



School Board Meeting Minutes

February 19, 2026, 6PM
55 Academy St, Lebanon, OR 97355

Present:

Nichole Piland, Board Chair

Melissa Baurer, Board Vice Chair

Lorlee Engler, Member

Mike Martin, Member

Clyde Rood, Member

Jennifer Meckley, Superintendent

William Lewis, Chief Operations Officer

Steven Prososki, Finance Director

1. WELCOME

Livestream: <https://www.youtube.com/@lcsdboardmeetingstream6568/streams>

1.1. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Board Chair, Nichole Piland.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were made.

3. NAMING OF THE PIONEER SCHOOL WALKING PATH

Fourth Grade Teacher at Pioneer School, Tess Stultz, presents to the Board the history of the walking path, how it came to be, and the important role that the Brandt family played in its making. She proposes the request to dedicate the walking path to Tony Brandt who passed away in September of 2025. She adds that Rachel Brandt continues to serve the community as a PE Teacher at Pioneer School, through coaching, and continued involvement in Lebanon Schools.

Superintendent Jennifer Meckley adds that public comment is available during this meeting and will be available at the March meeting regarding this request. Should the Board approve this recommendation during the March meeting, the district will provide adequate signage.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Reserved specifically for Public Comments related to the naming of the Pioneer School Walking Path. No public comments were made.

5. 2024-25 AUDIT REPORT

Nicole Darcy, Auditor with Pauly Rogers & Co and Team Lead for the Fiscal Year 2025 Audit, presents results of the audit, which is an unmodified opinion-- meaning a clean opinion with no reservations. No issues or exceptions were found for State minimum standards, except as noted on page 48 of the financial report, no issues of non-compliance and no costs questioned for federal awards, and no separate management letter was issued.

Referring to page 7, Nicole shares the best practice findings, made up of governing body monitoring, fidelity insurance coverage determination, and using most up to date I-9 forms.

Board discussion takes place regarding the over expenditure in fund 500, and it is explained that this is related to the construction program home, built in the 2023-24 school year, which was not sold in that fiscal year, so all expenses were added in when the home sold in the next fall.

Mike motions to approve the 2024-25 Audit, and Clyde seconds the motion. All approved with a unanimous vote, the motion carries.

6. ASSESSMENT DATA

Jennifer presents Winter MAP assessment data for grades 1-8 showing overall student growth in math across the district. Grades 1-3 are demonstrating strong growth and are projected to perform well on spring state assessments. Grades 4-6 are also showing improvement, though sixth grade has been identified as an area of concern and will require additional focus. Grades 7-8 show slower but steady growth in the right direction. Schools are currently analyzing classroom and student-level data, and Jennifer adds that she has met with middle school principals to review strategies and supports, particularly for sixth grade students, ahead of spring assessments. Winter MAP assessment data for reading shares a similar story, demonstrating strong growth across grades 1-8, with a bright spot in grade 7. She shares how 7th grade teachers are doing student level growth goals with their data.

Jennifer also references the spreadsheet that was provided, which transparently displays the collective assessment data.

She shares the high school's overall pass rate of 93% at first semester, with a breakdown of 94% 9th grade pass rate, 94% 10th grade pass rate, 90% 11th grade pass rate, and 95% 12th grade pass rate. The 2026 grad rate projection is currently at 89.22% with one semester remaining.

Jennifer adds that to comply with the upcoming requirements of the new accountability bill, she will share formative data three times a year, in the fall, winter, and spring.

Some discussion takes place regarding interventions, which are taking place at all grade levels.

7. CLASS SIZE AND CASE LOAD

Jennifer shares that this is another report that comes before the Board multiple times a year, once in October and once in February. She refers to the class size data, which remained consistent. There are some larger PE and elective classes at the middle and high school. High school class sizes change at semester, and appear to be good, some even under 20, though it is noted that the district does not want to see classes that low.

Discussion takes place regarding the process for classes that are over the cap, and how the principals meet with the corresponding teacher to review and choose the appropriate option for support.

