Board of Education
Lancaster Central School District
Lancaster, New York

Minutes

Meeting Date

June 22, 2026

Kind

Regular Session

Place

Lancaster High School, One Forton Drive, Lancaster

Members Present

John Talarico, President
Timothy Talbot, Vice President
Mike Sage, Trustee
David Lyman, Trustee
Melissa Payne Smith, Trustee
Jonathan VanNortwick, Trustee
Michaela Innus, Ex- Officio Student Board Member

Members Excused

Anita Schiavone, Trustee

District Administrators Present

Andrew P. Kufel, PhD, Superintendent of Schools
Daniel D'Amico, Asst. Superintendent for Human Resources
Andrew Krazmien, Asst. Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction & Pupil Services
Erin Gannon, Director of Special Education
Karen Marchioli, Director of Elementary Education
Cheryl Randall, Director of Instructional Technology & Accountability
Sarah Wittmeyer, Director of Secondary Education
Kim Gromoll, Director of Public Relations
John Tresmond, Asst. Director of Special Education

Others Present

District administrators and faculty members

1.0 Call to Order
2.0 Pledge to Flag
3.0 Moment of Silence

The regular meeting of the board of education was called to order at 7:00pm by President Talarico. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Mr. Talarico asked for a moment of silent reflection.

4.0 Presentation
4.1 Presentation
Student Art Show

Mrs. Melanie Baehre, art department chairperson, and Mr. Talarico congratulated the following students for donating artwork to display in the board room at the Central Avenue School and the Art Gallery at the high school: Lucy Ponichtera, Jaimeson Kestner, Isla Jenkins, Avery Suchyna, Ruth Coleman, Penelope Berry, Allaire Lehnes, Julia Soda,

Maycen Collins, Isabella Factor, Gianna Migliaccio, Harper Roach, Brielle Bova, and Alex Scapillato.

4.2 Class AAA State Champion Girls Varsity Softball Team

Certificates of achievement were presented to the Class AAA State Champion Lancaster Varsity Girls Softball team by Mr. Eric Rupp, Director of Athletics, Coach Rich Winiatowski, Assistant Coach Stephanie Young, and President Talarico.
The roster is as follows:

- Emma Andolina
- Alyssa Brunner
- Peytyn Chojnacki
- Brenna DeWald
- Brianna DiGiacomo
- Abby DiMino
- Isabella DiMino
- Leah Dowling
- Ava Konieczny
- Lily Kuzara
- Maddy Matthews
- Lyla Power
- Lily Tuberdyke

5.0 Correspondence

No correspondence was received.

5.1 Email Received

An email was received from Karan Durkin on June 5, 2026.

6.0 Approval of Minutes
6.1 Regular Session June 8, 2026

Moved by Talbot seconded by VanNortwick to accept the minutes from the regular session held on June 8, 2026, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 6 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

7.0 Staff Organizations

Lancaster Administrative and Supervisory Association:

Mr. Greg Heer had no items to report.

Lancaster Central Teachers Association:

Mrs. Beth Farrar congratulated the student-athletes and student-artists recognized at the meeting. In her year-end overview, she highlighted that the LCTA donated over $10,000 to various clubs, organizations, sports teams, and academies throughout the year. After wishing the retiring teachers the best of luck, Mrs. Farrar addressed the ongoing LCTA contract negotiations. While she expressed disappointment that an agreement has not yet been reached, she emphasized her dedication to securing a fair contract for all teachers.

Lancaster Association of Service Personnel:

Mr. Murray had no items to report.

Lancaster Association of Substitute Teachers:

No one present to report.

8.0 Board Reports

8.1 Review of 2025-2026 District Goals

Mr. Talarico noted the 2025-2026 reflections of the district goals will be posted to the district's website.

8.2 Recognition
Mr. Mike Sage

Mr. Talarico and Dr. Andrew Kufel, Superintendent, thanked Mr. Sage for his years of service on the board of education and presented him with a small token of appreciation. Other board members also expressed their appreciation.
Mr. Sage thanked the School Board Members, Dr. Kufel and the District for his time on the school board and the District's continued dedication to the students in Lancaster.

