

Regular Meeting
Tuesday, April 28, 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: Present
Lauren Hirsh: Present
Tim Penich: Present
Carrie Steinbach: Present
Present: 7.

1. 6:45 P.M. DETERMINATION OF QUORUM AND CALL TO ORDER
CLOSED SESSION a) 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. REGULAR MEETING
Meeting was called to order at 7pm.

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.
Bord member, Anne Hill, read the Mission, Vision, and Motto.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT - Carrie Steinbach
No public comment.

6. Student Recognition
Teachers recognized students for demonstrating Portrait of a Learner competencies, presenting them with certificates before a boardroom filled with supportive family and friends.

7. LBMS Student Update Video - Principal Blackmer
Principal Blackmer shared an exciting video spotlighting this year's annual musical, Wizard of Oz which included some behind the scenes clips.

8. REPORTS

8.A. PTO Report - Rae Dobosh/Megan Hadler
No report.

8.B. Alliance Report - Greg Watson
No report.

8.C. President's Report - Carrie Steinbach
No report.

8.D. Superintendent's Report - Dr. Lisa Leali
Superintendent Dr. Lisa Leali reminded families that no special preparation is required for upcoming state testing beyond ensuring students are well-rested and arrive with fully charged devices. Board Member Richard Driver also commended Dr. Leali and her team for the smooth and successful completion of the Regional Office of Education (ROE) Compliance Audit.

9. DISCUSSION/PRESENTATION

9.A. Outdoor Ed Trip Estimates- Nate Blackmer
Principal Nate Blackmer provided a recap of the upcoming Outdoor Education programming for the 2026-2027 school year. He explained that the 7th grade class will be divided into two groups to kick off the year on September 23: one group will travel to Camp Edwards for overnight team-building activities, while the other remains local to explore the history of Lake Bluff. Regardless of group, the 7th graders will get to experience both the overnight and the in town history. Additionally, Principal Blackmer shared estimates and updates regarding the 8th grade trip to Washington, D.C., coordinated through Hemisphere Travel.

9.B. Assessment Update - Jackie Tivador
Jackie Tivador reported on the proposed next steps regarding district assessments following a comprehensive SWOT analysis and evaluations of various vendor platforms. Based on committee feedback, a consensus was reached to discontinue the overall use of Aimsweb and transition to the Renaissance platform, specifically emphasizing the FastBridge tool. This move is driven by the platform's robust capabilities with multiple assessment tools. As a bonus, the Renaissance platform contains a mental health screening component, which is slated to become a state requirement. The committee recommended maintaining the NWEA platform for the time being to monitor the impact of its recent buyout. The primary financial impact of this transition is a one-time fee for staff onboarding and training. Staff will begin training on the Renaissance platform immediately to ensure the district is prepared for full implementation in fall 2026.

9.C. LBMS New Course and Schedule Survey Results - Dr. Lisa Leali
Tabled until next meeting.

9.D. Front Entry Concrete Repairs LBMS - Jay Kahn

Jay Kahn presented a proposal for concrete repairs at the Lake Bluff Middle School front entrance, noting that the project incorporates recommendations from a recent life safety audit. Mr. Kahn clarified that the repairs would maintain the current aesthetic of the entrance, including the existing planters. The administration recommended proceeding with the repairs immediately to lock in current pricing while costs remain reasonable. The project is slated for completion by June 30, with work scheduled to begin after the conclusion of the school year. Because Extended School Year (ESY) and summer school programming are hosted at Lake Bluff Elementary School, this construction will have no impact on student activities.

9.E. Generator Contract Bids - Jay Kahn

Jay Kahn presented the proposed contract for the generator replacement project, recommending a phased installation approach (Option Two) with progress billing throughout the 2026-2027 school year. Following a review of bids and positive architect references, Kelso Burnett was identified as the lowest responsible bidder. The contract includes the base bid as well as potential alternative work for circuit breaker replacement if deemed necessary. Preparatory work, including wiring and site setup, will precede the actual replacement to ensure a streamlined transition. The current plan aims to complete the final installation over winter break to minimize disruption while students are out of the building.

