Board of Education

Lancaster Central School District

Lancaster, New York

Minutes

Meeting Date	October 5, 2026
Kind	Regular Session
Place	William Street School, 5201 William Street, Lancaster – Multipurpose Room
Members Present	John Talarico, President Timothy Talbot, Vice President Anita Schiavone, Trustee David Lyman, Trustee Melissa Payne Smith, Trustee Katie Pirro, Trustee Sophia Pannozzo, Ex- Officio Student Board Member Skyy Segars, Ex- Officio Student Board Member
Members Excused	Jonathan VanNortwick, Trustee
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 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.

4.0 Presentation
4.1 Audit Presentation

Mr. Nick Patronik of Drescher & Malecki LLP gave an overview of the annual audit report for the year ending June 30, 2026.

4.2 William Street School Tour

Mr. Greg Heer with students – Lillian Brown, Charlotte Parente,

Gabriel Ratka, and Taylor Stopa led a tour of William Street School's new addition.

4.3 Project Based Learning Experience

Mrs. Amy Meshulam and Mrs. Rose Neville with students – Julianna Talarico, Elliott Haumesser, Jack Eisensmith, Elyse Payne, Alexander Thomas, and Isabella Wozniak presented a 6th-grade ELA project-based learning activity aligned with the Portrait of a Graduate framework.

4.4 ELA Progress

Dr. Karen Marchioli outlined elementary ELA curriculum updates across the district. Building on this overview, Ms. Rachel Cost shared student work samples using the *Bookworms* curriculum, and Ms. Roseanne Cook presented data showing progress and consistent growth for Kindergarteners in ELA.

5.0 Correspondence

5.1 Email Received

An email from Robert Richardson was received on September 21, 2026.

5.2 Email Received

An email from Julius McCann was received on September 22, 2026.

5.2 Email Received

An email from Bridget Newman was received on September 24, 2026.

6.0 Approval of Minutes

6.1 Regular Session September 21, 2026

Moved by Talbot seconded by Schiavone to accept the minutes from the regular session held on September 21, 2026, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 6 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

7.0 Staff Organizations

Lancaster Administrative and Supervisory Association:

Mr. Greg Heer had no items to report.

Lancaster Central Teachers Association:

Ms. Megan Zipp, a math specialist at William Street School and member of the LCTA Executive Board, stated the teachers are very excited to welcome the students back to school. She gave a warm welcome to new staff/teachers and new assistant principal, April Owczarczak to William Street School. Ms. Zipp also thanked the WSS PTO for the new outdoor play equipment for the students.

Lancaster Association of Service Personnel:

No one present to report.

Lancaster Association of Substitute Teachers:

No one present to report.

8.0 Board Reports

Mr. John Talarico thanked Jerry Young and Nina Martineck, architects from Young & Wright, who were in attendance for the meeting and tour of the new addition at William Street. Mr. Talarico also thanked Mr. Dave Lowrey from the Erie County School Board Association for attending the meeting. Mr. Talarico shared his excitement for the upcoming Lancaster-Depew Week! He highlighted how this week has evolved into much more than a school tradition—it's a true community-wide celebration that brings everyone together.

Miss Skyy Segars highlighted Open Houses – at the Middle School and High School. It is a great opportunity for families to connect with teachers. Miss Segars also informed the Board of the upcoming Spirit week, which highlights the Lancaster Depew events including Powderpuff, Bonfire and student assemblies.
Miss Sophia Pannozzo highlighted the upcoming Health and Wellness Days hosted at the Lancaster Youth Bureau throughout the school year. Meanwhile, Miss Pannozzo is excited to join in the final Lancaster-Depew Week celebrations, which feature the motorcade, the Varsity Football Game at Depew, and the Annual Homecoming Dance.

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 Personnel Changes

Moved by Schiavone seconded by Talbot to approve the personnel changes for the period ending October 5, 2026, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 6 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

11.2 Education Items
11.2.1 Committee on Special Education

Moved by Talbot seconded by Lyman to approve the recommendations of the committee on special education, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 6 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

11.2.2 Committee on Preschool Special Education

Moved by Talbot seconded by Payne-Smith to approve the recommendations of the committee on preschool special education, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 6 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

12.0 Business & Financial Items
12.1 Financial Reports

Moved by Talbot seconded by Schiavone to approve the financial reports from October 5, 2026, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 6 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

12.2 Policy 2nd #7134 – Safeguarding the Rights of Immigrant Students

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

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

Moved by Payne-Smith seconded by Schiavone to adopt policy #5676 Privacy and Security for Student Data and Teacher and Principal Data in the district's policy manual, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 6 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

12.4 Annual Audit Report

Moved by Talbot seconded by Schiavone to accept the audit report year ending June 30, 2026 from Drescher & Malecki LLP and the corrective action plan, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 6 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

12.5 Amended 2026-2027 Classified Staff Holiday Schedule

Moved by Talbot seconded by Lyman to approve the Amended 2026-2027 Classified Staff Holiday Schedule, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 6 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

12.6 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: 6 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

12.7 Amended Contract – Maria Blask

Moved by Schiavone seconded by Payne-Smith to approve the amended agreement between the Lancaster Central School District and Maria Blask, to provide AIS services at St. Mary's Elementary for the 2026-2027 school year paid through Title 1 fund allocation, as submitted.
Vote on the motion: 6 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

13.0 Public Hearing

Nobody addressed the board at this time.

14.0 Executive Session

At 8:31pm moved by Talbot seconded by Schiavone to move to executive session to discuss Lancaster Central Teachers Association contract negotiations.
Vote on the motion: 6 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

15.0 Adjournment

At 9:14pm moved by Lyman seconded by Schiavone to reconvene regular session.
Vote on the motion: 6 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

At 9:14pm moved by Payne-Smith seconded by Schiavone to adjourn the regular session.
Vote on the motion: 6 Ayes 0 Nays
Motion approved.

Susan M. Schlegel, District Clerk