



**LEBANON COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 12, 2024, 6:00 PM**

Santiam Travel Station

750 S. Third Street, Lebanon, OR 97355

## **MEETING MINUTES**

### **BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Tom Oliver, Chair  
Aubree Molina, Member  
Clyde Rood, Member  
Melissa Baurer, Member  
Nichole Piland, Vice Chair

### **EXECUTIVE STAFF PRESENT:**

Jennifer Meckley, Superintendent  
William Lewis, Chief Operations Officer  
Kim Grousbeck, HR Director  
Steven Prososki, 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 6:01 PM and led the flag salute.

### **2. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mike Hillman, Principal at Seven Oak Middle School, addresses the Board and provides student-made plaques, which includes a piece of the ribbon from the ribbon cutting for the new Seven Oak Building. The plaques serve as a thank you to the board and district, for the hard work, leadership, and support of the project.

Linda Hamilton, OSBA Board Member, virtually speaks to the Board sharing her support of Member Clyde Rood, as an OSBA member, and asks the LCSD School Board to consider a nomination for Clyde to continue his role on the OSBA Board as well.

### **3. STUDENT BOARD MEMBER OATH OF OFFICE**

A. Eric Natterer reads aloud his oath of office, and is officially seated on the Board.

B. Hannah Savedra reads aloud her oath of office, and is officially seated on the Board.

C. Finley is not present, and will read her oath at the next meeting.

Before moving on to the next agenda topic, with unanimous consent, the Board amends the agenda, adding part B. Student Board to agenda item 9 (Communication), as well as amending agenda item 6 (OSBA Board Nomination) to approval requested.

#### **4. ENROLLMENT NUMBERS 2024-25**

Jennifer shares the enrollment data with the Board. She notes that Seven Oak is larger due to having all in town 6<sup>th</sup> grade students, and notes that kinder enrollment is down—though that is a state-wide trend with lower birth rates in Oregon.

Jennifer also notes that Sand Ridge Charter School numbers have increased, with room to grow additionally.

A question is presented regarding the Sand Ridge kinder students, and the number of students whose resident district is Lebanon, or an outside district. Jennifer plans to gather this data to review.

Jennifer also shares that per the certified contract, she will provide bi-annual class size reports, with the first one coming in October.

A question is presented regarding how the current enrollment numbers compare to enrollment projections that are used in planning for budget, and Jennifer shares that the numbers are down 81. She adds that surrounding districts are experiencing a similar situation.

Discussion also takes place regarding online virtual academies, and the increase in enrollment in various online options.

#### **5. ASSESSMENT UPDATE**

Jennifer explains that Bill Wittman, Curriculum Director, led a team through an extensive process and they are happy to see the results that have come from it. She expects it to be a better and more robust system that provides teachers with what they need to impact instruction, as well as provide more usable data. She also notes that the assessment data will sync with the current curriculum. Students will test twice a year, rather than three times. It is confirmed that the assessment update is in effect for this current school year.

#### **6. OSBA BOARD NOMINATION**

Tom explains that our region's OSBA seat is vacant, and our very own Clyde Rood, as well as Luhui Whitebear from the Corvallis School Board have asked for nomination. It is confirmed that this nomination would allow for the Board Member to run for election.

Clyde shares that he would love to have the opportunity to run for the OSBA Board again and he shares some of his experiences thus far.

Board Member, Nichole, shares some personal reservations with the nomination, and discusses the importance of transparency, trust, a professional environment, and a cohesive board. Ultimately Nichole motions to nominate Clyde for the OSBA Board of Directors, and Aubree seconded the vote. The motion passes, 4:1.

Clyde additionally asks for the Board to consider a nomination for Jason Curtis, from the Central Linn School Board. The consensus of the Board was to not nominate Jason, due to lack of time or information to feel comfortable doing so.