8.3 Recognition
Miss Michaela Innus

Mr. Talarico and Dr. Andrew Kufel, Superintendent, thanked Miss Innus for her year of service as the 1st Ex-Officio Student Member on the board of education and presented her with a small token of appreciation. Other board members also expressed their appreciation.
Miss Michaela Innus, Ex-Officio Student Board Member provided an update, highlighting Senior Grad Walk, Senior Recognition Night and Graduation. Miss Innus thanked the School Board, Dr. Kufel and her Mom for their support throughout the year.

9.0 Superintendent's Administrative Report

Dr. Kufel presented his administrative report.

10.0 Old Business

No old business was discussed.

11.0 New Business

11.1 Personnel Items

11.1.1 Amend Principal (K-6) Probationary Position

Moved by Talbot seconded by Sage to amend the probationary period for Bethany Henke as Principal (K-6) to begin on July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2029, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 6 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

11.1.2 Superintendent's Employment Contract

Moved by Talbot seconded by VanNortwick to approve the amendment to the Contract of Employment between the Board of Education and Andrew P. Kufel, Ph.D., as presented to the Board of Education.
Vote on the motion: 6 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

11.1.3 Personnel Changes

Moved by Talbot seconded by VanNortwick to approve the personnel changes for the period ending June 22, 2026, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 6 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

11.2 Education Items

11.2.1 Committee on Special Education

Moved by Lyman seconded by Payne-Smith to approve the recommendations of the committee on special education, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 6 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

11.2.2 Committee on Preschool Special Education

Moved by VanNortwick seconded by Talbot to approve the recommendations of the committee on preschool special education, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 6 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

12.0 Business & Financial Items

12.1 Financial Reports

Moved by Talbot seconded by VanNortwick to approve the financial reports from June 22, 2026, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 6 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

12.2 Policy Adoption #5676 Privacy and Security for Student Data and Teacher and Principal Data

Moved by Talbot seconded by Sage to adopt policy #5676 Privacy and Security for Student Data and Teacher and Principal Data in the district's policy manual, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 6 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

12.3 Accrued Liability Reserve Fund

Moved by Talbot seconded by VanNortwick to authorize payment up to $950,000 from the District's Employee Benefit Accrued Liability Reserve Fund account to cover authorized expenditures for liabilities consistent with the collective bargaining agreement obligations for 2025-2026, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 6 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

12.4 Declare Surplus Buses

Moved by Talbot seconded by Lyman to declare the attached listing of six school buses as surplus and authorize them to be auctioned or scrapped, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 6 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

12.5 Bid Award: Tires

Moved by Lyman seconded by VanNortwick to approve the bid award for tires, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 6 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

12.6 Memorial Tree – Morganti

Moved by VanNortwick seconded by Talbot to approve the purchase of a memorial tree with the student union purchasing the stones and inscription, in honor of Mr. Tom Morganti, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 6 Ayes 0 Nays

Motion approved.

12.7 Construction Change Orders

Moved by Talbot seconded by Sage to approve change orders P1 CO-123-004 and CO-122-001, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 6 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

12.8 Donation Acceptance
Lancaster Youth Foundation $300

Moved by Lyman seconded by VanNortwick to accept the donation of $300 from the Lancaster Youth Foundation, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 6 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

12.9 Contract: WNY Dyslexia Specialists, LLC

Moved by Talbot seconded by Sage to approve the contract between the Lancaster Central School District and WNY Dyslexia Specialists, LLC, to provide reading instruction services for summer 2026 for a specific student, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 6 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

12.10 Contract – Sound Transformations Music Therapy Services

Moved by Talbot seconded by Sage to approve the contract between the Lancaster Central School District and Sound Transformations Music Therapy Services, to provide music therapy services to students for the 2026 summer, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 6 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

12.11 Contract – OG Instruction

Moved by Talbot seconded by Sage to approve the agreement between the Lancaster Central School District and OG Instruction to provide reading services from July 6, 2026 through August 14, 2026, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 6 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

12.12 Contract – OG Instruction

Moved by Talbot seconded by Sage to approve the agreement between the Lancaster Central School District and OG Instruction to provide reading instruction services for the 2026-2027 school year, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 6 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

