



Board Meeting Minutes

June 11, 2026, 6:00PM
55 Academy St, Lebanon, OR 97355

Present:

Nichole Piland, Chair

Melissa Baurer, Vice Chair

Lorlee Engler, Member

Mike Martin, Member

Clyde Rood, Member

Jennifer Meckley, Superintendent

William Lewis, Chief Operations Officer

Steven Prososki, Finance Director

1. WELCOME

Livestream: <https://www.youtube.com/@lcsdboardmeetingstream6568/streams>

1.1. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Board Chair, Nichole Piland.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were made.

3. LEBANON SCHOOLS FOUNDATION MINI GRANT PRESENTATION

Superintendent Jennifer Meckley shares highlights from the past year showcasing staff members who received Lebanon Foundation mini grants. She began by providing a brief history of the mini grant program, explaining its purpose, how the grants are funded, and the process used to award them.

Jennifer highlights the projects and accomplishments of this year's mini grant recipients, including Ryan McWayne, Rachel Brandt, Amanda Gaskey, Michael Swindle, Erica Cooper, Luis DeLuna, Katie Carleski, Ashley da Silva, Bridget O'Malley, Susie Phillips, and Jodi Howell. She discussed the impact of their projects and how the grants have supported innovative opportunities for students and staff.

During the presentation, discussion took place regarding school gardens, determining that both Green Acres and Lacombe Schools do not have school gardens.

Jennifer also noted that staff members have the option to contribute to the mini grant program through voluntary payroll deductions. She explained that the program is partially self-funded through these employee donations, which help support future mini grant opportunities.

4. SPRING ASSESSMENT DATA & SB141 UPDATES

Jennifer provides an overview of the district's spring student achievement data. She clarified that this presentation did not include state assessment results, as those scores will be available and reviewed in early fall.

Jennifer began by emphasizing that the district's work continues to be grounded in five focus areas: Academic Achievement, Safety and Belonging, Financial Integrity, Effective Facilities, and Community Connections. She notes that this evening's presentation focuses primarily on Academic Achievement and the district's ongoing efforts to continuously improve student outcomes.

Jennifer reports that overall student achievement improved from fall to spring. In mathematics, students in grades 1–3 demonstrated particularly strong growth, with elementary students showing significant gains. Students in grades 4–5 also demonstrated strong growth, with both grade levels exceeding the national average for growth. These results indicate that students are making healthy academic progress.

At the middle school level, the results present a more mixed picture. Seventh-grade students demonstrated particularly strong growth, while sixth- and eighth-grade students showed growth that was closer to, or slightly below, the levels observed in the elementary grades.

Jennifer also shares the spring reading achievement data. Students in grades 1–3 demonstrated dramatic growth, reflecting the positive impact of the district's early literacy efforts. In grades 4–5, student growth remained above the national average.

At the middle school level, reading results remained positive overall, with students continuing to demonstrate academic growth across the grade levels.

Board members discuss the distinction between achievement and growth. Jennifer explains that achievement measures a student's current level of skill or proficiency, while growth measures the progress a student has made by comparing current performance to previous assessment results.

The Board also discusses student groups and grade levels that continue to face academic challenges, and noted that areas of concern are generally isolated to specific grade levels or classrooms rather than entire schools.

Discussion also focuses on why students in grades 6–8 are not demonstrating the same level of growth as elementary students. Jen explained that several factors contribute to the difference, including changes in instructional delivery at the middle school level, increased academic rigor, and reduced levels of support, such as fewer Title-funded resources and staff. She added that while the district's curriculum is strong, student outcomes are influenced by many factors, with the quality of instruction being a critical component.

The Board discusses ways to better prepare students for the transition from elementary to middle school. Jennifer shares that elementary schools are providing a solid academic foundation, but middle school students experience different levels of instructional support. She notes that changes to the middle school master schedule will be implemented next year, reducing students to six classes and providing additional time during Spartan Time for targeted math and English language arts support. She expressed confidence that these changes will strengthen student learning and improve outcomes.