## **7. CONSENT AGENDA**

Nichole motions to approve the consent agenda with exception of the first and second reading policy updates, and Melissa seconds the motion. All in favor with a unanimous vote, the consent agenda made up of August 8, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes, and new hires Joel Carlson, Jodi Howell, Adam Jager, Sarah Pullings, Madison Romeo, Colin McHill, and Kristie Moseley is approved in its entirety. Policies JEA and KG, KG-AR(1), and KG-AR(2) are excluded from the motion.

Tom motions to approve the second reading policy update JEA and Clyde seconded the motion. All approved with a unanimous vote, second reading policy update JEA is approved.

Discussion takes place regarding community use of district facilities, relating to policy KG and it's ARs. The consensus of the Board is to adopt the new policy language, with exception of the fee schedule. The Board decides not to collect fees at this time, and assess the new implementation first. Tom would like to re-evaluate in the spring and take this into account when budget season comes around.

Nichole motions to approve the first reading policy update for KG and KG-AR(1), and Clyde seconds the motion. All approved with a unanimous vote, first reading policy updates KG and KG-AR(1) are approved. KG-AR(2) is not approved at this time.

## **8. DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

### **A. Operations**

William provides an update on the completed Seven Oak project and the financial integrity that took place throughout the project. He also provides an update on the completed Lacombe Roof project, and the integral design, he notes that this project was also completed within budget. William also provides an update on the LHS kitchen/cafeteria project.

### **B. Human Resources**

Kim shares a bar graph which shows the licensed staff retention rates since 2019-20, that were briefly discussed during the August Board Meeting.

### **C. Finance**

Steven shares that they are finishing up the 23-24 fiscal year, and that the auditors will visit next week. Steven explains the revenue from the MAC study as well as the higher ending fund balance, which finished strong. He also explains the open enrollment insurance benefit adjustments and notes the bus lift replacement cost which came from the equipment replacement fund. He notes that property/liability insurance rates were budgeted at a 10% increase, though they came in at 20.7% which is a big adjustment. Discussion takes place regarding inflation and whether it is reviewed on an annual basis, and how much that impacts the budget each year. Steven shares that it does vary each year.

Steven shares a bar graph which helps explain how the district manages cash flow. The bar graph shows month to month comparisons on revenue and expenditures. He also explains how funds are invested, and discussion takes place regarding rates and logistics in the district's various forms of investments.

## **9. COMMUNICATION**

### **A. Board**

Two board members share their appreciation for the recent community events that they were able to be a part of. Appreciation is shared as well for the district's continuous partnership with LPD.

Melissa explains her reasoning for not voting to nominate Clyde for the OSBA Board of Directors. She shares where she personally believes there are areas for growth, and the importance of standing by the Board's decisions even when it may not be what is solely desired. Discussion also takes place between Board members that politics do not belong in the Board's work or business.

Aubree shares that the new PE teacher at Riverview has been great, and she notes the student gardens which appear to be a favorite. Tom adds that many of the new hires that come through, are former LCSD students, which is very rewarding.

Clyde announces the upcoming OSBA Convention and encourages the other members to attend.

### **B. Student Board**

Newly appointed student member, Eric Natterer shares with the Board the student's intent in this role and their goal to represent all schools. He shares that they met with most of the schools and the common areas with opportunity for growth were attendance, a "big buddy" system, academic rigor, and standardized test scores. He also shares that in the coming weeks, they plan to establish a system where trusted high school students have the ability to provide guidance/ a buddy system to younger students.

Newly appointed student member, Hannah, also adds that visiting the schools has been a great way of seeing what is going on in other buildings, and she would like to do this once a month. Hannah also invites the Board to attend the high school assemblies, she ensures they will enjoy them.

### **C. Superintendent**

Jennifer shares that the district received the preschool promise grant, and she acknowledges Cascades' Principal, Ryan Christner, for his work behind that. She shares that this grant pays for 12 slots, and the district may have up to 18 students, with rules and regulations as to qualifications.