It is noted that the numbers in speech are high, so SLPAs are utilized-- which provides an assistant that can support with supervision. Jennifer recognizes Special Education Director, Rachel Hampton, who provides great supports to the SLPs, and who received a shout out at district labor management with the association. Her support and communication is really appreciated by many.

8. BOARD OPERATING AGREEMENTS

Jennifer refers to January's meeting, where it was decided that Jessica would schedule a work session with Vincent, from the OSBA, to work with the Board members on operating agreements. Upon reaching out, it appeared that his schedule was fairly full and that the session would most likely need to be a three-hour session.

The consensus of the Board is that they can work on an agreement on their own, and each member of the Board will share their ideas/requests with Nichole, who will put together a proposed agreement.

In the meantime, a Board member has requested that the process outlined in policy be followed when members wish to communicate with district staff.

9. FACILITIES USE DISCUSSION

Chair Nichole provided background on the Facilities Use Policy, noting that the topic had recently been discussed with a Board member. Board Member Clyde explained that he had been inquiring whether the policy resulted in funds being taken from students. Upon reviewing the specific OAB contract in question, he found that this was not the case, which sufficiently addressed his concerns.

10. INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS POLICY DISCUSSION

Board Member Mike raises questions about language in the policy regarding how instructional materials are selected. He references ORS 337.260, noting his perspective, that materials should be chosen based on merit and contributions to learning. Mike also spoke with Spencer Lewis at Oregon School Boards Association, who indicated that OSBA had offered assistance in rewriting the policy if the district chooses to revise it. Mike references neighboring districts as examples. Mike suggests that the district could develop its own policy with OSBA's assistance to better reflect the community and students.

Board Member Melissa expressed that she would like more information and the additional research provided in advance of meetings to allow for thoughtful engagement. Board Member

Lorlee asks whether there is currently curriculum that is not focused on core learning, and Mike clarified that there is not.

The board discusses compiling the additional information and including it in the next meeting packet. Clyde confirmed that this discussion was the beginning of a conversation. The board reached consensus to revisit the policy, with the understanding that members will have time to review the information. Lorlee emphasized the importance of collaborating as a board moving forward, and members briefly discuss the timing of policy updates and raising concerns.

Clyde shifts the conversation back to the Facilities Use policy, referring to custodial staff. Discussion ends and the Board moves onto the next agenda item.

11. FIRE ALARM PROJECT CONTRACTING METHOD

Chief Operations Officer William explained the advanced procurement process being proposed for the fire alarm replacement project. He noted that the request includes two components. First, the district is seeking approval to use an alternative contracting method known as design-build, which would allow the district to bring on a vendor to both design and construct the system, ensuring the solution is practical, efficient, and cost-effective. A question presented, confirms that this process will standardize the fire alarm systems across the district. William explains the importance of this project, since fire alarms that are not operating means no school to be in session. The 1.1-1.2 million dollar project is expected to be spread across a 5-year period. The district is seeking approval of Resolution #26-0219A, approval of alternative contracting method design build selection process.

The second component is that the district is requesting approval of exemption from competitive bidding requirements for the sole source procurement selection process. The district is suggesting the Silent Knight fire alarm system, which was used in the recent Seven Oak project. The district is seeking approval of Resolution #26-0219B, approval of an exemption from the competitive bidding requirements for a sole source procurement selection process.

Mike motions to approve both Resolutions A and B, and Clyde seconds the motion. All approved with a unanimous vote, the motion carries.

12. CONSENT AGENDA

Clyde motions to approve, and Mike seconds the motion. All approved with a unanimous vote, the consent agenda made up of January 8, 2026 Work Session Minutes, January 8, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes, First Reading Policy Update JEA-AR, new hire Kiawe Elliott, and temporary new hires Tanner Smith and Amy Stewart is approved in its entirety.

13. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

13.1. Operations

Nothing to report.

