

REGULAR MEETING of the SCHOOL BOARD of EDUCATION
Lester Prairie Public Schools
Monday, August 18, 2025 5:45pm
Lester Prairie School Media Center

Roll call was taken and the following board members were present: Keith Christen, Jeff Engen, Brian Heimerl, Rebecca Heimerl, Candice Anderson and Dan LaMott. Administration present: Dr. Melissa Radeke, Mike Lee and Ross Scheevel

Guests: None

Call to order

- Meeting called to order by Board Chair Keith Christen
- Welcome to the public and guests
- **Pledge of Allegiance** - Led by board member Jeff Engen

Agenda

- Motion by R. Heimerl 2nd by Anderson to approve the Agenda as presented and or modified
 - **Vote: 6 for, 0 against.**

Recognition of Communications since Last Meeting:

- Communication - none
- Open dialogue - none

Minutes and Bills

- Motion by R. Heimerl and 2nd by B. Heimerl to approve consent agenda, the meeting minutes of the Regular Board meeting on July 21, 2025, minutes of work session July 21, 2025 and payment of bills in the amount of:
 - o Total amount: \$416,170.57
 - **Vote: 6 for, 0 against.**

Administrative Reports

Mr. Lee K-12 Principal Report: - highlights

- August 5th & 6th , accompanied a group to Simley High School for 2 days of AVID training. AVID - Achievement Via Individual Determination
- 9th grade will have an AVID class and teachers will implement AVID course strategies for teaching. Examples: small group, collaboration

- Aug 12th was new teacher day, 3 new teachers met with mentors, completed onboarding activities and got familiar with the school. Very excited about the new teachers.
- Aug 14th - Paraprofessional training in Willmar. Completed 4 hours of LETRS training with 4 hours left to complete.
- Aug 14th - attended data mine event in Marshall gathering data for required reports and evaluating how LP students are doing
- Letters have gone out to elementary students with teacher information along with additional information
- Inservice week begins Aug 25th with multiple training and presentations for teachers and paraprofessionals along with class time
- Open house Tuesday, Aug 26th from 4 - 7 pm
- With discussions around declining enrollment, PSEO program impacts enrollment and costs the district money. LP has 28 PSEO students for the upcoming school year. Great program, however it should be noted when discussing impacts on enrollment and funding.

Ross Scheevel AD/DoS - highlights

- MSHSL making 9th grade governance official this year with new handbooks being mailed out. Minimal impact as LP has already been doing this due to lower numbers and not having separate 9th grade levels for activities
- Arbiter Activity registration platform is up and running. Positive comments and working fairly well thus far. Should be able to utilize this platform for CE registrations along with other various school registrations.
- All fall activities are underway with the exception of JH volleyball which begins on Monday, August 25th
- Most fall activity worker positions have been filled, only a couple left
- Board to approve hiring of Trevor Elhard as Girls Head Basketball Coach later in the meeting
- Postings for other winter activities positions should be in the next few weeks
- Fall activities meeting was reasonably attended. Will have another Winter/Spring activities meeting late Oct/early Nov
- Fall Varsity activities are in the 2nd week of practices with overall participation down. Girls VB: 32 participants grades 7-12, Cross Country: 3 girls and 6 boys participating, Cheer: 15 participants and Football: 45 participants grades 7-12 with 29 on 9 - 12 Varsity roster.
- First VB match Friday Aug 29th, Football scrimmage Saturday Aug 23rd and Cross Country is at Baylor Park for NYA Alumni meet

Dr. Melissa Radeke Superintendent Report: - highlights

- Enrollment update: Ended last year with 432 students, current enrollment is at 408 students
- District does not currently have a policy for accepting donations, MSBA highly recommends having a policy with gifts/donations accepted by Board Resolution. Propose first reading for policy 706 Acceptance of Gifts in September. Second reading in October with potential approval. November would be first resolution for any donations.
- Social Worker(Mariah) position will be filled, state funded position. If the position is not filled the funding will be lost.
- Fall Inservice begins August 25th
- Open House Tuesday August 26th.

Lauren Syrup - Business Manager

- No report

School Board Committee Reports

- Community Ed. - none
- PTO - none
- Facilities/Maintenance- none
- Facility Planning - none
- Tech/Media - none
- Activities Committee - none
- Negotiations - Certified - Going to mediation
- Negotiations - Non-Certified - none
- Negotiations - Administration - none
- Meet and Confer - none
- Policy - Scheduled to meet at conclusion of Aug board meeting
- Legislative - none
- City Coucil - Met with Katie Helmbrecht (park board), continue to work on communication.

New Business

- None

Old Business

- None

School Finance

- Motion by R. Heimerl and 2nd by LaMott to approve following fundraisers
 - **Track and Field:** Snap Raise
 - **Band:** Elephant Joe's Coffee and Butterbraids
 - **Seniors:** Carlson's Pies

Vote: 6 for, 0 against

Policy Administration

- None

Personnel

- Motion by B. Heimerl and 2nd by Anderson to approve lane change request for **Matt Thode** from BA+10 step 6 to MA step 6.

Vote: 6 for, 0 against

- Motion by B. Heimerl and 2nd by LaMott to approve resignation for **Mariah Lenz-Scherping** as Social Worker and REACH Instructor effective August 5, 2025.

Vote: 6 for, 0 against

- Motion by LaMott and 2nd by Anderson to approve the following contracts:
 - **Neil Maddox:** Jr High Football Coach
 - **Trevor Elhard:** Head Girls Basketball Coach

Vote: 6 for, 0 against

- Motion by R. Heimerl and 2nd by LaMott to approve **Marc Wawrzyniak** as a volunteer football coach for the 2025 season.

Vote: 6 for, 0 against

Other Items for the Board

- None

Meeting was adjourned at 6:10 PM

Jeff Engen, Clerk ISD #424