



Regular School Board Meeting of the LJSD Board of Trustees

Wednesday, November 11, 2024 6:00 PM
Lakeland High School, 7006 ID-53,
Rathdrum, ID 83858

A. Call Meeting to Order at 6:00 p.m.

Chair Thompson called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

B. Welcome Visitors/Moment of Silence/Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Thompson welcomed all visitors and led all in the pledge of allegiance.

C. Approval of Agenda (Action)

Vice Chair Bain made a MOTION to approve the agenda, seconded by Trustee Quimby. Hearing all ayes, MOTION carried.

D. Announcements

Chair Thompson reminded the audience of the rules of the board meetings.

E. Public Input

Chris Beaty, Tina Hillman, Shannon Rider, Jessica Dehnert, Rebecca Hasz, Colleen Bevacqua, Seth Bullock, Jason Bradbury, Jeramie Terzulli, Roger Busse, Kely Fuentes, Maren Maier, Teagan Patrick, Anita Dupzyk, and Heather Hamilton gave public input.

F. Reports

F.1. Monthly Finance Report

No discussion was held.

G. Consent Agenda (Action)

G.1. Minutes of Previous Meetings

No discussion was held.

G.2. Minutes of Subcommittee Meetings

No discussion was held.

G.3. HR Items

No discussion was held.

G.4. Regular and Special Bills

The Board asked questions on the purchase of Macbooks, SLP services, TBRI training, Hawley Troxell services, Salmon Electric, Classwise subscription, OETC, monthly electricity and transportation fuel amounts, deposit for cellular fire alarm communications, comments of concerns on cellular versus landline communication, and Chartwells food service.

Trustee Jones made a MOTION to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Trustee Grissom. Hearing all ayes the MOTION carried.

H. Old Business

H.1. Superintendent Follow-Up

The Board asked clarifying questions of the formulas on the class size review spreadsheet. No further discussion was held.

H.2. Financial Follow-Up

The Board held discussion on the status of the bond issue with Emerick Construction, the finance team, and language of the levy information sent out to the public. No further discussion was held.

H.3. Facilities Update

The Board asked questions on the concrete projects. No further discussion was held.

H.4. THS Fieldhouse Update

The Board asked questions about CORE Construction and why they were chosen before bids went out. CFO Grantham explained the process and will bring more information to the next Board meeting. No further discussion was held.

I. New Business - Action Items

I.1. Board Policy

I.1.a. 3400 - Drug / Alcohol Testing for Students in Activities

The Board held discussion on policy 3400 and requested the policy be sent out for survey.

I.1.b. 4140 - Visitors to the Schools

No discussion was held.

I.1.c. 4420 - Sex Offenders

The Board requested to spell out abbreviations within the policy.

I.1.d. 7400 - Procurement Management System

Chair Thompson made a MOTION to approve Board policy 3400 as presented and to send the policy out for patron input, 4420 as presented with the modifications of SRO and ADSS identification, and policy 7400 as presented. Seconded by Trustee Grissom, and hearing all ayes, MOTION carried.

I.2. Supplemental Curriculum

The Board asked to use an updated letterhead for the Board agenda request item. Vice Chair Bain commented that parents have the choice to opt-out of books they do not want their children reading. Vice Chair Bain made a MOTION to approve the supplemental curriculum as presented, seconded by Trustee Jones. Vice Chair Bain and Trustee Jones in favor. Chair Thompson, Trustee Quimby, and Trustee Grissom opposed. 2 in favor, 1 opposed, MOTION failed. Trustee Jones made a MOTION to table the supplemental curriculum, seconded by Trustee Grissom. Trustee Jones, Trustee Grissom, Trustee Quimby, and Chair Thompson in favor. Vice Chair Bain opposed. 4 in favor, 1 opposed, MOTION carried.

