

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE TRUSTEES---SCHOOL DISTRICTS #86 & #4
JANUARY 26, 2026**

The trustees of Lambert School Districts #86 & #4 met in Regular Session on Monday, January 26, 2026 at 7:00 PM in the Lambert School Library.

Members Present: Lacey Mullin, Sara Huft, Tara Hill, Cheyanne Rauschendorfer and Rodney Evenson.

Others Present: Superintendent Kara Triplett, District Clerk Sammie Nelson and Larry Sommerfeld (Left at 8:05 PM).

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chairperson Lacey Mullin called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

CORRESPONDENCE

Christmas Gift Thank you's were received from: Kim Irigoin, Kristi Janssen, Rebecca Kollman, Sheri Pust and Kara Triplett. A thank you was received from Daryl Vaira's family thanking Lambert Schools for the plant that was sent for Daryl's memorial.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairperson Lacey Mullin stated the following: "This portion of the meeting is designated as a time for input/questions from the public on items that are not on the agenda. This does not include discussion about individual students, staff or faculty. The Board cannot and will not violate an individual's right to privacy. Please understand that the board members are not able to respond immediately to your questions or concerns. The Board will consider your comments carefully and depending on the topic, will refer the matter to the Superintendent or will follow up with you at a later date".

No Public Comment was forthcoming.

CONSENT AGENDA

It was discussed that the Class of 2026 pay for meals on the Senior Trip, out of their Senior account, due to the fact that they have excess funds.

Cheyenne Rauschendorfer moved to approve the following: December 17, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes, January 19, 2026 Negotiations Committee Meeting Minutes and January 22, 2026 Interview Committee Meeting Minutes. Payment of January 16, 2026 Payroll Warrants #29601-#29632 and January 6, 9 & 26, 2026 Claim Warrants #35883-#35904. December 2025 Extra-Curricular Report Balances. January 2026 Joint Sports Coop Expenses. Seconded by Sara Huft. All voted Aye.

REPORTS

Lacey Nevins-Principal Report

Principal Lacey Nevins was not present. She is currently attending the SAM conference in Bozeman. Please refer to the attached written Principal's Report.

Kara Triplett-Superintendent/AD Report

Please refer to the attached written Superintendent's Report. Kara suggested naming the crow's nest at the sports complex Vaira's View in honor of Daryl Vaira.

OLD BUSINESS

No Old Business to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS

Review 4-day Hybrid Calendar: Snow Days '25-26-Consideration for '26-27

LEA chose the following dates for the current (2025-2026) calendar for potential upcoming Snow Days: April 17, 2026 and May 1, 2026.

Cheyenne Rauschendorfer moved to approve April 17, 2026 and May 1, 2026, as chosen by LEA, for potential Snow Days. Seconded by Rodney Evenson. All voted Aye. Superintendent Triplett will push out these dates to the community.

The Board reviewed the attached staff and community surveys regarding the 4-day week. The surveys favored staying with the 4-day Hybrid schedule for the 2026-2027 school year. Superintendent Triplett plans to discuss rationale for why some survey suggestions don't work with what we are currently committed to in the 3rd quarter newsletter. She will also send the survey out to students, as was suggested. The annual PIR BPA event was also discussed. Superintendent Triplett will check with Becky Carda in regards to in the future requesting that each school who attends this event provides event judges/monitors because the time spent by Lambert certified staff to judge/monitor these BPA events could be better spent on professional development.

Approve Certified Master Agreement, '26-28

Sara Huft moved to approve the attached 2026-2028 Master Agreement upon verification that the number that has been placed in the first cell (base salary) of the Salary Schedule for 2026-2027 & 2027-2028 is indeed correct based upon Quality Educator Payment amounts. Seconded by Cheyanne Rauschendorfer. All voted Aye.

Clerk Position – '26-27

Sara Huft moved to offer a 2026-2027 District Clerk/Business Manager Employment Contract to Rebecca Miller. Rebecca's annual wage will be \$55,000 for July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027. She will be full time-2080 hours. She will be granted 40 hours of Personal leave and 40 hours of Bereavement leave. The Districts will contribute up to a maximum of \$1235.75/month toward health insurance. Seconded by Cheyanne Rauschendorfer. All voted Aye.

