

Meeting of the  
Lamoille North Supervisory Union and  
Lamoille North Modified Unified Union School District Board  
Minutes of Meeting  
July 14, 2025

Board members Present: Johnson: Mark Nielsen, Kyle Nuse; Waterville: Bart Bezio; Cambridge: Jan Sander, Denise Webster; Hyde Park: Tina Lowe, Patty Hayford; Belvidere: Stephanie Sweet; Eden: Jeff Hunsberger, David Whitcomb

Administrators Present: Cole Hayes, Deborah Clark, Catherine Gallagher, Kim Hunt, Rene Thibault

Others Present: John Morton, Dr. Bragg

Minute Taker: Savannah Dronney

**Call to order:** Meeting called to order by Nielsen at 6:02pm

**Approval of Agenda:** Sanders made a motion to accept the agenda, seconded by Bezio. The motion passed unanimously.

**Public Comment:** N/A

**LNSU/LNMMUUSD Routine Business:**

**Parent Tuition Request – Possible Discussion, Proposed Executive Session, Possible Action:** Motion made by Sanders to go into executive session at 6:03 pm. Executive session ended at 6:33 pm.

Sweet made the motion to decline Dr. Bragg’s request for LNMMUUSD to pay tuition to another school based on current residency laws and the fact that we have an operating school district, seconded by Hayford. The motion passed unanimously.

**Consider Tuition Rates as a Designated District - Discussion, Proposed Executive Session, Possible Action:** Clark stated that Orleans South Supervisory Union has asked us to consider if we would discount rates if we were a primary school for their students, mainly Wolcott students. Wolcott is looking at Lamoille North, Peoples, and Hazen schools. Clark asked that the board move into an executive session as prior public knowledge could put the district at a disadvantage. Hunsberger made the motion at 6:41 pm, seconded by Bezio. The motion passed unanimously. Executive session at 6:57pm.

The business manager on behalf of the Board stated a motion is needed to authorize the business manager or superintendent to enter negotiations regarding tuition discounts as a designated school district. Sweet made the motion, seconded by Hunsberger. The motion passed unanimously.

**H454 Updates - Discussion & Possible Action:** Gallagher spoke regarding 454. The changes for us are the commission on the future of public education’s roles and responsibilities have changed dramatically. Superintendents Mike Lighter, Nicole Mace, and Megan Roy have stepped down from the commission because of their displeasure from this. Class size minimums will go into effect July 1, 2026. They do not have class sizes designated for PreK and K. This is currently for 1<sup>st</sup> grade through 12<sup>th</sup>. The sizes are 10 students minimum average for grade 1; 12 students for grade 2 through 5; 15 for grades 6 through 8; and 18 students for grades 9 through 12. The class sizes are only for required content areas. If we are unable to meet those class sizes, the Board can request a waiver.

The statewide calendar is pushed out to January 15, 2027.

On or before Dec 1, 2025, the AOE must deliver a report on how they envision having a statewide financial data and student information system, consolidate guidance. The funding formula is going to be interesting because students will be given \$15,000 plus per student for resources and education. Districts will be able to decide whether they need to raise more.

Cellphone and media use, the Board will have to develop a policy based on the Secretary of Education's developed model policy after January 1, 2026.

**Bid Review and Award for Chromebooks – Discussion & Possible Action:** Hayes shared that there has been over \$100,000 in savings by having centralized purchasing. The middle school is moving to Chromebooks. Due to shipping and manufacturing delays, it is important a decision is made so they are here for the start of school. The administration is recommending that the board award the bid to Resilient Networks for the Centralized Chromebook purchase in the amount of \$158,454.90 to be paid from the FY26 General Fund. Sweet made the motion, seconded by Hunsberger. Bezio asked how many units this was for. Hayes stated there were 345 units. This is almost the same price that was spent last year. The motion passed unanimously.

**Bid Review and Award for Computers & Peripherals – Discussion & Possible Action:** Hayes stated Chromebooks are separated from desktop computers and peripherals. He is trying to get teachers on Chromebooks if they are able. At this time, the administration is recommending that the board award the bid to Resilient Networks for the Centralized Computer and Peripheral purchase in the amount of \$62,903.79 to be paid from the FY26 General Fund. Hunsberger made the motion, seconded by Sweet. Bezio asked how many units this was for. Hayes stated it's for 37 laptops of one style, nine of another style, 10 sound bars, six monitors and some compact desktops. The motion passed unanimously.

**Continued discussion on H454:** Clark and Nuse attended a meeting that discussed alignment and team work with other districts. They were provided with generic motion language for the Board. How a district would benefit from not being centralized. Clark is trying to wrap her head around redistricting as well as how a supervisory union would benefit from being part of a centralized office. The benefit of remaining a supervisory union structure would be the districts under that structure or within that structure may still retain some local control and voting on school closure. Clark doesn't know enough about the structure, such as who will be making those decisions.

Gallagher has had some input from colleagues. She feels the board should consider who is most like us, because it is fair to say we will be joining others. This is for the board to decide. Bezio said it would be best to have some conversations with these other Boards and Superintendents. These conversations would include the Board chair, Business Manager, Superintendent, VSEC Representative.

## **Policy Review**

**F-7, Behavioral Threat Assessment Teams, Second Reading & Possible Adoption:** Second reading. This is now a required policy. Gallagher asked that the board move to adopt, Bezio made the motion, Hunsberger seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Other Business/Adjourn:** August 11<sup>th</sup> will be the board retreat with just the board and Gallagher. More details will be shared about this.

Adjourn 7:38 pm; motion to adjourn made by Hunsberger seconded by Sanders. The motion passed unanimously.