EASTERN LEBANON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
180 ELCO Drive, Myerstown, PA 17067

Regular Board of Education Voting Meeting
District Board Room
Hybrid
(In-person or via Zoom)

September 21, 2026

The Regular Board of Education Voting Meeting was called to order by President, Rachel Moyer at 6:01p.m.

The Eastern Lebanon County School Board met in a Regular Board of Education Session with President Moyer presiding.

Mrs. Moyer noted the District is audio recording the meeting, which will be posted on the District website. Mrs. Moyer also inquired if anyone in attendance was recording the meeting. Lexi Gonzalez from LebTown indicated she would be audio recording the meeting.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mrs. Rachel Moyer.

Roll Call
Board Secretary, Lori Mosser, called the roll. The following members were present: Mrs. Kantner, Mrs. Morrissey and Mrs. Moyer; and Messer's Kahl, Kramer, Ondrusek, Santos, and Weaver. Also in attendance were the following from the administrative team: Dr. Nell, Dr. Gerhart, Mrs. Mathias, Mrs. Janicelli, Mr. Treese, Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Ressler, Mrs. Houck, Mr. Dornes, Mrs. Springborn, Mrs. Shoemaker, ~~Dr. Mecca~~, Mr. Ludwig, ~~Mr. Mealy~~, Mr. Boltz, Mr. Frantz, Mrs. Hanichak, ~~Mr. Gruber~~, Mrs. Mosser, and faculty/staff and community residents (in-person and via Zoom).

Board President Communications

- Welcome to everyone attending.

On a motion by Mrs. Moyer, seconded by Mr. Ondrusek and approved by unanimous Voice Vote, 9 Ayes and 0 Nays, Item A was approved.

A. Directed Lori Mosser, Board Secretary, to cast the board's vote (electronically) for the following PSBA Officers: (Board Attachment)

   President Elect (one-year term ending December 31, 2027)
   - Matt Vannoy

   Vice-President Elect (one-year term ending December 31, 2027)
   - Kristy Bolte

   Treasurer Elect (three-year term ending December 31, 2029)
   - David Hein

   PSBA Eastern Zone Representative (one-year term ending December 31, 2027)
   - Jason Mell

   PSBA Insurance Trustees (three-year term ending December 31, 2029), choose two.
   - Marianne Neel
   - Dr. Michale Faccinetto

B. Reminded board members of upcoming 2026 PASA- PSBA Leadership Conference. Notify Lori Mosser if you want to attend.

Student Council Report

- Cadynce Thornton, Student Council President reported on the following:
    - Homecoming will be held October 9-10, 2026. We are finalizing our activities for this event.
    - Homecoming Court has been selected and will be announced during halftime at the Football game.
    - Spirit Week activities include our annual lawn lunch and our Fall Pep Rally.
    - Our Homecoming Dance will be held October 10, 2026, in the Middle School Gymnasium. Our theme this year is "Candyland".

Presentation – PSBA Service Recognition

- Dr. Nell presented the following board members with service certificates:
    - Bonnie Kantner – 5 years of Service
    - Rachel Moyer – 5 years of Service
    - Ray Ondrusek – 15 years of Service

Public Comments – Items On the Agenda

- No Comments were made.

