Board of Education
Lancaster Central School District
Lancaster, New York

Minutes

Meeting Date

September 21, 2026

Kind

Regular Session

Place

Lancaster High School, One Forton Drive, Lancaster

Members Present

John Talarico, President
Timothy Talbot, Vice President
Anita Schiavone, Trustee
David Lyman, Trustee
Melissa Payne Smith, Trustee
Jonathan VanNortwick, Trustee
Katie Pirro, Trustee
Sophia Pannozzo, Ex- Officio Student Board Member
Skyy Segars, Ex- Officio Student Board Member

Members Excused

District Administrators Present

Andrew P. Kufel, PhD, Superintendent of Schools
Daniel D'Amico, Asst. Superintendent for Human Resources
Andrew Krazmien, Asst. Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction & Pupil Services
Jamie Phillips, Asst. Superintendent for Business & Support Services
Erin Gannon, Director of Special Education
Kim Gromoll, Director of Public Relations
Karen Marchioli, PhD, Director of Elementary Education
Cheryl Randall, Director of Instructional Technology & Accountability
John Tresmond, Asst. Director of Special Education
Sarah Wittmeyer, Director of Secondary Education

Others Present

District administrators and faculty members

1.0 Call to Order
2.0 Pledge to Flag
3.0 Moment of Silence

The regular meeting of the board of education was called to order at 7:00pm by President Talarico. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Mr. Talarico asked for a moment of silent reflection for Barbara Piniewski, a clerk typist at WSS from 1999 to 2009 and at the District Office from 2009 to 2019, who passed away on September 17, 2026.

4.0 Presentation
4.1 Tops in Education

Courtney Mailhot, Community Relations Manager with Tops Friendly Markets, presented a check for $3,097.04 to the Board of Education on behalf of the Tops in Education program. These funds were generated by

local customers linking their Tops Bonus Cards to our schools when purchasing Tops brand products. The earnings directly benefit our students by funding classroom resources, student recognition, special events, and extracurricular activities. Mr. Talarico expressed his gratitude to Ms. Mailhot and Tops Markets for their continued support of our schools.

4.2 Tenure Presentation

Dr. Karen Marchioli, Mrs. Sarah Wittmeyer and Ms. Erin Gannon presented recently tenured teachers with certificates.

4.3 Protect the Tradition: LHS Shield Tour

Mr. Mike Candella with Students, Ella Bluhm, Jelani Codjovi, Luci Green, Bianca Jiang, Carter Leavitt and Sophia Pannozzo presented the Legacy Shields Project. This project is a visual representation of Lancaster's long-standing traditions of excellence – "Protecting the Tradition" and "Leave a Legacy". Mr. Candella and students led Board of Education members and attendees on a guided tour highlighting several Legacy Shields throughout the building.

4.4 Summer School Presentation

Dr. Karen Marchioli, who filled in for Mrs. Jacque Galas, elementary summer school principal; Mr. Marc Rinow, middle school summer school principal; and Mr. Joe Bella, high school summer school principal; presented information to the board about the district's elementary and secondary summer school programs.

5.0 Correspondence

5.1 Email Received

An email from Kim & Eric Gerth was received on September 3, 2026.

5.2 Email Received

An email from Rebecka Bunch was received on September 17, 2026.

6.0 Approval of Minutes

6.1 Regular Session August 31, 2026

Moved by Talbot seconded by VanNortwick to accept the minutes from the regular session held on August 31, 2026, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 7 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

7.0 Staff Organizations

Lancaster Administrative and Supervisory Association:

Mr. Mike Candella expressed his gratitude to the Board of Education for a successful start to the school year. He extended additional thanks to building administrators, faculty, support staff, and custodial staff for their hard work in getting every building ready to welcome students back.

Lancaster Central Teachers Association:

Mr. Mike Chodkowski, High School Science Teacher, presented an overview to the Board regarding the implementation of the new physics curriculum. He expressed sincere appreciation to the Board for their continued investment in the district's students and educational programming.

Lancaster Association of Service Personnel:

Mr. David Murray thanked the District for tough yet fair negotiations. He voiced optimism that the LCTA will continue to make progress in their ongoing contract discussions.

Lancaster Association of Substitute Teachers:

No one present to report.

8.0 Board Reports

Miss Skyy Segars highlighted recent Open Houses – at William Street School last week and in the K–3 buildings this week – and shared updates on the District's Marching Band and music programs.
Miss Sophia Pannozzo reported great success and positive feedback regarding the Freshman Mixer. Additionally, she highlighted PTO-sponsored events at Como Park and Court Street schools.

9.0 Superintendent's Administrative Report

Dr. Kufel presented his administrative report.

10.0 Old Business

No old business was discussed.

