LITTLEFIELD UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT #9
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING
Administrative Services Site
3490 East Rio Virgin Road
Thursday, October 8, 2026
5:00 P.M.
(Doors Open at 4:45 p.m.)

Mission Statement

The Littlefield Unified School District is committed to excellence. Therefore, we are committed to providing opportunities for all students to learn and develop socially, emotionally, and academically. We are committed to providing resources to our students, parents and teachers in an ongoing effort to help students transition from childhood to adulthood.

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Board President Cobb called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m. There were five (5) people in attendance. Board Secretary Hogan was absent from the meeting.

2. ROLL CALL:

Mark Cobb, Board President
Sean Hogan, Board Secretary
Mike Fagnan, Board Member
Karen Johnson, Board Member
Cathy Wright, Board Member

Troy Heaton, Superintendent/Secondary Principal
Lael Calton, Elementary Principal
Edward Dickie, Business Manager
Sheree Goessman, Human Resources Director

CEREMONIAL ITEMS

3. Pledge of Allegiance: By invitation of Board President.

AGENDA

4. Consideration of approval of the October 8, 2026 LUSD9 Board Meeting agenda.

Board Member Fagnan requested item #17 be postponed to the next meeting including the executive session.

Board President Cobb made a motion to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by Board Member Fagnan. The motion passed unanimously.

Board President Cobb: Yes
Board Member Fagnan: Yes
Board Secretary Hogan: Absent
Board Member Johnson: Yes
Board Member Wright: Yes

PUBLIC COMMENT

At this time, the public may speak to the Governing Board on topics of concern with the public body's jurisdiction, even if the topic is not specifically included on the agenda. The public must state their full name for the record and will be allowed up to three minutes to address the Governing Board. No action will be taken as a result of public comments. The Board expects that citizens who address the board will present concerns regarding the activities in question rather than make personal attacks upon Board Members, District Personnel or other persons in attendance or absent. In addition, questions or comments on matters that are currently under legal review will not be accepted.

5. Public Comment.

Patricia Hoopes reported that the Community Unity meeting was well attended, with 15 people present. Attendees expressed concern for the school and an interest in reestablishing the PTO and a community bulletin board. They felt that sharing more information throughout the community would help generate greater support.

Mrs. Hoopes shared positive feedback about Mr. Heaton's post earlier that day regarding the need to support the football team. The group discussed efforts to promote youth opportunities and the challenges of getting information to the public. Suggestions included sharing information through Virgin Valley News and connecting with Mama B to help spread the word.

Board President Cobb asked when the next meeting would be held. Mrs. Hoopes stated that it would take place at the Scenic Firehouse at 6:00 p.m. on the 21st. The group also discussed school tax credit forms and the need to increase community awareness of this opportunity to support the schools.

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION:

6. Edward Dickie, Business Manager
   a. Student Activity Balance.
   b. Food Service Financial.
   c. Budget Update
   d. Maintenance Quarterly Report
   e. Other

Mr. Dickie distributed the prior years and year-to-date food service reports. He also provided the maintenance report and noted that costs have decreased.

Board President Cobb reported receiving an email indicating that the fire alarm system remains incomplete. Additional verification and inspections need to be coordinated by Rigo.

Board Member Johnson asked whether the District has credit cards. Mr. Heaton confirmed that the District has a credit card account and explained that a purchase order is required before a credit card may be used. Board Member Johnson asked who has cards, when they are used, and whether balances are paid within 30 days. Mr. Heaton identified himself, Beth, Salud, Ed, and Rigo as cardholders.

Board President Cobb asked about donations to food services. Mrs. Goessman reported that $1,300 was received for August and had been applied to student meal accounts, with another $300 expected.

Board Member Johnson asked about the supplies listed on the maintenance report. Mr. Dickie explained that those expenses were purchases made using the Wells Fargo card.