13.2. Financial

Finance Director Steven shares that following the completion of the audit, the district's ending fund balance for 24-25 finished healthy and was adjusted about 447,000 higher than projected. He explains that they continue to watch projections in the next couple

months, specifically the bus lift that had expected to be completed in June that is ongoing, costs associated with aging facilities, and insurance costs which are looking high.

Steven also shares that the district has been utilizing an online platform, Govdeals.com, which assists in selling obsolete items and vehicles.

He also recognizes the finance team made up of John, Kim, Amanda, Colleen, and Diane, sharing that they each take so much pride in protecting and managing the district's funds.

14. COMMUNICATION

14.1. Board

Lorlee shared that it is her father's 90th birthday and he is a 1954 graduate of Lebanon High School. She expressed that she feels very privileged and honored to serve on the board, noting the many hardworking staff and administrators in the district. She shared her appreciation for everyone's efforts and said she sees and values the work being done.

Melissa asked about the bond and whether there will be an upcoming work session. Will responded that a work session is planned for April prior to the board meeting.

14.2. Student Board

Student Member Cade shares that the high school has seen an increase in student attendance, and a decrease in tardies, which they believe is the effect of student led campaigns.

He shared several recent student accomplishments. JROTC won the Regional competition, cheer won the State championship and will now compete at nationals, boys wrestling will compete at districts, and the swim team will compete at the State meet. He also noted that the theater program recently performed *Legally Blonde* and will next present *Tuck Everlasting*. In addition, Lebanon DECA will be attending the State Career Development Conference.

14.3. Superintendent

Jennifer presents Jen's Zens starting with the recent Apple Award winner, LHS agriculture teacher and FFA advisor, Mike Wilson. Mike leads the agriculture program with heart and vision, building a community where students grow in knowledge, confidence, and responsibility. He has transformed the 55-acre Land Lab into one of the top agricultural education programs in the state, creating meaningful opportunities for students and making a lasting impact at LHS.

Jennifer shares an update on the work of the K-12 Health and Social Sciences curriculum adoption teams. A committee of teachers, administrators, and community members have been reviewing new curriculum materials to ensure they align with Oregon standards and provide the best resources for students. Health teams have explored options for elementary, middle, and high school, while continuing the district's partnership with Obria to meet state requirements. Social Sciences teams have also been evaluating materials from several providers since November. We appreciate the many hours committee members have dedicated to this work. A Curriculum Adoption Viewing Night is scheduled for April 23, when families and community members will be invited to review the materials.

She also highlights Ralston Academy's visit to Phagans Beauty School. Ten students toured the beauty school, learning about certificate programs, timelines, and career pathways, and enjoyed a hair wash and style or manicure during their visit. Later this month, Ralston students will visit Knife River and LBCC for Manufacturing Day. These experiences help students connect learning to real-world opportunities and explore local career pathways.

Jennifer also congratulates the LHS Cheer team who placed first in the State Competition. They will next be competing at Nationals in Anaheim, California.

15. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were made.

16. ADJOURNMENT at 7:10 PM

Signed: Nicholas M. Puland

(Board Chair)

Signed: Jennifer Meckley

(Superintendent)

Date: 3/12/24

Date: 3/12/24

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ATTENDEE SIGN-IN

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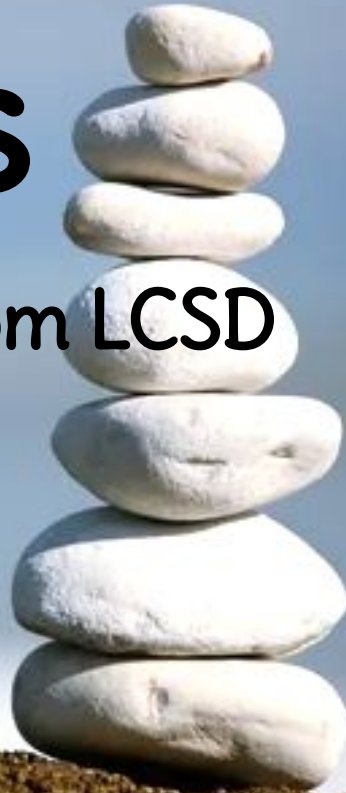
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Jen's Zens