Board Committee and Rep Reports

- Policy Committee – Mrs. Rachel Moyer
    - The following policies were reviewed by committee and recommended for a first reading: Policy 102 – Academic Standards; Policy 105 – Curriculum; Policy 204.1 – Virtual Attendance and Wellness Check; Policy 249 – Bullying/Cyberbullying; and Policy 325 – Dress and Grooming (Employees).
- Curriculum Committee – Mrs. Bonnie Kantner
    - The committee agreed to move forward with the 26-27 Lancaster-Lebanon IU13 Title I Agreement.
    - The committee recommended full board approval for the 2026-2027 ELCO Agricultural Occupational Advisory Committee Members.
- Personnel Committee – Mr. Jack Kahl
    - Dr. Nell advised the committee on the personnel items which will be presented for full board consideration. New hires include custodians, paraprofessional, and several substitutes.
    - Mr. Boltz presented information regarding Building Technology mentors.
- General Services Committee – Mr. JP Santos
    - A presentation by Chris Linkey and Erin Hoffman from RLPS Architects on a proposed Feasibility Study.
    - Informational Update on the acquisition of Norfolk Southern by Union Pacific.
- Finance Committee – Mr. Ray Ondrusek
    - Two contracts will be moving forward for full board consideration. A Special Education Contract from Ephrata School District and a contract with MTI for the rights and licenses for the 2027 High School Spring Musical.
    - Informational Updates on the new Employee Assistance Program, Healthworks Opening, Middle School Roof Project, and the new student transportation cards.
- IU13 Rep Report – Mr. Ray Ondrusek
    - Next meeting will be held October 14, 2026.
- PSBA Report – Mrs. Bonnie Kantner
    - October 2, 2026 – PSBA will offer a webinar on the State Ethics Act
    - December 11, 2026 – PSBA Webinar on the recent SCOTUS decisions impact on Public Schools.

- CTC Report – Mr. JP Santos
  - Renovations are still on hold until Lebanon SD decides on staying with the CTC or creating their own program. Discussed financial impact to our district depending on their decision.
  - The next meeting will be held October 20, 2026.
- Lebanon County Tax Collection Rep Report – Mr. JP Santos
  - No Report
- ELCO Education Foundation – Ms. Megan Schaeffer
  - October 15, 2026 – Teacher Grant applications are due.
  - Next meeting is December 10, 2026.

Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Ms. Schaeffer, seconded by Mr. Kahl, and approved by Voice vote, all voting Aye, the Minutes of 08-17-2026 were approved.

Approval of Treasurer's Report

On a motion by Mr. Weaver, seconded by Mr. Santos and approved by Voice vote, all voting Aye, the Treasurer's Reports from 08-31-2026 was approved.

ACTION ITEMS FOR APPROVAL

Personnel Committee – Mr. Jack Kahl, Chairperson

No Items were requested to be separated from the overall vote.

On a motion by Mr. Kahl, seconded by Mr. Kramer and approved by Voice vote, all voting Aye, Personnel Committee Items A - R were approved:

A. Accepted a "Letter of Resignation" from Connor Davis, temporary part-time office support staff, effective and retroactive to August 20, 2026.

B. Approved the employment of Eden Rittle, as a full-time Specialized Paraprofessional, at an hourly rate of $16.07, 7.5 hours/day (10-month position), effective start date September 21, 2026, pending receipt of all required documentation, clearances, and disclosures.
Background: This position is being filled due to a resignation.

C. Approved the employment of Brittney Sweitzer, as a full-time 2nd shift Custodian, at an hourly rate of $15.41, 8.0 hours/day (12-month position), start date effective and retroactive to August 19, 2026.
Background: This position is being filled due to a resignation.

D. Approved the employment of Anthony Alonzo, as a full-time 2nd shift Custodian, at an hourly rate of $15.41, 8.0 hours/day (12-month position), start date effective and retroactive to September 1, 2026.
Background: This position is being filled due to a resignation.

E. Approved the employment of Antoinette Alonzo, as a full-time 2nd shift Custodian, at an hourly rate of $15.41, 8.0 hours/day (12-month position), start date effective and retroactive to September 1, 2026.
Background: This position is being filled due to a resignation.

F. Approved the employment of Lourdes Pyszka, as a full-time Food Service Worker, at an hourly rate of $18.92, 7.0 hours/day (10-month position), start date effective and retroactive to September 14, 2026.
Background: This position is being filled due to a resignation.

G. Approved the official start date of Sarah Greene, part-time Food Service Worker, effective and retroactive to August 24, 2026.
Background: This position was approved August 17, 2026; this motion approves her official start date.

H. Approved the official start date of Lori Strickler, full-time Specialized Paraprofessional, effective and retroactive to August 31, 2026.
Background: This position was approved August 17, 2026; this motion approves her official start date.

I. Approved the official start date of Anna Martin, full-time Specialized Paraprofessional, effective and retroactive to September 8, 2026.
Background: This position was approved August 17, 2026; this motion approves her official start date.

