

Committee of the Whole  
Tuesday, February 10, 2026 7:00 PM Central

Lake Bluff School District Office  
121 E Sheridan Place  
Lake Bluff, IL 60044

Laura Breakstone: Present  
Andrew Carlson: Present  
Richard Driver: Present  
Anne Hill: Absent  
Lauren Hirsh: Present  
Tim Penich: Present  
Carrie Steinbach: Present  
Present: 6, Absent: 1.

1. 6:30 P.M. DETERMINATION OF QUORUM AND CALL TO ORDER  
CLOSED SESSION The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(1)

2. 7:00 P.M. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE  
The Pledge was recited.

4. MISSION, VISION, MOTTO:

MISSION: Ensure academic achievement and personal growth for all students through innovative and engaging educational opportunities.

VISION: An inclusive community of motivated learners who are inspired to change the world through exploration and collaboration.

MOTTO: Excellence in Education, Enthusiasm for Life, Every Student, Every Day.

Our student rep read the Mission, Vision, and Motto.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT - Carrie Steinbach  
No public comment.

6. LBES Student Video Update - Kellie Bae  
A heartwarming video of LBES Kindergarten and 5th grade buddies was shown.

7. DISCUSSION/PRESENTATION

7.A. RULER Presentation/Behavior Implications - Jackie Tivador

Jackie Tivador and Tracy Roehrick gave an update on the RULER program. We are recognizing the need for more consistency with explicit instruction. RULER has been beneficial as a foundation for supporting students with social-emotional learning, but the team plans to expand on the current foundation. Details are in the board packet.

7.B. Class Placement Parent Requests - Dr. Lisa Leali

Dr. Leali shared the district's goal of building classrooms that function as true communities. The placement process is a collaborative effort involving the current teaching team, related arts staff, and student services teams to ensure all student dynamics are considered. While specific teacher requests are not part of the process, the district welcomes parent input regarding: preferred learning environments, specific teaching style and the type of classroom that best suits their child's needs.

#### 7.C. LBMS French Classes - Dr. Lisa Leali

The Board opened a discussion regarding French language programming at Lake Bluff Middle School in anticipation of an upcoming vote. One board member expressed appreciation for the thorough work, data, and surveys that informed the current recommendation. During the discussion, other members highlighted the importance of maintaining French as an available opportunity for students. A specific suggestion was made to coordinate with Lake Forest High School regarding an off-site 8th-grade French option. This collaboration would allow students to begin their studies early enough to complete five years of the language and reach the AP French level by high school graduation.

#### 7.D. Spring Crossing Guard Pilot - Dr. Lisa Leali

The District is planning a seasonal pilot program to provide safe bike path access for West neighborhoods. The pilot is scheduled to begin the first day back from spring break at the intersection of Waukegan Road (Route 176) and Shagbark Lane, located near Target. Key details of the proposal include hiring two to three individuals who will receive necessary equipment and training to manage crossings before and after school. The District will monitor participation with a goal of maintaining an average of at least ten student crossings per day. Student representatives expressed strong support for the initiative, noting they would personally use the crossing and anticipating that more than ten students would regularly utilize the service to commute to school or visit friends.

#### 7.E. True North Update - Dr. Lisa Leali

Dr. Leali reported that operations at True North are proceeding smoothly. The administration is currently engaged in staffing conversations and is organizing a job fair designed to help current employees transition into roles within the various member districts.

#### 7.F. Ballot Consideration County Schools Facility Tax (CSFT) - Jay Kahn

Jay Kahn presented an introductory overview of the Lake County Schools Facility Tax (CSFT) currently under consideration for the local ballot. The board reviewed details from the briefing packet, notably that an estimated 52% of this tax on goods is paid by non-Lake County residents. At this stage, the Board's role is limited to deciding whether the measure should be placed on the ballot for public vote. Discussion will continue as more information becomes available to the community and the Board.

#### 7.G. 2026-27 BOE Meeting Calendar Draft - First Read - Dr. Lisa Leali

The draft for the 2026-27 Board of Education meeting calendar was presented for its first reading. The proposed schedule includes the elimination of Committee of the Whole meetings in September and February, citing the trend of extremely short meetings during those months

in previous years. In response, the Board suggested mapping out anticipated discussion items for the upcoming year before reaching a final decision on the calendar structure.

7.H. Press Packet 120 and Update to Policy 4:30 - First Read - Dr. Lisa Leali

Dr. Leali reviewed the updates in Press Packet 120, noting that the only optional item pertained to the addition of the Irish Famine to the formal curriculum. The committee recommends against this specific curriculum change, as this historical event and similar topics are already typically covered or offered as research options for students. Given that the district manages over 1,000 state mandates, maintaining this as an optional rather than mandated topic allows for a more efficient curriculum.

7.H.1. 2:120 Board Member Development

7.H.2. 2:150 Committees

7.H.3. 2:270 Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited

7.H.4. 4:10 Fiscal and Business Management

7.H.5. 4:30 Revenue and Investments - Draft Update + Policy Committee Recommendation

7.H.6. 4:80 Accounting and Audits

7.H.7. 4:140 Waiver of Student Fees

7.H.8. 4:190 Targeted School Violence Prevention Program

7.H.9. 5:10 Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment

7.H.10. 5:90 Abused and Neglected Child Reporting

7.H.11. 5:100 Staff Development Program

7.H.12. 5:190 Teacher Qualifications

7.H.13. 5:200 Terms and Conditions of Employment and Dismissal

7.H.14. 5:220 Substitute Teachers

7.H.15. 5:280 Duties and Qualifications

7.H.16. 5:300 Schedules and Employment Year

7.H.17. 6:20 School Year Calendar and Day

7.H.18. 6:40 Curriculum Development

7.H.19. 6:60 Curriculum Content

7.H.19.a. Question to be answered - shown on page 50 of attached pdf

7.H.20. 6:130 Program for the Gifted

7.H.21. 6:160 English Learners

7.H.22. 6:260 Complaints About Curriculum, Instructional Materials, and Programs

7.H.23. 6:280 Grading and Promotion

7.H.24. 7:10 Equal Educational Opportunities

7.H.25. 7:150 Agency and Law Enforcement Requests

7.H.26. 7:70 Attendance and Truancy

7.H.27. 7:180 Prevention of and Responses to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment

7.H.28. 7:190 Student Behavior

7.H.29. 7:290 Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention

7.H.30. 7:310 Restrictions on Publications; Elementary Schools

7.H.31. 7:340 Student Records

7.H.32. 8:30 Visitors to and Conduct on School Property

8. PUBLIC COMMENT - Carrie Steinbach

No public comment.

9. ADJOURNMENT

7:59pm. This motion, made by Richard Driver and seconded by Laura Breakstone, Passed.

Anne Hill: Absent, Laura Breakstone: Yea, Andrew Carlson: Yea, Richard Driver: Yea, Lauren Hirsh: Yea, Tim Penich: Yea, Carrie Steinbach: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Meeting was adjourned at 7:59pm.