

**MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING
LASALLE-PERU TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 120
AUGUST 18, 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, Mr. Scott Pescetto, Mrs. Carol Alcorn, Mrs. Chris Krzyaniak, and Mr. Matt Merboth

ABSENT: Mr. Ferrari (arrived at 6:10 p.m.)

OTHERS PRESENT: Dr. Clayton J. Theisinger, Superintendent, Mr. Steve Hanson, Principal, 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 JULY 22, 2026, REGULAR MEETING

MOTION by Mrs. Krzyaniak, seconded by Mr. Pescetto, to approve the minutes from July 22, 2026, Regular Meeting, as presented. Voting Aye: Mrs. Krzyaniak, Mr. Pescetto, Mr. Alcorn, Mr. Merboth, Mrs. Taliani, 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 Mrs. Krzyaniak, to approve the L-P Bills as presented. Voting Aye: Mrs. Alcorn, Mrs. Krzyaniak, Mr. Pescetto, Mr. Merboth, Mrs. Taliani, and Mr. Sarver. Voting Nay: None. **The Motion carried 6-0.**

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

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

CORRESPONDENCE Thank you card from Mrs. Andrea Eichelkraut for the beautiful plant in memory of her father, Mr. Douglas Henry

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Mr. Sarver provided a reminder that an Administrator Meet and Greet will be held on August 20th from 5:00p.m.–6:00 p.m. at the Eureka Savings Bank Ag Center. The event will provide an opportunity to introduce District administrators and preview the Ag Center ahead of its planned grand opening in November. He also noted that, beginning at 6:00 p.m. that evening, the Counseling Department will assist seniors with financial aid in the East Auditorium.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS/DISCUSSION

Policy Committee: Mrs. Carol Alcorn presented her report from the meeting held on Tuesday, August 18, 2026. The committee approved the April 15, 2026, meeting minutes and reviewed and discussed Press Policy Issue 122 recommendation to amend Policy 2:230 to reduce the allotted time for individual public comments from five minutes to three minutes. Further discussion is needed before a recommendation can be finalized next month.

Building and Grounds Committee: Dr. Theisinger, presented the report from the meeting held on Tuesday, August 18, 2026, at 4:00p.m. at the Eureka Savings Bank Ag Center. The committee approved the July 14, 2026, meeting minutes and reviewed and recommended approval of the Eureka Savings Bank Ag Center change orders. The committee also reviewed project updates, including the Dolan Building and Auto Shop fire alarm replacement, Dolan restroom renovation, Sellet Gym door replacement, Howard Fellows Stadium lighting and traffic coating projects. Work in preparation for the upcoming 10-year Health Life Safety survey will begin next week.

Finance Committee: Mr. Merboth, Committee Chair, presented the Finance Report from the meeting held on Tuesday, August 18, 2026. The report included approval of July 14, 2026, meeting minutes and referred to the monthly financials in the Board's packets. The committee also recommended approval of the following items: display of the FY 2027 Tentative Budget; Eureka Savings Bank Ag Center change orders; Resolution to Request to Intervene with the Illinois Property Tax Appeal Board (PTAB); Resolution for expense reimbursements; the Treasurer's Bond; and updated bank authorizations reflecting recent changes in administration.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Theisinger provided a report on the following:

Enrollment As of Friday, August 14th, 2026, the enrollment is as follows:

Grade	Total
9th	268
10th	260
11th	273
12th	269
Total	1,070
8th (Algebra)*	65

The enrollment will continue to shift over the next few weeks. The enrollment as reported by ISBE is the students enrolled with LPHS as of the last school day in September each year.

FY26 Audit

Newkirk and Associates will be at LPHS the week of August 24th, 2026, to conduct the on-site audit. We are hopeful that the final report will be provided to the District in a timely manner this year.

Tornado Sirens – Response

On Wednesday, August 12, 2026, the school activated its emergency response protocol and implemented a shelter-in-place due to tornado warnings in the region. I want to express my sincere appreciation for the leadership and professionalism demonstrated by our faculty and staff in prioritizing the safety of all students. I also want to commend the entire student body for their respectful, calm, and diligent response throughout the situation.

