

Regular Meeting
Tuesday, May 20, 2025 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. 7:00 P.M. REGULAR MEETING

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge was recited.

3. 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, Jamison, read the Mission, Vision and Motto.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT - Anne Hill

No public comment.

5. RECOGNITION OF RETIREES

5.A. Retiree Resolution

Lauren Hirsh read the resolution from the board packet honoring all retirees and thanked them for their service.

5.B. Retiree Recognition by Principals

Kathy Koushanpour - Principal Bae

Denise Salit - Principal Bae

Anne DeGot - Principal Blackmer

Julia Marran - Principal Blackmer

Darlene Yandell - Principal Blackmer

Principals Bae and Blackmer honored each retiree and distributed the personalized resolutions.

6. ADDITION OF DISCUSSION ITEM

A suggestion was made to discuss board agenda topics for the 2025-26 meeting schedule. We will add this to the June agenda.

7. REPORTS

7.A. PTO Report - Julie Bell

PTO President, Julie Bell, thanked the board for a wonderful year. She announced that the new co-presidents are Megan Handler and Rae Dobosh and that almost all positions are full. Julie also recapped 2024-25 PTO: Splash Bash, Pumpkin Bash, Pumpkin Chase, Project Full Service, LBES seasonal classroom parties, holiday giving, Charleston Wrap, teacher & staff appreciation (conference meals, stock the fridge, FRIENDS-themed appreciation week), LBES mosaic project, butterfly program, Wheel of Wisdom, new LBMS Bobcat mascot suit, book fair, recycling and composting, spirit wear, 8th grade activities & promotion ceremony. Another busy and successful year for the PTO!

7.B. Alliance Report - Michael Breakstone

Alliance President, Michael Breakstone, reported that Sunrise Rocks will take place on Saturday, May 24. There are several sponsors this year, and they have already raised over half of their goal. Hats will be sold as an additional fundraiser. Just show up, no tickets needed. The Alliance will hold an exciting art auction on October 8th at the Gallery in Lake Forest. The Alliance Grants for the upcoming school year have been reviewed. Grants include: the mosaic (year 2), a kiln for art, and the Science Olympiad. There are also donations coming in for the Susan Armbruster Memorial Fund that will support teachers in continuing education and classroom enrichment opportunities after a park bench is secured in her memory. Check out the updated Alliance for Excellence website for further information.

7.C. President's Report - Anne Hill

With Anne Hill absent, Carrie Steinbach is acting board President. She asked for board volunteers to help with 8th grade promotion on June 3rd.

7.D. Superintendent's Report - Dr. Lisa Leali

No report.

8. DISCUSSION/PRESENTATION

8.A. ESY Update - Kathleen Turner Kwak

LBES Assistant Principal/ESY Principal, Kathleen Turner Kwak, gave a thorough update of our Summer Scholars/Extended School Year (ESY). Kathleen reported that all of our ESY staff are current or returning staff members. We have 63 students registered this year, which is a bit smaller than previous years. Details are in the board packet.

8.B. Curriculum Survey Results, Literacy and Class Size Audit Results - Dr. Lisa Leali

Superintendent, Dr. Lisa Leali reviewed our curriculum survey results. We were pleased to receive 180 responses. Parents overwhelmingly rated arts and related programming (world language, music, theater, STEAM and arts) as highly desired. Based on the survey, executive functioning will be added to the middle school curriculum along with math life skills, and coding will be added to K-2nd Grade. There are plans for after-school academic/tutoring programs that families asked for as well. We have been working on the foundations of reading to align with the science of reading. This year we added a new assessment tool called AimsWeb at LBES. We had a third-party literacy and tutoring audit by A2. As improvements in literacy, we have robust masters-level professional development offerings for our staff. As a follow-up to our community round table, regarding class size and growth, we worked with ECRA group to examine growth and proficiency based on the number of students in the

classroom. This report found that there was not a consistent relationship between class size and student growth. Details can be found in the board packet.

8.C. Technology Update - Kevin Kolcz

Our District Technology Coordinator, Kevin Kolcz, began giving an update for the year. K-5 students will no longer take home their district devices. Screen time and device limits in K will be enforced (5 devices per classroom). We have eliminated over 20 online subscriptions based on usage and student growth. The technology update has been tabled and will continue at the June board meeting.

8.D. Preschool Update - Tracy Roehrick

Kathleen Turner Kwak gave a quick Preschool Update in place of Tracy Roehrick, indicating that due to enrollment numbers, we will have a combined 3-4 class for the 2025-26 school year.

