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)

October 19, 2026

The Regular Board of Education Meeting was called to order by President, Rachel Moyer at 6:00 p.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 was 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. Moyer, Mrs. Morrissey, and Ms. Schaeffer; 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, Ms. 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,~~ and Lori Mosser Board Secretary; and faculty/staff and community residents (in-person and via Zoom).
*attended via Zoom

Board President Communications

- Welcome to everyone attending.
- Discussion was held regarding rescheduling the November 3, 2026, Committee Meetings due to Election Day. The Board agreed to reschedule the General Services and Finance Committee meetings to Monday, November 9, 2026, at 5:30 p.m.

Student Council Report

Cadynce Thornton, Student Council President, reported on the following activities:

- Student Council recently wrapped up the 2026 Homecoming dance and festivities. We held our Pep Rally outside and it went very smoothly, also our Homecoming Dance was very well attended.
- The Interact Club recently conducted a tour of the High School with the Class of 1976.
- The Interact Club will be holding a Trunk or Treat activity at Stoneridge at the end of October.
- RaiderThon recently made a lot of cards with "Well Wishes" to give to kids with cancer in honor of October being cancer awareness month.

Students of the Month

- Student Video on the Fort Zeller new Playground Equipment – Mrs. Jodi Houck
  Principal, Fort Zeller Elementary

Presentation – Certificate of Good Citizenship to Rory Righter

Public Comments – Items On the Agenda

- No comments were made.

Board Committee and Rep Reports

- Policy Committee – Mrs. Rachel Moyer
  - Several policies were discussed and will move forward for a first reading. Policy 209 – Health Examinations/Screenings; Policy 246 – School Wellness; Policy 704 – Maintenance; Policy 803 – School Calendar; Policy 822 – Automated External Defibrillator (AED)/Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR).
- Curriculum Committee – Mrs. Bonnie Kantner
  - Discussion was had on an educational travel proposal to Paris, France in the Summer of 2028. This would be a non-sponsored ELCO trip through EF Educational Tours. The proposal will move forward for full board consideration.
  - 2026-2027 Continuous Improvement Plans were presented by building principals.
  - A K-2 Report Card presentation showing the revised format that will provide a clearer and more comprehensive representation of student performance.
- Personnel Committee – Mr. Jack Kahl
  - Dr. Nell provided updates on the personnel items that will be included on this month's agenda.
- General Services Committee – Mr. JP Santos
  - Informational items were discussed. The district will conduct its annual water testing for lead this week. Different taps are selected for testing each year. The results from this year's testing will be shared with the board, once available.
  - Discussion on the proposed pavilion that would be located between the barn and the tennis courts. As the project develops and additional information becomes available, the administration will seek guidance from the board.
- Finance Committee – Mr. Ray Ondrusek
  - Two items were discussed and will move forward for board approval. First, a list of authorized district credit card users and secondly, a musical contract for the rights and licenses to the Intermediate School Spring Musical.
  - Informational items discussed were the Act 1 Index, the tentative 2027-2028 Budget Calendar and Timeline, and the 2025-2026 Audit Update.
- IU13 Report – Mr. Ray Ondrusek
  - Next meeting will be held November 22, 2026.
- PSBA Report – Mrs. Bonnie Kantner
  - An updated version of Divisive Times can be found on the PSBA website.
  - A Board Candidates Webinar will be held January 16, 2026.
  - PSBA Delegate Assembly will be held November 7, 2026.
- CTC Report – Mr. JP Santos
  - 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
  - A meeting will be held October 28, 2026, to review the 27 teacher grant applications that were received.
  - Our final meeting for the 2026 year will be held Thursday, December 10, 2026, in the District Board Room.

Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Ms. Schaeffer, seconded by Mr. Santos and approved by Voice vote, all voting Aye, the Minutes of 09-21-2026 were approved.

Approval of Treasurer's Report

On a motion by Mr. Kahl, seconded by Mrs. Morrissey, and approved by Voice vote, all voting Aye, the Treasurer's Report of 09-30-2026 was approved.

ACTION ITEMS FOR APPROVAL

Personnel Committee – Mr. Jack Kahl, Chairperson

Item N was requested to be separated from the overall vote.

On a motion by Mr. Kahl, seconded by Ms. Schaeffer and approved by Voice vote, all voting Aye, Personnel Committee Items A - M and Item O were approved:

A. Accepted a "Letter of Retirement" from Maria Read, full-time Specialized Paraprofessional, effective November 20, 2026.