FOIA Requests

Requestor	Date	Request	District Action
Mathias Woerner Shaw Media	July 23, 2026	"The files related to documentation of the salary of the district superintendent."	We approved the request and responded within the statutory timeframe.
Courtney McNutt	August 3, 2026	"I spoke with you this morning regarding incident reports from the 2025-2026 school year. There were 2 separate incidents, one in November 2025, and the other was in 2026, but I cannot remember the month. These incidents involve my son, [name redacted]. [name redacted] was the aggressor in each situation and was suspended for physically assaulting [name redacted]. I have recently had to file an order of protection with the courts, of which LP has a copy of. I would like the two incident reports from last school year to show the judge the level that has brought us to this point."	We approved the request and responded within the statutory timeframe.
Jomer Genite SmartProcure	May 11, 2026	"The specific information requested from your record-keeping system is: 1. First Name - Attached 2. Last Name - Attached 3. Position Title - Attached 4. Department - Attached 5. Direct Phone Number (if does not exist, list main phone number with extension) Main Number 815-223-1721 6. Business Cell Phone (if provided by LaSalle-Peru Township High School District No. 120) - NA 7. Email Address - Attached 8. Office Address (Address, City, State, Zip)" - 541 Chartres St. LaSalle, IL 61301."	We approved the request and responded within the statutory timeframe.

Christa Colasante	August 12, 2026	"I would like to see all email communications between Congresswoman Underwood and Administration, faculty, staff and school employees regarding her Town Hall which took place on Tuesday August 4th at 6pm at LaSalle Peru Township High School."	We approved the request and will be responding within the statutory timeframe.
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PRINCIPAL

Mr. Steve Hanson, Principal, provided a report on the following:

- Opening Days: The faculty returned to the building on Friday, August 7th while the rest of the staff returned on Monday, August 10th. During the opening meetings with faculty and staff, we focused on this a year to listen and learn. With a new leadership team our theme was to continue the positive work that has been happening. The staff was informed there are no new initiatives planned for this year.
- Freshmen and Transfer Student Orientation Day: Held concurrently with Teacher Institute Day on Monday August 10th, this event provided new students with valuable time in the building to connect with their Link Crew Leaders, a program that continues to be an outstanding support for incoming students. In the afternoon, the Technology Department led a training session, after which students practiced opening their lockers and took a self-paced tour of their class schedules. Chromebooks were also distributed at this time. With strong attendance, this year's orientation was highly successful.
- New Educator Orientation: Mrs. Cushing led the two-day orientation with our new educators, who reported that it was a positive experience and helped them understand the district better. We had five educators who attended this training.
- 8th Grade Algebra Orientation was held on Thursday August 7th. The 8th graders coming to LP for first period Algebra and their parents were welcomed to LP. Each student received their ID, Student Handbook, and had a chance to visit their classroom. The event allows our students a chance to ask questions and ease the anxiety some of our 8th graders feel.
- On August 11th we held an all-school huddle to kick off the new school year. The LPHS Band, Cheerleaders and Cavalettes performed.

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of the following Ag Building Change Orders

MOTION by Mrs. Alcorn, seconded by Mr. Pescetto, to approve the following Ag Building Change Orders a-e, as presented:

- a. Vissering Construction:
 - a. CO #30: Cancel of Fence Replacement –Total (\$13,680)
 - b. CO #31: Additional Security Camera – Total \$1,673
 - c. CO #32: Fiber Line Routing – Total \$4,402
 - d. CO #34: Dedication Plaque – Total \$173
 - e. CO #35: Dumpster Fence Slats (tentative)

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

Approval of request to intervene to the Illinois Property Tax Appeal Board for Docket 2025-04259

MOTION by Mrs. Taliani, seconded by Mr. Merboth, to approve the request to intervene to the Illinois Property Tax Appeal Board for Docket 2025-04259, as presented. All in favor: Aye Voting Nay: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Approval of LPHS FY27 Tentative Budget

