

PAPILLION LA VISTA COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT #27
Board of Education Proceedings
August 10, 2026

The Board of Education of the School District of Papillion La Vista, in the County of Sarpy, in the State of Nebraska, met in open and public session at 6:00p.m., Monday, August 10, 2026. The meeting was held at the Papillion La Vista Community Schools Administration Office, 420 South Washington Street, Papillion, Nebraska.

Notice of the meeting was provided in advance by publication in the *Omaha World Herald*, August 5, 2026. Notice of the meeting was simultaneously given to all members of the Board of Education. Their acknowledgment of receipt of the agenda is maintained at the Papillion La Vista Community Schools Administration Office. The proceedings, hereafter shown, were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

Call to Order

Board President Mr. Brian Lodes called the meeting to order and stated that the Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call, and Open Meetings Law notification were taken care of at the Budget Amendment Hearing conducted prior to this meeting.

Communication

There were no public testifiers.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Rikli reminded the Board that most students would have a half day on Wednesday, August 12, with all students reporting for a full day on Thursday, August 13, and encouraged families to consult the district website for building-level schedules.

Dr. Rikli reported on the District's Welcome Back event, held this year at the Astro in La Vista in partnership with the City of La Vista, and thanked the Communications Department and Dr. Villarreal and his team for organizing the event. Dr. Rikli recognized five staff members honored at the event: Joe Pudenz (Golden Hills/Rumsey Station Elementary), Elementary Teacher of the Year; Jim Simpson (Papillion La Vista South), Secondary Teacher of the Year; Cassidy Renken (Parkview Heights), Rookie of the Year; Steffni Kalal (La Vista Middle School), Classified Individual of the Year; and Kathy Weaver (Papillion La Vista High School), Substitute of the Year. Dr. Rikli thanked the Papillion La Vista Schools Foundation and Mr. Denker for providing cash awards to each honoree.

Dr. Rikli reported that approximately 100 new staff members joined the District this year and thanked Dr. Settles and her team for their recruitment efforts. Dr. Rikli also thanked Mr. Brett Richards and the buildings and grounds team for their work preparing District facilities for the start of school, including work related to the bond projects. Dr. Rikli noted that Board President Lodes' birthday would be observed later in the week.

Board Comments

Ms. Witt attended the Welcome Back event and congratulated the award recipients.

Mr. Madler attended the Welcome Back event and a NASB Legislative Committee meeting.

Mr. Bailey attended the Welcome Back event. Mr. Bailey also asked for the Board to keep Dr. Settles, who was not in attendance due to a personal matter, and her family in their thoughts.

Mr. Lodes thanked staff involved in the Welcome Back event, including the event's emcee and Dr. Villarreal's planning committee, and noted the change in venue from prior years.

Committee Reports

- Building & Grounds & Finance: Mr. Madler reported the committee had met last Friday. Agenda items discussed were middle school land, facility and bond project updates and the 2026-27 budget.
- HR & Student Services Committee: Ms. Wood reported the committee had not met.
- Curriculum and Instruction Committee: Mr. Bailey reported the committee had not met.

Action Items

A motion was made by Mr. Bailey and seconded by Ms. Wood to approve the Action by Consent Items: The meeting agenda, bills, out-of-state travel, the Parental Involvement Hearing and the Board meeting minutes of July 27, 2026. There were no comments from the Board or audience. Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Butler, Madler, Lodes, Wood, Bailey and Witt. Nays: None. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Madler and seconded by Ms. Butler to approve adoption of the amended Bond Fund budget for 2025-26 for Papillion La Vista Community Schools in the amount of \$20,900,000, as presented within the attached state budget form change. There were no comments from the Board or audience. Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Madler, Lodes, Wood, Bailey, Witt and Butler. Nays: None. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Ms. Wood and seconded by Ms. Witt to approve policy updates to Policies 6203, 6304, 6401, and 6405 as presented. There were no comments from the Board or audience. Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Lodes, Wood, Bailey, Witt, Butler and Madler. Nays: None. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Ms. Wood and seconded by Mr. Bailey to approve the proposed two-year negotiated agreement with clerical support staff for the 2026-27 and 2027-28 school years, reflecting a 3.5% total package increase, including a pay rate increase of 3.1% in year one (2026-27) and 1.62% in year two (2027-28). There were no further comments or discussion. Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Wood, Bailey, Witt, Butler, Madler and Lodes. Nays: None. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Ms. Wood and seconded by Mr. Bailey to approve the proposed two-year negotiated agreement covering paraprofessional staff for the 2026-27 and 2027-28 school years, reflecting a 3.5% total package increase and hourly wage increases as proposed. There were no further comments or discussion. Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Bailey, Witt, Butler, Madler, Lodes, and Wood. Nays: None. The motion carried.

