

**LAKE-LEHMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

April 20, 2026

The combined Committee-of-the-Whole and regular monthly meeting for voting purposes of the Lake-Lehman Board of School Directors was held on Monday, April 20, 2026, in the auditorium of the Lake-Lehman Junior-Senior High School.

The meeting was called to order by President, Bob Wright, at 7:10 p.m., and opened with Roll Call, Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

DIRECTORS

Robert Baran	Present
Sarah Saylor Kashatus	Present
Christine Napierkowski	Present
Drew Salko	Present
Jean Sayre	Present
Mark Wallace	Present
Scott Walsh	Present
Robert Wojtowicz	Present
Robert Wright	Present

ROLL CALL

Others Present:

James E. McGovern, Superintendent
Mary Jo Casaldi, Superintendent's Administrative Asst./Board Secretary
Avery Smith, Esq., District Solicitor
Joseph Caputo, Business Consultant
Tabitha Miscavage Spagnuolo, Personnel Benefits Coordinator/Lehman-Jackson Elem. Principal
Matthew Nonnenberg, Junior-Senior High School Principal
Donald James, District Principal
Mike Kostrobala, Ross Elementary Principal
Doug Klopp, Lake-Noxen Elementary Principal
Lori Bednarek, Special Projects Coordinator
Brian Murphy, Technology Coordinator
Tina Antonello, Special Education Director
Erica Orock, School Psychologist
Brady Butler, Director of Buildings and Grounds

Cheryl Kulikowski	Arthur Price	Scott Price	Jon M. Weber
David Fedor	Anna Fedor	Amanda Shipula	Jen Ferkel
Alex Smith	Wilson Family	Courtney Judge	Keith Yanuzzi
Jan Yanuzzi	Anita Koziol	Bill Nafus	Mary Nafus
Melissa M. Saxon	Paul Saxon	Maureen Doerfler	John Doerfler
Dianne Suchudolski	Cheryl Fife	Jackson Fife	James Fife
Joe Tomasino	Joann Tomasino	Stephen Martin	Olivia Oliver
Gail Honeywell	Olivia Corcoran	Sophia Tomasino	Reese Jenkins
Campbell Yanuzzi	Grace Martin	Jennifer Shepherd	Jen Runquist
Tina Pinkney	Amanda Noto	Gina Major	Kaitlyn Marx
Christopher Jon Yetter	Mindi Deiter	Zeke Deiter	

EXECUTIVE SESSION An Executive Session of the Board was held on Monday, April 20, 2026 to discuss:

- A. Coaching/extra-curricular appointments/potential openings
- B. LLEA/LLESPA Grievances
- C. Security Contracts
- D. Support Staff openings and contract adjustments
- E. Personnel - retirements

READING OF MISSION

Mr. McGovern read the Mission of the Lake-Lehman School District.

“The Mission of the Lake-Lehman School District is to inspire students to achieve personal fulfillment through the context of community, independence, generosity and mastery within a safe learning environment.”

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Mr. McGovern, provided a report on the following:

- Kindergarten Registration information can be found on the district website under the Parent Tab.
- Mr. McGovern explained the updates and revisions to Board Policies listed on the agenda for adoption.
- Cast members from the Lake-Lehman Theatre Troupe entertained with musical selections from the Spring production of “You’re a Good Man Charlie Brown” held this past weekend.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS REPORT

Mr. Brady Butler, Buildings and Grounds Director, reported on the following:

- Press Box: The maintenance department has started painting the press box at the stadium and hope to complete the project within the next couple of weeks; weather permitting.
- Ross Carpet Replacement Project: Advertisements have been posted for the Ross Carpet Replacement Project. Bids will be publicly opened at the Junior-Senior High School on May 6th.
- Underground Storage Tank Removal: During the month of June, contractors will be working on the installation of the new generator at the Jr/Sr High School, as well as the removal of all three underground storage tanks located at Lake-Noxen, Lehman-Jackson, and the Jr/Sr High School. Please be aware during this time as you travel throughout the schools, larger vehicles and equipment will be on the campuses especially near the vicinity of the baseball field along Knight Drive. This area will have most of the construction activities taking place.
- School District Paving Project: On the agenda this evening is a recommended action item authorizing Administration to advertise for Bids concerning the Lake-Lehman School District Paving Project. This project is set to be funded by a grant obtained through the Department of Community and Economic Development and will be broken down into multiple line items based on location and scope of work. Some areas such as Parking Lot C and Knight Drive require maintenance, which includes partial milling and paving/sealing of larger voids, as well as filling and resealing minor cracks. Areas such as the entrance to Milauskas Way, areas of Lehman-Jackson’s front and rear parking lots, and existing gravel lots will require complete removal of existing pavement, grading the subsurface, and repaving to PennDOT specifications.