A Few Happy Stories from LCSD

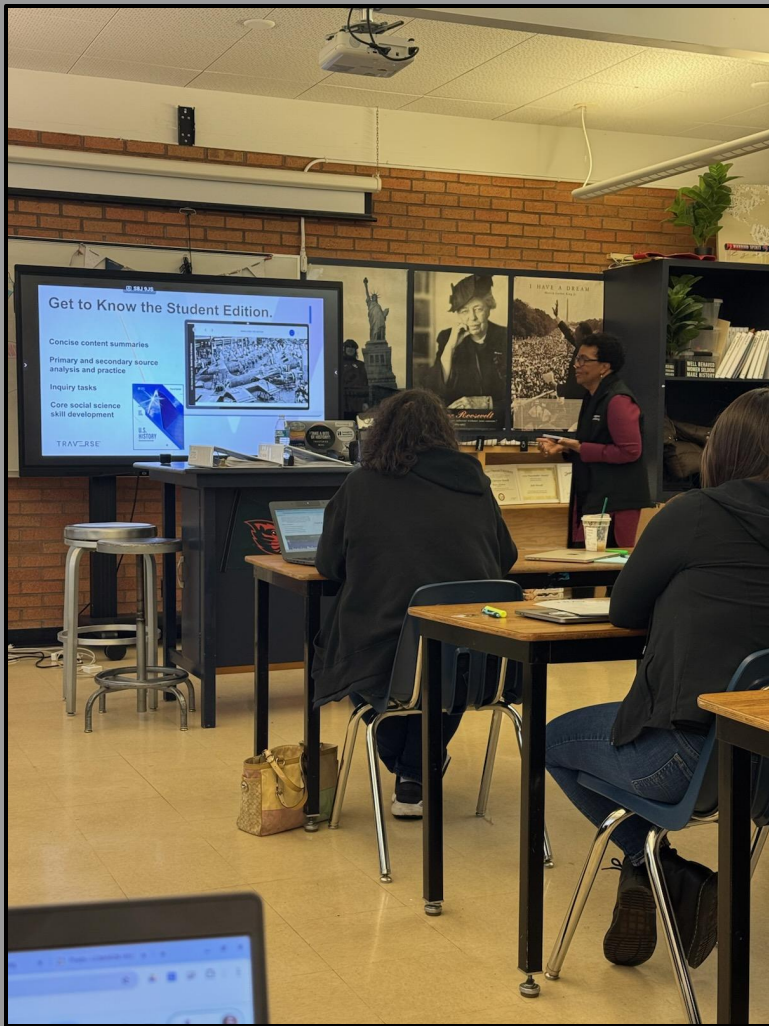




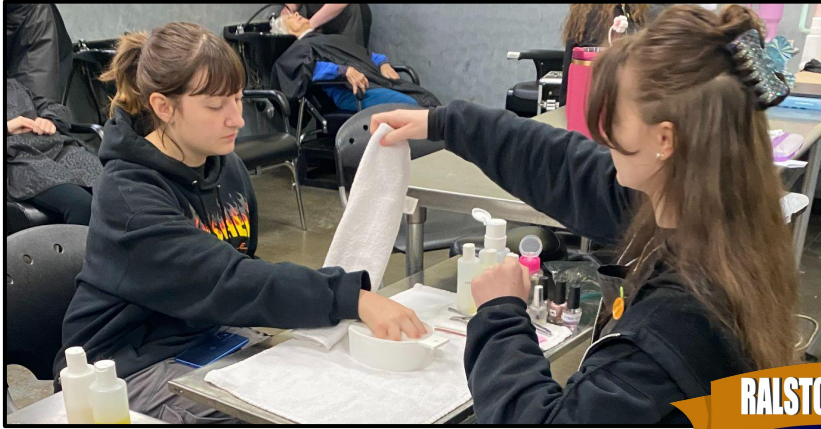
Apple Award Winner: Mike Wilson