Mrs. Calton asked about the All for Lunch program. Mrs. Goessman stated that funds received the previous month had been applied to outstanding meal balances. Mr. Heaton discussed grants being explored. Mrs. Calton shared that she is reviewing meal debt at the elementary school, including balances for students experiencing homelessness. Mr. Heaton noted that those students' situations are reviewed promptly.

Mr. Heaton reported encouraging parents to complete free and reduced-price meal applications, explaining that the information helps determine Title I funding. Board President Cobb emphasized that individual families' information is confidential.

7. Lael Calton, Elementary Principal
    a. School Update
        i. October 6, 2026 – Fire Prevention Assembly
        ii. October 7, 2026 – Bookmobile
        iii. October 14, 2026 – Parent/Teacher Conferences – Students dismissed at 12:20 pm
        iv. October 26-30, 2026 – Red Ribbon Week
        v. October 28, 2026 – Lifetouch Picture Retakes
        vi. October 28, 2026 @ 2:00 p.m. – Eagles Soar Assembly
        vii. October 29, 2026 – Pop/Pumpkin Run
    b. Other

Mrs. Calton reported that the Eagle SOAR Assembly is scheduled for Friday, October 23; at 2:00 p.m. Students will be recognized for perfect attendance, a 4.0 GPA, and no tardies. A costume parade is scheduled for October 29 at 8:30 a.m.

Mrs. Calton discussed the School Safety Grant, which funds school counselors. Beaver Dam Elementary continues to emphasize being safe, respectful, and responsible. Staff is monitoring attendance with a goal of achieving a 10% improvement. Character education is also a focus, with a goal of reducing office offenses by 10%. All office referrals are documented in Synergy.

Mrs. Calton noted that the dyslexia endorsements require 45 hours each. A request was submitted to Dixie Power to install solar lights on the light poles. She also reported that a local contributor donated $15,000 to the elementary school two years ago and designated how the

money should be spent. Those funds were placed in an auxiliary account.

Mrs. Calton commended Susan Potter for her work as the reading interventionist, including monitoring data and helping students' progress toward academic success. Most students are currently demonstrating the desired growth trajectories. Data collection should be completed by the end of December, with results available for presentation in January.

Mrs. Calton also recognized Shelly Brown for spending the summer locating and organizing all components of the Wonders Program for teachers.

Canyonlands visited the school to provide maturation presentations to fifth- and sixth-grade students. Beaver Dam Elementary received an excellent health inspection score from the county health department. Mrs. Colton emphasized the need for volunteers to assist the librarian on Fridays.

Board President Cobb asked whether improvements were being seen now that everyone was on board. Mrs. Calton responded that teachers were implementing the expected practices, with some staff also trying additional strategies. She emphasized that strengthening classroom management remains a priority.

Board President Cobb asked about staff morale. Mr. Heaton reported receiving several comments about how smoothly the school year is progressing. Mrs. Calton encouraged Board members to visit the elementary school and speak with teachers.

When Board President Cobb asked what support she needed from the Board, Mrs. Calton reiterated the need for volunteers and expressed appreciation for the Board's support. She also expressed appreciation for the open-door policy and welcomed feedback about concerns or comments circulating in the community.

8. Troy Heaton, Superintendent/Secondary Principal
    a. School Update.
        i. October 1, 2026 – Parent/Teacher Conferences 1:00 pm-6:00 pm – Students dismissed at 12:25 p.m.
        ii. October 7, 2026 – Bookmobile – 7:15 am – 8:00 am
        iii. October 15, 2026 – Great Arizona Shakeout
        iv. October 16, 2026 – 8 Interact students field trip – Desert Rose Food Bank
        v. October 20, 2026 – Seniors Field Trip to Career Fair at VVHS
        vi. October 31, 2026 – Interact students helping at Beaver Dam's Trunk or Treat
    b. Other.

Mr. Heaton reviewed upcoming events and reported that parent-teacher conferences were successful. Parents of students receiving D's and F's were contacted, resulting in approximately five times the parent participation seen in previous years. Title funding was also discussed.