J. Approved the official start date of Jodi Hill, High School Special Education teacher, effective October 1, 2026.
Background: This position was approved August 17, 2026; this motion approves her official start date.

K. Approved the following ELCO Virtual Academy teacher for the 2026-2027 school year, as listed:
Background: This is an annual approval. The costs have been budgeted.

Addie Bird

L. Approved the following individuals for extra-curricular positions for the 2026-2027 school year, as listed:

HS Envirothon Advisor	Lucas Sandoe
MS Envirothon Advisors	Jamie Cascarino – 50%
	Angela Bicher – 50%
National Junior Honor Society	Heather Kahl – 50%
	Emily Ziegler – 50%
MS Quiz Bowl	Jeffrey Bennett
MS Tech Student Assoc. (TSA)	Nicholas Wright – 50%
	Kimberly Sandoe – 50%
HS Musical Director	Morgan Petersen
HS Musical Choreographer	Bente Weaver
HS Musical Costume Design	Kaloni Doll
HS Musical Set/Stage Design	David Fair
HS Musical Vocal Music Director	Morgan Petersen
HS Musical Rehearsal Accompanist	Morgan Petersen
Musical Stage & Safety Supervisor	Adam Zurick

M. Granted tenure to the following individual, as listed:
Background: Per PA School Code 1949 Act 14 – Each board school of directors in all school districts shall hereafter enter into contracts in writing, with each professional employee initially employed by a school district, on or after June 30, 1996, who has satisfactorily completed (3) three years of service in any school district in the commonwealth.

Elisabeth Putt

N. Approved payment of an additional stipend in the amount of $157.50 to John Mentzer, as the District Virtual Academy Coordinator for the 2026-2027 school year.
Background: The additional stipend amount is reflective of the 3.5% increase established with the Memorandum of Understanding executed on June 24, 2026.

O. Approved payment of an additional stipend in the amount of $61.25 to Kaitlyn Strayer, as the Elementary Virtual Academy Coordinator for the 2026-2027 school year.
Background: The additional stipend amount is reflective of the 3.5% increase established with the Memorandum of Understanding executed June 24, 2026.

P. Approved the new and/or revised job descriptions: (Board Attachments)

Director of Human Resources
Assistant Director of Pupil Services
Building Technology Mentor

Q. Approved adding the following individuals to the ELCO sub listing for the 2026-2027 school year, pending receipt of all required documentation, clearances, and disclosures.

Ashley Anspach – Elem Ed K-6
Lori Binkley – Paraprofessional
Jennifer Black – IU Guest Teacher
Susan Campbell – IU Guest Teacher
Mary Chehata – IU Guest Teacher
Jennifer Detter – Elem Ed K-6
Emilee Gettle – Elem Ed K-5
Ann Kauffman – IU Guest Teacher
Tomas Ramos-Martin – IU Guest Teacher
Jamie Keener – District Wide K-12
Joyce Kunkle – IU Guest Teacher
Jody Lazorcik – IU Guest Teacher
Jennifer Lovell – IU Guest Teacher
Marian Lyon – IU Guest Teacher
Julie Miller – IU Guest Teacher
Somer Parker – Sub K-5 and 9-12
Alana Outman – MS Building Sub
Kirk Wolfe – IU Guest Teacher

R. Approved adding the following individuals to the ELCO volunteer listing for the 2026-2027 school year, as listed, (noting all required documentation, clearances, and trainings are on file):

Bobby-Jo Arrigo
Megan Brown
Kimberly Haberstroh
Jessica Reifsnyder
Ashley Weiler
Vincent Arrigo
Ashley Fuhrman
William Haberstroh
Rachel Scholtes
Megan Mohl
Natasha Bohn
Christina Getz
Erin Horning
Bayley Stauffer

Curriculum Committee – Mrs. Bonnie Kantner, Chairperson

No Items were requested to be separated from the overall vote.

