

**Special School Board Meeting of the
LJSD Board of Trustees**

November 5, 2025 6:00 PM

Administrative Offices,
15506 N. Washington Street,
Rathdrum, ID 83858



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

The meeting was officially called to order at 6:00 p.m by Chair Thompson.

In Attendance:

Chair Thompson, Vice Chair Grissom, Trustee Jones, Trustee Bain, Trustee
Quimby, Superintendent Taylor.

B. Welcome Visitors / Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Thompson welcomed attendees and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. Approval of Agenda (Action)

Motion: To approve by Trustee Jones.

Second: By Trustee Quimby

Outcome: Motion carried unanimously.

D. Announcements

Announcement made by Trustee Bain quoting statute regarding personnel files.
No information regarding an employee's personnel file will be shared with the
public.

E. Public Input

The Board received five letters from community members commending a
Lakeland High School teacher's commitment to student success. Although the
Board opted not to read the letters aloud during public input, the letters were
approved for inclusion in the official meeting minutes.

F. Executive Session per IC 74-206 (1) (b)

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

Motion: To enter into Executive Session made by Vice Chair Grissom.

Second: By Trustee Jones.

Roll Call

Trustee Jones: Yes

Trustee Bain: Yes

Chair Thompson: Yes

Trustee Quimby: Yes

Vice Chair Grissom: Yes

Outcome: Motion carried unanimously.

G. Executive Session

Entered: 6:07 p.m.

1. Student A

Attendees: Student A, Student A Parents, Student A Step-parents,
Superintendent Rusty Taylor, Assistant Superintendent Jake Massey,
Mountainview Alternative High School Principal Paul Uzzi, Clerk Sierra
Schrader.

Student A, parents, and step parents exited: 6:27 p.m.

Principal Uzzi exited: 6:29 p.m.

Superintendent Taylor and Assistant Superintendent Massey exited: 6:34 p.m.

Superintendent Taylor entered: 6:52 p.m.

Motion: Made by Trustee Jones.

Seconded: By Vice Chair Grissom.

Outcome: Motion carried unanimously.

Session Concluded: 6 :53 p.m.

H. Action Items

1. Winter Sports Schedule

Motion: To approve made by Trustee Bain.

Seconded: By Trustee Quimby.

Outcome: Motion carried unanimously.

I. Discussion Items

1. Route Times

The Board requested a detailed comparison of current and previous year's bus route times to evaluate impacts on student transportation. This item will be revisited at the next meeting.

2. 2025-2026 Board Goals

Board goals were requested by the Superintendent to be clearly defined as these goals serve as the basis for the Superintendent Evaluation. Trustee Grissom expressed concerns about blurred roles between Superintendent initiatives and Board governance underscoring the need for clear boundaries and proper process. A document was requested by Board Clerk Schrader to ensure deadlines are met. Policy 1620 was requested by Trustee Grissom to be brought to Policy Committee for review.

3. IBB

A review of the previous IBB meeting was given highlighting the duties of the newly created Problem Solving Team (PST). Trustee Bain was appointed to serve on PST to represent Board interests.

4. Times and Topics for City of Rathdrum Meeting

The Board agreed to schedule a meeting with the City of Rathdrum during the week of December 8. Discussion topics will include the Veterans Memorial, Parks and Recreation MOU, large flag installation, and traffic flow at Lakeland Middle School. Clerk Schrader will coordinate with the City to finalize the date and time.

J. Dates to Remember

- November 7, 2025, End of First Quarter
- November 10, 2025, 5:30 p.m. Policy Committee
- November 11, 2025, Veterans Day
- November 17, 2025, 5:30 p.m. Policy Committee
- November 19, 2025, 6:00 p.m. Regular Board Meeting

Meeting adjourned at: 7:43 p.m.

Attests:

Respectfully Submitted:

Michelle Thompson, Board Chair

Sierra Schrader, Clerk of the Board

DRAFT

Request to Address the Board

Date: 10/27/2025

Name: Jennifer Derrick (Please Print)

Subject Matter Desiring to Address:

Reading my letter of support for Shannon Mattila at the
next board meeting. I will not be able to attend, however I would like
my letter to be read.

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.*****



Support for Shannon Mattila

1 message

Sun, Oct 26, 2025 at 2:14 PM

[REDACTED]
to: clerk@lakeland272.org

Dear District Clerk,

My name is Jennifer Derrick, and I graduated from Lakeland High School in 2020. I had the privilege of being a student of Shannon Mattila for two years during my junior and senior years. I wanted to take a moment to share my appreciation for the incredible impact she had on my education and personal growth.

Mrs. Mattila is, without a doubt, one of the most dedicated and effective teachers I have ever had. She has a true gift for teaching mathematics, particularly calculus, in a way that is both engaging and easy to understand. Her ability to break down complex concepts into simple, logical steps made a subject that is often intimidating feel accessible and even enjoyable. She consistently encouraged her students to think critically and ask questions.