12.13 Contract – The Summit Center

Moved by Talbot seconded by Sage to approve the contract between the Lancaster Central School District and The Summit Center for behavior consultation services for the 2026-2027 school year, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 6 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

12.14 Contract – The Summit Center

Moved by Talbot seconded by Sage to approve the contract between the Lancaster Central School District and The Summit Center for parent counseling/training services for the 2026-2027 school year, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 6 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

12.15 Contract Extension
Summer 2026
Erie Bus Inc. (DBA WNY Bus Co.)

Moved by Talbot seconded by Sage to approve the contract extension with Erie Bus Inc. DBA WNY Bus Company for summer transportation of students with disabilities for the summer of 2026 in the amount of $215.38 per student per day, for an estimated total not to exceed $226,149, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 6 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

12.16 Contract Extension
2026-2027 School Year
Erie Bus Inc. (DBA WNY Bus Co.)

Moved by Talbot seconded by Sage to approve the contract extension with Erie Bus Inc. DBA WNY Bus Company for transportation of students with disabilities for the 2026-2027 school year in the amount of $219.66 per student per day and $57.81/hour for driver services, for an estimated total not to exceed $2,928,830, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 6 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

12.17 Contract – Rachael Schneider Licensed Behavior Analyst, PLLC

Moved by Talbot seconded by Sage to approve the contract between the Lancaster Central School District and Rachael Schneider Licensed Behavior Analyst, PLLC, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 6 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

12.18 Contract: Leah Blum, Speech Therapist

Moved by Talbot seconded by Sage to approve the contract between the Lancaster Central School District and Leah Blum, Speech Therapist, to provide specialty PROMPT speech therapy services to a student as detailed in their IEP for the period July 6, 2026 through June 24, 2027, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 6 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

12.19 Contract: Scott Dixon

Moved by Talbot seconded by Sage to approve the agreement between the Lancaster Central School District and Scott Dixon to provide curriculum coordination work to the High School Academies under Title IX grant funds for the 2025-2026 school year, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 6 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

12.20 Contract – BHSC Speech-Language Therapy Services

Moved by Talbot seconded by Sage to approve the contract between the Lancaster Central School District and BHSC Services to provide speech-language therapy services for the 2026-2027 school year, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 6 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

12.21 Contract – BHSC Music Therapy Services

Moved by Talbot seconded by Sage to approve the contract between the Lancaster Central School District and BHSC Services to provide music therapy services for the 2026-2027 school year, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 6 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

12.22 Contract – EI US, LLC dba LearnWell

Moved by Talbot seconded by Sage to approve the agreement between the Lancaster Central School District and EI US, LLC dba LearnWell, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 6 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

12.23 Contract – Aspire of WNY

Moved by Talbot seconded by Sage to approve the agreement between the Lancaster Central School District and Aspire of WNY to provide educational services, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 6 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

12.24 Contract – Bison Elevator Service, Inc.

Moved by Talbot seconded by Sage to approve the contract between the Lancaster Central School District and Bison Elevator Service, Inc., as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 6 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

12.25 AIA Contract – Young + Wright Architectural

Moved by Lyman seconded by Talbot to approve the AIA contract between the Lancaster Central School District and Young + Wright Architectural for architecture services for the 2026-2027 capital outlay project, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 6 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

12.26 Lancaster Central Teachers Association – Memorandum of Agreement

Moved by Sage seconded by Talbot to approve the negotiated Lancaster Central Teachers Association Memorandum of Agreement, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 6 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

13.0 Public Hearing

No one addressed the board at this time.

14.0 Executive Session

At 7:58pm moved by Sage seconded by VanNortwick to move to executive session to discuss Lancaster Central Teachers Association, Lancaster Administrative Supervisory Association, and Lancaster Association of Service Personnel contract negotiations and the Superintendent's Year-End Evaluation.
Vote on the motion: 6 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

15.0 Adjournment

At 9:35pm moved by Talbot seconded by Sage to reconvene regular session.
Vote on the motion: 6 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

At 9:35pm moved by Talbot seconded by Sage to adjourn the regular session.
Vote on the motion: 6 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

Susan M. Schlegel, District Clerk