

**MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING
LASALLE-PERU TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 120
MAY 21, 2025, 6:00 PM**

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Greg Sarver, President, called to order the Regular Meeting at 6:04 p.m. in the Thomas J. McCormack Library/Media Center at LaSalle-Peru Township High School, 541 Chartres Street, LaSalle, IL.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mr. Greg Sarver, President, Mrs. Sally Taliani, Vice President, Mr. Scott Pescetto, Mrs. Carol Alcorn, and Mrs. Chris Krzyaniak

ABSENT: Mr. Gary Ferrari

OTHERS PRESENT: Dr. Steven R. Wroblewski, Superintendent, Mr. Ingrid Cushing, Principal, Dr. Chris Gibson, Associate Principal for Teaching and Learning, Dr. Shane Lange, Director Area Career Center, Ms. Kate Lance, Associate Principal for School Safety, Mrs. Jayme Salazar, Associate Principal for Student Support Services, Mr. Matt Baker, Director of Communications, Mrs. Jennifer Does, Business Manager, Attorney Walt Zukowski, Newly Appointed Board Member, Mr. Matt Merboth, and Jennifer Riva, Board Secretary.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ADMINISTER OATH OF OFFICE TO NEW BOARD MEMBER, MR. MATTHEW

MERBOTH

Mr. Sarver administered the Oath of Office to the newly appointed Board Member, Mr. Matthew Merboth.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM APRIL 23, 2025, REORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD MEETING MINUTES, APRIL 23, 2025, REGULAR MEETING MINUTES, AND MAY 13, 2025, SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

MOTION by Mr. Pescetto, seconded by Mrs. Taliani, to approve the Reorganization of the Board Meeting Minutes, April 23, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes and May 13, 2025, Special Meeting Minutes, as presented. Voting Aye: Mr. Pescetto, Mrs. Taliani, Mrs. Alcorn, Mrs. Krzyaniak, Mr. Merboth, and Mr. Sarver. Voting Nay: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

RECOGNITIONS AND COMMENTS FROM VISITORS

Dr. Jim Helton, Associate Executive Director of IASB Executive Searches, shared the results of the New Superintendent Qualities survey, which received a total of 181 responses. A meeting with stakeholders will be scheduled in August with the IASB Executive Search team, and candidate interviews with the Board of Education are planned for October. The goal is to select Dr. Wroblewski's replacement at the November 2025 Board meeting.

Division Spotlight

Mr. Matt Rebholz, PE Teacher, presented an overview of the PE/Health/Driver's Education department, highlighting a range of individual, team, and competitive activities offered in Enhanced PE, Personal Fitness, and Advanced Physical Training (APT), which focuses on strength and conditioning for athletes. He also shared details about the Driver's Education program and Health class units, which include topics

Policy Committee:

Mrs. Alcorn, Committee Chair, provided the Policy report from the meeting held on Tuesday, May 20, 2025 reporting on the following: 2025-2026 Student Handbook Recommendations, Artificial Intelligence Discussion, Press Policy Issue 118 (April 2025) 1st Reading.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Steven Wrobleski, reported on the following topics:

1. **LaSalle and Bureau County Tax Year 2024 Extensions:** We received our final extension notifications on property tax revenue from LaSalle and Bureau Counties. I am pleased to report that our levy request was only \$2,128,892 over what the final EAV came in at – which is the equivalent of shooting a bullseye. We estimated the EAV to be \$734,806,111 and it came in at \$732,677,219. What this means is that our projected tax rate reduction was accurate. Since we deferred the Series 2025 bonds to FY27, the L-P tax rate dropped by 3 cents, instead of 2 cents. I've attached to my report the final extension numbers. We will receive \$951,694 in new money in FY 2026.
2. **FY 2026 Budget Update:** Budget meeting conversations continue. The FY 2026 budget has been opened in our financial system. The FY26 Budget construction is scheduled for June and July.
3. **Graduation, May 15, 2025:** I want to commend Mrs. Cushing, Mrs. Franklin, Mr. Anderson, and Mr. Tomminello and the entire building and grounds team for an exemplary job organizing graduation. Even though we had to move it indoors, the ceremony contained all the pomp and circumstance we expect at an L-P graduation!
4. **Cell Phone Policy Data Report:** It was one year ago this month that the Cell Phone Policy Committee recommended the new guidelines. Ms. Lance prepared a data report comparing 1st and 2nd semesters this year. I am confident that the Board will celebrate the results (which are included with me report).
5. **FOIA Requests:** We received one FOIA request in the past month.