Beyond her teaching skill, Mrs. Mattila genuinely cares about her students' success and well-being. She regularly offered extra help before school to ensure every student had the opportunity to succeed. Her classroom was a place where students felt supported and challenged, and her passion for teaching was always evident. While her courses and assessments were rigorous, they were fair and thoughtfully designed to prepare students for higher-level learning.

The knowledge, discipline, and study habits I developed in her classes have served me extremely well throughout college and now in graduate school. I am currently pursuing my Doctor of Physical Therapy degree at Eastern Washington University, and I continue to draw on the problem-solving skills and work ethic she helped me build. Even years after graduating, she has remained approachable and supportive—always willing to provide advice or encouragement.

I am deeply grateful to have had Mrs. Mattila as a teacher. She embodies what it means to be an educator: knowledgeable, caring, and committed to her students' growth. Lakeland High School and its students are truly fortunate to have her as an educator.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Derrick

Class of 2020, Lakeland High School

Request to Address the Board

Date: 10/28/20

Name: Matthew Wirtz (Please Print)

Subject Matter Desiring to Address:

comments regarding a math teacher at Lakeland High School. Please read my email
to board members.

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

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- ☐ 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.

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Shannon Matilla Comments

Mon, Oct 20, 2025 at 10:49 AM

To: "ramona.grissom@lakeland272.org" <ramona.grissom@lakeland272.org>, "rusty.taylor@lakeland272.org" <rusty.taylor@lakeland272.org>, "jake.massey@lakeland272.org" <jake.massey@lakeland272.org>, "clerk@lakeland272.org" <clerk@lakeland272.org>, "robert.jones@lakeland272.org" <robert.jones@lakeland272.org>, "david.quimby@lakeland272.org" <david.quimby@lakeland272.org>, "michelle.thompson@lakeland272.org" <michelle.thompson@lakeland272.org>, "randi.bain@lakeland272.org" <randi.bain@lakeland272.org>

Dear Lakeland School Board Trustees & Superintendent,

My name is Matthew Wirtz, and I am a former student of the Lakeland School District, graduating in 2023. It has recently come to my attention that there was an alleged incident at Lakeland involving comments made about the death of political activist Charlie Kirk. I have heard from various sources that the teacher involved is Ms. Shannon Matilla, although this information remains unconfirmed.

I had the privilege of taking several classes with Ms. Matilla during my time at Lakeland High School. Additionally, I served as her teaching assistant, which allowed me to spend even more time working closely with her and observing her teaching style. Without a doubt, Ms. Matilla is one of the greatest teachers I have ever had. She has a remarkable ability to engage a classroom with both interest and laughter. Her deep understanding of complex mathematical subjects, such as calculus, and her ability to make them accessible to students is exceptional. Ms. Matilla challenged me both academically and through extracurricular activities such as BPA and math competitions. Teachers who make a lasting impact like she does are rare, and she was profoundly influential during my time at Lakeland—helping to shape me into who I am today.

I share these experiences as someone who knows Ms. Matilla's character first hand. She is not a malicious or hateful person in any way. On the contrary, she is one of the kindest and most caring teachers I have had the privilege to learn from. If she did make the alleged comments, I am confident they were not spoken with any ill intent. I believe this incident is simply an unfortunate misunderstanding.

We live in an increasingly polarized world, and I ask that, in addressing this matter, the Lakeland School District act with forgiveness and grace toward those who make mistakes. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Matthew Wirtz

Request to Address the Board

Date: 11/3/25

Name: Sarah Boyer (Please Print)

Subject Matter Desiring to Address:

I am requesting for my letter regarding the character of Shannon Mattila to be read
~~aloud at the next board meeting.~~

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- ☐ A complaint or concern about any individual employed by the District.
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- ☐ Proposed future agenda item.

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The Character of Shannon Mattila

[REDACTED]
To: clerk@lakeland272.org

Sun, Nov 2, 2025 at 6:13 PM

Dear Clerk of Lakeland,

My name is Sarah Boyer, and I am writing in support of Mrs. Shannon Mattila and to endorse her exceptional character. I graduated from Lakeland High School in 2020 and had a close relationship with Mrs. Mattila during my time in school. She was my cross-country coach in junior high and my teacher for two years, during which her remarkable character was consistently demonstrated.

Mrs. Mattila always prioritizes her students. I regularly visited her classroom before school to receive extra help and tutoring on my math assignments. Her class challenged me, but she supported me every step of the way to ensure I succeeded. She demonstrated extraordinary leadership, kindness, and dedication, often spending her own personal time outside of school for one-on-one tutoring.

During the challenges of COVID, Mrs. Mattila never gave up on our learning or our success. At a time when normalcy felt impossible, she created a supportive and engaging learning environment that helped me feel like I was still progressing as a student. Her effort during this period reflected her unwavering commitment to her students.

