

MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION PUBLIC HEARING
AND REGULAR MEETING
LASALLE-PERU TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 120
JULY 22, 2026, 6:00 PM

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Greg Sarver, President, called to order the Regular Meeting at 6:00 p.m. in the Thomas J. McCormack Library/Media Center at LaSalle-Peru Township High School, 541 Chartres Street, LaSalle, IL.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mr. Greg Sarver, President, Mrs. Sally Taliani, Vice President, Mrs. Carol Alcorn, Mrs. Chris Krzyaniak, Mr. Gary Ferrari, and Mr. Matt Merboth

ABSENT: Mr. Scott Pescetto

OTHERS PRESENT: Dr. Clayton J. Theisinger, Superintendent, Mrs. Lori Whalen, Business Manager, Mr. Matt Baker, Director of Communications, Attorney Walt Zukowski, and Mrs. Jennifer Riva, Board Secretary

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JUNE 24, 2026, REGULAR MEETING

MOTION by Mrs. Krzyaniak, seconded by Mrs. Taliani, to approve the minutes from June 24, 2026, Regular Meeting, as presented. Voting Aye: Mrs. Krzyaniak, Mrs. Taliani, Mr. Alcorn, Mr. Merboth, Mr. Ferrari, and Mr. Sarver. Voting Nay: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

RECOGNITIONS AND COMMENTS FROM VISITORS

Public Comment

Mr. Sarver asked the attending public if there were any comments or questions. No questions or comments were presented.

FINANCE

MOTION by Mrs. Alcorn, seconded by Mr. Merboth, to approve the L-P Bills as presented. Voting Aye: Mrs. Alcorn, Mr. Merboth, Mrs. Krzyaniak, Mrs. Taliani, Mr. Ferrari, and Mr. Sarver. Voting Nay: None. **The Motion carried 6-0.**

MOTION by Mrs. Taliani, seconded by Mr. Ferrari, to approve the ACC Bills as presented. Voting Aye: Mrs. Taliani, Mr. Ferrari, Mrs. Alcorn, Mrs. Krzyaniak, Mr. Merboth, and Mr. Sarver. Voting Nay: None. **The Motion carried 6-0.**

MOTION by Mr. Merboth, seconded by Mrs. Taliani, to approve the Payroll as presented. Voting Aye: Mr. Merboth, Mrs. Taliani, Mrs. Alcorn, Mrs. Krzyaniak, Mr. Ferrari, and Mr. Sarver. Voting Nay: None. **The Motion carried 6-0.**

MOTION by Mr. Merboth, seconded by Mrs. Taliani, to approve Financial Report, ACH Report, Activity Fund Report, Treasurer's Report, Bank Reconciliation, Cash and Investments Report and Hometown Cash Management Report as presented. Voting Aye: Mr. Merboth, Mrs. Taliani, Mrs. Alcorn, Mrs. Krzyaniak, Mr. Ferrari, and Mr. Sarver. Voting Nay: None. **The Motion carried 6-0.**

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Mr. Sarver introduced and welcomed Dr. Theisinger to his first Board of Education meeting as Superintendent. He announced that an Administrator Meet and Greet will be held on August 20th at 5:00 p.m. at the Eureka Savings Bank Ag Center to introduce district administrators following several recent personnel changes. He noted the event will also provide a preview of the Ag Center ahead of its grand opening, which is being planned for November.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS/DISCUSSION

Building and Grounds Committee: Mr. Ferrari, Committee Chair, presented his report from the meeting held on Tuesday, July 14, 2026. The committee approved the June 16, 2026, meeting minutes and reviewed and recommended approval of six Eureka Savings Bank Ag Center Change Orders, reviewed and recommended the Special Use Permit application with the City of LaSalle, reviewed project updates including the Dolan Building and Auto Shop fire alarm replacement (85% complete), Sellet Gym door replacement, completion of the 2025 masonry restoration and roof replacement projects, progress on the Eureka Savings Bank Ag Center, and Howard Fellows Stadium lighting and traffic coating projects.

Finance Committee: Mr. Merboth, Committee Chair, presented the Finance Report from the meeting held on Tuesday, July 14, 2026. The report covered the following items: approval of June 16, 2026, meeting minutes, monthly financials, and recommended approval of the Eureka Savings Bank Ag Center Change Orders, Authorization of spending for FY27, Authorization to develop the FY27 budget, and Newkirk & Associates' FY26 audit proposal noting a 4% increase.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Theisinger stated he had no formal report but expressed his appreciation to the Board for the opportunity to serve the district and continue advancing opportunities at LP. He shared that he has been meeting with administrators, division chairs, and support staff, and has had many productive conversations. He also thanked Mrs. Whalen, Mrs. Riva, and the District Office staff for their support during his transition.