Mr. Heaton noted that students' Education and Career Action Plans (ECAPs) must be completed and uploaded to the state. He also reported that a Halloween carnival is planned.

Mr. Heaton discussed challenges with the football program, including players leaving the team and injuries. He sent a notification to parents emphasizing the importance of interscholastic sports. The school also plans to hold pep rallies during the school day. Mr. Heaton noted that canceling at least two games could result in the NIAA removing the team from the scheduling rotation.

Mr. Heaton emphasized the importance of the after-school activity bus, noting that many students are home without adult supervision after school and that the district's sports programs depend on the transportation provided.

Board President Cobb asked whether the district has an athletic director. Mr. Heaton confirmed that Mr. Briggs serves in that role. Board President Cobb suggested that the athletic director speak with those involved to determine what is contributing to the challenges.

9. Board Reports.
   a. Other

Board Member Fagnan reported that a gentleman had contacted him requesting a meeting regarding the reading volunteers. The gentleman expressed concern that volunteers had arrived to help but had not received sufficient guidance. He is a former superintendent from California and offered to assist the district in any way he could. Board Member Fagnan suggested that volunteers who have already been cleared could also assist the librarian.

Mr. Heaton stated that he had met with a gentleman who was interested in fundraising rather than volunteering. Board Member Fagnan clarified that he was referring to a different individual.

Board Member Johnson reported that she had spoken to a volunteer at the elementary school who was also concerned about the lack of organization. The woman indicated that a plan was supposed to have been developed but had not yet been completed.

Mr. Heaton offered to meet with the volunteers to discuss their concerns. He noted that during the last two or three visits, volunteers had worked individually with students on reading.

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of Routine Orders of Business. Documentation concerning the matters on the Consent Agenda may be reviewed at the Littlefield Unified School District Office, located at 3490 East Rio Virgin Road, Beaver Dam, Arizona. Any Board Member may request an item be pulled off the agenda for further discussion.

Board Member Johnson asked about pursuing another grant following the loss of the COPS grant. Mr. Heaton reported that Mrs. Brown is pursuing a grant that includes playground shade structures and protective window coverings. Because the grant is limited to one location, the district plans to apply for the elementary school.

Board Member Johnson asked whether the HVAC project remained on schedule for winter break. Mr. Heaton confirmed that it did.

Board President Cobb reported receiving a cancellation notice for the School Facilities Board site

visit.

Board Member Fagnan moved to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Board Member Johnson. The motion passed unanimously.

Board President Cobb: Yes
Board Member Fagnan: Yes
Board Secretary Hogan: Absent
Board Member Johnson: Yes
Board Member Wright: Yes

10. Consideration of approval of the September 17, 2026, Regular Governing Board Meeting Minutes.

11. Consideration of approval of Vouchers and Stipends:
    a. LUSD9 Payroll Vouchers: 07/2707.
    b. LUSD9 Payables Vouchers: 2755 and 2756.
    c. Stipends – None
    d. Deposits Over 30 Days - None

    (Members of the public may view the content of the vouchers 24 hours prior to the board meeting in the district office.)

12. Consideration of approval of the following staff resignations, retirements, and terminations:

Name	Position	Effective Date
Andrus, Sandra	Elementary SPED Teacher	09/16/2026

13. Consideration of approval of the FY 2026/2027 Certified and Classified Personnel as outlined in the attached list:

NAME	POSITION	EFFECTIVE DATE
Barber, Wendy	Substitute Bus Driver (Revision)	09/28/2026
Eggleston, James	Assistant Football Coach	08/27/2026
Garcia, Madison	JRHS Boys Basketball Coach	11/01/2026
Yssel, Florence	Elementary SPED Teacher	09/17/22026

14. Consideration of Revised 2026/2027 Stipend List.

15. Consideration of Revised Littlefield Organization Chart.

16. Consideration of approval of donations received by the District per Policy KCD.
    a. Joyce Fisher- $300 to Beaver Dam Elementary School
    b. Mesquite United Methodist Church- clothing to Beaver Dam Elementary School.
    c. All for Lunch and Lunch for All- $1,285.20 to lunch accounts
    d. Panda Express - $208.15 Student Educational Trip.
    e. Mesquite Elks Lodge 2811 - $1200 for basketball.