I passed her classroom every day and frequently stopped to talk with her as she greeted students before class began. She is personable, caring, supportive, and an incredible coach, teacher, and mentor. When I reflect on the most influential people in my life growing up, Mrs. Mattila is at the top of the list.

Sincerely,
Sarah Boyer
Class of 2020, Lakeland High School

Request to Address the Board

Date: 10/28/25

Name: Laurel Langenderfer (Please Print)

Subject Matter Desiring to Address:

A letter about the affect of Shannon Matilla as a teacher

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

☐

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☐

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☒

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.

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What you should know about Shannon Mattila before making a decision.

[REDACTED]
To: clerk@lakeland272.org

Mon, Oct 27, 2025 at 2:09 PM

Dear X,

My name is Laurel Langenderfer, and I graduated from Lakeland Highschool in the year 2020. During my junior and senior year at Lakeland, I was fortunate enough to have Shannon Mattila as my teacher for calculus and algebra 2.

She was one of the best math teachers I had during my education as she made complex concepts easy to understand. She would take the time to answer questions both inside and outside of class. This later helped me when attending Lewis-Clark State College to get my Bachelors in Radiographic Sciences.

Outside of having her as a teacher, I also had her as a coach in cross-country when I was in 7th grade. She was a phenomenal coach. I was not the fastest runner, but she still took the time to run back to the end of the line to encourage me, and she continually took the time to cheer me on in races.

I am the youngest of four, so you can imagine how my siblings would tell me about different teachers and whether I would want them. She was always on the list as a must have teacher due to her ability to educate and still also be fun. She made classes interactive and fun. She also made sure to ask about my siblings and how they were doing when she met me.

She is not just a support as a teacher in the classroom, she is also supportive for life. When my brother passed away last year, she was one of the few teachers that came to the memorial. She also came to one of my fellow classmate's fathers funeral during our first year of college and she was who I sat next to. She is extremely supportive and shows genuine care for her students both current and past.

I am grateful for the time I had her as a teacher. She continues to make Lakeland Highschool great, and they are fortunate to have her there.

Sincerely,

Laurel Langenderfer, R.T. (R)(ARRT)
Lakeland Highschool Class of 2020

Request to Address the Board

Date: 11/5/25

Name: Erika Gallus (Please Print)

Subject Matter Desiring to Address:

I would like to address the board about Ms. Shannon Mattila's character and
qualifications via a letter I wrote to the board.

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

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- ☐ A complaint or concern about any individual employed by the District.
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- ☐ 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.*****

My name is Erika Gallus, I am a proud graduate of Lakeland High School. I graduated in 2020 after some of the most formative years of my life and am proud to be currently serving my country in the United States Air Force. While at Lakeland (go hawks), I had the privilege of learning under so many amazing teachers and faculty. I truly felt like they cared individually for all of their students and went above and beyond to help us learn in ways best suited to us. The most formative teacher of my time at Lakeland was, without a doubt, Ms. Shannon Mattila so I wanted to take a moment to let you know how amazing she is.

Ms. Mattila was my Algebra II teacher, my Trig/Pre-Calc teacher, AND my Calculus teacher (after we begged her to teach it). I got to learn from Ms. Mattila for 3 years and to this day is my favorite teacher ever. The first day when I sat in her honors Algebra class, I did not think I was going to like her -- she set high expectations, was very clear that we would have to work hard, and she wasn't going to go easy on us. As the semester progressed, I learned that this type of teacher truly brought out the best in her students. Ms. Mattila was clearly passionate about her profession and it showed in how she was able to articulate complicated subjects clearly, how she kept a fun (sarcasm is her forte and it's the best) but serious atmosphere in her classroom, how she took the time to get to know students personally, and how she showed up for students when we needed the extra help (or just wanted to chat and hang out). Whenever I come home to visit, I still like to go visit Mattila in her classroom or go get coffee. This past summer, I went to a cross country practice and ran with her while chatting. Mattila is the kind of teacher who calls you out (she's done it to me and I'm better for it), who gives a student carrots as a graduation present, who takes the time to have the extra conversation with you, and who will always be there for her students. Nothing can change that.

The lessons I have learned in her classroom are irreplaceable and have served me well as I go through life. They helped me gain admission to the United States Air Force Academy where I studied Civil Engineering for 4 years, they helped me earn a scholarship to Virginia Tech where I am now earning my Masters degree in Geotechnical Engineering, and I know they will help me as I head off to helicopter pilot training and beyond. I attribute where I'm at to three main sources: Jesus, my family, and Lakeland. I am truly thankful for the blessing Ms. Mattila has been in my life as I know she has been for countless other students.

I appreciate you taking the time to read this letter, and I appreciate your service to this school district.

Thank you,
Erika Gallus
Class of 2020, Lakeland High School