Jennifer also discusses Senate Bill 732, which will require the district to create an equity committee, made up of staff, community members, and board members. Jennifer will share additional information this year and will nominate committee members by the end of the school year. The Board will officially appoint the nominated members to the committee. Jennifer notes that she will also share the district's equity plan which is already in place, as well as future goals.

Jennifer presents Jen's Zens, first sharing that yesterday she was able to give a keynote address at the Linn County 9/11 Memorial event. She shares her experiences as an educator on 9/11, and acknowledges Board Member Clyde Rood who was a part of the rifle squad during the event. She is pleased that the communities continue to hold these ceremonies so we may never forget.

Jennifer shares that with the help of the Welcome Center and a dozen community volunteers, about 500 backpacks were filled and provided to students for the 2024-25 school year. Also noting that last month Arrow Vans donated 60 backpacks and supplies to Riverview School, in addition to a \$1,000 check for supplies due to a nomination received by an Arrow Vans driver.



Jennifer also shares that the new Lebanon High School cafeteria opened up during the first week of school, thanks to the hard work and perseverance of our Nutrition Department. She notes that it has received amazing feedback so far from the students.

#### **10. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

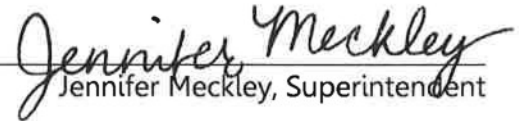
No public comments were made.

#### **11. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.



Tom Oliver, Board Chair



Jennifer Meckley, Superintendent

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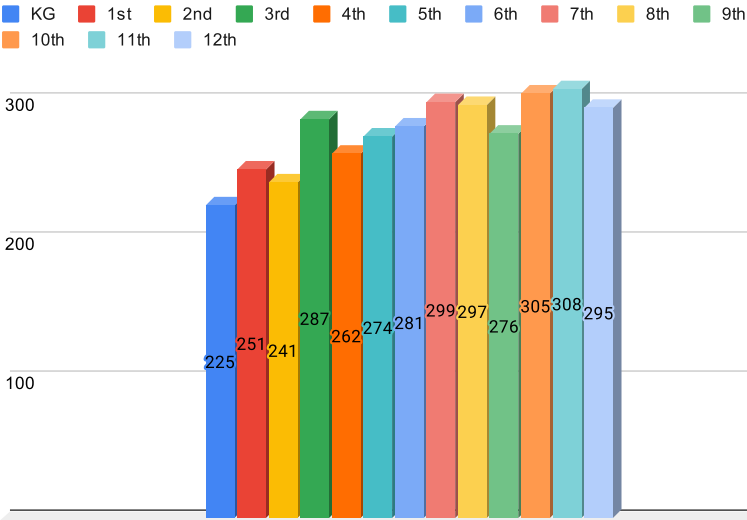


## Student Board Member Oath of Office

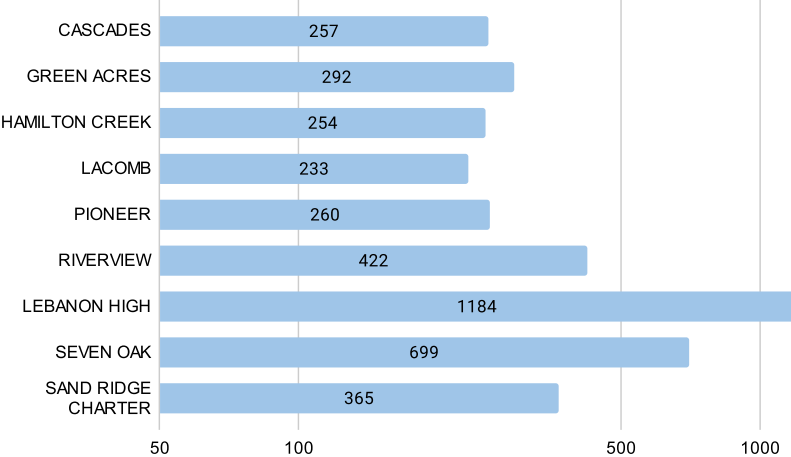
"I \_\_\_\_\_, will support the Constitution and the laws of the United States, the state of Oregon and the laws thereof, and the policies of the Lebanon Community School District, and will discharge the duties of Student Representative on the Lebanon Community School Board to the best of my ability."