I.3. Tabled Books

The Board held discussion on the tabled books presented for vote. Librarian Ginelle Dexter presented her review of the books. The Board asked questions on the subject matter in the novel "Speak". Trustee Jones made a MOTION to

- approve, seconded by Vice Chair Bain. Trustee Jones and Vice Chair Bain in favor. Chair Thompson, Trustee Quimby, and Trustee Grissom opposed. 2 in favor, 3 opposed, MOTION failed. Trustee Grissom requested to review the prior comments of the tabled books. Chair Thompson made a MOTION to table until all information is provided for, seconded by Trustee Quimby. Chair Thompson, Trustee Quimby, and Trustee Grissom in favor. Trustee Jones and Vice Chair Bain opposed. 3 in favor, 2 opposed, MOTION carried.
- I.4. Winter Athletic Schedules
No discussion was held. Trustee Quimby made a MOTION to approve, seconded by Trustee Jones. Hearing all ayes, MOTION carried.
- I.5. Student Clubs
The Board asked the purpose of the "Rising Star Outreach Club". Vice Chair Bain made a MOTION to table for more information, seconded by Trustee Quimby. Hearing all ayes, MOTION carried.
- I.6. Panhandle Health District MOU
The Board held discussion. Vice Chair Bain made a MOTION to table for more information, seconded by Trustee Grissom. Hearing all ayes, MOTION carried.
- I.7. Counseling MOUs
I.7.a. Up North
I.7.b. Dragonfly
No discussion was held. Trustee Jones made a MOTION to approve the use of Up North and Dragonfly counseling, seconded by Vice Chair Bain. Trustee Jones and Vice Chair Bain in favor. Chair Thompson, Trustee Quimby, and Trustee Grissom opposed. 2 in favor, 3 opposed, MOTION failed. Chair Thompson called for further discussion or another MOTION. No further discussion occurred. No other MOTION was brought forward.
- I.8. SSC Contract
The Board held discussion on the SSC Contract, the facilities director position, the 10 year plan, and building inspections. Trustee Grissom made a recommendation to run the facilities director advertisement. Trustee Jones made a MOTION to move forward with advertising for a District facilities director position, while using a different option to follow the state requirements, seconded by Trustee Grissom. Hearing all ayes, MOTION carried.

J. Discussion Items

- J.1. Handbooks
The Board requested changes in the facilities handbook to remove individual names and add titles instead, attach job descriptions in the custodial and maintenance handbook, and to include the annual building inspection report.
- J.2. Current Executed MOUs
The Board requested the current executed MOUs be posted on the Board website page. No further discussion was held.
- J.3. Curriculum / Data Update
The board held discussion with Superintendent Arnold on the curriculum/data update, vertical alignment, and data discussions with high school teachers.

No further discussion was held.

J.4. 2024-25 Curricular Advisory Committee

The Board requested information on the persons involved with the curricular advisory committee. No further discussion was held.

J.5. Fall Activities Drug Test Results

No discussion was held.

J.6. Student Council Leadership Conference Agenda

No discussion was held.

J.7. Board Christmas Event

No discussion was held.

K. Possible Action Item from Discussion

There were no action items from the discussion items.

L. Dates to Remember:

L.1. Veterans Day Assemblies Schedule

L.2.

- Longe Range Planning Committee Meeting
 - Tuesday, November 12th, 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
- Policy Committee Meeting
 - Thursday, November 14th, 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
- Policy Committee Meeting
 - Thursday, November 28th, 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
- Thanksgiving Break
 - November 25th - 29th

M. Board Member Input for Future Agenda Items

Trustee Quimby made a recommendation of alternating locations for Board meeting work sessions.

N. Enter into Executive Session (Action)

N.1. Approve/Deny to enter into Executive Session per IC 74-206(1)(b).

MOTION made by Vice Chair Bain, and seconded by Trustee Jones.

Roll Call:

Vice Chair Bain: yes

Chair Thompson: yes

Trustee Quimby: yes

Trustee Grissom: yes

Trustee Jones: yes

Executive Session was entered at 8:36 p.m.

A two minute break occurred from 8:36 p.m. until 8:38 p.m.

O. Executive Session

O.1. Superintendent Evaluation

The Board and Superintendent Arnold held discussion on the Superintendent evaluation from 8:38 p.m. until 10:28 p.m.

A three minute break occurred from 10:28 p.m. until 10:31 p.m.

P. Executive Session (Action Items)

There were no action items.

Meeting adjourned at 10:31 p.m.

Attests: Respectfully Submitted:

Michelle Thompson, Board Chair

Maria Parker, Clerk of the Board

DRAFT

Request to Address the Board

Date: 11/13/24

Name: Chris Beatty (Please Print)

Subject Matter Desiring to Address:

The Levy's Results and what that data says.