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of the following Ag Building Change Orders:

MOTION by Mrs. Taliani, seconded by Mrs. Alcorn, to approve the following Ag Building Change Orders as presented:

- a. Vissering Construction:
 - i. CO #24: Gas Meter Concrete Pad. Total \$2,000
 - ii. CO #25: Restroom Exhaust Fan. Total \$1,168
 - iii. CO #26: Gas Solenoid Emergency Shut Off. Total \$6,388.
 - iv. CO #27: Sprinkler Pipe Adjustment. Total \$1,162
 - v. CO #28: Revised Flooring. Total \$17,858
 - vi. CO #29: Fire Sprinkler Adjustments for Greenhouse. Total \$1,506

Voting Aye: Mrs. Taliani, Mrs. Alcorn, Mrs. Krzyaniak, Mr. Merboth, Mr. Ferrari, and Mr. Sarver. Voting Nay: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Possible approval and filing of the City of LaSalle application for a special use permit, and its attachments, related to the veterinary science building property

MOTION by Mr. Merboth, seconded by Mr. Ferrari, to approve and file the City of LaSalle application for a special use permit, and its attachments, related to the veterinary science building property, as presented. Voting Aye: Mr. Merboth, Mr. Ferrari, Mrs. Alcorn, Mrs. Krzyaniak, Mrs. Taliani, and Mr. Sarver. Voting Nay: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Authorization of spending for FY27

MOTION by Mr. Merboth, seconded by Mrs. Taliani, to authorize spending for FY27, as presented. Voting Aye: Mr. Merboth, Mrs. Taliani, Mrs. Alcorn, Mrs. Krzyaniak, Mr. Ferrari, and Mr. Sarver. Voting Nay: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Authorization to develop FY27 budget

MOTION by Mr. Merboth, seconded by Mrs. Taliani, to authorize the development of the FY27 budget, as presented. Voting Aye: Mr. Merboth, Mrs. Taliani, Mrs. Alcorn, Mrs. Krzyaniak, Mr. Ferrari, and Mr. Sarver. Voting Nay: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Approval of letter of engagement with Newkirk & Associates, Inc for FY26 auditing services

MOTION by Mr. Merboth, seconded by Mr. Ferrari, to approve the letter of engagement with Newkirk & Associates, Inc for FY26 auditing services, as presented. Voting Aye: Mr Merboth, Mr. Ferrari, Mrs. Alcorn, Mrs. Krzyaniak, Mrs. Taliani, and Mr. Sarver. Voting Nay: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Approval of the following resignations:

MOTION by Mrs. Alcorn, seconded by Mr. Ferrari, to approve of the following resignations as presented:

- a. Mrs. Kara Turczyn, Assistant Softball Coach, effective June 17, 2026
- b. Ms. Kaitlin Gisbon, Volunteer Assistant Softball coach, effective June 23, 2026
- c. Mr. Joe Goskusky, Assistant Football Coach, effective July 7, 2026
- d. Mr. Brent Thomas, Assistant Boys' Swim Coach, effective the conclusion of the 2025-2026 school year
- e. Mrs. Tina Pienta, Administrative Assistant to Dean's Office, contingent upon her reassignment to the Accounts Payable and Purchasing position in the District Office
- f. Mr. Kevin Cavanaugh, Head Boys' Tennis Coach, effective July 14, 2026
- g. Mr. Erik Keefer, Volunteer Assistant Football Coach, effective July 17, 2026

Voting Aye: Mrs. Alcorn, Mr. Ferrari, Mrs. Krzyaniak, Mr. Merboth, Mrs. Taliani, and Mr. Sarver. Voting Nay: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Approval of the following appointments:

MOTION by Mr. Merboth, seconded by Mrs. Taliani, to approve of the following appointments, as presented:

- a. Mr. John Morscheiser, Assistant Football Coach, effective for the 2026-2027 school year (replaces Mr. Patrick Carney/Mr. Joe Goskusky Split)
- b. Mr. Mike Kasprak, Assistant Football Coach, effective for the 2026-2027 school year (replaces Mr. Matt Lambert)
- c. Mrs. Cassie Suggett, Food Service Production Staff/Cashier, effective August 10, 2026 (replaces Mrs. Jackie Fitzgerald)
- d. Mrs. Tina Pienta, Accounts Payable and Purchasing, effective August 3, 2026 (replaces Mrs. Diane Bergagna)
- e. Mr. Kevin Krasinski, General Maintenance, effective upon the filling of all open Custodial and Maintenance positions (replaces Mr. Mike Carter)
- f. Mr. John Somolski, 3rd Floor Custodian (2), effective upon the filling of all open Custodial and Maintenance positions (replaces Mr. Kevin Krasinski)
- g. Ms. Kaitlin Gibson, Assistant Softball Coach, effective for the 2026-2027 school year (replaces Mrs. Kara Turczyn)
- h. Mr. Gary Leadley, 1st Floor Custodian (2), effective July 23, 2026 (replaces Mr. John Somolski)
- i. Mr. Christian Garcia, Volunteer Assistant Boys' Soccer Coach, effective for the 2026-2027

Voting Aye: Mr. Merboth, Mrs. Taliani, Mrs. Alcorn, Mrs. Krzyaniak, Mr. Ferrari and Mr. Sarver. Voting Nay: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Approval to rehire the following staff for the 2026-2027 school year:

MOTION by Mrs. Alcorn, seconded by Mr. Merboth, to approve to rehire the following staff for the 2026-2027 school year, as presented:

- a. Mrs. Katherine Baker, STEP Job Coach
- b. Mrs. Kristen Derix, Title I Reading Para-Professional

Voting Aye: Mrs. Alcorn, Mr. Merboth, Mrs. Krzyaniak, Mrs. Taliani, Mr. Ferrari and Mr. Sarver. Voting Nay: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Approval of the following retirements:

MOTION by Mr. Ferrari, seconded by Mrs. Taliani, to approve of the following retirements as presented:

- a. Mrs. Sheryl Kurtz, Special Education Teacher, effective the conclusion of the 2030-2031 school year

Voting Aye: Mr. Ferrari, Mrs. Taliani, Mrs. Alcorn, Mrs. Krzyaniak, Mr. Merboth, and Mr. Sarver.

Voting Nay: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

MOTION TO MOVE TO EXECUTIVE CLOSED SESSION

MOTION by Mr. Merboth, seconded by Mrs. Alcorn, to move to executive/closed session for purpose of

a) The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, b) Discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under the Open Minutes Act, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of minutes, c) Security procedures, school building safety and security, and the use of personnel and equipment to respond to an actual, a threatened, or a reasonably potential danger to the safety of employees, students, staff, the public, or public property and d) Imminent/Pending Litigation, with open session and possible action items to follow.

Voting Aye: Mr. Merboth, Mrs. Alcorn, Mrs. Krzyaniak, Mrs. Taliani, Mr. Ferrari and Mr. Sarver. Voting Nay: None. **The motion carried. 6-0 Time 6:11 p.m.**

MOTION TO RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

MOTION by Mr. Merboth, seconded by Mrs. Taliani, to return to open session. Voting Aye: Mr. Merboth, Mrs. Taliani, Mrs. Alcorn, Mrs. Krzyaniak, Mr. Ferrari, and Mr. Sarver. Voting Nay: None. **The motion carried 6-0. Time 6:33p.m.**

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mr. Greg Sarver, President, Mrs. Sally Taliani, Vice President, Mrs. Carol Alcorn, Mrs. Chris Krzyaniak, Mr. Merboth and Mr. Gary Ferrari

ABSENT: Mr. Scott Pescetto,

OTHERS PRESENT: Dr. Clayton J. Theisinger, Superintendent, Attorney Walt Zukowski, and Mrs. Jennifer Riva, Board Secretary

NEW BUSINESS

Approval to review and retain the following executive/closed session minutes

MOTION by Mr. Merboth, seconded by Mr. Ferrari, to approve to review and retain the following executive/closed session minutes, as presented.

- a. Regular Meeting Minutes, June 24, 2026

Voting Aye: Mr. Merboth, Mr. Ferrari, Mrs. Alcorn, Mrs. Krzyaniak, Mrs. Taliani, and Mr. Sarver. Voting Nay: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Approval to destruct verbatim audio records from Executive Session held prior to January 1, 2025, per the Illinois Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120

MOTION by Mrs. Alcorn, seconded by Mrs. Krzyaniak, to approve destruction of verbatim audio records from Executive Session held prior to January 1, 2025, per the Illinois Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120 as presented.

- a. Regular Meeting Minutes, December 18, 2024

Voting Aye: Mrs. Alcorn, Mrs. Krzyaniak, Mr. Merboth, Mrs. Taliani, Mr. Ferrari, and Mr. Sarver.

Voting Nay: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Approval of the following appointments:

MOTION by Mrs. Taliani, seconded by Mr. Merboth, to approve of the following appointments, as presented:

- a. Mr. Coltyn Lazzarotto, Athletic Director, effective July 20, 2026 (replaces Mr. Steve Hanson)

Voting Aye: Mrs. Taliani, Mr. Merboth, Mrs. Alcorn, Mrs. Krzyaniak, Mr. Ferrari and Mr. Sarver. Voting Nay: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Possible approval of continued participation in in an appraiser cost sharing arrangement with other taxing district, consistent with similar prior situations, as it relates to the 2025 tax objection filed by Covia with the Illinois Property Tax Appeal Board.

MOTION by Mr. Ferrari, seconded by Mr. Merboth, to approve the District's continued participation in an appraiser cost-sharing arrangement with other taxing districts, consistent with prior similar agreements, in relation to the 2025 property tax objection filed by Covia with the Illinois Property Tax Appeal Board, as presented.

Voting Aye: Mr. Ferrari, Mr. Merboth, Mrs. Alcorn, Mrs. Krzyaniak, Mrs. Taliani, and Mr. Sarver.

Voting Nay: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

MOTION by Mr. Merboth, seconded by Mrs. Alcorn, to adjourn. Voting Aye: Mr. Merboth, Mrs. Alcorn, Mrs. Krzyaniak, Mrs. Taliani, Mr. Ferrari, and Mr. Sarver. Voting Nay: None.

The motion carried 6-0. Time: 6:34p.m.



Mr. Greg Sarver
President



Mrs. Jennifer Riva
Board Secretary