Discussion/Information Items

Mr. Brett Richards presented proposed new Policy 7000.3, addressing bidding requirements for construction, remodeling, repair, or related projects financed with federal funds. Mr. Richards noted such projects are rare for the District but recommended having a policy in place. Board members may direct any additional comments to the Building & Grounds & Finance Committee or administration prior to the policy returning for action.

Board Policy 8000 – Board Organization and Operation are due for the annual review. Based upon the review of this policy, any revisions and discussion would be discussed at the August 24, 2026, board meeting. Any changes would be acted on at the September 14, 2026, meeting of the Board.

Dr. Rikli presented enrollment and staffing information on behalf of Dr. Settles. Projected PK-12 enrollment for the 2026-27 school year is 12,271 students, an increase of approximately 145 students over the prior year, with increases of 22 students at the elementary level, 34 at the middle school level, and 94 at the high school level (including YATP and IDEAL). Lincoln View Elementary, the District's newest building, is projected to open with

approximately 280 students, while Prairie Queen Elementary enrollment has decreased to below 300 students following the opening of Lincoln View. Dr. Rikli reported an average elementary class size of 19.6 students and noted the District's continued practice of maintaining smaller class sizes in primary grades and Title I buildings. Dr. Rikli reported the District is fully staffed for the 2026-27 school year, with one school psychologist position remaining open and case loads adjusted accordingly by Dr. Voisin and Dr. Settles.

Mr. Brett Richards presented an overview of the 2026-27 budget and property tax timeline. Mr. Richards presented a proposed general fund budget authority increase of 4.8%, from \$169.8 million to \$177.4 million, due to enrollment growth, the opening of Lincoln View Elementary, loss of federal dollars for Curriculum materials, and an approved two-year school averaging adjustment. Mr. Richards reported a preliminary property valuation increase of 6.4% from the Sarpy County Assessor and a maximum allowable revenue request under the 3% statutory revenue cap of \$92,648,888, with an additional allowable increase of up to \$5,984,000 under the statutory exception for the opening of a new school, for a maximum overall increase of 5.8% in total local and state revenue over 2025-26. Mr. Richards outlined budget considerations for 2026-27, including opening costs for Lincoln View Elementary estimated between \$1.6 million and \$1.9 million, a 3.5% total package labor increase, a 7.44% increase in employee medical insurance costs, and continued growth in special education costs, which have increased approximately 7.7% annually over the past three years. Mr. Richards also noted a reduction in property tax collections related to a prior TERC ruling and a one-time repayment of state aid affecting the 2026-27 and 2027-28 budgets. Mr. Richards presented projected tax levy information, noting the Bond Fund levy is projected at approximately 18.5 cents, below the 20-cent levy commitment made at the time of the 2023 bond issuance, and that the overall levy is expected to remain relatively level for 2026-27 due to the new school opening and related revenue considerations. Board members discussed the District's history of reducing the overall tax levy in recent years despite significant reductions in state aid, the effective tax rate reflecting the statewide property tax credit, and the importance of comparing the District's tax rate to peer districts in the metro area. Board members also discussed the value of public investment in education and thanked the administration for its work on the budget process.

There was no public comment on items not otherwise on tonight's agenda.

Board President Lodes reviewed the future board calendar.

Board President Lodes adjourned the meeting at 7:03pm.

Skip Bailey, Secretary
Papillion La Vista Community School District
Board of Education