

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE TRUSTEES---SCHOOL DISTRICTS #86 & #4  
FEBRUARY 24, 2026**

The trustees of Lambert School Districts #86 & #4 met in Regular Session on Tuesday, February 24, 2026 at 7:00 PM in the Lambert School Library.

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

**Member Not Present:** Tara Hill.

**Others Present:** Superintendent Kara Triplett, Principal Lacey Nevins, District Clerk Sammie Nelson, Shawn Lien (Left at 7:40 PM), Brian Prevost (Left at 7:40 PM), Kenny Hill (Left at 7:40 PM), Chase Verschoot (Came at 7:09 PM/Left at 7:40 PM) and Alysia Mullin.

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

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

**CORRESPONDENCE**

A Thank you, for the Christmas Gift, was received from Brenda Verschoot.

**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**

Rodney Evenson moved to approve the following: January 26, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes. Payment of February 18, 2026 Payroll Warrants #29633-#29664 and February 2, 20 & 23, 2026 Claim Warrants #35905-#35929. January 2026 Extra-curricular Report Balances. Transfers as follows: From Class of 2026 to Prom Fund @\$500.00 – To help with Prom expenses and From Senior Class of 2026 to School Trips@ \$1200 – Funds for Senior Class Trip. February 2026 Joint Sports Coop Expenses. Seconded by Cheyanne Rauschendorfer. All voted Aye.

**REPORTS**

**Lacey Nevins-Principal Report**

Please refer to the attached written Principal's Report.

**Kara Triplett-Superintendent/AD Report**

Please refer to the attached written Superintendent/AD's Report.

Kara also discussed the following: Lacey Mullin filed a Declaration of Intent for the 2-year school trustee position. Alysia Mullin filed a Declaration of Intent for one of the two 3-year school trustee positions. The Senior Class will provide \$100/individual, to be used for meals on the Senior Class Trip, out of their class funds. Protocol has been set to deal with any ICE issues.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Lambert Fire Department Land Request Update**

Superintendent Triplett stated that she has been in contact with the County Planner. The County Planner has stated that the school has two options: Lambert School could hire a surveyor to subdivide the land and then sell a portion of the subdivision to the Lambert Fire Department. The fire department would then own the land and this might help them get financing to build a fire station. This could be a lengthy process. Lambert School could contract with an attorney to draw up an easement for an extended period of time. In essence the school would be leasing the land to the Lambert Fire Department. In both cases, sale or easement, either option would be for the sole purpose of building a fire station.

Rodney Evenson moved to approve selling a parcel of land to the Lambert Fire Department or granting a long-term easement to the Lambert Fire Department for the sole purpose of building a fire station. In either situation it will be legally stated that if the Lambert Fire Department has not used the land for the sole purpose of building a fire station within a certain amount of time (5 years?), from the date of the land sale or the date of contractually entering into an easement, then the land would revert back to Lambert Public Schools. Seconded by Sara Huft. All voted Aye.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **MT/ND All-Star Football Game-Summer; 2026**

Shawn Lien and Brian Prevost were both present to request that the Board allow them access to the facility while hosting the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual MT/ND All-Star FB game, which is tentatively scheduled for the evening of July 4<sup>th</sup>.

Sara Huft moved to approve the use of Lambert's facilities while hosting the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual MT/ND All-Star FB game and to waive all facility fees. Seconded by Rodney Evenson. All voted Aye.

### **Para-Professional Contract, 2025-2026-Possible Extension**

Val Patterson requested that when Amelia Pust is finished with her long-term subbing for Josie Muscha that Amelia be allowed to fulfill additional para duties in the afternoons, in addition to morning para duties, due to additional student case load. Please refer to the attached 2025-2026 Resource Room Schedule.

Sara Huft moved to grant Val Patterson's request as stated above. Seconded by Cheyanne Rauschendorfer. All voted Aye.