9/12/24		6:52:48 AM		SIS Enrollment 24/25												
School	Grade	KG	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total by School	difference from previous day
CASCADES		42	42	45	44	44	40								257	1
GREEN ACRES		49	51	50	47	45	50								292	0
HAMILTON CREEK		24	22	24	34	29	32	38	24	27					254	0
LACOMB		16	19	23	29	27	30	34	31	24					233	0
PIONEER		34	52	39	43	45	47								260	0
RIVERVIEW		60	65	60	90	72	75								422	-1
LEBANON HIGH											276	305	308	295	1184	1
SEVEN OAK								209	244	246					699	-2
SAND RIDGE CHARTER		54	42	43	44	39	44	34	40	25					365	0
Total by Grade (no SRC)		225	251	241	287	262	274	281	299	297	276	305	308	295	3601	-1
difference from previous day		1	0	0	-1	0	0	-2	-1	1	0	1	0	0	-1	
		KG	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Grand Total	
Grand Total		279	293	284	331	301	318	315	339	322	276	305	308	295	3966	

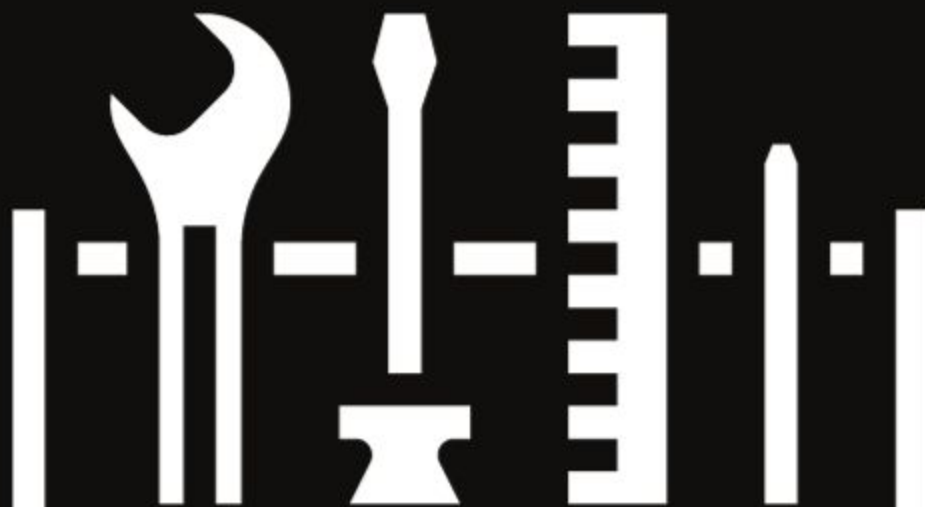
Enrollment by Grade (no SRC)