9.F. Budget Parameters - Jay Kahn

Jay Kahn presented the foundational assumptions for the 2026-27 budget. The tentative budget will be presented in May, with plans to fine tune the numbers throughout the summer months. Details are in the board packet.

9.G. World Language Update - Dr. Lisa Leali

Dr. Lisa Leali provided a procedural update regarding the recent vote on the French program. She clarified that because the vote ended in a tie, the motion failed to pass. Dr. Leali noted that the Board maintains the option to bring the matter back for further discussion at a future meeting rather than letting the failed motion stand as the final action.

10. ACTION (WITH DISCUSSION) ITEMS

10.A. Approval of Updated 2025-26 School Calendar

Calendar. This motion, made by Anne Hill and seconded by Andrew Carlson, Passed.

Laura Breakstone: Yea, Andrew Carlson: Yea, Richard Driver: Yea, Anne Hill: Yea, Lauren Hirsh: Yea, Tim Penich: Yea, Carrie Steinbach: Yea
Yea: 7, Nay: 0

10.B. 2026-2027 Support Staff and Administrator Compensation Approval

Support staff and Administrator Compensation. This motion, made by Lauren Hirsh and seconded by Tim Penich, Passed.

Laura Breakstone: Yea, Andrew Carlson: Yea, Richard Driver: Yea, Anne Hill: Yea, Lauren Hirsh: Yea, Tim Penich: Yea, Carrie Steinbach: Yea
Yea: 7, Nay: 0

10.C. Approval of Front Entry Concrete Repairs

Front Entry Concrete Repairs. This motion, made by Laura Breakstone and seconded by Anne Hill, Passed.

Laura Breakstone: Yea, Andrew Carlson: Yea, Richard Driver: Yea, Anne Hill: Yea, Lauren Hirsh: Yea, Tim Penich: Yea, Carrie Steinbach: Yea
Yea: 7, Nay: 0

10.D. Award of Generator Contract

Generator Contract. This motion, made by Tim Penich and seconded by Lauren Hirsh, Passed.

Laura Breakstone: Yea, Andrew Carlson: Yea, Richard Driver: Yea, Anne Hill: Yea, Lauren Hirsh: Yea, Tim Penich: Yea, Carrie Steinbach: Yea
Yea: 7, Nay: 0

10.E. Personnel Report

Personnel Report. This motion, made by Anne Hill and seconded by Andrew Carlson, Passed.
Laura Breakstone: Yea, Andrew Carlson: Yea, Richard Driver: Yea, Anne Hill: Yea, Lauren
Hirsh: Yea, Tim Penich: Yea, Carrie Steinbach: Yea
Yea: 7, Nay: 0

10.F. Consent Agenda

Consent Agenda. This motion, made by Lauren Hirsh and seconded by Tim Penich, Passed.
Laura Breakstone: Yea, Andrew Carlson: Yea, Richard Driver: Yea, Anne Hill: Yea, Lauren
Hirsh: Yea, Tim Penich: Yea, Carrie Steinbach: Yea
Yea: 7, Nay: 0

10.F.1. Open Session Meeting Minutes

10.F.1.a. March 16, 2026 Regular meeting minutes

10.F.1.b. April 14, 2026 Regular meeting minutes

10.F.2. Treasurer's Report

10.F.3. Imprest Report

10.F.4. Bills Report

10.F.5. P Card Report

11. FOIA Requests

We recieved 5 FOIA requests since our March meeting.

12. PUBLIC COMMENTS - Carrie Steinbach

No public comment.

13. ADJOURNMENT

7:57 Adjournment. This motion, made by Anne Hill and seconded by Carrie Steinbach, Passed.
Laura Breakstone: Yea, Andrew Carlson: Yea, Richard Driver: Yea, Anne Hill: Yea, Lauren
Hirsh: Yea, Tim Penich: Yea, Carrie Steinbach: Yea
Yea: 7, Nay: 0
Meeting was adjourned at 7:57pm.