Check if any of the below identified subject matters are matters you wish to address in your presentation to the Board:

- The hiring of a public school employee.
- The qualifications of any individual employee/prospective employee.
- The evaluation or performance of any individual employed by the District.
- A complaint or concern about any individual employed by the District.
- A complaint or concern about any student enrolled at the District.
- Proposed future agenda item.

*****Please deliver a completed copy of this form to the Board's clerk prior to the commencement of the Board meeting.*****

Good evening. Board Chair Thompson, Vice Chair Bain, Trustees, Superintendent Arnold. I am here tonight to speak in support of three books, *Pay it forward* by Catherine Ryan Hyde, *The Fault in our Stars* by John Green and *Speak* by Laurie Halse Anderson. I would like to thank you for tabling these books until the teachers who use these books in their classrooms and I could be here to address any questions you may have regarding them.

Regarding *Pay it forward* by Catherine Ryan Hyde, I'm not sure where the concerns lie for this book. In looking back at some of the comments made regarding the book, most references were to the adult version. The book in use in the middle schools is the Young Reader's Edition which edits out language and any inappropriate material that may be in the adult version. I have just finished reading the book and I came across no foul language or anything inappropriate within the pages of this book. I found it to be an uplifting story despite the tragedy that plays out near the end. The book is based on an extra credit assignment by a new teacher: come up with an idea to change the world for the better, and a students' attempt to do just that. Some of the themes running through this book are: Perseverance, Kindness, Hope, Generosity, Forgiveness and Acceptance. I found this to be a book that would make kids think about their place in the world and how they can help make a difference.

Regarding *The Fault in Our Stars* by John Green and *Speak* by Laurie Halse Anderson, both books are used only by our 8th grade Honors ELA classes and have been used in our school for quite some time: *Speak* since 2017 and *The Fault in Our Stars* since 2019. These books are used for Lit Circles, which means only some in the class will read them as others may choose a different book. And parents are given the choice to Opt In or Opt Out of the reading of these books. Both books are set in the real world, with real life problems and storylines that many teens face today.

Speak by Laurie Halse Anderson is the story of a teenage girl who was assaulted at an end of summer party and who calls the police, but ends up fleeing the scene before they arrive. As she begins her Freshman year in high school, she is shunned by her friends as they learn she is the one who called the police. The story, however, is not so much about the assault (it is only mentioned twice and then only in the briefest of terms) but more about the impact it has on the main character and her unwillingness to speak up. It is definitely a good book to use for character study because of how she reacts and responds to those around her, especially her family, as they are blind to her pain. But it is her Art teacher who helps her find her voice allowing her to speak up and finally tell someone what happened.

The Fault in Our Stars by John Green is the story of two teenagers battling cancer who meet up at a teen cancer support group. The book addresses the complexities of living with cancer in the 21st century and captures the emotions and physical struggles faced by the two main characters who are dealing with this illness. Not only does the story follow the two as they get to know one another and find friendship and love despite the significant challenges they face from their diagnoses, they learn to lean into each other which makes them both realize they are not alone in their battle. Some of the themes touched on in this book deal with: Life and Death, Coming of Age, Moral Values, Insensitivity, and Courage.

The books do deal with more mature themes and subject matter which is why they are used only for our Honors ELA classes. These two books make our students think, create conversations and open dialog about difficult subjects. Both books have won numerous awards and continue to be very

popular among the middle and high school set. I have read all three books, *Speak* and *The Fault in Our Stars* I have read numerous times, and all of these books are appropriate for classroom use at the middle school level.

Karla Hegbloom, who has been using *Speak & The Fault in Our Stars* is here tonight to answer any questions you may have. Kate Herold who wished to use *Pay it Forward* could not be here tonight but she sent along her reasons for using this book in the classroom.

Kate writes:

7th grade has been trying to find a grade-appropriate book that is challenging with modern-day themes. Both 6th and 8th grades have these books, but 7th grade is in desperate need of a book that is realistic fiction without being a classic or historical. It has been very hard to find, and *Pay it Forward* fits the bill perfectly. And, even better yet, we already have enough books for the entire 7th grade to read. Here is the rationale from an instructional point of view.