Enrollment by School





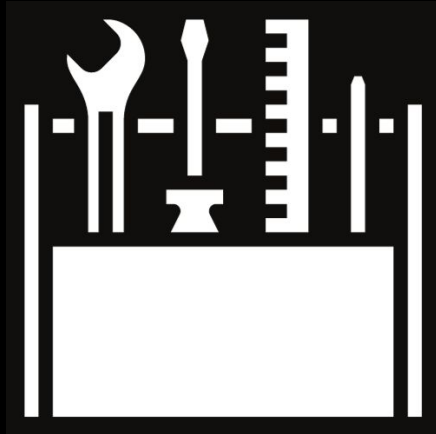


**FACILITIES IMPROVEMENTS**

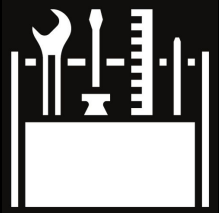


**LEBANON**

Community Schools

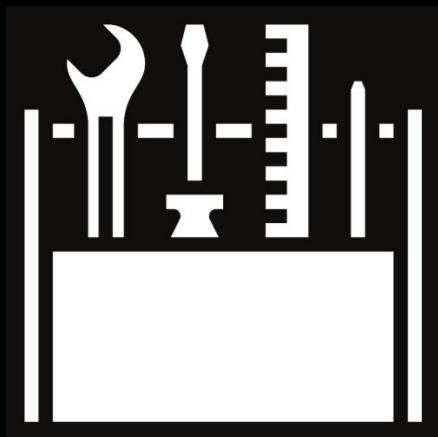


# **CLASSROOM EXPANSION: SEVEN OAK**

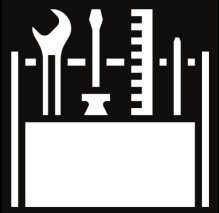


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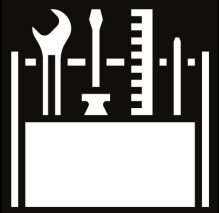
**ROOF REPAIRS: LACOMB**



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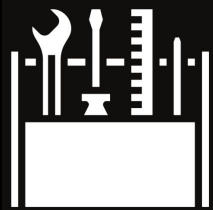






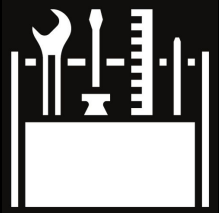
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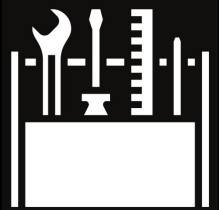




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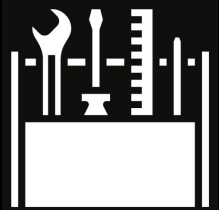






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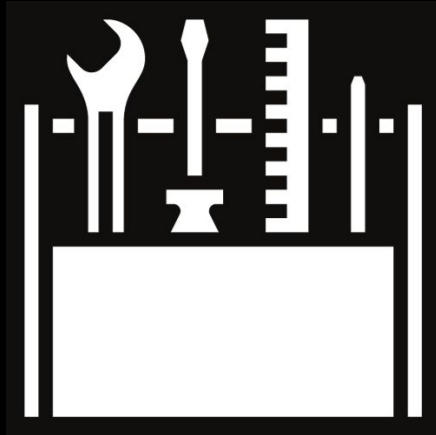




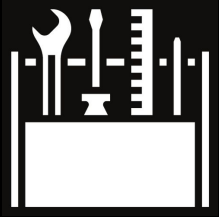
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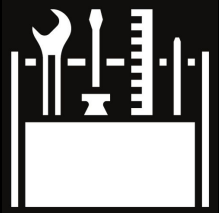