- **School District Vestibule Upgrade Projects:** At the Jr/Sr High School, a meeting was held on site last week to develop a punch list to complete for the vestibule to be re-opened. The anticipated date for re-opening is May 4th. At Lake-Noxen, the doors leading to the stairwell and carpeting were delivered. Due to the invasiveness of the project in the office area, it's intended that the final stages of this project will be completed during the summer months. Material orders have been underway for the Ross and Lehman-Jackson Projects, and we have received no word on any delays thus far. We appreciate the patience and cooperation with the staff, parents, and students throughout this process.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORTS

Lehman-Jackson Elementary: Ms. Miscavage Spagnuolo, Principal, reported on the following:

- PE Teacher, Ms. Miner hosted the "Learnin' the Ropes 2026 Jump Off Jump Rope Competition" for any interested students. The competition has participants from 47 states and 10 countries participating in a variety of different jump rope events. This year, Lehman-Jackson had two students who placed in the top 5 for their events.
- On April 10th, the PTO hosted the "I Love to Read" assembly. The program combined magic and humor with lessons about types of writing, the core elements of fiction writing, and stressed the value of reading in our lives.
- On Friday, April 17th Lehman-Jackson celebrated Earth Day with PTO sponsored activities which included a recycling relay, scavenger hunt on the nature trail, painted canvas bags and sidewalk chalk. To cap off the day, the PA Game Commission presented an assembly about black bears.

Ross Elementary: Mr. Kostrobala, Principal, reported on the following:

- The PTO and Ross worked together to put on several activities for our students this month. On March 18th, the Bloomsburg Theatre Ensemble came to Ross to put on the play Benjamin Franklin.
- On April 1st, the PTO hosted an egg hunt on the playground for all students.
- On April 7th, students enjoyed a school wide trip to the historic Dietrich Theatre to see Zootopia 2. Each student received popcorn and drink for the show.
- On April 17th, Ross Elementary hosted the spring 5th and 6th grade dance. Mr. Kostrobala thanked the PTO for sponsoring all of these events.
- Mrs. Miner held a jump rope competition in PE class. The winners of each age group were submitted to the national 2026 World-Wide School Jump Off. Out of 414 submissions, Ross Elementary had one student who came in 4th place with 94 single jumps in 30 seconds.
- Mrs. Ferkel and Mrs. Shipula provided details and information in regard to the annual U-Knighted Knight Out event to be held on Saturday, May 2, 2026 and thanked Mr. Nonnenberg and Mrs. Bednarek for their support.

Lake-Noxen Elementary: Mr. Klopp, Principal, reported on the following:

- The Bloomsburg Theater Ensemble recently performed *The Amazing Mr. Franklin* for Lake-Noxen students. The event was sponsored by the Lake-Noxen PTO.
- Lake-Noxen students proudly displayed projects that highlighted their individual interests at the Lake-Noxen Academic Fair and Art Show held recently. Projects included science experiments featuring volcanos and potato light bulbs to presentations about Alexander Hamilton and the history of cheerleading. In addition to individual projects, several class projects were showcased including the second grade - *Building a City* display, the fourth grade - Pennsylvania floats, and the fifth grade - creative biology bottle people. Every student also had artwork displayed throughout the lobby filling the space with color and creativity. Many families were present making for a great opportunity to connect and celebrate our students. Each Homeroom or grade level contributed a basket for the raffle. A 50/50 drawing was also held to help raise funds for the building trip to the Dietrich Theater on June 2nd.

