

Meeting of the
Lamoille North Supervisory Union and
Lamoille North Modified Unified Union School District Board
Minutes of Meeting
September 8, 2025

Board members Present: Johnson: Mark Nielsen, Kyle Nuse, Monica Stearns, Kyle Hill, Carri Ferrari; Waterville: Bart Bezio; Cambridge: Jan Sander, Susan Prescott, Denise Webster, Nancy Guyette, Mark Stebbins, Amy Listenik; Hyde Park: Tina Lowe, Patty Hayford, Phillip Kiely, Lisa Jones; Belvidere: Stephanie Sweet;

Board members Absent: Eden: David Whitcomb, Jeff Hunsberger

Administrators Present: Cole Hayes, Deborah Clark, Catherine Gallagher, Kim Hunt, Rene Thibault, Bethann Pirie, Jermey Scannell, Paula Beattie, Dylan Laflam, Jan Patrick, Erik Remmers, Chris Hennessey, Diane Reilly, Dane Van Nosedeln, Christopher Dodge, Carrie Bullard, Michele Aumand

Others Present: Eric Hutchins

Minute Taker: Savannah Dronney

Call to order: Meeting called to order by Nielsen at 6:00pm

Approval of Agenda: Stebbins made a motion to accept the agenda, seconded by Webster. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment: Hutchins shared concerns about Act 73. He encouraged everyone to reach out to legislators. The cellphone ban has been the most positive impact that this administration has had.

LNSU/LNMMUUSD Routine Business:

Minutes of the LNSU/LNMMUUSD SPECIAL Board Meeting on July 14, 2025; Board Retreat on August 11, 2025; Personnel Committee Meetings on July 1, 2025, and August 18, 2025. Kiely made a motion to approve all of the minutes, seconded by Sweet. The motion passed unanimously.

Board Orders – Sweet made the motion to approve the board orders, seconded by Sander. The motion passed unanimously.

Legislative Updates – Bezio provided a legislative update that was focused around Act 73.

Act 73 – Discussion & Possible Action- Nuse shared a Rural Schools Community Alliance (RSCA) update. Gallagher stated that the Board has put together a draft resolution to consider a merger of LNMMUUSD A & B with the Cambridge School District. Gallagher stated there are three districts in this current supervisory union. There is an option for the Board to vote to combine the three districts into one district. This does not mean this will happen; it shows that we are thinking about our communities. If approved by the Board, this resolution will be presented to the Redistricting Panel during public comment by Nielsen on Wednesday, September 10, 2025.

Kiely made the motion to approve the resolution to merge LNMMUUSD A & B with the Cambridge School District, seconded by Sander. The motion passed unanimously.

Personnel Matter – Discussion & Possible Action, Probable Executive Session – Motion made by Stebbins to go into executive session at 6:28 pm, seconded by Sander. Executive session ended at 6:33 pm. Bezio made the motion to grant exception to an individual experiencing extenuating personal

circumstances and that their personal sick time to be paid out in January 2026, seconded by Kiely. The motion passed unanimously.

Continuous Improvement Plans – Discussion & Possible Action – All principals shared their continuous improvement plans with the Board.

Motion to accept the continuous improvement plants was made by Kiely, seconded by Webster. Bezio asked what the monitoring would be. Hunt explained. The motion passed unanimously.

Board Goals – Discussion & Possible Action- Gallagher stated that at the board retreat, goals were created. These are three-year strategic goals. Academic rigor, foster safe and healthy school environments, practice responsible stewardship of resources to reflect equity, access, and opportunity, deepen community engagement and strategic partnership. There will be data presented to the Board.

Gallagher asked that the Board adopt these goals. Motion made by Bezio, seconded by Stebbins. The motion passed unanimously. Gallagher is going to put these goals in her newsletter.

The Flynn presentation was last week. There were well over 500 people in attendance; this is the largest community event the district has ever had.

Subcommittees – Discussion About Roles & Responsibilities of Each Subcommittee, Possible Action – Gallagher asked the Board to choose first and second choices for subcommittees. The subcommittees are the safety and wellness committee, curriculum committee, FCC (Budget), board negotiations committee, personnel committee.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Presentation- Cole, Kim, and Rene shared slides. The Board had questions regarding AI. Lamoille North has a team to discuss technology which meets once a month. Cole, Kim, and Rene have attended conferences on AI around the state.

Cole shared what other districts are doing. Surveys were sent to IT departments, tech integrationists, STEM-focused positions across Vermont. Heard back from Burlington HS, Burlington SD, Colchester SD, Essex/Westford SD.

The Vermont School Board Association (VSBA) is expected to release a model policy on AI in education later this school year. The Vermont AOE will release AI guidance in the fall and will be providing additional PD opportunities.

Administrator Updates – Gallagher stated the start of the year was seamless. The cell phone ban has been smooth and there haven't been any issues. She welcomed Chris and Dane. Hunt stated that the fall assessments are underway. The VTCAP assessment results have not been released yet.

Other Business/Adjourn:

Adjourn 7:32 pm. Motion to adjourn made by Sweet seconded by Webster. The motion passed unanimously.