# **“KITCHETERIA” UPGRADE: LEBANON HIGH SCHOOL**



# CAFETERIA UPGRADE: LHS

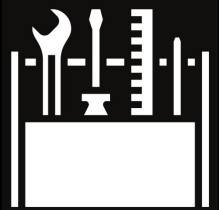




# CAFETERIA UPGRADE: LHS

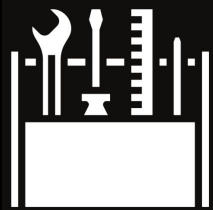






# CAFETERIA UPGRADE: LHS

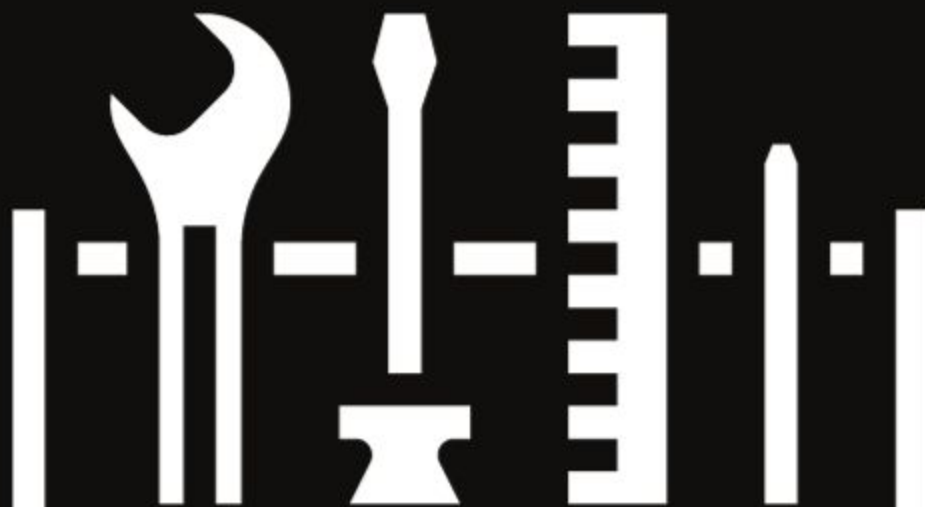




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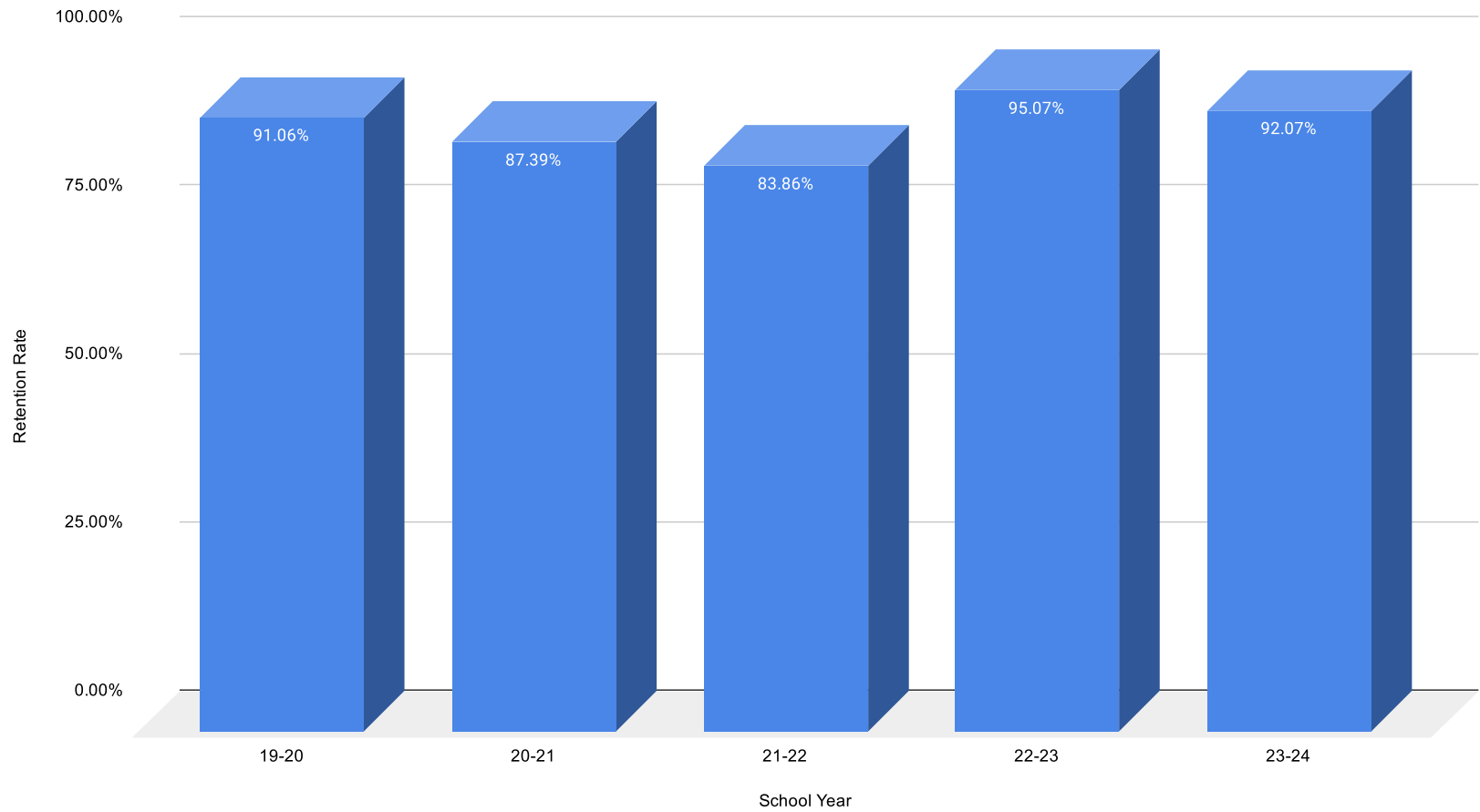
**FACILITIES IMPROVEMENTS**



