

REGULAR MEETING of the SCHOOL BOARD of EDUCATION
Lester Prairie Public Schools
Monday, July 21, 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, Ross Scheevel and Lauren Syrup
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 B. Heimerl 2nd by R. Heimerl 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 LaMott to approve consent agenda, the meeting minutes of the Regular Board meeting on June 9, 2025 and payment of bills in the amount of:
 - o Total amount: \$527,567.05
- **Vote: 6 for, 0 against.**

Administrative Reports

Mr. Lee K-12 Principal Report(read by Dr. Radeke): - highlights

- School participated in Prairie Days parade. Thank you to Ross Scheevel, LP Football Players, 4.0 Bus Company and LP Youth Task Force for their contributions: Ross for supervising and managing the float, 4.0 for the bus and driver, Youth task force for providing bottles of water to hand out and Football players for handing walking and handing out water

- Thank you to Ross Scheevel for providing the Class of 1975 a tour of the school for their 50 year class reunion.
- Two more classes have asked for a tour in October - Class of 1985 and Class of 1990. There have been about 10 Class Reunion tours of the school since the new section opened.

Ross Scheevel AD/DoS - highlights

- Fall activities meeting to be held on Monday Aug 4th @ 6pm, looking at adding a winter activities meeting as well.
- Have been meeting and training on the new Arbiter registration site. Can't go live until training complete. Hope to be up and running by end of July.
- Still looking for some fall activities coaches. JH Volleyball and JH Football. Refer any interested parties to AD.
- Completed interviews and made an offer for Head Girls Basketball coach, still waiting to hear back if accepted.
- Finalizing the fall schedules and worker lists for events
- Gave school tour to Class of 1975, learned some new info about the school
- Participated in the Prairie Days parade
- Driver's Ed car is unfixable. Made arrangements with Today's Driving School out of Hutchinson to provide driver's Ed training to Lester Prairie students, classroom and behind the wheel will both be out of Lester Prairie with no need to drive to Hutchinson.
- Camps and summer practices are wrapping up. There will be a 2 week break and fall activities will start August 11th.

Dr. Melissa Radeke Superintendent Report: - highlights

- ISD 424 facing two primary challenges: reduction in student enrollment and staffing levels not aligned with current enrollment figures
- As enrollment continues to decline, school revenues decrease accordingly creating an imbalance between staffing and student numbers
- This imbalance must be addressed to insure long-term sustainability
- Additional revenue concerns resulting from unstable funding forecasts from both State and Federal levels.
- Projections show the District will dip into fund balance almost \$350,000 in 2025-26 to cover expenses. Those projected figures increase to \$750,000 in 26/27, \$1.2 million in 27/28 and \$1.6 million in 28/29 totaling almost \$3.9 Million which far exceeds our fund balance.
- Projections do not include any substantial increases for staff negotiations
- Staff negotiations are taking place and revenue challenges are part of the conversation
- State has projected \$420 Million in cuts to education in FY 27 and FY 28
- District will be utilizing and possibly depleting current fund balance within 4 years or less.
- District needs to look at ways to address staff reduction/realignments along with other cost efficiency and cost savings measures.
- The District will not be filling Alyson Winn Lagergren's Language Arts position, instead being creative and tapping into current staff licenses
- Annual EFT designations will be up for approval.
- Annual LTFM 10 Yr Plan will be up for approval with no major changes
- Discussed adding roof replacement to 2025 plan with Ehlers however based upon Ehlers recommendation, the roof replacements should be put on a debt schedule to take advantage of the Ag2School 70% tax credit.

Lauren Syrup - Business Manager

- Discussed LTFM plan explaining what it is and it's importance
- Required by statute to annually approve a 10 Yr Plan
- Must be submitted and approved by Dept. of Education
- Paying for plan can be by levy, pay as you go or combination
- Yr 1 & 2 are pretty specific, years 3 - 10 are not as specific due to difficulty predicting long term maintenance beyond that timeframe

School Board Committee Reports

- Community Ed. - none
- PTO - none
- Facilities/Maintenance- need to meet regarding new bleachers
- Facility Planning - none
- Tech/Media - none
- Activities Committee - none
- Negotiations - Certified - Couple of meetings held, negotiations ongoing
- Negotiations - Non-Certified - none
- Negotiations - Administration - none
- Meet and Confer - none
- Policy - none
- Legislative - none
- City Council - Working on meeting with Park Board and council liaison.

New Business

- Motion by B. Heimerl and 2nd by Anderson to approve 2025-26 Athletic and Activities Participant/Parent Handbook.

Vote: 6 for, 0 against

Vote: 6 for, 0 against

Old Business

- None

School Finance

- Motion by R. Heimerl and 2nd by Anderson to approve designating authority to Payroll Specialist Kim Dye, Business Manager Lauren Syrup and Superintendent Melissa Radeke for Electronic Funds Transfers (EFT's) on behalf of Lester Prairie Schools.

Vote: 6 for, 0 against

- Motion by R. Heimerl and 2nd by Lamott to approve Resolution Adopting ISD #424 FY27 Long-Term Facilities Maintenance Ten-Year Plan.

Vote: 6 for, 0 against

- Motion by LaMott and 2nd by Anderson to approve fundraiser for LP Football program:
 - o Advertisements for Football game programs

Vote: 6 for, 0 against

Policy Administration

- None

Personnel

- Motion by R. Heimerl and 2nd by B. Heimerl to approve resignation for **Alyson Winn-Lagergren** as Secondary Language Arts Teacher effective June 30, 2025.

Vote: 6 for, 0 against

- Motion by R. Heimerl and 2nd by Anderson to approve contract for **April Lee** for K - 4 SPED Teacher for the 2025-26 school year

Vote: 6 for, 0 against

Other Items for the Board

- None

Meeting was adjourned at 6:14 PM

Jeff Engen, Clerk ISD #424