Junior-Senior High School: Mr. Matt Nonnenberg, Principal, reported on the following:

- Mrs. Gail Honeywell, Interact Club Advisor and Mr. John Doerfler, Dallas Rotary Club, were invited to the podium to share a few words about the Lake-Lehman Interact Club, The Interact Club, celebrating its 10th year at the JSHS, was initiated by the Dallas Rotary Club. Mrs. Honeywell was presented with a certificate, celebrating the club's commitment and service to the Lake-Lehman School District and Community.
- Mrs. Katrina Joyce and Mr. Jason Field, Speech and Debate Team Advisors, recognized student's Benjamin Figura and Evie Reynolds for outstanding achievements in Speech and Debate. Benjamin will represent Lake-Lehman at the National Catholic Forensic League's 2026 Grand National Tournament held in Washington, DC, and Evie competed in Dramatic Performance at the first-ever Middle School National Tournament held recently.
- Mrs. Cheryl Kulikowski, Band Director acknowledged Benjamin Figura for being awarded WVIA's Artist of the Week and Natalie Fedor who has been inducted into the PMEA All-State Concert Band. Natalie entertained with a musical selection on the flute.
- Mr. Jon Weber, substitute teacher for gifted students, shared some exciting accomplishments and present certificates to the following gifted students who recently competed in Science Olympiad. Robert Gregor & Julianne Judge-2nd Place-Anatomy & Physiology Division C, Adelyn Kalinay & Cadence Stanley-2nd Place-Write It, Do It Division B and Ezekiel Deiter & Andrew Chapple-5th Place-Helicopter Division C.
- Students in Mr. Ron Kirkutis, Earth and Space and Environmental Science Class, participated in the UGI Energy *Innovation Challenge Contest*. Students had to use their talents to show energy efficiency in and around their homes. Out of 776 students participating in the program, 51 teams submitted an entry. Lake-Lehman students Kate Hynick and Finn Cronin, were awarded the grand prize and Mr. Kirkutis received a \$500 educational grant.
- March Students of the Month and Teacher of the Month will celebrate with a Pizza Party in the Library and will also receive a VIP parking spot with a custom name plate, assigning their parking spots!

Mr. Mark Major - Career Advisor Corner:

- Students attended a performance of the play *Little Women* presented by the Bloomsburg Theater Ensemble and participated in a Q&A with actors and theatre personnel.
- A final College Fair was held with 14 colleges participating. Students were able to explore collegiate options.
- A personal meeting was set up with the Pennsylvania Game Commission's Northeast Regional Director and a student who is considering a career as a Food and Cover Specialist. The student was able to learn more about the profession and opportunities that are available.
- Lake-Lehman's ongoing partnership with Junior Achievement afforded us an opportunity to involve the following companies to present, and discuss their professions, career options and possible prospects with our students. There was also a follow-up with tables for the businesses/vendors to provide students with more materials and for students to further discuss career opportunities. • Geisinger • Williams Power and Energy • Building Blocks were there. This event has also inspired an upcoming field trip with Williams Power who invited our students to come and see their operation.
- Mission Academy is nearing the end of another very successful year. Final points were due April 13th and we will be planning the End-Of-The Year Ceremony.

BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Caputo provided a report on the budget.

WEST SIDE AREA CAREER AND TECHNICAL CENTER REPORT

Mr. Salko reported on highlights from the February 21, 2026 meeting of the WSCTC Joint Operating Committee.

LUZERNE COUNTY INTERMEDIATE UNIT REPORT

Mr. Walsh reported on highlights of the February 25, 2026 meeting of the Luzerne Intermediate Unit Board of Directors.

STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT

Jules Judge, Vice President, provided a report on Student Council activities.

- Final dress down days planned will help fund 20 Book Scholarships for seniors, which will be given out on Moving-Up Day.
- A donation of needed items was provided to Ruth's Place using money from our previous bake sale.
- Fundraisers and other activities are planned for May which include a bake sale planned for May 20th and Spirit Day, scheduled for May 1st.
- This month's theme is Hawaiian, and we are asking students to dress in their best Hawaiian attire. Those who do will be eligible for our May giveaway. We are also hoping to host a Summer Olympics assembly near the end of May to give our fellow students a break after weeks of stressful testing. We are looking forward to ending the year on a successful note for our club!

FOOD SERVICE

Monthly Food Service Report emailed to Board members.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mr. McGovern reviewed and read the agenda and addendum items.

Mr. Wright noted the agenda is approved as read and amended.

VISITORS – Comments relative to approval of Minutes, treasurer’s report, payment of bills, and ACTION ITEMS.

Alex Smith, junior student, expressed his gratitude and appreciation of Coach Yankoski.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Mrs. Sayre, seconded by Mr. Baran, to approve the following minutes.

