LAKE-LEHMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING MINUTES

October 19, 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, October 19, 2026, in the auditorium of the Lake-Lehman Junior-Senior High School.

The meeting was called to order by President, Bob Wright, at 7:05 p.m., and opened with Roll Call, Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

DIRECTORS	ROLL CALL
Robert Baran	Absent
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

Others Present:
James E. McGovern, Superintendent
Tracey Liparela, Assistant to the Superintendent
Mary Jo Casaldi, Superintendent's Administrative Asst./Board Secretary
Avery Smith, Esq., District Solicitor
Tabitha Miscavage Spagnuolo, Lehman-Jackson Elementary Principal/Personnel and Benefits Coordinator
Donald James, Administrator
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
Brady Butler, Director of Buildings and Grounds

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Scott Price	Courtney Judge	Gina Major	Katie Laudenslager
Amy Blaski	Mark Major	Brenda M.	Elizabeth G. Morgan
Lily P.			

EXECUTIVE SESSION(S) An Executive Session of the Board was held on Monday, October 19, 2026 to discuss:

A. Coaching/extra-curricular appointments/potential openings
B. Support Staff openings
C. Personnel
D. Professional Staff openings
E. Grievances

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

The Superintendent's report included the following:

- Mr. McGovern announced this year's annual 6th Grade Holiday Card Contest theme: "Christmas Gone Wrong." Contest winners will be acknowledged and winning entries will be displayed at the December 14th School Board Meeting.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS REPORT

Mr. Butler's report included the following:

- Mr. Butler reported that the past month has been a transition period for his crew as students and staff settle in. We've been taking care of issues that are submitted through the repair request email. Whether it be stinging insects, a leaky pipe, or something needed to be hung on a concrete wall; tasks have been divided out each day and something new always arises.

- The Building & Grounds crew worked with Mrs. Koziol, Mrs. Williams, Mr. Klopp, and the staff at Lake-Noxen to complete a project on transitioning an area for a native pollinator habitat.

- The last remaining project from this summer has been completed. The Lehman-Jackson HVAC project was the last capital improvement project from the summer and the boilers were commissioned this past week. The new upgrades will increase the efficiency and decrease the overall time and maintenance costs that were required in the past due to the outdated system. This new project has also created a major cost savings in energy consumption.

- Mr. Butler announced that he is currently working on a maintenance and facility plan, both short term and long for each campus and building. I have reached out to request a few proposals and cost estimates for projects involving the waste water treatment plant, the Ross Elementary roof, and kitchen equipment as they appear to be some of the areas that would require the most immediate attention and are the more costly potential projects.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORTS

Junior-Senior High School: In the absence of Mr. Nonnenberg, Mr. James reported on the following:

- Congratulations to Mrs. Woronko for being selected once again by readers of MyDallasPost and the Times Leader as the winner in the 2026 Best of the Back Mountain - Best High School Teacher! This is quite a recognition and we are proud to say she has earned this award 2 years in a row!

- Our Mystery Singers for the month of September were Mr. Major and Mrs. Liparela! They sang "Ain't No Mountain High Enough" by Marvin Gaye and Tammi Terrell. They did a phenomenal job! Mrs. Hettes' class guessed the singers and each student won candy from Mr. James's Candy Cart.

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- Mr. Major's Career Advisor Corner:

  - Career Fairs, Colleges, Universities, Military Etc.: The following groups visited the school recently:

    - US Navy
    - Misericordia
    - Kutztown
    - Elizabethtown

  - Each One Teach One: We now have 2 - 7th grade students paired with older tutors and are helping to improve their academic, organization and math skills.

  - Life After Lehman: We are off to a strong start with 5 commitments and more to come. These pennants can be found on display in the main lobby:

    - Paige Rambus - Wilkes University
    - Sara Womach - West Chester University
    - Ava Blazes - Bloomsburg University
    - Ella Aritz - Misericordia University
    - Noah Corcoran - University of Pittsburg

- On Friday we will celebrate our September Students and Teacher of the Month with a Pizza Party in the Library! September's recipients were:

  - 7th Grade: Annie Layaou and Collin Albee
  - 8th Grade: Olivia Meyer and Brayer Stanley
  - 9th Grade: Emmersyn Morris and Colby McDonald
  - 10th Grade: Sawyer Walsh and Peter Ruotolo
  - 11th Grade: Ava Jones and Ethan Unvarsky
  - 12th Grade: Julianne Judge and Finian Cronin

  Mr. Albee was selected as April's "Teacher of the Month."

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

- On October 6, we held our annual fire drill with the local fire companies. This year, we were fortunate to have all five companies that respond to our school participate: Harveys Lake, Kunkle, Idetown, Noxen, and Sweet Valley. Harveys Lake and Noxen presented a fire safety assembly, and all students had the opportunity to tour the fire trucks and experience the smokehouse. It was a great opportunity for our students to learn about fire safety and meet some of the local firefighters who help keep our school and community safe.