On a motion by Mrs. Kantner, seconded by Mrs. Schaeffer and approved by Voice vote, all voting Aye, Curriculum Committee Items A - G were approved:

A. Approved an agreement between the Eastern Lebanon County School District and Lancaster-Lebanon Intermediate Unit to provide Title I services to nonpublic students during the 2026-2027 school year. (Board Attachment)
Background: This annual agreement is to provide the required Title I services to students in nonpublic schools and is part of the Federal Programs grant.

B. Approved the 2026-2027 ELCO Agricultural Occupational Advisory Committee (OAC) members. (Board Attachment)

C. Approved the creation of the following new club, per Board Policy 122. (Board Attachment)

Unified ELCO

D. Approved a trip and travel request from Morgan Petersen, High School Choral teacher, to travel and attend with (5) five qualifying chorus students to the PMEA District Chorus Festival being held January 29-30, 2027, at Middletown Area High School, Middletown, PA.
Background: Annual event attended by qualifying students. Costs have been budgeted.

E. Approved a trip and travel request from David Fair, High School Band Director, chaperones, and approximately 110 students to travel and attend a Broadway performance of Evita to be held April 1, 2027, in New York City, NY.
Background: The students will get to experience a professional Broadway performance. The costs will be paid by the students/parents participating in this field trip.

F. Approved a trip and travel request from Madison Balthaser, High School Agriculture teacher, chaperone, and approximately 20 students, to travel and participate in the ACES (Agriculture Cooperation Establishes Success) Conference to be held February 6-7, 2027, in Harrisburg, PA.
Background: Students will learn FFA leadership skills, attend workshops, and meet other FFA members from across the state. This trip has been budgeted.

G. Approved a trip and travel request from Madison Balthaser, High School Agriculture teacher, chaperone, and approximately seven (7) students to travel and participate in the SLLC (State Legislative Leadership Conference) to be held March 14-16, 2027, in Harrisburg, PA.
Background: This is an annual trip to provide students with the opportunity to advocate for agricultural issues, become members of the house and senate, debate, amend and carry out motions.

Policy Committee – Mrs. Rachel Moyer, Chairperson

No Items were requested to be separated from the overall vote.

On a motion by Mrs. Moyer, seconded by Mr. Ondrusek and approved by Voice vote, all voting Aye, Policy Committee Items A – E were approved:

A. Approved Policy 102 – Academic Standards for first reading. (Board Attachment)
Background: This policy was updated to reflect the new requirements for instruction on Social Media Literacy and Personal Finance.

B. Approved Policy 105 – Curriculum for first reading. (Board Attachment)
Background: Minor changes were made to the legal references of the policy.

C. Approved Policy 204.1 – Virtual Attendance and Wellness Check for first reading. (Board Attachment)
Background: This is a new mandated policy requiring all full-time virtual students to participate in a weekly wellness check-in conducted either via zoom or in-person.

D. Approved Policy 249 – Bullying/Cyberbullying for first reading. (Board Attachment)
Background: This policy has been updated to expand the definitions of bullying to include cyberbullying and Artificial Intelligence (AI) generated or modified media.

E. Approved Policy 325 – Dress and Grooming (Employees) for first reading. (Board Attachment)
Background: The committee recommended moving forward with the PSBA original form policy and to outline the specific dress and grooming expectations in the Administrative Regulation.

General Services Committee – Mr. JP Santos, Chairperson

On a motion by Mr. Santos, seconded by Mr. Kramer and approved by Voice vote, all voting Aye, General Services Committee Item A was approved:

A. Approved a proposal from RLPS Architects for a district-wide Feasibility Study at a cost of $18,500. (Board Attachment)
Background: This study would provide the district with an opportunity to prioritize and plan for future needs. This study would begin a relationship with RLPS as our Architect of record, providing a needed service ELCO does not currently have. The costs have been budgeted.

Finance Committee – Mr. Ray Ondrusek, Chairperson

No Items were requested to be separated from the overall vote.