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f. Kids for Sports - $25 for Pay for Play for Football
g. Kids for Sports - $2700 for Football
h. Kroeger Inspiring Donations - $155.39 for both schools

ACTION ITEMS AND/OR DISCUSSION

17. Consideration of approval of a request by Sandra Andrus to waive the liquidated damages fee of $1,000 per the Certified Teacher Contract.
    - The Employee may request this item be discussed in Executive Session pursuant to ARS §38-431.03(A)(1).

Removed from the agenda.

18. Discussion and possible approval of the Pay for Performance Plan (301 Classroom Site Funds) for FY 2026-2027.

Mr. Heaton reported that teachers at both the high school and elementary school unanimously approved the proposed Classroom Site Fund Plan. Elementary teachers raised several questions, which were discussed at a meeting. Mr. Heaton stated that he met with Mr. Murray from the county before this was voted on.

Mr. Heaton explained that the fund balance had grown because expenditures for a teacher's salary had not been charged to the fund for two years, resulting in carryover exceeding the customary 20%. He stated that maintaining at least a 20% annual carryover is necessary to keep the fund viable. A portion of the approximately $705,000 balance has already been budgeted, including approximately $170,000 for class-size reduction to avoid a reduction in force this year.

Mr. Heaton explained that there is some flexibility in the plan's percentages. The National Board Certification component was removed, and those funds were shifted to the base salary enhancement, increasing it to $8,055.

Board Member Johnson asked for clarification, stating that she understood a potential reduction in force would occur next year rather than this year. Mr. Heaton explained that the district needed to offset $170,167 in lost revenue this year and might address the shortfall next year through the levy. He also expressed hope that improvements in student achievement would encourage students to return to the district.

Board Member Johnson asked about the $18.75 hourly compensation for teachers providing coverage when a substitute is unavailable. Mr. Heaton stated that the issue had been addressed. Although teachers initially requested that the compensation come from another fund, no other funding source was available. Mrs. Goessman advised that substitute teachers are paid $150 per day, equivalent to $18.75 per hour for an eight-hour workday.

Board Member Fagnan made a motion to approve the Classroom Site Fund Plan, seconded by Board President Cobb. The motion passed unanimously.

Board President Cobb: Yes
Board Member Fagnan: Yes

Board Secretary Hogan: Absent
Board Member Johnson: Yes
Board Member Wright: Yes

19. Consideration of approval of resignation of Board Member Sean Hogan.

Board President Cobb reported that Sean Hogan had submitted his resignation and expressed appreciation for his service to the district. He then asked whether Mr. Hogan would continue his involvement with the car club, and Mr. Heaton confirmed that he would.

Board Member Fagnan moved to accept Sean Hogan's resignation, seconded by Board Member Johnson. The motion passed unanimously.

Board President Cobb: Yes
Board Member Fagnan: Yes
Board Secretary Hogan: Absent
Board Member Johnson: Yes
Board Member Wright: Yes

20. Consideration of second reading and adoption of Policy Advisory #1067-#1068.
    a. Policy BCB: Board Member Conflict of Interest
    b. Policy GBEAA: Conflict of Interest

Board Member Fagnan made a motion to approve Policy Advisory #1067-#1068, seconded by Board President Cobb. The motion passed unanimously.

Board President Cobb: Yes
Board Member Fagnan: Yes
Board Secretary Hogan: Absent
Board Member Johnson: Yes
Board Member Wright: Yes

21. Consideration of approval of the Annual Financial Report for FY 2026.

Mr. Heaton explained that this is an annual requirement and that the report is due to the State Auditor's Office.