B. Accepted a "Letter of Resignation" from Anna Martin, full-time Specialized Paraprofessional, effective and retroactive to September 21, 2026.

C. Accepted a "Letter of Resignation" from Valerie Weitzel, School Psychologist, effective November 20, 2026.

D. Accepted a "Letter of Resignation" from Melodie Fair, High School Dean of Students, effective November 20, 2026.

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

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

G. Approved the five (5) consecutive days of Unpaid Leave of Absence for the following employee, per Board Policy 336 - Personal Necessity Leave.

H. Approved the following individual for an extra-curricular position for the 2026-2027 school year, as listed:

Craig DeVore – Pit Orchestra Director

I. Approved the following mentor for the 2026-2027 school year, prorated to the number of days worked, as listed:

Mentor: Julie Smeltzer Staff: Jodi Hill

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

Zachary Cook

K. Approved the following individuals to serve as Building Technology Mentors for the 2026-2027 school year, as listed:

Amy Davis	Angela Rodriguez
Andrew Risser	Erin Harris
Michael O'Neill	Rebecca Boland

L. Approved the following individuals as a new driver, noting all drivers are employed directly through Brightbill Transportation, as listed:

Lori Dorenzo	Michelle Ebling
Derek Shay	Epiphany Shay
Karyn Brubacker	David Brubacker
Whitney Wright	Thomas Capello
James Mease	Gregory Hummel

M. Approved adding the following individuals to the ELCO substitute teacher list for the 2026-2027 school year, as listed:

Ashley Martin – English 7-12
Stacey Lipton – K-6 and English 7-12
Cheryl Wallace – Emergency Certified
Gabriella Bicher – IU Guest Teacher
Bridget Murray – English 7-12

N. Approved the following individuals as coaches for the 2026-2027 Winter Sports Season, (Pending receipt of all required documentation, clearances, and disclosures), as listed:

Winter Cheerleading	*Head Coach*	*Liana Raihl*
	Asst. Coach	*Marysia Daly*
	JH Coach	*Elizabeth Martin*
Boys' Basketball	*Head Varsity Coach*	*Brad Connors*
	Asst. Coaches	*Wes Soto, Brett Hildebrand, Mitchell Gray*
	Volunteers	*Doug Strickler, Joe Hayes*
Girls' Basketball	*Head Varsity Coach*	*Karl Keath*
	Asst. Coaches	*Scott Liacha, Zoe Zerman, Kara Schaeffer*
	Volunteer	*Derek Fulk*
Boys' Wrestling	*Head Varsity Coach*	*Matt Fittery*
	Asst. Coaches	*Ken Miller, Chris Longtaff, Warren Zimmerman*
	Volunteers	*Dave Ziegler, Pat Yeagley, Brandon Staudt*

Girls' Wrestling	*Head Varsity Coach*	*Chad Miller*
	Asst. Coach	*Gannon Ulrey*
	Volunteers	*Evie Trostle, Katelyn Rueppel, Jeff Boehler, Dave Ziegler*
Bowling	*Varsity Head Coach*	*Pam Rittle*
Indoor Track & Field	*Head Varsity Coach*	*Michael Harnish*
	Asst. Coach	*Robert Miller*
	Volunteers	*Earl Thomas, Cynthia Harnish, Haley Thunberg, Holly Hartman, Jackie Bender, Angle Zeiders*
Winter Weight Room Monitors		*Todd Dresch, Matt Rissinger*

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

Matthew Blantz	Kelly Hollinshead	Adam Kramer
Amber Kramer	Courtney Miller	Jeffrey Miller
Janelle Oberholser	Marjorie Purdy	Jillian Palm
Holly Reppert	Jessica Singer	Victoria Strause
Brittany Weaver	Katherine Witmer	John Rohrer
Kari Evans	Scott Schaffer	Desiree Schaffer
Anna Houser		

On a motion by Mr. Kahl, seconded by Mrs. Morrissey, and approved by voice vote 8 – 0, Personnel Item N was approved.
Megan Schaeffer - Abstained

N. Approved the following individuals as coaches for the 2026-2027 Winter Sports Season, (Pending receipt of all required documentation, clearances, and disclosures), as listed:

Winter Cheerleading	Head Coach	Liana Raihl
	Asst. Coach	Marysia Daly
	JH Coach	Elizabeth Martin
Boys' Basketball	Head Varsity Coach	Brad Connors
	Asst. Coaches	Wes Soto, Brett Hildebrand, Mitchell Gray
	Volunteers	Doug Strickler, Joe Hayes
Girls' Basketball	Head Varsity Coach	Karl Keath
	Asst. Coaches	Scott Liacha, Zoe Zerman, Kara Schaeffer
	Volunteer	Derek Fulk
Boys' Wrestling	Head Varsity Coach	Matt Fittery
	Asst. Coaches	Ken Miller, Chris Longtaff, Warren Zimmerman
	Volunteers	Dave Ziegler, Pat Yeagley, Brandon Staudt
Girls' Wrestling	Head Varsity Coach	Chad Miller
	Asst. Coach	Gannon Ulrey
	Volunteers	Evie Trostle, Katelyn Rueppel, Jeff Boehler, Dave Ziegler
Bowling	Varsity Head Coach	Pam Rittle

Indoor Track & Field	Head Varsity Coach	Michael Harnish
	Asst. Coach	Robert Miller
	Volunteers	Earl Thomas, Cynthia Harnish, Haley Thunberg, Holly Hartman, Jackie Bender, Angle Zeiders
Winter Weight Room Monitors		Todd Dresch, Matt Rissinger

Curriculum Committee – Mrs. Bonnie Kantner, Chairperson

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

On a motion from Mrs. Kantner, seconded by Ms. Schaeffer, and approved by Voice Vote, all voting Aye, Curriculum Committee Items A – C were approved.

A. Approved an educational trip to France, in the Summer of 2028 through EF Educational Tours. This trip will be planned and conducted in accordance with Policy 121 - Field Trips (Travel-Study Tours) guidelines. (Board Attachment)
Background: This trip is designed as a curriculum connected supervised learning experience that extends classroom instruction. The cost of the trip will be funded by participating students and their parents/guardians through individual payments and fundraising efforts. This trip is considered a non-sponsored ELCO trip.

B. Approved the August 27, 2026, meeting minutes for the ELCO Agricultural Occupational Advisory Committee (OAC). (Board Attachment)

C. Approved a trip and travel request from David Fair, High School Band Director, and approximately five (5) qualifying students to travel and participate in the PMEA District 7 Band North Festival to be held January 15-16, 2027, at Mechanicsburg High School, Mechanicsburg, PA.
Background: This is an annual trip attended by qualifying students; costs are budgeted.

Policy Committee – Mrs. Rachel Moyer, Chairperson

Item F was 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 209 – Health Examinations/Screenings for first reading. (Board Attachment)
Background: This policy was updated to clarify who is responsible for conducting student height and weight measurements. Additionally, school districts are required to make eating disorder awareness and education available to students in grades six through twelve.

B. Approved Policy 246 – School Wellness for first reading. (Board Attachment)
Background: The language in this policy reflects the confidentiality requirements associated with the collection and handling of student information.

C. Approved Policy 704 – Maintenance for first reading. (Board Attachment)
Background: Language was added to provide an option for testing lead levels in our water system. The district currently does test lead levels on an annual basis.

D. Approved Policy 803 – School Calendar for first reading. (Board Attachment)
Background: The policy was updated to comply with new state regulations that prior to finalizing the school calendar, the Board must discuss the use of flexible instruction days and/or remote or virtual days at a public meeting.

E. Approved Policy 822 – Automated External Defibrillators (AED)/Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)
Background: This policy was updated to clarify which individuals must maintain their certification in the use of an AED or CPR trainings.

On a motion by Mrs. Moyer, seconded by Mrs. Kantner and approved by voice vote, all voting Aye, Policy Committee item F was approved.

F. Approved the following policies (revised/reviewed/and/or/new) for a second reading, as listed: (Board Attachment)

1. Policy 102 – Academic Standards
2. Policy 105 – Curriculum
3. Policy 204.1 – Virtual Attendance and Wellness Check
4. Policy 249 – Bullying/Cyberbullying
5. Policy 325 – Dress and Grooming (Employees)

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. Kramer, 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 October 19, 2026, Board Agenda for payments made September 2026, in the amounts indicated: (Board Attachment)

General Fund payments in the amount of	$2,627,201.85
Cafeteria Fund payments in the amount of	$99,888.18
Capital Reserve Fund payments in the amount of	$0.00
Debt Service payments in the amount of	$0.00
Construction Fund payments in the amount of	$230,280.00
Flex Spending Payments in the amount of	$1,098.72
Student Activity payments in the amount of	$6,202.07

B. Approved the list of employees authorized to use District issued credit cards per Policy 625 – Credit Cards. (Board Attachment)

C. Approved a musical agreement with Musical Theatre International (MTI) to secure the rights and license for the amateur production of the 2027 Intermediate School Spring Musical in the amount of $988.00. (Board Attachment)
Background: The Intermediate School musical will be performed April 16-17, 2027. The costs have been budgeted.