1. The book is told from the omniscient point of view, which means it is told through all characters of the story. This is ideal for helping 7th graders understand how perspective is unique to each of us.
2. The story is quite simple in theme, but it is impactful in the reach of the theme. The book truly establishes that we can all do great, extraordinary things while being just an ordinary person or student. The message that we are all capable of amazing things is quite moving.
3. The characters are very relatable for middle schoolers as the main character happens to be a 7th grader, and the other main character is his teacher. It is a very cool story to help students see the connections we have at school, at home, and our community. We all contribute to the immediate world we live in, and that is shown throughout the story.
4. The biggest teachable moments come with theme because the idea that we can all make a lasting, large difference even with the smallest voice is worthy of reading this book. The notion of a random act of kindness is compelling.
5. Finally, this is a great companion to "A Christmas Carol," which we read in December. It is like a modern-day story about the spirit of kindness and giving like "A Christmas Carol."

Thank you so much for your consideration.

Request to Address the Board

Date: 11-12-24

Name: TINA HILLMAN (Please Print)

Subject Matter Desiring to Address:

LEVY

Check if any of the below identified subject matters are matters you wish to address in your presentation to the Board:

- The hiring of a public school employee.
- The qualifications of any individual employee/prospective employee.
- The evaluation or performance of any individual employed by the District.
- A complaint or concern about any individual employed by the District.
- A complaint or concern about any student enrolled at the District.
- Proposed future agenda item.

*****Please deliver a completed copy of this form to the Board's clerk prior to the commencement of the Board meeting.*****

Request to Address the Board

Date: 11/13/24

Name: Shannon Rider (Please Print)

Subject Matter Desiring to Address:

I would like to have the opportunity to address our current situation with the levy. I am requesting to speak in representation of my schools, as a community member and as a mot

Check if any of the below identified subject matters are matters you wish to address in your presentation to the Board:

- The hiring of a public school employee.
- The qualifications of any individual employee/prospective employee.
- The evaluation or performance of any individual employed by the District.
- A complaint or concern about any individual employed by the District.
- A complaint or concern about any student enrolled at the District.
- Proposed future agenda item.

*****Please deliver a completed copy of this form to the Board's clerk prior to the commencement of the Board meeting.*****

Request to Address the Board

Date: 11-13-24

Name: Jessica Dennert (Please Print)

Subject Matter Desiring to Address:

Talking About single vs. double tiered routing, safety concerns + mileage on buses.

Check if any of the below identified subject matters are matters you wish to address in your presentation to the Board:

- The hiring of a public school employee.
- The qualifications of any individual employee/prospective employee.
- The evaluation or performance of any individual employed by the District.
- A complaint or concern about any individual employed by the District.
- A complaint or concern about any student enrolled at the District.
- Proposed future agenda item.

****Please deliver a completed copy of this form to the Board's clerk prior to the commencement of the Board meeting.****

Request to Address the Board

Date: 11/12/2024

Name: Rebecca Hasz (Please Print)

Subject Matter Desiring to Address:

How to Proceed w/o Wvy money. See Attached.

Check if any of the below identified subject matters are matters you wish to address in your presentation to the Board:

- ___ The hiring of a public school employee.
- ___ The qualifications of any individual employee/prospective employee.
- ___ The evaluation or performance of any individual employed by the District.
- ___ A complaint or concern about any individual employed by the District.
- ___ A complaint or concern about any student enrolled at the District.
- ___ Proposed future agenda item.

****Please deliver a completed copy of this form to the Board's clerk prior to the commencement of the Board meeting.****

Request to Address the Board

Date 11/12/2024

Name: Rebecca Hasz

Subject Matter Desiring to Address: How to proceed without the Levy passing?

Good Evening, my name is Rebecca Hasz. My connection to the Lakeland School District runs deep. My mother Elizabeth Fox was hired and worked under then Superintendent Bob Jones. She taught in this district for almost 30 years and was one of the major reasons I wanted to teach in this school district. Lakeland School District has always been a Jewel of North Idaho and one of the reasons so many people move here. This is my 25th year as a teacher in the Lakeland School District. I have lived in this community since 2004 with my family. My daughter just graduated from Lakeland High School and I have a 7th grader at Lakeland Middle school. My daughter took advantage of and benefitted from all the great programs we as a district have offered students over the years. From Dance Team to Speech State. All state choir to tennis she enjoyed her time at Lakeland High School and because of the advanced opportunities offered to her she is considered a Sophomore at Montana Tech where she is majoring in Mining Engineering. My son will not have those same opportunities if we do not find a solution to our current problem.