Tara Hill moved to offer an Employee Temporary Work Agreement to Rebecca Miller for District Clerk/Business Manager training purposes through June 30, 2026. The hourly rate for this training period will be \$22.00/hour. Trainee may work up to a maximum of 20 hours per week. Additional hours may be approved by the Superintendent. *Note: Rebecca may not begin training until both the 2026-2027 District Clerk/Business Manager Employment Contract and the Temporary Work Agreement have been signed and returned. Seconded by Cheyanne Rauschendorfer. All voted Aye.

Staff Laptop Purchase

Our current staff laptops are old and ready for upgrading. The lifespan of the current laptops is 6 years and we are on year 8.

Rodney Evenson moved to approve the attached quote from CDW-G in the amount of \$63,691.05 for 31 Lenovo ThinkPad's and 31 5-year Accidental Damage Coverages. It was recommended that this expense be paid out of the Tech Funds. Seconded by Tara Hill. All voted Aye.

*Note: Some staff will need docking stations for their laptops. The cost is estimated at \$8000-this is not included in the above CDW-G quote.

Housing Request – Housing Committee Recommendation

Cheyenne Rauschendorfer moved to approve offering a Lease/Rental Agreement to Laura Lund for 4-plex Apartment #6. Seconded by Sara Huft. All voted Aye.

MHSA Choral Fee

We have at least two HS students and possibly 3 who would like to compete in the District Music Festival. In order for them to be able to compete we must pay 2025-2026 MHSA dues. It was discussed if we would have to pay dues for Chorus or if we would have to pay dues for both Chorus and Band due to the fact that at least one of the students wishing to compete plays the piano. Kara will check with MHSA regarding this question.

Sara Huft moved to approve MHSA dues for 2025-2026 Chorus (\$250) or for both 2025-2026 Chorus and Band (\$500), if necessary. Seconded by Rodney Evenson. All voted Aye.

Professional Development Plan for '26-27

The Professional Development Plan for '26-27 was not available at this time. This agenda item is therefore tabled until the next Regular Meeting.

Personnel

Sara Huft moved to approve offering a 2025-2026 Sports Coop Contract to **Mackenzie Rask**-Elementary Girls' BB Coach. Seconded by Cheyanne Rauschendorfer. All voted Aye.

Sara Huft moved to approve offering the following 2026-2027 Coop Contracts as follows: **Bryan Prevost**-Head JH FB Coach and **Austin Lien**-Asst JH FB Coach. *Note: Jason Klempel was offered but turned down the Head JH FB Coach position. Seconded by Cheyanne Rauschendorfer. All voted Aye.

3rd Quarter Disbursement of Oil & Gas Revenue

District Clerk Sammie Nelson reported to the Board that to date the 1st & 2nd Oil and Gas Distribution amounts are as follows: Elementary District #86: \$376,131.04 (1st Qtr) and \$307,132.27 (2nd Qtr). HS District #4: \$376,131.05 (1st Qtr) and \$307,132.29 (2nd Qtr). Lambert may collect \$422,112.36 in Elementary District #86 & \$335,583.75 in HS District #4 before reaching the 130% maximum Oil and Gas Distribution amounts, which are \$1,105,375.67 in Elementary District #86 & \$1,018,847.09 in the HS. 3rd Quarter Oil & Gas Revenue Distribution amounts have not been released as of yet.

Sara Huft moved to approve placing 3rd Quarter Oil and Gas Distribution amounts in both the Elementary District #86 & HS District #4 Flex accounts. Seconded by Rodney Evenson. All voted Aye.

Closed Session-Superintendent Evaluation

The Board went into closed session at 9:25 PM to compile Kara Triplett's Superintendent Evaluation information.

Kara was called into closed session at 9:50 PM to review the Superintendent Evaluation information.

The Board opened the meeting at 9:57 PM and called District Clerk Sammie Nelson back into the meeting.

Cheyenne Rauschendorfer moved to approve a 2-year Superintendent/AD Contract (2026-2027 & 2027-2028). Kara's salary for the 2026-2027 school year will be \$98,700.00 & Kara's salary for the 2027-2028 school year will be \$102,650.00. All other terms of her current contract will remain as is. Seconded by Tara Hill. All voted Aye.

The next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 24, 2026 at 7:00 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

Rodney Evenson moved to adjourn at 10:21 PM. Seconded by Cheyanne Rauschendorfer. All voted Aye.

Sammi Nelson

(CLERK OF THE DISTRICTS)

Lacey Muller

(CHAIRPERSON OF THE BOARD)