Requestor	Date	Request	District Action
Bo Kim – UnionBids.com	April 18, 2025	LaSalle-Peru Township High School District No. 120 – Roofing Repair/Replacement and Masonry Restoration (LaSalle County)	We approved the request and responded within the statutory timeframe.

PRINCIPAL

Mrs. Ingrid Cushing, reported on the following topics:

- Since our last meeting, we conducted our Senior Awards Ceremony. We were able to give out over 60 scholarships. The event was well attended by our students, their families, and our donors. Our donors are extremely generous each year and we are very appreciative.
- Graduation has been the focus of the month. Between graduation meetings, practices and the ceremony, we have worked as a team to ensure that our 278 have been appropriately honored for their accomplishments.
- We are also planning our End of the Year Celebration with our staff on Wednesday, May 23rd. We will begin with a staff breakfast and then have a celebration to honor staff with awards, such as years of service to the district, perfect attendance, and the Sir Rainer Award. We will also honor all of our retirees publicly. The rest of the day will be spent for teachers to complete grading and organize their rooms for the summer.
- Our SMART goals on graduation rate and attendance have been our focus this year. We are seeing an improvement in the number of courses that students are passing as compared to previous years. At the time of this report, just over 92% of all courses being graded are earning passing grades.
- AP Exams were administered during the first two weeks of May. We had a very good attendance rate at each of the exams. This year we were able to administer approximately 300 exams. We will have results back in early July.

LP ACC Student Awards:

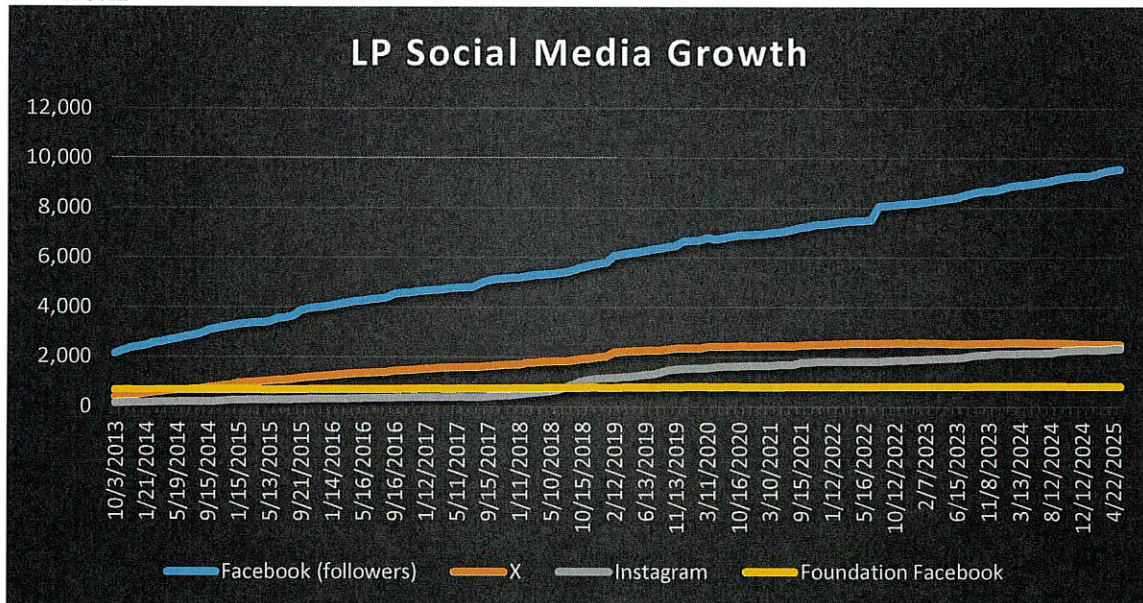
Health Occupations – Student of the Year Drew Drepenbrock
Health Occupations – Hard Work Dedication – Ashley Kowieki
Health Occupations – Hard Work Dedication – Molly Mudge
Health Occupations – Hard Work Dedication – Ella Sandor
Health Occupations – Perfect Attendance – Emily Nieto
Health Occupations Scholarship – Izzy Pecchio
Culinary Arts -Student of the Year – Dade Heyers
Residential Wiring – Student of the Year – Tyler Ebner
Auto – Student of the Year – David Lawrence
Welding – Anthony Ajster Award – Nicholas Legrenzi
Welding – TJ Christman Award – Reegan Kellett
CAD – Student of the Year -Keean Atkins
Aviation – Student of the Year -Coleman Lambert
Fire Science/EMR – Student of the Year- Emerson Vasquez
Machines – Student of the Year – Christian Konczak

SRVTE received an end of the year grant to be used for work-based learning. The proceeds will be used to improve two programs at the Career Center. The Culinary workplace experience will add digital signage, a new serving counter, some portable cooking equipment, and additional equipment. The rest of the grant funding will be used to create a work experience for the Aviation program. Several First-Person View drones will be purchased with the intent of training students to use footage for facility inspections.