The Board also discusses the availability of academic interventions and the challenge of finding sufficient time to provide them. It is noted that maximizing effective classroom instruction remains a priority so that fewer intensive interventions are needed while ensuring students receive targeted support when necessary.

Jennifer also presents achievement data for students in grades 9–12, as well as students enrolled in the Evergreen Virtual Academy program. She reports an overall passing rate of 93% for students in grades 9–12. The EVA program had a passing rate of 77%, which lowers the district's overall average. Jennifer notes that it is helpful to report the EVA data separately to provide a more accurate picture of student performance in the traditional high school program.

Jennifer provides an overview of Senate Bill 141, explaining that Oregon is transitioning to a shared accountability model that emphasizes both student outcomes and district progress toward state-established performance targets.

She reviews the key accountability measures, including reading and math proficiency, attendance, graduation outcomes, on-track indicators, and a district-selected local metric.

Jennifer explains that the legislation establishes a continuum of support for districts that do not meet performance targets, beginning with coaching and technical assistance and progressing to increased state oversight if needed. She also shared that districts will be required to administer approved interim assessments three times annually in grades K–8 and publicly report progress toward performance targets. Lebanon is well positioned to meet these requirements through its current use of MAP assessments.

Jennifer informs the Board that the state has not yet released final performance targets. Once additional guidance is received, the district will establish local benchmarks and strategies to meet the new accountability requirements and will continue to provide updates to the Board.

The Board discusses the implementation of Senate Bill 141 and asks how the state's support for districts would be determined. Jennifer explains that many details are still being developed and that she will seek clarification on how support will be tailored to individual districts and whether the state has the capacity to provide the required assistance.

Board members express concerns about ODE's capacity to effectively implement the new accountability system and ensure that performance measures and supports are applied fairly and equitably. It is noted that the accountability process will begin this September, with districts

first becoming eligible for coaching and support in the 2027–28 school year if they do not meet the required performance metrics.

The Board also discusses the role of the Education Service District (ESD). Jennifer shares that the ESD is learning alongside school districts as the legislation is implemented but currently has staff available to provide support. She expresses hope that the ESD's capacity to assist districts will continue to grow over time.

In closing, Jennifer recognizes and thanks teachers, administrators, support staff, students, and families for their ongoing work and support.

She notes that district data reflects encouraging growth in both reading and mathematics. While continued work remains, particularly in preparation for upcoming state accountability requirements, she emphasized that there are many reasons to celebrate the progress students are making.

5. 2026-27 BUDGET HEARING

Director of Finance, Steven Prososki, explains to the Board that there are two resolutions that the district is seeking approval of, regarding the 2026-27 Budget. Mike makes a motion to approve Resolution #26-0611A Making Appropriation for the 2026-2027 Budget, and Resolution #26-0611B Imposing and Categorizing Tax, and Clyde seconded the motion. All approved with a unanimous vote, the motion passes.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

The Board reviews a couple of specific policies listed in the consent agenda:

- **Policy AC:** Melissa asks for clarification regarding the Civil Rights Coordinator role, noting that it had previously been assigned to the Director of Communications. Jennifer explains that the policy's inclusion of "or designee" provides flexibility and that she does not anticipate serving as the Civil Rights Coordinator herself, but rather designating an appropriate staff member.
- **Policy BDD:** Melissa suggests that future Board meetings be promoted through the district's social media platforms to increase community awareness.
- **Policy CEA:** Mike sought clarification regarding the committee's role, confirming that the committee serves in an advisory capacity to the Board and Superintendent. Mike also asked about the requirement that a Budget Committee member serve on the Equity Committee. It is noted that the policy footnote reflects the updated requirement.
- **Facility Use Policies (BGC):** Clyde asks whether the facility use policies would be cleaned up. Chief Operations Officer William Lewis explains that the policy will be cleaned up with old language and numbers deleted, and that the Boys and Girls Club has been eliminated and will now be apart of the club rate.
- **Sexual Harassment Policy:** Melissa asks why the policy requires immediate reporting. It is clarified that the requirement pertains to reports made by an alleged victim and does not apply to a staff member who simply becomes aware of a potential concern.
- **Policy EBB (Integrated Pest Management):** Clyde questions whether responsibility for establishing the pest management plan should rest with the Superintendent rather than the Board. William Lewis explains that state law requires Board approval of the Integrated Pest Management Plan. District staff, specifically the Facilities Director, will develop and recommend the plan, and the Board's role is to review and approve it.