- The Lake-Noxen kindergarten classes visited Whistle Pig Pumpkin Patch in Noxen on October 9th for a fun-filled fall adventure! Students jumped in the hay, enjoyed a wagon ride around the farm, picked their own pumpkins and decorated them. The day ended with a picnic and fresh apple cider. It was a wonderful day of fun, learning, and fall memories!

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

- For Fire Safety Week, the week of October 5th, Sweet Valley Fire Company came to Ross with a few of their emergency vehicles and had two assemblies for the students. They touched upon many things students can do to keep their homes safe from fire and what to do if there is a fire.

- We held a number of important drills during the past month including severe weather, fire drill with Sweet Valley Fire Company, and our School Security drill. Students and staff did an excellent job taking the drills seriously.

- On October 9th, the culmination of Race for Education sponsored by our PTO held an outside event for our students. Students were able to race and work their way through several different stations. Our students and PTO raised over $8,000 which met the school goal and all students were treated to extra recess on October 14th. Other students that met individual goals were treated to ice cream after extra recess.

Lehman-Jackson Elementary: Ms. Miscavage Spagnuolo, Principal

- Race for Education was held on October 2nd and was a huge success. Students had a great day running the track and enjoying snacks along the way. The event raised over $12,000 for the PTO. Thank you to everyone who contributed to make the day the success it was.

- Fourth graders are displaying their roller coaster projects in the front lobby. Students were offered the opportunity to earn extra credit points by constructing a roller coaster to demonstrate forces of motion. The project has become a hit over the past few years and all of our Lehman-Jackson students & staff look forward to seeing them presented each fall.

- Scholastic Book Fair begins tomorrow October 20th & 21st. Students will visit the fair during the school day and families are invited to join us at Family Night on Tuesday, October 20th from 6:00-8:00 p.m., to browse the shop together.

- The Lehman-Jackson Halloween Parade will be held on Friday, October 30th at 9:45 a.m. An informational letter was sent home to families last week with further details.

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BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT
No Report.

WEST SIDE AREA CAREER AND TECHNICAL CENTER REPORT
Mr. Salko presented a report from the August 24, 2026 meeting of the WSCTC Joint Operating Committee.

LUZERNE COUNTY INTERMEDIATE UNIT REPORT
Mr. Walsh reported on highlights from the August 5, 2026 meeting of the Luzerne Intermediate Unit Board of Directors.

STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT
No Report.

FOOD SERVICE
The Board received an emailed report.

OLD BUSINESS
No items.

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.
No comments.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Motion was made by Mr. Wojtowicz, seconded by Mr. Wallace, to approve the following minutes.

September 21, 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 Mrs. Sayre, to approve the Fund Accounting Payment Summary with payment date listed as October 20, 2026 in the amount of $436,689.28 and interim payments dated October 2, 2026, in the amount of $157,785.38, and September 18, 2026, in the amount of $128,092.74; subject to audit.

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

TREASURER'S REPORT
Motion was made by Mrs. Sayre, seconded by Mr. Sarko, to approve the treasurer's report as of September 30, 2026.

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

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ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF FINANCIAL REPORTS AND FILE FOR AUDIT
(Attached to Treasurer's Report)

Balances as of September 30, 2026

- Athletic Fund
- Food Service
- Jr/Sr High School Activity Fund
- Jr/Sr High School Principal's Fund
- Ross Activity Fund
- Lake-Noxen Activity Fund
- Lehman-Jackson Activity Fund

ACTION ITEMS:

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

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

1. Appoint the following as per diem substitute teachers/nurses, at a daily rate in accordance with adopted substitute pay schedule, without contractual rights/benefits. All clearances on file.

A.	Ally Hummel of Dallas	Elementary Pk-4 Certification
B.	Carol Shields of Dallas	Elementary K-6 Certification

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

2. Appoint the following LIU Guest Teacher Program Participants, as per diem substitute teachers, at a daily rate in accordance with adopted substitute pay schedule, without contractual rights/benefits. All clearances on file.

A.	Rebecca Bonomo of Hunlock Creek	Emergency Permit – All Instructional Areas PK-12
B.	Luke Spencer of Dallas	Emergency Permit – All Instructional Areas PK-12

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

3. Accept with regret the letter of resignation of Jeffrey Shook, Home and School Visitor, effective October 16, 2026 and authorize administration to post for vacancy.

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

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BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

No items.

ATHLETICS & ACTIVITIES

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

1. Appoint Kevin Miller of Swoyersville as Head Baseball Coach for the 2026-2027 season at a stipend of $4,986.53. Pending receipt of clearances within the mandated timeframe.