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Matt Baker, reported on the following topics:

- We are preparing for graduation and all other related end of year announcements and celebrations.
- Dr. Wroblewski and I attended a seminar on strategic district communication efforts and implementing AI into our process.
- The L-P Foundation cooked and served lunch to all faculty and staff during Teacher Appreciation Week.



MOTION by Mrs. Taliani, seconded by Mr. Merboth, to award the contracts to the following as presented

f. Alpha Baking for the 2025-2026 school year

Voting Aye: Mrs. Taliani, Mr. Merboth, Mr. Pescetto, Mrs. Alcorn, Mrs. Krzyaniak, and Mr. Sarver.
Voting Nay: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Approval to let bids for the Track Replacement Project

MOTION by Mrs. Alcorn, seconded by Mr. Pescetto, to approve to Approval to let bids for the Track Replacement Project, as presented. Voting Aye: Mrs. Alcorn, Mr. Pescetto, Mrs. Krzyaniak, Mr. Merboth, Mrs. Taliani, and Mr. Sarver. Voting Nay: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Approval to submit building permit applications for the following summer 2025 projects:

MOTION by Mr. Merboth, seconded by Mrs. Taliani, to submit building permit applications for the following summer 2025 projects as presented:

- a. Main Roof and Masonry
- b. Main Lighting, Paving, and Sitework
- c. Sip-N-Savor Phase II
- d. East Gym/ACC Paving and Roof Repairs
- e. Dolan Health Occupations Suite Renovation

Voting Aye: Mr. Merboth, Mrs. Taliani, Mr. Pescetto, Mrs. Alcorn, Mrs. Krzyaniak, and Mr. Sarver.
Voting Nay: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Approval to submit application for statement of completion for the following projects:

MOTION by Mrs. Alcorn, seconded by Mr. Merboth, to submit application for statement of completion for the following projects, as presented:

- a. Main Building Amendment 85 – Counseling Office Renovation
- b. Main Building Amendment 86 – Counseling Office Ceiling Replacement
- c. Soccer Building Amendment 1 – Tennis Court Renovation

Voting Aye: Mrs. Alcorn, Mr. Merboth, Mr. Pescetto, Mrs. Krzyaniak, Mrs. Taliani, and Mr. Sarver.
Voting Nay: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Approval of the following Application for Occupancy and/or Statement of Completion for the Dolan Building Elevator Modernization Project:

MOTION by Mr. Pescetto, seconded by Mr. Merboth, to approve the following Application for Occupancy and/or Statement of Completion for the Dolan Building Elevator Modernization Project: as presented:

- a. Application for Occupancy
- b. Dolan Amendment 10 Statement of Completion
- c. Dolan Amendment 11 Statement of Completion

Voting Aye: Mr. Pescetto, Mr. Merboth, Mrs. Alcorn, Mrs. Krzyaniak, Mrs. Taliani, and Mr. Sarver.
Voting Nay: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Approval of the 2025-2027 Boys Swim Team Intergovernmental Agreement between L-P, Ottawa High School, Streator High School, Putnam County High School, and Earlville High School

MOTION by Mrs. Taliani, seconded by Mrs. Alcorn, to approve the 2025-2027 Boys Swim Team Intergovernmental Agreement between L-P, Ottawa High School, Streator High School, Putnam County High School, and Earlville High School as presented. Voting Aye: Mrs. Taliani, Mrs. Alcorn, Mr. Pescetto, Mrs. Krzyaniak, Mr. Merboth, and Mr. Sarver. Voting Nay: None. **The motion carried 6-0**

Approval of the Memorandum of Understanding between the LaSalle-Peru Township High School District 120 Board of Education and the LaSalle-Peru Federation of Teachers, Local 604 to rename WYSE Coordinator (Differential Level IX) to ACES Coordinator (Differential Level IX)

MOTION by Mr. Pescetto seconded by Mr. Merboth, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the LaSalle-Peru Township High School District 120 Board of Education and the LaSalle-Peru

MOTION by Mr. Merboth, seconded by Mrs. Talliani, to rehire the following staff for the 2025-2026 school year as presented:

- a. Mr. Scott Leonard, Network Administrator
- b. Mr. Matt Baker, Director of Communications
- c. Mrs. Sue Brooker, AAP Coordinator
- d. Mrs. Jennifer Does, Business Manager
- e. Mr. Tim Tomminello, Director of Building and Grounds
- f. Mr. Bobby Riahi, Director of Food & Nutrition Services

Voting Aye: Mr. Merboth, Mrs. Taliani, Mr. Pescetto, Mrs. Alcorn, Mrs. Krzyaniak, and Mr. Sarver.

