

LCAT Meeting Minutes*

Wednesday, May 21, 2025 9:00 am-10:00 am

School District of Lodi Board Room

The following were in attendance: Heather Baron, Vince Breunig, Adria Schroeder, Diana Karls, Jason Marshall, Patti Herman, Sue Miller, Ellen Ellingsworth, Bryan Bilse, Terry Haag, Sara McChesney

1. Welcome

2. Presentation and Discussion: Ellen Ellingsworth, Columbia County Public Health Officer

Recover Columbia County App: The mobile app was officially released in January 2025 after focus groups identified the need for current and accurate information about local recovery groups and resources. Public Health modeled it after the Winnebago County We Heart You App. *(See attachment on the steps to download the app)*

- The app provides direct links, phone, and texting to resources. An example is direct access to a Peer Support Specialist with Three Bridges.
- It also provides a training video on how to use Narcan and the locations of Narcan in the community.
- It includes push notifications of upcoming events and reminders.
- The app costs around \$12,000 a year to maintain and was funded by the Columbia County Opioid Abatement Dollars. Annually, Public Health will request the funds from the Opioid Abatement Committee to maintain the app.
- The App can be used by students and adults and downloaded on any app store by typing the words: Recover Columbia County
- The app will be highlighted at the Summer Safety Fair and National Night Out by Public Health
- Coalition members identified other areas to post the flyer for the app electronically and around the school and the community.

Other Public Health (PH) programs and potential projects:

To access all the Public Health Programs, call: 608-742-9227 option #6 (Public Health Phone Tree)

- PH staff consists of 4 nurses, 1 health educator, 1 community health worker, and 1 Public Health Officer.
- Amish Community Programs
- Ask a Nurse/Ask A CHW in school: They are working with schools to provide an opportunity for students to ask anonymous questions about health, resources, etc.
- Hygiene Drive and initiative: They are working with schools to provide hygiene items for students. Lodi was one of the first schools to receive hygiene products. PH wants to include hygiene education at schools and is working on scheduling for the fall of 2025.

- Another part of the hygiene initiative is creating and distributing hygiene kits, including backpacks, for homeless individuals. They are partnering with local libraries to distribute the kits
- They sponsor an annual diaper drive and give out to community members in need.
- PH provides linkage of care, which is the process of connecting individuals or families to the appropriate care, supportive services, and community programming within Columbia County.
- PH facilitates the Prevent Suicide Coalition that distributes local counseling resources, training, gun locks, and scholarships for high school seniors who are pursuing a career in mental health or personal lived experience, or support others who struggle with mental health.
- Tick Removal Kits, Maternal Health, Growing Great Kids and Growing Great Families, car seat safety, and proper installation. They would like to expand education around booster seat safety and partner with area schools at their 4K open houses or events.
- Public Health is applying for funding for vending machines that would be placed at local libraries that would contain the following items: hygiene care kits, Narcan, fentanyl testing strips, resources, and additional information. The location of the vending machines would be added to the Recover Columbia County App.

3. LCAT Highlights:

- Prime for Life is currently being taught to students who violated the school's substance use policy. This is the fifth student who has taken it this school year. After they complete the course, the guidance counselor follows up with the student.
- The LCAT trailer has been utilized this spring by the PTO, One Mother of a Run, and Lift Lodi.
- Summer Safety Fair is Thursday, June 12th, 4 pm-6 pm during summer school registration. The focus is on keeping kids safe over the summer. We will have vendors there to promote water safety, car seat safety, fire safety and more.
- On July 8th, 2025, LCAT is hosting a Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) Summit to review trends in youth and come up with recommendations. The event will be held at Reach Out Lodi and include lunch.
- The Duck the Wall with Art Show is on Friday, August 1, 2025, in Goeres Park. This year, it is in conjunction with the Chalk the Walk by Reach Out Lodi. Any students aged 5-19 years within the School District of Lodi can show or sell their art. Students can decide to keep the money they earn or donate it to a local organization. Only cash payments are accepted.
- National Night Out (NNO) is August 5th, 2025, and will utilize Goeres Park and Habermann Park. The road will be closed at 4:30 pm. If vendors arrive after the road is closed, they will need to carry their items. LCAT is looking for volunteers to direct vendors to their location. Please let Bryan Bilse know if you are interested in volunteering. Last year, LCAT surveyed NNO vendors to evaluate if the current location at Habermann Park met their needs. The majority of

vendors believed the current location met their needs. In 2026, the location will move due to a construction project.

- LCAT utilized grant funding to provide snack items in the counseling offices and front office areas for students and donated money to Blessings in a Backpack for food for students over the summer.
- LCAT utilized grant funding to provide a teambuilding exercise at a ropes course trip to Expeditions Unlimited in Baraboo for students. The outing included lunch and a focus group activity.
- LCAT is working on a positive messaging campaign. Currently, we are organizing focus groups. LCAT has completed one focus group and has two scheduled over the summer. Once the focus groups are completed, the results will be shared with the coalition. The questions we are asking the group are: What do adults do that makes you feel welcome and respected? What do adults do that makes you feel unwelcome? What do local businesses do that makes you feel welcome and respected? What do local businesses do that makes you feel unwelcome? A suggestion was made to follow up with 4-H leaders about running a focus group.

4. **Group Updates:** Due to time constraints, this was not completed.

5. Next Meeting:

Date: June 18, 2025, 9 am-10 am Location: School District of Lodi Board Room

Topic: National Night Out Planning

Follow Up/To Do:

Distribute the Recover App Flyers (physical or electronic)

- Coalition members suggested areas to hang up the Scan Me app (Piggly Wiggly, Kwik Trip, Lodi Library)
- LCAT can add it to Peachjar and the Chamber Newsletter
- LCAT will reach out to Michelle Puls, high school health teacher, the high school health club, and the middle school Life Skills teacher
- LCAT will reach out to have it displayed at the CRC in the high school

Focus Groups:

- LCAT will follow up with the 4H leaders about running a focus group