### **CDL Students Tuition-Grant Money**

Trish Verschoot has partnered with the Bakken Learning Center because she has some current students who are interested in getting their CDL, and the BLC has a course that will help students down that path. The current Senior students are taking the class during Mrs. Verschoot's Senior Prep Class. Mrs. Verschoot has some Advancing Ag grant money that she would like to apply to help offset the cost of this course. Mrs. Verschoot and Superintendent Triplett believe that the circumstances for this course are different than when we have offered other courses in the past where the District may have been asked to pay for them (we have a precedent that the District won't pay for a digital class for a student unless for some reason, the District can't offer an in-person class a student needs for graduation). In this case it is felt that the Advancing Ag grant money is available and Mrs. Verschoot believes she will continue to be awarded some Advancing Ag grant money in the future. She would like to set a precedent that if this Advancing Ag grant money is available, and she has students who take a CDL course that she be allowed to apply some of this Advancing Ag grant money equally and fairly to the CDL course fee each student is responsible for.

Cheyenne Rauschendorfer moved to approve use of Advancing Ag grant money to offset CDL student's tuition. Seconded by Sara Huft. All voted Aye.

#### **Certified Staff Resignation-Business Position**

Sara Huft moved to accept Mark Pust's resignation from his Business teaching position at the conclusion of the current (2025-2026) contractual year and to open the 7-12 Business position. Seconded by Cheyanne Rauschendorfer. All voted Aye.

#### **Puerto Rico Trip-Chaperone Adjustment**

Due to Mark Pust's health issues it was decided that a new Senior Trip Chaperone would be chosen. The new Senior Trip Chaperone is Shawn Lien.

Cheyenne Rauschendorfer moved to approve the purchase of a plane ticket and motel room for new Puerto Rico Trip Chaperone Shawn Lien. Seconded by Sara Huft. All voted Aye.

#### **Consideration of Certified Staff, Tenured 2026-2027 Contracts**

Cheyenne Rauschendorfer moved to accept Superintendent Triplett's and Principal Nevin's recommendation to renew the tenured certified staff for 2026-2027 as follows: Rhea Christensen (Elem), Val Frisbie (.5 Elem/JH Music), Lanett Hill (7-12 English), Necole Killick (7-12 Spanish/Library), Rebecca Kollman (7-12 Science), Val Patterson (K-12 SpEd/Title 1), Sheri Pust (Elem/JH Music), Melissa Shiffer (Elem), Larry Sommerfeld (K-12 PE/Health), Jessica Spinner (Elem), Trish Verschoot (7-12 Ag) and Herma Watkins (7-12 Math). Seconded by Sara Huft. All voted Aye.

#### **Consideration of Certified Staff, Non-tenured 2026-2027 Contracts**

Cheyenne Rauschendorfer moved to accept Superintendent Triplett's and Principal Nevin's recommendation to renew the non-tenured certified staff for 2026-2027 as follows: Stephanie Berg-Tossoun (7-12 Social Studies), Kim Irigoien (Elem), Kristi Janssen (Elem), Raeann Lien (Elem), Josie Muscha (.5 Guidance), Christina Rehbein (1<sup>st</sup> Semester -3/8 7-12 Art and 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester-3/8 7-12 Art and 1/8 Guidance-Careers Class). Seconded by Sara Huft. All voted Aye.

#### **School Calendar Approval, 2026-2027**

LEA has not, as of yet, come to a consensus on a 2026-2027 calendar option. The Board, by consensus, stated that they prefer Calendar #1 with 1<sup>st</sup> Semester ending prior to Christmas break and getting out earlier in May. LEA will have to reach a consensus. The Board will then be notified of which Calendar LEA prefers. Hopefully, some consensus can be reached between LEA and the Board. As we will not be able to issue Teacher Employment Contracts until we have arrived on what the first PIR days will be.

#### **Professional Development Plan, 2026-2027**

Discussion was had regarding Regional BPA and professional development time it takes for our staff. Most staff stated that if BPA was held at Lambert they would still participate as judges that day, which would allow for more professional development time. Becky Carda was open to this idea but things would have to be kept the same for the 2026-2027 school year and then it could be adjusted for the 2027-2028 school year.

Cheyenne Rauschendorfer moved to approve the attached Professional Development Plan for 2026-2027. Seconded by Sara Huft. All voted Aye.

#### **MCI Activity Bus – Potential Upgrades**

Mark Rehbein has asked the Board to consider two upgrades to the MCI Activity Bus: Installation of a backup camera and installation of some ports so passengers may charge their digital devices.

