

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

New Lothrop Board of Education

Monday, July 20, 2026

6:00 p.m. in the High School Media Center

Board Members Present: Richard White, Wendy Vincke, Ashley Krupp, Adam Green, Tim Birchmeier, Jenn Otter, Joseph Toma

Absent: None.

Others Present: Jay Larner, Drew Severn, Kim Kuchar, Marty Weese and 22 visitors

The pledge to the flag said.

Secretary's Report

The secretary's report was read by Ashley Krupp. Motion by Krupp, supported by Green to accept the minutes from the special meeting held on June 15, 2026 and regular board meeting held on June 15, 2026, as presented.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Recognitions

Softball: Mallory Heroux was recognized for making first team all-state as a pitcher.

Girls Track: Miriam Sharpe (Pole Vault), Katelyn Wendling (100m Dash, 400 M Dash and 4x100 Relay), Ashley Krupp (4x100m Relay), Riley Neubecker (4x100m Relay), Geanna Kopschitz (4x100m Relay), Cassie Green (Shot Put)

Presentations/Updates

Principal Report:

Drew Severn (High School): Mr. Severn presented his ABC report (attendance, behavior and curriculum) for the junior high and high school.

Marty Weese (athletic report): Mr. Weese reported on the 2025-2026 athletic highlights for the high school.

Committee Reports

Tim Birchmeier reported on the Facilities meeting held on June 22nd.

Board Reports

None

Public Comment (Agenda Items)

None

Financial Reports

Adam Green read the financial report and presented the following bills for payment: General fund, \$1,362,713.71; school service, \$60,044.36 for a total of \$1,422,758.07.

Motion by Toma, supported by Krupp to approve the payment of bills.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Adam Green read the monthly financial report as follows: beginning balance, \$3,149,465.42; receipts, \$1,371,131.54; Expenditures \$1,422,758.07; an ending balance of \$3,097,838.89. Motion by Toma, supported by Birchmeier.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Action Items

Motion by Green, supported by Otter to approve the Board to designate Fifth Third Bank, serving the Michigan Liquid Assets Funds accounts, and Huntington National Bank as the depositories for school funds and the officers of the Board, Superintendent and Director of Finance be authorized as official signatures of record.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Birchmeier, supported by Krupp to approve the Board place Thrun Law Firm on retainer as legal counsel for the school district for the 2026-2027 school year.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Krupp, supported by Toma to approve a levy of 0.700 mills for the 2019 school bonds, 0.400 mills for the 2021 school bonds, 1.500 mills for the 2021 school loan revolving funds refunding bonds, 5.890 mills for the 2026 refunding bonds, and 1.2370 mills for the sinking fund as presented for the 2026-2027 school year.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Toma, supported by Otter to approve a levy of 18 mills of non-homestead properties for the general fund for the 2026-2027 school year.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Birchmeier, supported by Otter to approve the resignation of Mattea Belanger, part-time custodian, effective July 14, 2026.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Toma, supported by Krupp to approve the resignation of Wayne Lutze, bus driver, effective July 14, 2026.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Green, supported by Krupp to approve the retirement of Deb Severn, certified instructional aide, effective July 31, 2026.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Birchmeier, supported by Toma to approve the resignation of Laura Andres, certified aide, effective August 1, 2026.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Otter, supported by Green to approve the hire of Katrina Higgins, full-time custodian effective June 29, 2026.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Toma, supported by Krupp to approve Nicole Birchmeier, Preschool GSRP Lead Teacher, effective Augst 17, 2026.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Birchmeier, supported by Otter to approve Megan Roggow, Preschool GSRP Lead Teacher, effective August 17, 2026.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Krupp, supported by Toma to approve Kim Ryan, Preschool GSRP Lead Teacher, effective August 17, 2026.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Toma, supported by Birchmeier to approve the hire of Isabella Mellish, Elementary Art teacher, effective August 17, 2026 contingent upon a successful background check.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Birchmeier, supported by Krupp, to approve the hire of Clara Gross, Cross Country Assistant Coach as a contracted employee of PCMI for the 2026-2027 school year.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Otter, supported by Toma to approve the hire of Kevin Cervoni, Food Service worker, effective August 17, 2026, contingent upon a successful background check.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Birchmeier, supported by Krupp to approve the 2nd reading of the Neola Spring 2026 policies: 0100, 1410, 2370.01, 2417, 2418, 4210, 5136, 5336, 6320, 6325, 7540.09, 8210.09, 8402, 8655.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Toma, supported by Otter to approve the purchase of Curriculum Associates i-Ready Assessment and Personalized Instruction for the 2026-2027 school year at a cost not to exceed \$35,048.50 as presented.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Krupp, supported by Toma to approve the CKLA purchase from Amplify in the amount of \$108,497.92.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Green, supported by Birchmeier to approve the Fall Schedule C appointments for the 2026-2027 school year.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Green, supported by Birchmeier to approve credit cards for Jay Larner with a credit limit of \$10,000.00, Denny Ruddy with a credit limit of \$5,000.00, and Shiela Mulcahy with credit limit amount of \$18,000.00 for the 2026-2027 school year.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Birchmeier, supported by Toma to approve a one-year contract extension with Jay Larner, Superintendent of New Lothrop Area Public Schools effective July 1, 2026-June 30, 2029.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Public Comment (Non- Agenda Items)

None.

Superintendent Update

Jay Larner congratulated Deb Severn on her retirement. He reported that RC Hendrick and Tower Pinkster completed their walk through the buildings.

Motion by Birchmeier, supported by Otter to enter closed session at 6:59 p.m for Superintendent Evaluation.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Toma, supported by Otter, to come out of closed session at 7:33 p.m.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Green, supported by Krupp to adjourn.

Adjournment at 7:34 p.m.

Motion carried, 7-0.

The next meeting of the Board will be on Monday, August 17, 2026 in the High School Media Center.

Ashley Krupp, Board Secretary