March 16, 2026 - regular monthly meeting

Vote: Upon roll call, all members present voted yes; motion carried.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Motion was made by Mr. Walsh, seconded by Mr. Salko, to approve the Fund Accounting Payment Summary with payment date listed as April 21, 2026, in the amount of \$457,969.07 and interim payments dated March 20, 2026, in the amount of \$142,472.66, April 2, 2026 in the amount of \$156,111.30 and April 17, 2026, in the amount of \$136,869.61; subject to audit.

Vote: Upon roll call, all directors present voted yes; motion carried.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Motion was made by Mr. Baran, seconded by Mr. Wojtowicz, to approve the treasurer’s report as of March 31, 2026.

Vote: Upon roll call, all directors present voted yes; motion carried.

ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF FINANCIAL REPORTS AND FILE FOR AUDIT

(Attached to Treasurer’s Report)

Balances as of February 28, 2026

- Lake-Noxen Activity Fund

Balances as of March 31, 2026

- Athletic Fund
- Food Service
- Jr/Sr High School Activity Fund
- Jr/Sr High School Principal’s Fund

- Ross Activity Fund
- Lehman-Jackson Activity Fund
- Lake-Noxen Activity Fund

ACTION ITEMS

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

Motion was made by Mrs. Kashatus, seconded by Mr. Wojtowicz, to move on the following items:

1. Accept, with regret, the letter of retirement for Scott Kerkowski, Chemistry Teacher, effective June 30, 2026, and authorize administration to advertise for the position.

Vote: Upon roll call, all members present voted yes; motion carried.

2. Accept, with regret, the letter of retirement for Anita Kerkowski, English Language Arts Teacher, effective September 7, 2026, and authorize administration to advertise for the position.

Vote: Upon roll call, all members present voted yes; motion carried.

3. Approve the following leave of absence:

	Employee	Dates of Absence	Type
A.	#2195	March 18, 2026 - TBD	Sick Days

Vote: Upon roll call, all members present voted yes; motion carried.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

Motion was made by Mrs. Sayre, seconded by Mr. Walsh, to move on the following item:

1. Authorize administration to advertise for Bid for the Lake-Lehman School District Paving Project. A project description and scope of work will be provided upon request.

Vote: Upon roll call, all members present voted yes; motion carried.

ATHLETICS & ACTIVITIES

Motion was made by Mr. Wallace, seconded by Mrs. Christine Napierkowski to move on the following items:

1. Appoint Joseph Yankoski of Dallas, as Head Boys Basketball Coach for the 2026-2027 season at a stipend of \$8,182.62. All clearances on file.

Vote: Upon roll call, all members present voted yes; motion carried.

2. Appoint the following Assistant Coaches/ Extra-Curricular Advisors for the 2025-2026 school year, all clearances on file:

A	Kieran Sutton	Track & Field	Volunteer
B	Floyd McRoy	Track & Field	Volunteer

Vote: Upon roll call, all members present voted yes; motion carried.

3. Approve the following as School & Booster Volunteers for the 2025-2026 school year; all clearances on file:

A	Erica Berrettini	G	Cecelia Jennings
B	Heidi Ciaglia	H	Nicholas Lermite
C	Cami Coburn	I	Caitlyn Raczkowski
D	Megan Donaldson	J	Melissa Simms
E	Molly Fielding	K	Kristin Stuffick
F	Maurissa Hallock	L.	Lindsey Blechle

Vote: Upon roll call, all members present voted yes; motion carried.

TRANSPORTATION

No items.

SUPPORT SERVICES

Motion was made by Mr. Wojtowicz, seconded by Mrs. Sayre, to move on the following items:

1. Approve the following leave of absence, in accordance with the Family Medical Leave Act; not to exceed 60 days:

	Employee	Dates of Absence	Type
A.	#3706	March 31 – April 14, 2026	Sick, Personal & Unpaid Days

Vote: Upon roll call, all members present voted yes; motion carried.

2. Approve the salary adjustment for employee #3683 in accordance with the Lake-Lehman Educational Support Personnel Association Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective March 1, 2026.

Vote: Upon roll call, all members present voted yes; motion carried.

SCHOOL BOARD

Motion was made by Mr. Salko, seconded by Mr. Wojtowicz, to move on the following items:

1. Approve the lease agreement with American Capital for the purchase of 825 new chromebooks from Dell Technologies, to replace existing chromebooks for all students in grades K-6 at a total cost of \$255,288. Price is in accordance with Costars Purchasing Agreement.