MOTION by Mrs. Taliani, seconded by Mr. Merboth, to approve the LPHS FY27 Tentative Budget, as presented. All in favor: Aye Voting Nay: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Approval of ACC FY27 Tentative Budget

MOTION by Mrs. Alcorn, seconded by Mr. Merboth, to approve the ACC FY27 Tentative Budget, as presented. All in favor: Aye Voting Nay: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Upon arrival at 6:10 p.m., Mr. Ferrari raised a Point of Order regarding the main doors being locked during a meeting open to the public. Several Board members stated that the greeter had let them into the school. Dr. Theisinger directed Mr. Hanson to monitor the doors until the greeter returned to the station.

Approval of Resolution 2627-1 for the regulation of expense reimbursements

MOTION by Mr. Merboth, seconded by Mr. Pescetto, to approve Resolution 2627-1 for the regulation of expense reimbursements, as presented. All in favor: Aye Voting Nay: None. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Approval of LPHS Treasurer's Bond

MOTION by Mr. Merboth, seconded by Mrs. Alcorn, to approve the LPHS Treasurer's Bond, as presented. All in favor: Aye Voting Nay: None. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Approval of ACC Treasurer's Bond

MOTION by Mr. Merboth, seconded by Mrs. Taliani, to approve the ACC Treasurer's Bond, as presented. All in favor: Aye Voting Nay: None. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Approval of Bank Authorizations

MOTION by Mrs. Alcorn, seconded by Mr. Merboth, to approve Bank Authorizations, as presented. All in favor: Aye Voting Nay: None. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Approval for Knights of Columbus to conduct their Tootsie Roll Candy Sale on Friday, September 25th, 2026, at the Football Games at Howard Fellows Stadium

MOTION by Mr. Ferrari, seconded by Mr. Merboth, to approve for Knights of Columbus to conduct their Tootsie Roll Candy Sale on Friday, September 25th, 2026, at the Football Games at Howard Fellows Stadium, as presented. All in favor: Aye Voting Nay: None. **The motion carried 7-0.**

PRESS Policy 122 – First Reading

Non-action Item

MOTION TO MOVE TO EXECUTIVE CLOSED SESSION

MOTION by Mrs. Alcorn, seconded by Mr. Pescetto, 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) the purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired, with open session and possible action items to follow.

Voting Aye: Mrs. Alcorn, Mr. Pescetto, Mrs. Krzyaniak, Mr. Merboth, Mrs. Taliani, Mr. Ferrari and Mr. Sarver. Voting Nay: None. **The motion carried. 7-0 Time 6:12 p.m.**

MOTION TO RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

MOTION by Mr. Ferrari, seconded by Mrs. Krzyaniak, to return to open session. All in favor: Aye Voting Nay: None. **The motion carried 7-0.**

ROLL CALL

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

ABSENT:

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 Mrs. Alcorn, seconded by Mr. Pescetto, to approve to review and retain the following executive/closed session minutes, as presented.

- a. Regular Meeting Minutes, July 22, 2026

All in favor: Aye Voting Nay: None. **The motion carried 7-0.**

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 Mr. Ferrari, seconded by Mrs. Taliani, to approve destruction of verbatim audio records from Executive Session held prior to February 1, 2025, per the Illinois Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120 as presented.

- a. Regular Meeting Minutes, January 22, 2025

All in favor: Aye Voting Nay: None. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Approval of the Personnel Report

MOTION by Mrs. Taliani, seconded by Mr. Merboth, to approve of the Personnel Report, as presented.

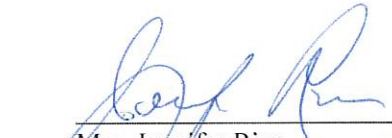
All in favor: Aye Voting Nay: None. **The motion carried 7-0.**

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

The motion carried 6-0. Time: 6:31p.m.



Mr. Greg Sarver
President



Mrs. Jennifer Riva
Board Secretary