What is your plan moving forward with the Levy? It is not ok to say we will wait until March for the Legislative Session, or even May to run a new one even at a smaller amount. Staff and the Community need to plan and people's livelihoods are on the line. Parents need to know if the programs we offer now will be offered in the future. Teachers in their 1st 5 years need to know if they should be looking elsewhere.

I hate saying this but you sent out mailers saying what the Levy paid for. If it was voted against then those should be the 1st things to be cut. I have never liked the idea of the needs to have resting on the vote of the community but when we tied positions to the levy that's exactly what we did and now we have to make the tough choices.

I don't want to see anything go but elections have consequences and if the community has spoken as some of you have agreed they have then we need to cut all things we said were paid for by the Levy:

Curriculum (hold until the state funds)

Safety Program- Gone

Athletics- Gone

Co -Curricular Activities - Gone

Transportation- Gone

Small Classes, Specialists, Electives not needed for Graduation- Gone

We may even need to close buildings and consolidate.

I support all of these things, I voted YES as a taxpayer, as a parent, and as a staff member. However we are being disingenuous to say that the levy funded these things but without the levy we will keep them. Difficult times call for difficult decisions. I want all the same benefits for my son that my daughter had going through our school system but in the end if you choose not to re-run the levy then we need to honor the majority who said NO and cut the programs they voted NO on..... Thank you.

Request to Address the Board

Date: 11/12/2024

Name: Colleen Bevacqua (Please Print)

Subject Matter Desiring to Address:

Rerunning our levy, looking at a map of the voters, and proposals from teachers on budget cuts.

Check if any of the below identified subject matters are matters you wish to address in your presentation to the Board:

- The hiring of a public school employee.
- The qualifications of any individual employee/prospective employee.
- The evaluation or performance of any individual employed by the District.
- A complaint or concern about any individual employed by the District.
- A complaint or concern about any student enrolled at the District.
- Proposed future agenda item.

****Please deliver a completed copy of this form to the Board's clerk prior to the commencement of the Board meeting.****

Date: 13 Nov 2024 **Request to Address the Board**

Name: Seth C. Bullock (Please Print)

Subject Matter Desiring to Address:

The levy not passing & ideas/concerns moving forward.

Check if any of the below identified subject matters are matters you wish to address in your presentation to the Board:

- The hiring of a public school employee.
- The qualifications of any individual employee/prospective employee.
- The evaluation or performance of any individual employed by the District.
- A complaint or concern about any individual employed by the District.
- A complaint or concern about any student enrolled at the District.
- Proposed future agenda item.

*****Please deliver a completed copy of this form to the Board's clerk prior to the commencement of the Board meeting.*****

Request to Address the Board

Date: 11/13/2024

Name: Jason Bradbury (Please Print)

Subject Matter Desiring to Address:

Failed School Levy, Cut-backs, and Request

Letter Attached

Check if any of the below identified subject matters are matters you wish to address in your presentation to the Board:

- The hiring of a public school employee.
- The qualifications of any individual employee/prospective employee.
- The evaluation or performance of any individual employed by the District.
- A complaint or concern about any individual employed by the District.
- A complaint or concern about any student enrolled at the District.
- Proposed future agenda item.

*****Please deliver a completed copy of this form to the Board's clerk prior to the commencement of the Board meeting.*****

Request to Address the Board

Date: 11/13/2024

Name: Jason Bradbury
LEA President
Teacher, 27 years @ Lakeland
Tax Payer and Community Member for 27 Years

Subject Matter Desiring to Address:
Failed School Levy and Cut-backs

We'd like to start off by saying thank you for your kind words in the board meeting this last week when you expressed that it was your desire not to get rid of any teacher. We also appreciate that you will be looking diligently over the numbers to make the best decisions possible. We would love to be a part of that process. My LEA group has already started the process of brainstorming topics and ideas of possible cut-backs. We'd love to share those with you during the workshop as well as answer any questions you may have.

