **TAIAH TIPPEY** Behavior Support Professional at Green Acres



Thank you.