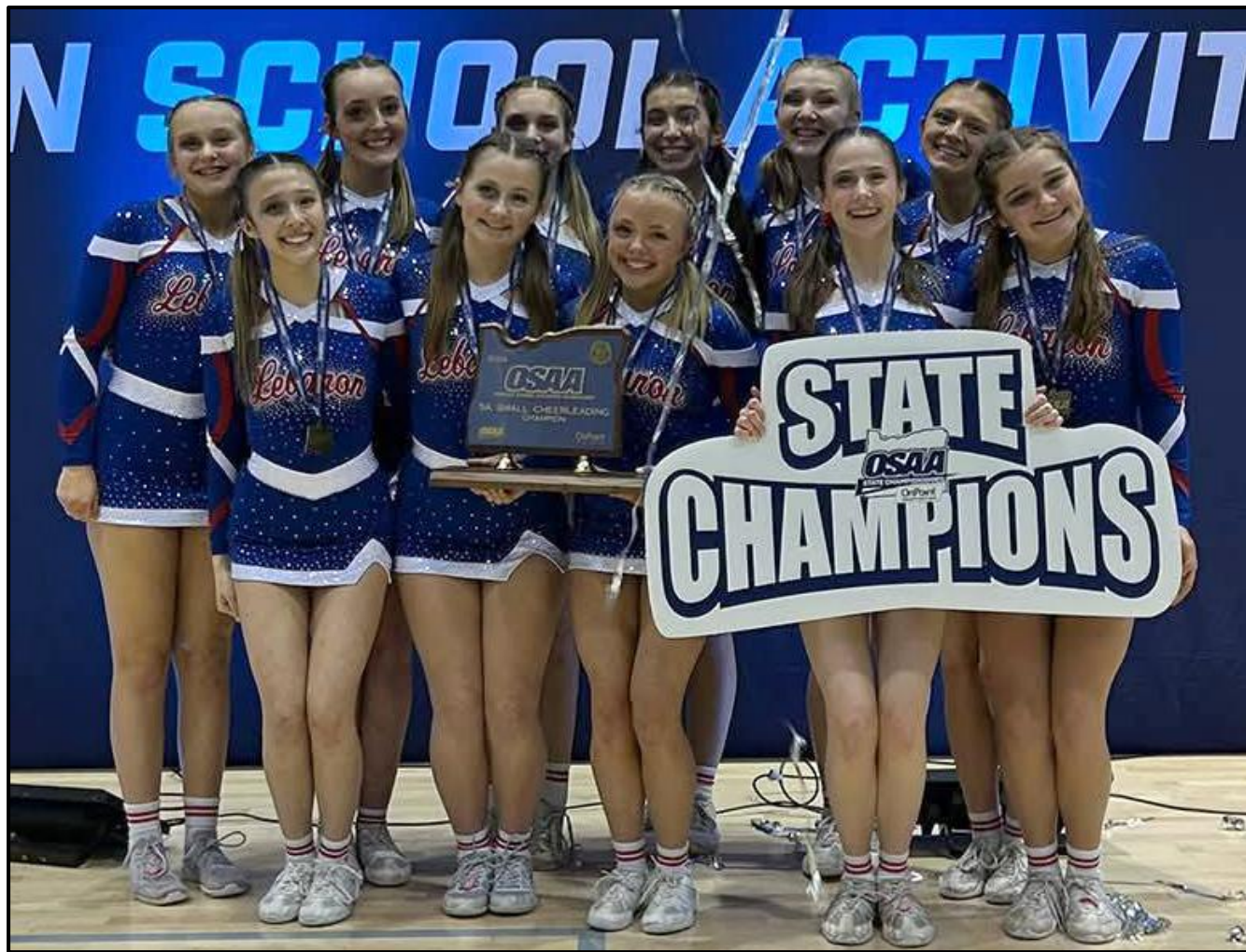


Curriculum adoption



Ralston visits Phagans





LHS
Cheer
State
Champs!

LW

Thank you.

