

**REGULAR/FINAL BUDGET MEETING OF THE TRUSTEES---SCHOOL DISTRICTS #86 & #4
AUGUST 18, 2025**

The trustees of Lambert School Districts #86 & #4 met in Regular Session on Monday, August 18, 2025 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, Principal Lacey Nevins, District Clerk Sammie Nelson and County Superintendent of Schools Tim Tharp (Arrived at 7:30 PM-left after 2025-2026 Budgets were discussed).

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

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

CORRESPONDENCE

No Correspondence was presented.

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 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: July 21, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes. Payment of August 12 & 18, 2025 Payroll Warrants #29422-#29453 and August 15 & 25, 2025 Claim Warrants #35718-#35750. July 2025 Extra-curricular Balances. August 2025 Joint Sports Coop Expenses. Seconded by Cheyanne Rauschendorfer. All voted Aye.

REPORTS

Lacey Nevins-Principal Report

Please refer to the attached Principal Report.

Kara Triplett-Superintendent/AD Report

Please refer to the attached Superintendent/AD Report.

Superintendent Triplett requested that Austin Lien be allowed to work until September 30, 2025. The Board gave approval for this September 30, 2025 extension, from the date of August 8, 2025 initially stated in Austin's Temporary Work Agreement.

OLD BUSINESS

Senior Class of 2026 Trip-Approval

The Senior Class chose Puerto Rico as their 2025-2026 Senior Class trip destination. This trip is scheduled for March 21-March 25, 2026. Mark & Sheri Pust will be the chaperones for this trip. Sheri did some research and got a price quote from Explorica, for this trip, @\$2830/student. The Board stated they wish to continue to use the Student Trip Contract that has been used in the past, however, they did approve allowing the Seniors the opportunity to use their "grace period" for eligibility to go on this trip if they haven't already used it for this year when the grade check happens.

Sara Huft moved to approve the attached itinerary for the 2026 Senior Class Trip to Puerto Rico, scheduled for March 21-March 25, 2026 through Explorica @\$2830/student. Seconded by Cheyanne Rauschendorfer. All voted Aye.

*Note: There was discussion regarding perhaps using Senior Class excess money to pay for one of the Senior Trip chaperones?

Class Advisor Contract Updates

Cheyenne Rauschendorfer moved to approve the following adjustments/corrections to class advisor contracts: **Stephanie Berg-Tossoun** was initially offered a contract for Jr. Class Advisor. It will be adjusted/corrected to 7th Grade Class Advisor. **Val Patterson** was initially offered a contract for Freshmen Class Advisor. It will be adjusted/corrected to 8th Grade Class Advisor. **Herma Watkins** was initially offered a contract for 8th Grade Class advisor. It will be adjusted/corrected to Freshmen Class Advisor. Seconded by Tara Hill. All voted Aye.

Note: Josie Muscha declined her contract for the 7th Grade Class Advisor position.

Class Schedule Update-Approval

The Drop/Add period ended for students on 8/15/25 at 4:00 PM, so the class schedule has been finalized for 1st semester. Sara Huft moved to approve the attached 2025-2026 Class Schedule. Seconded by Rodney Evenson. All voted Aye.

Review of Policy 3655

Policy 3655: Student Safety states the following: "In order to ensure the safety and welfare of students, no individuals, regardless of employment status with the District, shall have unsupervised contact with students while in school, at a school-sponsored activity, or in transit to a school-sponsored activity unless the individual has: a) completed a fingerprint-based national criminal history background check pursuant to the educator licensure policies of the board of public education; or b) the individual has provided to the MT Department of Justice information and material sufficient to obtain a fingerprint-based national criminal history background check; and the trustees, the superintendent of the district, or another individual designated by the trustees has reviewed the results of the back ground check".

This has created some issues for our Work Release students who are contracted with an employer outside the District. These students have to meet certain criteria but then are released from school during the day to go work somewhere else. A lot of these work release students are released to go home and work on the family farm. The question: Would parents of these work release students have to be fingerprinted and complete a background check? Received legal advice stating that work release student's parents will not be required to complete the fingerprint/background process. However, if a work release student is being released to work for someone other than their parents the District will have them get fingerprinted and complete the background check ASAP so that we will be in compliance with Policy 3655.

NEW BUSINESS

2025-2026 Budget-Approval

Sara Huft moved to approve the attached FY 2026 Lambert Elem Budget & the Lambert HS Budget. Both the Elem & HS General Funds and HS Tuition Fund will be filled using oil and gas revenue. Permissive levies will be run in both the Elem & HS Transportation Funds. For other specifics please refer to the attached Budgets. 1st Quarter oil and gas revenue is as follows: \$376,131.04 Elem District and \$376,131.05 HS District. These 1st Quarter oil and gas payments are to be placed in the Elem General Fund and the HS General Fund respectively. Seconded by Cheyanne Rauschendorfer. All voted Aye.

Housing-Rose/Triplex Tenants

Sara Huft moved to approve the following placements in school owned housing: **Blake Lien and MacKenzie Rask**-Rose House and **Austin Lien**-Triplex #2. Seconded by Tara Hill. All voted Aye.

Homeless Liaison-Appointment

Cheyenne Rauschendorfer moved to appoint Superintendent Kara Triplett as Lambert Public School's Homeless Liaison. Seconded by Tara Hill. All voted Aye.

Graduation Date and Time

The Senior Class of 2026 request permission to schedule Graduation on Saturday, May 16, 2026 at 2:00 PM.

Sara Huft moved to approve the Senior Class of 2026's Graduation request. Seconded by Cheyanne Rauschendorfer. All voted Aye.

The next Regular School Board Meeting has been scheduled for Monday, September 29, 2025 at 7:00 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

Cheyenne Rauschendorfer moved to adjourn at 9:01 PM. Seconded by Tara Hill. All voted Aye.

Sammi Nelson

(CLERK OF THE DISTRICTS)

Lacey Muller

(CHAIRPERSON OF THE BOARD)