One of the major concerns that we have right now is the possibility of losing teachers and staff members. It seems to us like that will be inevitable. We appreciate what you said in last week's meeting in which you plan to take your time to make the best decisions possible. We wholeheartedly agree with that statement. However, you also mentioned that decisions very likely would not happen until the latter part of April or May because we won't know the final numbers from the state until then. We agree with everything in that statement except when it comes to cutting staff. Please remember that people's livelihoods are at stake. If you have to end up cutting any staff member or having to implement the RIF policy, we would ask that you make those decisions much sooner. We feel that waiting until the latter part of May to tell someone they will not have a job next year would not be fair to them at all. People need to plan, and if they are not going to have a job, then they'll need time to prepare for that. We are also afraid of losing good teachers and staff just because of the fear of losing their job and not knowing. Many people will be looking to go elsewhere if their job is in question at all. Therefore, we are asking that you please have your staffing decisions, or at least a solid plan, laid out no later than the end of February. We feel this would be in the best interest of the staff, as well as the district.

Thank you.

Jason Bradbury

Request to Address the Board

Date: 11/13/24

Name: JERAMIE TERZULLI (Please Print)

Subject Matter Desiring to Address:

SUPPLEMENTAL LEVY

Check if any of the below identified subject matters are matters you wish to address in your presentation to the Board:

- The hiring of a public school employee.
- The qualifications of any individual employee/prospective employee.
- The evaluation or performance of any individual employed by the District.
- A complaint or concern about any individual employed by the District.
- A complaint or concern about any student enrolled at the District.
- Proposed future agenda item.

*****Please deliver a completed copy of this form to the Board's clerk prior to the commencement of the Board meeting.*****

Request to Address the Board

Date: 11/13/2024

Name: ROGER BUSSE (Please Print)

Subject Matter Desiring to Address:

LEVY

Check if any of the below identified subject matters are matters you wish to address in your presentation to the Board:

- The hiring of a public school employee.
- The qualifications of any individual employee/prospective employee.
- The evaluation or performance of any individual employed by the District.
- A complaint or concern about any individual employed by the District.
- A complaint or concern about any student enrolled at the District.
- Proposed future agenda item.

*****Please deliver a completed copy of this form to the Board's clerk prior to the commencement of the Board meeting.*****

Request to Address the Board

Date: 11-13-2024

Name: Kelity Fuentes (Please Print)

Subject Matter Desiring to Address:

Levy

Check if any of the below identified subject matters are matters you wish to address in your presentation to the Board:

- The hiring of a public school employee.
- The qualifications of any individual employee/prospective employee.
- The evaluation or performance of any individual employed by the District.
- A complaint or concern about any individual employed by the District.
- A complaint or concern about any student enrolled at the District.
- Proposed future agenda item.

*****Please deliver a completed copy of this form to the Board's clerk prior to the commencement of the Board meeting.*****

Request to Address the Board

Date: 11/13/24

Name: Maren Maier (Please Print)

Subject Matter Desiring to Address:

Failed LJSD Levy next steps.

Check if any of the below identified subject matters are matters you wish to address in your presentation to the Board:

- The hiring of a public school employee.
- The qualifications of any individual employee/prospective employee.
- The evaluation or performance of any individual employed by the District.
- A complaint or concern about any individual employed by the District.
- A complaint or concern about any student enrolled at the District.
- Proposed future agenda item.

*****Please deliver a completed copy of this form to the Board's clerk prior to the commencement of the Board meeting.*****

Request to Address the Board

Date: 11-13-24

Name: Teagan Patrish (Please Print)

Subject Matter Desiring to Address:

student perspective / Hawkeye Reporter

Check if any of the below identified subject matters are matters you wish to address in your presentation to the Board:

- The hiring of a public school employee.
- The qualifications of any individual employee/prospective employee.
- The evaluation or performance of any individual employed by the District.
- A complaint or concern about any individual employed by the District.
- A complaint or concern about any student enrolled at the District.
- Proposed future agenda item.

*****Please deliver a completed copy of this form to the Board's clerk prior to the commencement of the Board meeting.*****

Request to Address the Board

Date: 11/13/24

Name: Anita Dupzyn (Please Print)

Subject Matter Desiring to Address:

MVHS and
I.2 NOV supplementary curriculum

Check if any of the below identified subject matters are matters you wish to address in your presentation to the Board:

- The hiring of a public school employee.
- The qualifications of any individual employee/prospective employee.
- The evaluation or performance of any individual employed by the District.
- A complaint or concern about any individual employed by the District.
- A complaint or concern about any student enrolled at the District.
- Proposed future agenda item.