**LEBANON**

Community Schools

### LCSD Licensed Retention Rate



Going into this school year as our new school district representatives, we wanted to ensure we are properly representing *all* our schools. In meeting with most of the schools in our district, we have noticed some common themes that each school has identified as areas of growth and are working toward:

- **Attendance:** Many of the schools such as 7 Oak offer incentives to help increase their attendance and have noticed significant improvements. Research shows missing even 10% of the school year greatly impacts overall success, and schools are working to make sure students attend in order to achieve their overall potential.
- **Big Buddy system:** Many schools have voiced wanting to have older role models for students to build a strong school community. This may simply be older students hanging out with younger students for fun, or it could involve older students teaching a life lesson, such as the importance of respect or a strong work ethic.
- **Academic Rigor:** This is a strong theme in schools, especially with older students. There is an active approach in schools to address academic culture and promote a positive mindset towards school. One way they are working towards this is increasing engagement, such as anchoring students to school through clubs and sports.
- **Standardized test scores:** While it seems most of the schools we talked to have seen increases of test scores in the recent past, they continue to try and push higher achievement, doing things such as changing when students take tests; for example, taking them earlier in the year as opposed to later in the year allows students at Cascades to better fully focus on their tests and provide data for staff. Many schools are trying to change the culture from the mindset that these are “tests that don't really matter,” to one that encourages students to take pride in their efforts and results.

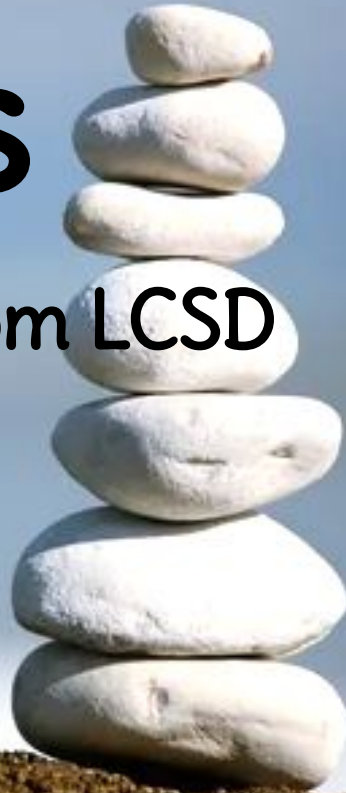
Going into the next following weeks, we look to establish a system allowing trusted high school students the ability to meet with students who need some form of guidance or even just a buddy to look up to. We also realize it is important to be consistent on this. We know that being present matters, and we want to make sure that younger students know they are important and a priority.

We look forward to learning more about our district and how to improve it. Once again, thank you for all the opportunities to learn and grow.

-Lebanon Student representatives.

# Jen's Zens

A Few Happy Stories from LCSD



# Linn County 9/11 Memorial Event in Albany





# 9/11 Flag of Honor event in Lebanon





# 9/11 Flag of Honor event in Lebanon



# School supply help Welcome Center





# School supply help Riverview Elementary



# LHS Cafeteria remodel





# LHS Cafeteria remodel





Thank you.