11.0 New Business

11.1 Personnel Items

11.1.1 Tenure Recommendation

Moved by Talbot seconded by VanNortwick to approve the teacher listed for tenure status, effective on November 13, 2026, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 7 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

11.1.2 Personnel Changes

Moved by Talbot seconded by VanNortwick to approve the personnel changes for the period ending September 21, 2026, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 7 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

11.2 Education Items

11.2.1 Committee on Special Education

Moved by Talbot seconded by VanNortwick to approve the recommendations of the committee on special education, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 7 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

11.2.2 Committee on Preschool Special Education

Moved by Schiavone seconded by VanNortwick to approve the recommendations of the committee on preschool special education, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 7 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

11.2.3 Appointment of CSE and CPSE Parent Member

Moved by Talbot seconded by Schiavone to approve the appointment to the Committee on Special Education and Committee on Preschool Special Education, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 7 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

11.2.4 Field Trip Approval – Quebec City, Canada

Moved by Lyman seconded by Talbot to approve Mrs. Adamo and the middle school French students to travel to Quebec City, Canada, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 7 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

12.0 Business & Financial Items

12.1 Financial Reports

Moved by Talbot seconded by VanNortwick to approve the financial reports from September 21, 2026, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 7 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

12.2 Policy 1st #7134 – Safeguarding the Rights of Immigrant Students

Policy #7134 Safeguarding the Rights of Immigrant Students was presented to the board for a first reading. This policy will be placed on the board's next agenda for a second reading.

12.3 Policy 2nd #5676 – Privacy and Security for Student Data and Teachers and Principal Data

Policy #5676 Privacy and Security for Student Data and Teachers and Principal Data was presented to the board for a second reading. This policy will be placed on the board's next agenda for adoption.

12.4 2026-2027 District Goals

Moved by Schiavone seconded by VanNortwick to accept the 2026-2027 District Goals, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 7 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

12.5 Food Service Department Operating System Reports

Moved by VanNortwick seconded by Schiavone to approve the food service department operating system reports for July and August 2026, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 7 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

12.6 Declare Surplus Vehicle

Moved by Talbot seconded by VanNortwick to declare the attached vehicle as surplus and prepare for disposal in accordance with board policy #5250, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 7 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

12.7 Declare Surplus Equipment

Moved by Talbot seconded by Schiavone to declare the attached listing of equipment as surplus and prepare for disposal in accordance with board policy #5250, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 7 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

12.8 Declare Surplus Books

Moved by Schiavone seconded Smith to declare the attached listing of books as surplus and authorize their disposal in accordance with board policy #5250, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 7 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

12.9 Construction Change Orders

Moved by Schiavone seconded by Talbot to approve the change order P1 CO-131-002, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 7 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

12.10 Erie 1 BOCES – Room Rental

Moved by Talbot seconded by Schiavone to approve the agreement between the Lancaster Central School District and Erie 1 BOCES, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 7 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

12.11 Restated Omni 403(b) Retirement Plan

Moved by Talbot seconded by Smith to approve the restated 403(b) Plan agreement between Lancaster Central School District and OMNI, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 6 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

12.12 Contract – Research Foundation for the State University of New York at Buffalo for Assistive Technology

Moved by Talbot seconded by VanNortwick to approve the agreement between the Lancaster Central School District and the Research Foundation for the State University of New York at Buffalo for Assistive Technology to provide assistive technology services for the 2026-2027 school year, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 7 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

12.13 Contract – Rachael Schneider Licensed Behavior Analyst, PLLC

Moved by VanNortwick seconded by Schiavone to approve the agreement between Lancaster Central School District and Rachael Schneider Licensed Behavior Analyst, PLLC, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 7 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved

12.14 Contract – Beth Farrar

Moved by Schiavone seconded by Talbot to approve the agreement between Lancaster Central School District and Beth Farrar to provide family literacy workshop services for the district, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 7 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved

12.15 Contract – Erica Parkinson

Moved by Talbot seconded by Schiavone to approve the agreement between Lancaster Central School District and Erica Parkinson to provide family math workshop services for the district, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 7 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved

12.16 AIA Contract – Day Automation

Moved by Talbot seconded by Schiavone to approve the AIA contract between the Lancaster Central School District and Day Automation in the amount of $79,549.71 for 2026-2027 capital outlay project, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 7 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

12.17 Contract: Lancaster Association Of Service Personnel

Moved by VanNortwick seconded by Schiavone to approve the negotiated Lancaster Association of Service Personnel contract effective July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2030, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 7 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

12.18 Contract: Lancaster Association Of Service Personnel, Rules & Regulations affecting the Transportation School Bus Drivers and Attendants

Moved by Talbot seconded by VanNortwick to approve the negotiated Lancaster Association of Service Personnel, rules and regulations affecting transportations school bus drivers and attendants effective July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2030, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 7 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

12.19 Terms & Conditions of Employment – Confidential Employees

Moved by Talbot seconded by VanNortwick to approve the Confidential employees terms and conditions of employment effective July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2030, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 7 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

13.0 Public Hearing

No one addressed the board at this time.

14.0 Executive Session

At 8:30pm, VanNortwick seconded by Talbot to move to executive session to discuss Lancaster Central Teachers Association contract negotiations.
Vote on the motion: 7 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

15.0 Adjournment

At 9:36pm moved by Talbot seconded by VanNortwick to reconvene regular session.
Vote on the motion: 7 Ayes 0 Nays

Motion approved.

At 9:36pm moved by Lyman seconded by Smith to adjourn the regular session.
Vote on the motion: 7 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

Susan M. Schlegel, District Clerk