

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of Lake Orion Community Schools, County of Oakland, State of Michigan, was called to order on Wednesday, April 23, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.

Board Members Present: D. Bresett, J. Faber, B. McQuiston, H. Sinawi, J. Singer, S. Taylor

Board Members Absent: S. Flaherty

Administrators Present: H. Mercer, A. Weldon, A. Curtis, D. Towleron

Others Present: J. Olko, M. Snyder, W. Goodman, G. Hynes, E. Johnson, S. Wasnuk, T. Palmeri, P. Kyle, R. Mucci, E. Peruski, C. Bell, L. Logsdon, T. Byal, J. Hosler, J. Goral, C. Murphy, R. DeRyckere, M. Webb, M. Wood, A. and T. Griffin, N. Jenaras, H. Suddeth, B. Binson, A. Horak, S. and A. Diez, S. Robertson, M. Raeb, J. Fox, C., A. and S. Hasenauer, L. Foltényi, A. and D. Schendal, K. Marion, G. Silaghi, L. Tascuella, K. Sloan, K. Lavin, M. Perkins, D. Kozhuharov, M Berndt, J. Holland

Moved by McQuiston, seconded by Sinawi, to approve the agenda as presented. Ayes - all; Motion carried

LEARNING HIGHLIGHTS AND COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

Mark Snyder discussed the Parent Square communication pilot and shared learning highlights from various programs throughout the district.

PRESENTATIONS

Stadium Drive Elementary School Showcase - Gretchen Hynes, Emily Johnson, Stephen Wasnuk and students discussed their Disability Awareness Workshop, Autism Acceptance Month, and Positivity Peers.

Webber Elementary School Showcase - Tony Palmeri, Pam Kyle, Renee Mucci, Erica Peruski and students discussed their Buckaroo program.

Athletics Update - Chris Bell provided highlights from the recent winter season including participation numbers and season outcomes for the various sports teams.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION RELATED TO ACTION ITEMS ON THE AGENDA:

Molly Webb, a community resident, opposed the lease extension for the Clarkston Road cell tower.

Nicolette Jenaras, a community resident, opposed the lease extension for the Clarkston Road cell tower.

Chris Hornbeck, a community resident, opposed the lease extension for the Clarkston Road cell tower.

Daniel Jenarus, a community resident, opposed the lease extension for the Clarkston Road cell tower.

Alex Horack, a community resident, opposed the lease extension for the Clarkston Road cell tower.

Sarah Robertson, a community resident, opposed the lease extension for the Clarkston Road cell tower.

Lawrence Foltényi, a community resident, opposed the lease extension for the Clarkston Road cell tower.

Kevin Marion, a community resident, opposed the lease extension for the Clarkston Road cell tower.

Marguerite Wood, a community resident, opposed the lease extension for the Clarkston Road cell tower.

Amy Griffin, a community resident, opposed the lease extension for the Clarkston Road cell tower.

STRATEGIC AREA DISCUSSION ITEMS

Governance

Superintendent's Update: Heidi Mercer discussed the following:

- **Future Bond Discussion:** Administration continued discussion of a bond proposal in November 2025 to address district needs. \$620 million worth of needs were identified, however the proposal would scale that back to less than half to focus on critical work and offer a tax decrease for the community starting in 2026. A community survey shows strong support for the bond, with over 1200 participants and 75% in favor. The Board discussed the uncertainty of state and federal funding as well as inflation and declining enrollment. Budgeting for technology and transportation was also discussed. Overall, the Board provided administration direction to move forward planning for a bond proposal in November 2025 to secure financial stability for the district.

Bond Design Teams Report: Work has started on the Paint Creek classroom and LOHS auxiliary gym projects.

Policy Committee Report: Scott Taylor reported the committee met on April 16 to discuss NEOLA 39-2 update. First reading will be held on May 14.

Student Achievement

Assistant Superintendent Update: Drew Towler reported April is School Library month. The District passed the English Language Learners audit conducted last year. He also discussed the following:

- Head Start/Early Head Start Programming: The Board reviewed a recommendation to release grants at the end of 2025 due to program restrictions, attendance, funding and capacity.

Curriculum Committee Report: Danielle Bresett reported the committee met on April 15 to discuss the High School math pilot program. It will be presented to the full Board on May 14.

Human Resources

Assistant Superintendent Update: Adam Weldon reported the school received a grant to complete a safety audit of outdoor athletic facilities which is currently underway. He also discussed the following:

- Certified Staff Non-Renewal: The Board reviewed a recommendation for a non-renewal of one certified staff member due to the elimination of the position.

Finance and Operations

Assistant Superintendent Update: Andrea Curtis discussed the following:

- PHASES Furniture Bid: The Board reviewed a recommendation to purchase furniture from Custer, Yeo and Yeo and Interphase totaling \$203,328.69.
- First Reading - Oakland Schools 2025-26 Proposed Budget: The Board reviewed the proposed revenue and expenditure summaries. The Board will take action on this item on May 14.
- Clarkston Road Cell Tower Agreement Second Amendment: The Board reviewed an amendment to extend the current agreement an additional six months.

March Monthly Financial Report: General fund/cash balance reports were reviewed.

ACTION ITEMS

Moved by McQuiston, seconded by Sinawi, to approve the consent agenda items as presented:

- a. Approve Minutes from the April 9 Regular and Closed Session, April 7 Finance Committee, April 15 Curriculum Committee, and April 16, 2025 Policy Committee Meetings
- b. Out of State/Overnight Field Trip Requests
 1. LOHS FCCLA - Orlando, FL, July 5-10, 2025
 2. LOHS Chamber Choir - East Lansing, MI, May 8-9, 2025

Ayes - all; Motion carried

Moved by Sinawi, seconded by McQuiston, approve the return of Early Head Start and Head Start slots to Oakland Livingston Head Start Association at the end of the current grant cycle as recommended. Ayes - all; Motion carried.

Moved by Singer, seconded by Sinawi, to approve the non-renewal of a certified staff member due to elimination of the position as recommended. Ayes - all; Motion carried.

Moved by Sinawi, seconded by Taylor, to authorize administration to finalize and execute contracts to purchase and install furniture for the PHASES program with Custer, Yeo and Yeo and Interphase for a procurement total of \$203,328.69, as presented. Ayes - all; Motion carried.

Moved by Taylor, seconded by McQuiston, to authorize administration to finalize and execute a Second Amendment to Option and Ground Lease Agreement with Towerco 2013 LLC as presented. Ayes - none; Nays - all; Motion failed.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION FOR OTHER NON-ACTION ITEMS/TOPICS:

Cindy Murphy, a district employee, opposed relocating PHASES to CERC until after construction is finished.

RECAP/NEXT STEPS: Administration will consult with legal counsel regarding the cell tower agreement.

CLOSING COMMENTS: Administrator and Board member items were provided for and so noted.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Board Secretary