Board Member Johnson asked who Kathy Scroggins is. Mr. Heaton explained that she is the district's contracted educational psychologist and conducts student evaluations as part of the special education evaluation process.

Board Member Johnson also asked about who Kelly Gardner is. Mr. Heaton explained that Mike Murray recommended her to assist Mr. Dickie with coding issues and reimbursement requests.

Board Member Johnson asked whether general supplies typically include office supplies, noting that some expenditures were for food. Board President Cobb asked whether the district pays for coaches' meals when they accompany students. Mr. Heaton stated that the budget does not cover coaches' meals. He added that coaches notify the district when a student has a significant

need.

Board Member Fagnan moved to approve the Annual Financial Report for FY 2026, seconded by Board Member Johnson. The motion passed unanimously.

Board President Cobb: Yes
Board Member Fagnan: Yes
Board Secretary Hogan: Absent
Board Member Johnson: Yes
Board Member Wright: Yes

22. Consideration of first reading of policy advisory #1069.

    a. Policy KI: Visitors to Schools

Board Member Johnson made a motion to approve the first reading of policy advisory #1069, seconded by Board President Cobb. The motion passed unanimously.

Board President Cobb: Yes
Board Member Fagnan: Yes
Board Secretary Hogan: Absent
Board Member Johnson: Yes
Board Member Wright: Yes

23. Discussion regarding the Governing Board Self Evaluation per Policy BAA.

Mrs. Goessman advised that the evaluation is conducted annually and that she would distribute it through Google Forms.

24. Discussion regarding the Superintendent Annual Evaluation per Policy CBI.

Mrs. Goessman advised that the evaluation is conducted annually and that she would distribute it through Google Forms.

25. Discussion regarding possible ASBA Training and Dates.

The Board discussed postponing the training sessions until January.

26. Suggestions for Future Board Meetings.

- Discussion and approval of Governing Board Self Evaluation
- Discussion and approval of Superintendent Evaluation with possible executive session.
- Job Descriptions

Board Member Wright suggested having students in Junior High School also do a career day.

INFORMATION ITEMS

27. News articles about the schools.

28. Upcoming Governing Board Conferences:

    a. Webinar – I Won My Election! Now What? – November 17, 2026 (5:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.)
    b. 2026 ASBA/ASA Annual Conference – December 16-18, 2026 at Westin Kierland Resort & Spa in Scottsdale, AZ.

29. Policy Advisory #1069 Regulations & Exhibits:
    a. Delete Regulation KI-R – Visitors to Schools
    b. Exhibit KI-E – Visitors to Schools

30. School Calendar 2026/2027

31. Football Schedule

32. Volleyball Schedule

33. Next Meeting – November 12, 2026.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (For Item #17)

The Board may move to discuss items in an Executive Session pursuant to ARS §38-431.03 (A)(1), (3) and (4), which authorizes discussion and consideration of employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, dismissal, salaries, disciplining or resignation of a public officer, appointee or employee of the District.

a) Call to Order

b) Confidentiality Statement: All persons present are hereby reminded that it is unlawful to disclose or otherwise divulge to any person who is not now present, other than a current member of the Board, anything that has transpired or has been discussed during this executive session. To do so is a violation of ARS 38-431.03 unless pursuant to a specific statutory exception.

c) The Governing Board will discuss the request to waive the liquidated damages per the Certified Teacher Contract.

d) Adjourn Executive Session and reconvene regular meeting. (This motion must be done in Open Meeting).

ADJOURNMENT

Board Member Fagnan made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Board Member Wright. The motion passed unanimously.

Board President Cobb: Yes
Board Member Fagnan: Yes
Board Secretary Hogan: Absent
Board Member Johnson: Yes

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Board Member Wright: Yes

The meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

_____
Mark Cobb, Governing Board President

_____
Troy Heaton, Superintendent

Respectfully Submitted by:

_____
Sheree Goessman
Human Resources Director

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