8.E. Onboarding Overview - Dr. Lisa Leali

Dr. Leali reviewed our recruiting, hiring and onboarding process. We use Frontline Recruiting and Hiring (formerly Applitrak). There are many area districts using this platform as well. Candidates can complete one application for several districts. We have found that the Village Newsletter, K-12 JobSpot, social media/word of mouth and, most recently, the addition of posting on Handshake have brought in our best applicants, job fairs have not been as successful. Depending on the job, the principals typically begin the screening and then invite staff to become part of the interview committee. In addition to interviews, candidates may be asked to complete performance tasks/prepare lessons. Dr. Leali also talked about our mentor program and evaluation process. This year our new hire onboarding will take place at the end of July with distribution of devices and an introduction to their one-on-one mentor. Along with the two-year mentoring program, we've established a district-specific monthly checklist to help new hires throughout the year. We have several programs in place for staff retention as well, including: professional development, opportunities for advancement or transfer, plan time, budgeting tools, class placement, parent/teacher partnerships, recognition, and, culture and climate surveys. Details can be found in the board packet.

8.F. Treasurer's Surety Bond 2025-26 - Jay Kahn

The Treasurer's Surety Bond is an annual requirement with the premium the same as last year. For details see board packet.

8.G. Hazardous Routes 2025-26 - Jay Kahn

Jay Kahn gave the annual update on hazardous routes. There have been no changes from previous years. Maps and details can be found in the board packet.

8.H. Authorized Depositories - Jay Kahn

Jay Kahn gave the list of authorized depositories as required annually. This has not changed from the previous year. Our current collateral agreement is in the board packet.

8.I. Life Safety Update - Jay Kahn

Jay Kahn reported on our Life Safety survey done by our architects as required every ten years. The report is in the board packet. There were no major or urgent issues. Our Facilities Manager, Andy Garcia, has already completed many of the suggestions.

8.J. Disposition of Assets - Jay Kahn

Jay Kahn reported that due to our termination of our former lunch service provider, Quest Food, we had equipment on hand that was no longer in use. We have an offer from March Equipment to purchase the items for a total of \$3,200.

9. ACTION (WITH DISCUSSION) ITEMS

9.A. Superintendent Contract Approval

Superintendent contract remains the same with a 4.5% increase. This motion, made by Lauren Hirsh 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

Superintendent's salary increased by 4.5%

9.B. Approval of Treasurer's Surety Bond 2025-26

Treasurer's Surety Bond. This motion, made by Richard Driver and seconded by Lauren Hirsh, 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

9.C. Approval of Hazardous Routes 2025-26

Hazardous Routes. This motion, made by Tim Penich and seconded by Richard Driver, 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

9.D. Approval of Authorized Depositories

Authorized Depositories. This motion, made by Richard Driver and seconded by Tim Penich, 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

9.E. Disposition of Assets Approval

Disposition of Assets. This motion, made by Laura Breakstone and seconded by Lauren Hirsh, 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

9.F. Glenbrook 225 True North Withdrawal Approval

Glenbrook 225 withdrawal from True North. This motion, made by Lauren Hirsh and seconded by Andrew Carlson, Failed.

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

Yea: 1, Nay: 5, Absent: 1

Richard Driver: Yea

9.G. Personnel Report

Personnel Report. This motion, made by Tim Penich and seconded by Richard Driver, 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

9.H. ESY Staffing Approval

ESY Staffing. This motion, made by Lauren Hirsh and seconded by Tim Penich, 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

9.I. Action to approve settlement agreement regarding pending litigation with former employee Margaret Ryan

Litigation settlement. This motion, made by Richard Driver and seconded by Laura Breakstone, Passed.
Anne Hill: Absent, Andrew Carlson: Abstain (With Conflict), Laura Breakstone: Yea, Richard Driver: Yea, Lauren Hirsh: Yea, Tim Penich: Yea, Carrie Steinbach: Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1, Abstain (With Conflict): 1

9.J. Consent Agenda

Consent Agenda. This motion, made by Richard Driver and seconded by Carrie Steinbach, 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

9.J.1. Open Session Meeting Minutes

9.J.1.a. April 15, 2025 Committee of the Whole Board of Education Meeting Minutes

9.J.1.b. April 29, 2025 Regular and Reorganization Board of Education Meeting Minutes

9.J.2. Treasurer's Report

9.J.3. Imprest Report

9.J.4. Bills Report

9.J.5. P Card Report

10. FOIA Requests

We had two FOIA requests.

11. PUBLIC COMMENTS - Anne Hill

No public comment.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 8:53pm. This motion, made by Laura Breakstone and seconded by Lauren Hirsh, 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