*****Please deliver a completed copy of this form to the Board's clerk prior to the commencement of the Board meeting.*****

I'd like to thank Mountain View High School for hosting a pancake breakfast and posting of the colors on Veteran's Day. The entire school came out for the posting and it was nice to see a group of young men and women show such respect to our veterans and the ceremony.

Regarding the ongoing Supplemental Curriculum requests:

According to [cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/mentalhealth/childrensmentalhealth.html), [Data and Statistics on Children's Mental Health | Children's Mental Health | CDC](https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/mentalhealth/childrensmentalhealth.html), we are raising a generation of children who are more depressed and medicated than ever before. We can see that here in Lakeland as more counseling organizations are submitting MOUs to meet the needs of students who are being recommended for services.

We are asked monthly to review and hopefully approve dystopian novels, websites that are created by organizations who support DEI and woke ideologies, and curriculum that lends itself not to what is good and acceptable and beautiful, but rather to dark, depressing subject matter. In light of what parents and staff members see happening with students, and the knowledge given us by the CDC, it's concerning that so many of these requests are being approved regularly.

Phil 4:8 states: ...whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.

Surely, we can find books that fulfill this criterion without crossing the false understanding of separation of church and state, accomplish what needs to be taught, and in the process uplift our students.

Request to Address the Board

Date: 11/13/24

Name: Heather Hamilton (Please Print)

Subject Matter Desiring to Address:

Please see attached letter.

Check if any of the below identified subject matters are matters you wish to address in your presentation to the Board:

- The hiring of a public school employee.
- The qualifications of any individual employee/prospective employee.
- The evaluation or performance of any individual employed by the District.
- A complaint or concern about any individual employed by the District.
- A complaint or concern about any student enrolled at the District.
- Proposed future agenda item.

Other

****Please deliver a completed copy of this form to the Board's clerk prior to the commencement of the Board meeting.****

To Lakeland School Board of Directors:

I am requesting you to review and discuss the MOU's brought before you to help cover the current gaps in therapy coverage. As stated at our last board meeting, Heritage Health was previously serving 67 students, and now we are down to 30 students. Even prior to the Heritage Health provider leaving, we had a need for additional coverage in our buildings. I have had conversations with multiple agencies and private practitioners. Several years ago I did attempt to bring an MOU for Lake City Counseling to the board. I don't believe that was ever put on the agenda, and delays in it being discussed contributed to us losing this opportunity. MOU's with mental health agencies are time sensitive, as therapists delay taking on clients with hopes of being able to have our contract approved and have availability in their schedule. I do believe that if the contract is not approved at today's board meeting this opportunity will pass. I am recommending if you have suggested changes that you approve the MOU with the changes you feel are necessary. I am also confident that any therapist working in our building will not compromise the space needed for classroom instruction, if that is a concern you have.

In our last board meeting, I stated the contract for Dragonfly Services and Up North are line by line, the same verbiage as our existing Heritage Health contract. I again reviewed these contracts with superintendent Lisa Arnold, and she was in agreement. The only differences being Heritage Health is a health center, and the agencies being brought to you take different insurance providers. Dragonfly Support Services is most similar to Heritage Health in terms of offering a sliding fee scale, accepting Medicaid and a wide variety of other insurances. Up North unfortunately doesn't take Medicaid, they only take Blue Cross of Idaho and Pacific Source insurance. One of the Up North providers doesn't take insurance as she is an intern who will be later hired on at the practice. I am concerned that Up North's narrow range of insurance options will limit students' accessibility to this service, but did want to bring this to you as a potential option for our district. I am in support of parents having more choices when selecting mental health providers but do want you to have all the information available to make the best decision for our students.

Dragonfly Support Services in my opinion, is a better fit for our district. Both providers have been in practice for sometime. Dragonfly Support Services offers a sliding fee scale option, and also accepts the following insurance providers (Premera Blue Cross, Blue Cross of Idaho, Regence, Blue Cross Blue Shield, Lifewise, Asuris, Medicare, Washington Molina, Washington Community Health Plan, High Deductible Plan, HSA).

Moving forward I also want to remind you that when we share information with families on mental health resources, families are given information on multiple agencies. The contracted mental health provider is one of many options that are presented to a parent. The policy committee also drafted a policy regarding mental health agencies, and required families interested in these contracted providers to review a 35 page document, which includes confidentiality laws, our community resource list, and questions/considerations for the therapist. Parents are highly informed of what options are available to them.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Heather Hamilton, School Counselor