Vote: Upon roll call, all members present voted yes; motion carried.

2. Approve the second reading and adopt the following revised Board Policies and Administrative Regulation.

A.	Policy: 236.1 Threat Assessment
B.	Policy: 805.1 Relations with Law Enforcement Agencies
C.	Policy 218.1 Weapons
D.	Policy: 218.1-AR-0 Weapons Notification to Appropriate Population of School Community

Vote: Upon roll call, all members present voted yes; motion carried.

3. Approve the addendum to the Memorandum of Understanding between Lake-Lehman School District and Lehman Township Police Department in order to comply with Act 47 of 2025 with respect to procedures for timely coordination between the school district's threat assessment team and law enforcement agencies, pursuant to 24 P.S. § 13-1302-E.

Vote: Upon roll call, all members present voted yes; motion carried.

4. Approve the addendum to the Memorandum of Understanding between Lake-Lehman School District and Harveys Lake Police Department in order to comply with Act 47 of 2025 with respect to procedures for timely coordination between the school district's threat assessment team and law enforcement agencies, pursuant to 24 P.S. § 13-1302-E.

Vote: Upon roll call, all members present voted yes; motion carried.

5. Approve the addendum to the Memorandum of Understanding between Lake-Lehman School District and Pennsylvania State Police Shickshinny in order to comply with Act 47 of 2025 with respect to procedures for timely coordination between the school district's threat assessment team and law enforcement agencies, pursuant to 24 P.S. § 13-1302-E.

Vote: Upon roll call, all members present voted yes; motion carried.

6. Adopt the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lake-Lehman School District of Luzerne County hereby requests a Public School Facility Improvement grant of \$2,392,678.00 from the Commonwealth Financing Authority to be used for Facility Upgrades.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Applicant does hereby designate James E. McGovern, Superintendent and Lori Bednarek, Program Coordinator as the official(s) to execute all documents and agreements between the Lake-Lehman School District and the Commonwealth Financing Authority to facilitate and assist in obtaining the requested grant.

Vote: Upon roll call, all members present voted yes; motion carried.

7. Approve the Memorandum of Understanding by and between the Lake-Lehman Educational Support Personnel Association and the Lake-Lehman School District, effective July 1, 2026.

Vote: Upon roll call, all members present voted yes; motion carried.

8. Authorize administration to open and advertise the position of Benefits/Personnel Manager.

Vote: Upon roll call, all members present voted yes; motion carried.

9. Exonerate Gayle A. Patla of Ross Township, from payment of all real estate taxes which apply to the property listed on the Exemption Certificate, as determined by the Pennsylvania State Veteran's Commission for Real Estate Tax Exemption, Department of Military and Veterans Affairs.

Vote: Upon roll call, all members present voted yes; motion carried.

- 10. Approve the Application for Use of Facilities submitted by Sara Myers, BRAVE Foundation, for use of the stadium turf and one (1) new turf field for a Field Hockey Tournament to be held on July 22nd and July 23, 2026 from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

Vote: Upon roll call, all members present voted yes; motion carried.

- 11. Approve the Application for Use of Facilities submitted by Kate Lavin, Harveys Lake Little League, for use of the grass softball field for Little League 10u practice, from March through June from 5:30 p.m. until 7:00 p.m., upon availability.

Vote: Upon roll call, all members present voted yes; motion carried.

- 12. Approve the following reimbursement(s) due to increased prescription co-pays, effective July 1, 2017, as outlined in the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Lake-Lehman School District and the Lake-Lehman Educational Support Personnel Association:

A	Employee #1403	\$20.00
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Vote: Upon roll call, all members present voted yes; motion carried.

- 13. Accept the Single Audit Report for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2025, as prepared by Rainey & Rainey CPA's.

Vote: Upon roll call, all members present voted yes; motion carried.

INFORMATION AND RECOGNITION

Mr. Wright noted that all informational items are as listed.

BOARD DISCUSSION FOR FUTURE BUSINESS

None.

SET MEETING DATES

Mr. Wright read the following meeting information:

The combined Committee-of-the-Whole and regular monthly meeting for voting purposes has been scheduled for Monday, May 18, 2026, at 7:00 p.m., and will be held in the auditorium of the Lake-Lehman Junior-Senior High School.

VISITORS

No comments.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Wright called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Baran motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Wojtowicz. Mr. Wright adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Non-Member, Board Secretary
Mary Jo Casaldi