Returning to the discussion on Board meeting communication, Melissa suggested that Board meeting packets be shared through the district's social media channels by posting the meeting agenda along with a link to the complete Board packet. She recommends removing policy BDDC and editing to reflect the social media posting.

Melissa then makes a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented, with the exception of BDDC, and Clyde seconds the motion. All approved with a unanimous vote, the consent agenda made up of May 14, 2026 Budget Meeting Minutes, May 14, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes, May 21, 2026 Budget Meeting Minutes, First Reading Policy Updates AC, IIA-AR(1), BDD, CEA, KG-AR(1), and KG-AR(2), and Second Reading Policy Updates CBG, EBB, GBN-JBA, JBA-GBN, BD, BDC, BDDG, CBA, DBEA, EBBA, BBAA, BBE, BBE-AR, BCB, BCE, BCF, and BD-BDA.

7. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

7.1. Operations

William Lewis highlights that the district served 239,610 breakfasts and 323,666 lunches during the 25-26 school year, exceeding the previous year's totals despite lower student enrollment, and expressed appreciation to the Nutrition Services team for their outstanding work.

William shares that preparations are underway for the Summer Meals Program and reminded the Board that parents or guardians may only pick up meals for their own students, at any of the distribution sites.

He also provides an update on the district's successful grant efforts, highlighting the receipt of multiple TAP grants as well as a new hazardous waste grant that will support work at the Waterloo property.

William recognizes the Facilities Department for constructing the new press box in-house, resulting in significant cost savings for the district. He also expresses appreciation to Weyerhaeuser for donating the framing lumber used in the project.

William acknowledged the contributions of retiring Operations Department employees Nanette Pratt, Catherine Moe, Colleen Puderbaugh, Ginger Ferguson, and Oz Martinez, thanking them for their dedicated service to the district.

In closing, Will expresses his gratitude for the opportunity to serve the LCSD community over the past seven and a half years.

A Board member asks if the donations from Weyerhaeuser can be highlighted on social media to thank them, as well as provide insight to the community regarding how the structure was funded.

A Board member also inquires about who will lead the new phone project, and William notes that Director of Technology Infrastructure, Peter Klingler will.

7.2. Fire Alarm System Upgrade Update

William also provides an update regarding the Fire Alarm project explaining the district office is next to be completed late summer early fall which will provide for extra parts that

may be needed. Also that there may be a vendor that is more cost effective than Silent Knight.

7.3. Financial

Finance Director Steven provides an update on the closeout of the 2025–26 fiscal year. He shares that the district is nearing the end of the fiscal year and that staff are focused on finalizing the ending fund balance. The final figures will be determined following year-end accounting activities and any necessary auditor adjustments.

Melissa asks when the district expects to receive confirmation regarding the anticipated \$100,000 reduction in Title funding. Steven indicates he is unsure of the exact timeline. Jennifer notes that final federal funding allocations are typically received later in the process.

8. COMMUNICATION

8.1. Board

Board members express their appreciation to Student Board Representatives Cade and Addy for their service and meaningful contributions throughout the year. They wish both students success in their future endeavors.

The Board also thanks Craig Swanson and the Lebanon High School staff for their work in planning and conducting a well-organized and successful graduation ceremony. Board members additionally express appreciation to Craig for facilitating the Board's work session.