On a motion by Mr. Ondrusek, seconded by Mr. Weaver and approved by Voice vote, all voting Aye, Finance Committee Items A - C were approved:

A. Approved payment of bills as found listed and attached to the September 21, 2026, Board Agenda for payments made August 2026, in the amounts indicated: (Board Attachment)

General Fund payments in the amount of	$2,651,757.08
Cafeteria Fund payments in the amount of	$46,986.04
Capital Reserve Fund payments in the amount of	$0.00
Debt Service payments in the amount of	$343,175.00
Construction Fund payments in the amount of	$489,431.00
Flex Spending Payments in the amount of	$1,239.47
Student Activity payments in the amount of	$2,949.06

B. Approved a Special Education Supplemental Contract with Ephrata Area School District for the 2026-2027 school year. (Board Attachment)
Background: This is an approval for contracted services for the 2026-2027 school year for one (1) educational placement.

C. Approved a musical agreement with Musical Theatre International (MTI) to secure the rights and license for the amateur production of the 2027 High School Spring Musical in the amount of $5,685.00. (Board Attachment)
Background: The High School Musical will be performed March 12-13, 2027. This is a budgeted expense.

Superintendent's Report

Principals' and Directors' Reports:

- Mrs. Megan Ressler, Principal Jackson Elementary
  - The 2nd Grade Student Ambassadors have been selected. Student Ambassadors assist with school assemblies, morning announcements, and many other special events. Through these opportunities students develop leadership skills, build confidence and serve as positive role models.
- Mrs. Jodi Houck, Principal Fort Zeller Elementary
  - On Thursday, September 17, we hosted Literacy Under the Lights. This is a family fun literacy event that brings our community together. We appreciate our student sports teams and school organizations who volunteered their time to make this event a success.
- Mrs. Mindy Smith, Principal Intermediate School
  - The 5th Grade Raider Voices have been selected. The students had to identify their leadership qualities and how they can contribute to the school. 12 students were chosen for this opportunity. Other candidates will be interviewed for our Best Buddies program and other leadership opportunities.
  - The CTC students did a wonderful job assisting with our health screenings.
- Mr. Jonathan Treese, Principal Middle School
  - We kicked off our Middle School fundraiser last week with assemblies at each grade level. This fundraiser supports our student activities, and our Blue Ticket program, which recognizes positive student behavior.
- Mrs. Jennifer Janicelli, High School Principal
  - Our students participated in Constitution Day activities last week. They learned the process to propose and ratify an amendment. The students created amendments they wanted to see added to the constitution.
- Mrs. Amy Shoemaker, Director of Pupil Services
  - PDE requires that we conduct security drills within the first 90 days of school. Throughout this week each building will conduct a lockdown drill. As required, families received an email last week informing them of the upcoming lockdown drills.
  - Grant funds have allowed us to make improvements to our lockdown drill practices by installing safety shades on the windows of classrooms in each building.
- Mr. Robert Boltz, Director of Technology
  - The Technology Department is in the process of launching the school district's new Help Desk system – FMX – which will be replacing Solar Winds Web Help Desk. We are targeting our launch to be in October.
- Mr. Tommy Mealy, Athletic Director
  - Keirra Sholl – Girls Volleyball – was named Lebanon County Female Athlete of the week earlier in September.
  - Congratulations to Bob Miller on becoming the school's all-time winningest football coach with 77 career wins.
  - A special thank you to all the student athletes that assisted with the recent Literacy Under the Lights event.

Upcoming Dates/Announcements:

, Monday, October 5, 2026 – 5:00 p.m. – Policy/Curriculum/Personnel Committees Meeting
Tuesday, October 6, 2026 – 5:00 p.m. – General Services/Finance Committees Meeting
Monday, October 12, 2026 – NO SCHOOL in observance of Columbus Day
Tuesday, October 13, 2026 – 2 Hour Late Start for students K-12
Monday, October 19, 2026 – 6:00 p.m.- Regular Board of Education Voting Meeting

Public Comments – Items On/Off the Agenda

- No Comments were made.

Board Announcements/Comments

- Mr. Santos commented on the awesome leadership opportunities for our elementary students.

Old Business

- No Old Business was discussed.

New Business

- No New Business was discussed.

Adjournment

On a motion by Mrs. Morrissey, seconded by Mr. Santos and approved by Voice vote, all voting Aye, President Moyer adjourned the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Mosser
Board Secretary