Harlow's has submitted the attached estimate: Install dual usb ports in each seat area @\$2153.92, install power inverter and 110-volt outlets in the first two rows of seats @\$3833.99 and install backup camera with 7" monitor @\$1808.10.

Rodney Evenson moved to accept Harlow's estimate as stated above. Board members questioned if the power inverter and 110-volt outlets were necessary for installation of other parts of this estimate: usb

ports and back up camera, therefore, Superintendent Triplett will ask this question to Harlow's. If the power inverter and 110-volt outlets is not a necessity, that part of the estimate (\$3833.99) will not be included in the scope of work to be completed. Seconded by Cheyanne Rauschendorfer. All voted Aye.

#### **Classified Staff Contract Language 2026-2027**

MTSBA has deemed that our current Letter of Employment for classified staff is very poor and outdated. Therefore, the Board was asked to use the MTSBA model and add any additional information that they feel pertinent from the old Letter of Employment to update the Classified Staff Contract for the 2026-2027 school year. This updated document will then be forwarded to MTSBA to make sure that all parts of this updated document are legal. Any changes that are suggested by MTSBA will be made.

Sara Huft moved to approve updating the Classified Staff Contract, as designated by the Board, for the 2026-2027 school year. Seconded by Cheyanne Rauschendorfer. All voted Aye.

Please refer to the attached updated Classified Staff Contract to be used for 2026-2027 school year.

#### **Summer School, 2026**

Rodney Evenson moved to offer an Employee Temporary Work Agreement Contract to Vickie Schields as Summer School Instructor for Summer of 2026 at a rate of \$25.50/hour. Vickie will offer Summer School classes during the following weeks: June 1-5, 2026; June 8-12, 2026; July 6-10, 2026; July 13-17, 2026; July 20-24, 2026; August 3-7, 2026 from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Seconded by Sara Huft. All voted Aye.

#### **Drivers' Education-Summer 2026**

Warren Clark was the Drivers' Ed teacher last summer. He did his best to accommodate individual student's summer schedules. However, this summer he does have something else he is working on, outside of Drivers' Ed classes, therefore he may not be able to be so flexible when trying to accommodate individual student's summer schedules.

Sara Huft moved to offer Warren Clark a Drivers' Education Contract for the summer of 2026 at \$25/hour plus driving time. Seconded by Cheyanne Rauschendorfer. All voted Aye.

#### **Summer Projects-Consideration**

The following attached estimates were presented for Board review: **Bruco, Inc.** Replacement of Flooring Project. **Top Gun Asphalt and Harddrives Construction Inc.**-Resurfacing parking lots. Please refer to attachments for further details. Due to the fact that these projects will be \$80,000.00 or more they must be put out for bid. Therefore, Rodney Evenson moved to approve beginning the bidding process on both the replacement of flooring project and the resurfacing of the parking lots project. Seconded by Cheyanne Rauschendorfer. All voted Aye.

At this time, it was noted that the Board has committed to the following projects that will be worked on this spring/summer: New sand in the jumping pits and covers, repairing cracks in the track, new doors for the cafeteria entrance of the school and the front entrance of the school, work on the Lindenwood (Patterson) house and the rest of the housing projects that were noted during the walk throughs that Faith Built (Laura Lund) has been hired to complete.

#### **Notice of Intent to Increase Non-voted Levies**

Each year a Notice of Intent to Increase Non-voted Levies must be published by March 31<sup>st</sup> stating the Board's intent to run permissive levies. If this Notice is not published by the due date then the Board does not have the authority to run any permissive levies.

Cheyenne Rauschendorfer moved to approve permissive levies in both the Elementary and HS Transportation Funds and Building Reserve Funds (Major Maintenance sub fund). The Board, by consensus, stated that they do wish to continue to run permissive levies, as necessary, however; they do not want a significant increase in the amount of permissive levy dollars collected this year over last year due to the increase to our local taxpayers' county taxes. Seconded by Rodney Evenson. All voted Aye.

The next Regular School Board Meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 23, 2026 at 7:00 PM.

Rodney Evenson moved to adjourn at 9:45 PM. Seconded by Sara Huft. All voted Aye.

Sammi Nelson  
(CLERK OF THE DISTRICTS)

Lacey Muller  
(CHAIRPERSON OF THE BOARD)