Board Member Mike shares that he and Clyde had the opportunity to interview eight outstanding students for the Student Board Representative positions. He notes that the Board will consider the recommendation to appoint three new Student Board Representatives at its next meeting.

Board Member Melissa references the Board's ongoing discussions regarding declining enrollment and encouraged the Board to begin developing strategies to address enrollment trends. She emphasizes the importance of expanding district communications to better highlight the many outstanding programs and opportunities available to students as a way to strengthen community awareness and engagement.

Melissa also shares that she would like to work on a letter to legislators regarding the financial impact of rising unemployment costs on school districts.

Additionally, Melissa requests an update on the district's interim communications plan for the 2026–27 school year. She notes opportunities to highlight events such as graduation and other district accomplishments on social media and emphasizes the importance of continuing to tell the district's story and promote its successes within the community.

Nichole adds that it would be helpful for Board members to receive information about eighth-grade promotion ceremonies in advance so they have the opportunity to attend.

Clyde suggests exploring the creation of a Student Board Representative advisory committee to provide additional opportunities for students who apply but are not appointed to remain engaged. The committee could support the appointed Student Board Representatives and contribute to Board-related projects.

The current Student Board Representatives express support for the idea, noting the strong interest among applicants and suggesting opportunities to connect the group with existing student leadership organizations.

Board members agree the concept has merit and expressed interest in continuing the discussion at a later meeting.

8.2. Student Board

The Student Board Representatives express their gratitude for the opportunity to serve on the Board and represent the voices of students throughout the district. They share that it has been an honor to serve in the role and thanked the Board for the experience.

8.3. Superintendent

Jennifer also thanks Student Board Representatives, Addy and Cade, and is excited to hear how their future endeavors go.

For Jen's Zens, Jennifer recognizes the accomplishments of the Class of 2026, highlighting the successful graduation of 272 students from Lebanon High School and Ralston Academy, including 12 valedictorians and two salutatorians. She also noted that local organizations awarded a record \$194,436 in scholarships to graduating seniors.

She also recognizes Seven Oak Middle School's inaugural Serve Day, where all students and staff participated in service projects throughout the community, commending students for their positive representation of the district.

Additionally, she highlights the Seven Oak Middle School Art Show, which featured work from more than 100 students and celebrated their creativity, artistic growth, and achievements throughout the school year.

It is noted that this will be the final Jen's Zens of the school year, as there will be a break during the summer months.

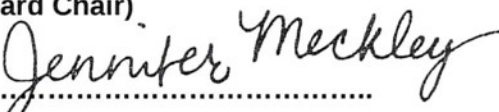
9. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were made.

10. ADJOURNMENT at 7:08 PM.

Signed: 
(Board Chair)

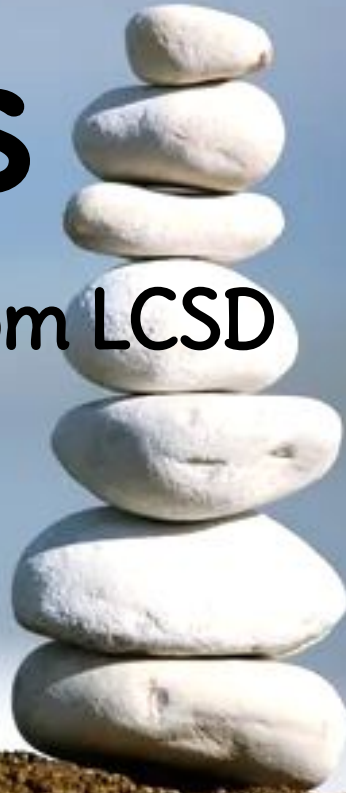
Date: 7/9/26

Signed: 
(Superintendent)

Date: 7/9/26

Jen's Zens

A Few Happy Stories from LCSD





Class of 2026



Class of





Spartan Serve

Day



Spartan Serve





Seven Oak Art Show



Thank you.