Voting Nay: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Approval of the following summer 2025 temporary positions:

MOTION by Mrs. Alcorn, seconded by Mr. Merboth, to Approval of the following summer 2025 temporary positions as presented:

a. Summer School Staff:

- i. Aaron Beale, Math Teacher
- ii. Tiara Bedenko-Hill, Business Teacher
- iii. Eric Bjerkaas, Math Teacher
- iv. Scott Blessman, Driver's Education Teacher
- v. Dan Burkhart, Science Teacher
- vi. Jim Cherveny, Driver's Education Teacher
- vii. Carrie Christman, Driver's Education Teacher
- viii. Matt Glupczynski, Social Science Teacher
- ix. Patrick Goy, Driver's Education Teacher
- x. Kevin Keating, Science Teacher
- xi. Scott Lauer, Business Teacher
- xii. Kaitlin Monahan, Math Teacher
- xiii. Abby Passini, Special Education Teacher
- xiv. Kyle Pytel, Driver's Education Teacher
- xv. Matt Rebholz, Physical Education Teacher
- xvi. Nick Stevenson, Math Teacher
- xvii. Brent Thomas, Special Education Teacher
- xviii. Alexandra West, English Teacher
- xix. Wendy Zuchowski, AAP Teacher
- xx. Alisa Bezely, Summer School Paraprofessional
- xxi. Dorothy Brandner, Summer School Paraprofessional
- xxii. Jodi Orlandi, Summer School Paraprofessional
- xxiii. Connor Soenksen, Summer School Paraprofessional
- xxiv. Kathy Baker, Special Ed Summer School Paraprofessional
- xxv. Vanessa Nikischer, Special Ed Summer School Paraprofessional

Voting Aye: Mrs. Alcorn, Mr. Merboth, Mr. Pescetto, Mrs. Krzyaniak, Mrs. Taliani, and Mr. Sarver.

Voting Nay: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

b. Summer Building and Grounds extra Help:

- i. Randy Huebbe
- ii. Jose Medina
- iii. Nicole Girton
- iv. Shane Guenther

c. Summer Technology Help:

- i. Nicci Gibson

Approval of the following maternity/FMLA requests:

MOTION by Mr. Merboth, seconded by Mrs. Alcorn, approve the following maternity/FMLA requests:

Approval of the following appointments:

MOTION by Mrs. Alcorn, seconded by Mrs. Krzyaniak, to approve of the following employee transfer, as presented:

- a. Mr. Kalob Ramke, Help Desk Technician, effective May 22, 2025 (replaces Mr. Russell Anderson)

Voting Aye: Mrs. Alcorn, Mrs. Krzyaniak, Mr. Pescetto, Mr. Merboth, Mrs. Taliani, and Mr. Sarver.

Voting Nay: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Approved the Administrator and Classified Staff Employee Salary/Wage Recommendations for 2025-2026

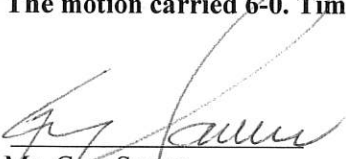
MOTION by Mrs. Taliani, seconded by Mr. Merboth, to approve the Administrator and Classified Staff Employee Salary/Wage Recommendations for 2025-2026, as presented:

Voting Aye: Mrs. Taliani, Mr. Merboth, Mr. Pescetto, Mrs. Alcorn, Mrs. Krzyaniak, and Mr. Sarver.

Voting Nay: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

MOTION by Mr. Merboth, seconded by Mrs. Krzyaniak, to adjourn. Voting Aye: Mr. Merboth, Mrs. Krzyaniak, Mr. Pescetto, Mrs. Alcorn, Mrs. Taliani, and Mr. Sarver. Voting Nay: None.

The motion carried 6-0. Time: 7:53p.m.


Mr. Greg Sarver
President
Mrs. Jennifer Riva
Board Secretary