Superintendent's Report

Principals' – Directors' Reports:

- Mrs. Megan Ressler, Principal Jackson Elementary
  - We celebrated Fire Prevention Week with a special visit from our local firefighters and EMS personnel. A special thank-you to Keystone Fire Company and our local EMS for taking time to visit our school.
  - We will be hosting a Candyland themed Family Math and STEM Night on Thursday, November 5, 2026. A special thank-you to our high school students and staff for letting us repurpose the decorations from this year's Homecoming festivities.
- Mrs. Jodi Houck, Principal, Fort Zeller Elementary
  - We had our first Raider Reader visit on October 1, 2026, which brought our High School students into our building to connect with our students through reading.
  - We kicked off our first Family Groups on October 8, 2026. Students from different grade levels come together to build relationships with students and parents they might not normally interact with.
  - Our Race For Education was held October 9, 2026, which is our biggest fundraiser of the school year.
- Mrs. Mindy Smith, Principal Intermediate School
  - Our first lawn lunch was September 25, 2026.
  - Our 4th graders went to the Renaissance Fair on September 30 , 2026 and I want to thank our PTO for making this trip possible.
  - Madison Balthaser and our FFA students created some fun experiences for our students during AG Education Week.
  - On November 5, 2026, our PTO is hosting a Fall Festival for families. Some activities will include dancing, games, and face painting.
- Mr. Jonathan Treese, Principal Middle School
  - I want to highlight some of the extracurricular activities our students are involved in. Our TSA program is in full swing preparing for regional competition; our Student Council and Aevidum clubs provide recognition and positive climate programming. Our What's So Cool About Manufacturing and Challenge 24 clubs are currently preparing for competitions.
- Mrs. Jennifer Janicelli, Principal High School
  - Our National Honor Society has a project called "Who We Are." This project was planned and coordinated by our NHS members to build a sense of community within the High School. During Advisory last week, every student was given a paper hand and asked to write one interesting fact/quality/characteristic about themselves of which they are proud. These hands will be hung in the hallways to represent "who we are" as a high school community.
- Mrs. Amy Shoemaker, Director of Pupil Services
  - The 2026 Holiday Program is in full swing with Kelly Smith organizing the program. Information about the Holiday Program was sent to all ELCO families so everyone has the opportunity to donate, if they are able, or ask for assistance. Information about the program is located on the front page of the ELCO website.
- Mr. Robert Boltz, Director of Technology
  - A recent review of our E-Rate requests, funding, and out-of-pocket expenditures through the years 2021-2025 showed a budget of $427,353.00, which we utilized all but $152.69, at our eligible 70% discount rate, that secured $299,040.21 in reimbursement.
- Dr. Nell on behalf of Mr. Tommy Mealy, Athletic Director
  - Congratulations to the Girls' Volleyball team for qualifying for the Lancaster-Lebanon League playoffs.
  - Our Cross Country, Girls' Volleyball, and Boys' Soccer have qualified for upcoming District III playoffs.
  - Congratulations to Julia Wenger for being named Lebanon County Athlete of the Week on Friday.

Upcoming Dates/Announcements:
Wednesday, October 28, 2026 – End of 1st Marking Period
Friday, October 30, 2026 – Teacher In-Service Day – NO SCHOOL for students K-12
Monday, November 2, 2026 – 5:00 p.m. – Policy/Curriculum/Personnel Committee Meetings
Monday, November 9, 2026 – 5:30 p.m. – General Services/Finance Committee Mtgs.
November 10, 2026 – 2 Hour Late Start – Students K-12
November 16, 2026 – 6:00 p.m. – Regular Board of Education Voting Meeting

Public Comments – Items On/Off the Agenda

- Bryan Fisher – Thanked the board for approving the EF Educational trip to Paris, France. This will be a great opportunity for the students.

Board Announcements/Comments

- No comments were made.

Old Business

- No Old Business was discussed.

New Business

- CTC Discussion – Mr. Santos, the district's Joint Operating Committee (JOC) representative, requested the Board's guidance regarding the upcoming vote on the Lebanon School District's proposed withdrawal from the Lebanon County Career and Technology Center (CTC). Following discussion, the Board agreed to vote in opposition to the proposed withdrawal.

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 7:13 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lori Mosser
Board Secretary