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

2. Approve the following as School & Booster Volunteers for the 2026-2027 school year; all clearances on file:

A.	Betsy Adamshick	L.	Alexandra Marcks
B.	Amanda Cooper	M.	Stephanie Martinson
C.	Rachel Dunn	N.	Megan McCabe
D.	Meredith Evans	O.	Sara O'Connor

E.	Adam Garnett	P.	Elyssa Pollock
F.	Ashtin Garnett	Q.	Michele Pollock
G.	Megan Georgetti	R.	Kimberly Schwartz
H.	Stephanie Hayman	S.	Katie Sorber
I.	Judi Hufford	T.	Lauren Suppon
J.	Troy Long	U.	Tiffany Weaver
K.	Patricia Manzoni		

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

3. Appoint the following Assistant Coaches/ Extra-Curricular Advisors for the 2026-2027 school year, all clearances on file.

A.	Jessica Miorelli	Indoor Percussion	Volunteer

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

4. Approve the Cooperative Sponsorship with the Dallas School District for the sport of Boys Volleyball effective the beginning of 2026-2027 school year.

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

TRANSPORTATION
No items.

SUPPORT SERVICES
Motion was made by Mr. Wojtowicz, seconded by Mrs. Kashatus to move on the following item.

1. Appoint Kathleen London of Hunlock Creek as Part-Time Food Service Worker, 5.5 hours per day, 186 days per year, effective immediately at an hourly rate of $15.00. All clearances on file.

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

2. Appoint Regina Cannon of Harvey's Lake as Full-Time Paraeducator, 7 hours per day, 186 days per year, effective immediately at an hourly rate of $20.00. Pending receipt of clearances within the mandated timeframe.

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

SCHOOL BOARD
Motion was made by Mr. Salko, seconded by Mr. Wallace to move on the following items.

1. Adopt the following Resolution.

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that the Board of School Directors of Lake-Lehman School District (the "District") (i) is owed outstanding taxes that will be secured by real estate tax claims for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2027 and prior years (the "2027 Tax Claims"); and

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WHEREAS, the Redevelopment Authority of Luzerne County ("RALC") has a program in place to purchase the anticipated qualified 2027 Tax Claims on or after January 1, 2027; and

WHEREAS, an addendum to the September 30, 2007 Agreement of Sale and Purchase (the "Agreement"), which will include therein a mandatory repurchase obligation by the District, together with any other documents or instruments necessary to complete the transaction, will be entered into by the District and RALC for the purchase, sale and assignment of the anticipated 2027 Tax Claims.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the District agrees to sell, on or after January 1, 2027, its anticipated qualified 2027 Tax Claims to RALC pursuant to the Agreement, which will include therein a mandatory repurchase obligation by the District under certain circumstances, and other supporting documents and amendments that shall be in a form approved by the Board President and District Solicitor; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the District be and is hereby authorized to, on or after January 1, 2027, sell the anticipated qualified 2027 Tax Claims to RALC on such terms and conditions as approved by the Board President and District Solicitor; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon sale, the District will assign such sold tax claims to RALC and RALC will in turn assign these tax claims to its lender; and be it

FINALLY RESOLVED, that the proper District officials be and are hereby authorized and directed to take any and all actions necessary and required to complete the transactions herein, including, but not limited to, the execution of all documents subject to the approval as to form of said documents by legal counsel for the District.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that, as necessary, the District shall execute such documents with the RALC and other appropriate entities as shall be reasonably necessary to facilitate the continued collection and servicing of the qualified 2027 Tax Claims; and be it

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Duly adopted this 19th day of October, 2026 by the Board of School Directors of Lake-Lehman School District in lawful session duly assembled.

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

2. Approve the second reading and adopt Policy 204.1 Virtual Attendance and Wellness Checks.

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

3. Approve a refund of paid real estate taxes in the amount of $2,763.21 for the year 2025, for James R. McGrady and Stephanie Salavantis, for property located in Lehman Township, as determined by the Luzerne County Assessment Office.

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

4. Approve the Application for Use of Facilities for Christopher Kukosky, Club Vollocity, for use of the new gymnasium for AAU Club Volleyball Tryouts be held Sunday, November 15, 2026, from 2:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m.

Vote: Upon roll call, Mr. Salko, Mrs. Kashatus and Mr. Wojtowicz voted no. All other directors present voted yes; motion carried.

5. Approve the MOU between the Lake-Lehman Educational Support Personnel Association and Lake-Lehman School District to amend the Collective Bargaining Agreement, Article XII: Temporary Leaves of Absences, Section 1. Personal and Emergency Leave, term commencing July 1, 2026.

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

INFORMATION AND RECOGNITION

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

BOARD DISCUSSION FOR FUTURE BUSINESS

No items.

SET MEETING DATES

The combined Committee-of-the-Whole and regular monthly meeting for voting purposes has been scheduled for Monday, November 16, 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. Salko motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Wojtowicz. Mr. Wright adjourned the meeting at 7:36 p.m.

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Respectfully submitted

Non-Member, Board Secretary
Mary Jo Casaldi