

Regular Board of Education Meeting

Monday, May 4, 2026 6:40 PM

Administration Center - Joanne H. Osmond Boardroom, 131 McKinley Ave., Lake Villa, Illinois 60046

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Roll Call**
3. **Electronic Participation of a Board Member (Roll Call Vote)**
4. **Closed Session (Roll Call Vote)**
 - *Personnel - Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Discipline, Performance, or Dismissal of Specific Employees of Lake Villa District #41. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1).*
5. **Resume Open Session at 7:00 p.m. (Voice Vote)**
6. **Approval of Agenda (Roll Call Vote)**
7. **Pledge of Allegiance**
8. **Communications**
9. **Public Comments**
10. **Consent Agenda A (Roll Call Vote)**
 - 10.1. Regular Board Meeting Minutes – *April 20, 2026*
 - 10.2. Closed Session Meeting Minutes – *April 20, 2026*
 - 10.3. Special Meeting Minutes (New Board Member Training) – *April 27, 2026*
 - 10.4. Resignation of Staff – *Nancy McConnell, Paraprofessional; Ashley Hayes, Teacher; Traci Strieter, Thompson School Principal*
 - 10.5. Employment of Staff – *Jessica Reeves - Pacheco, District Registrar; Staff Contracts 2026 Summer School*
 - 10.6. Freedom of Information Act Requests
 - 10.7. Electronic Communication Received by the Board
 - 10.8. Destruction of Closed Session Audio Recordings – *May 20, 2024, Early; June 17, 2024; July 15, 2024, Early; September 23, 2024; October 7, 2024; October 28, 2024*
 - 10.9. Approval of Annual Technology Software and Services Renewals
 - 10.10. Approval of 2027 Extended Field Trip to Washington D.C.
 - 10.11. Intergovernmental Agreement with School District 37 for Physical Therapist Shared Services for the 2026-2027 School Year

10.12. Renewal of Agreement with Ampersand
Therapy for Licensed Occupational Therapist
Services for the 2026-2027 School Year

11. Consent Agenda B (Roll Call Vote)

11.1. *Melissa Rhodes* – Position Change from
Dean of Culture and Discipline to Thompson School
Principal starting July 1, 2026.

12. Reports

12.1. Superintendent's Report **Presenter:** Dr. Keim -
Bounds

12.2. Professional Development Report **Presenter:** Dr. Wight

12.3. Anti – Bulling Committee Report **Presenter:** Mrs.
Rhodes

12.4. Insurance Committee Report **Presenter:** Mrs.
Kasprzyk

12.5. Board Governance Policies Compliance
Report

13. Old Business

13.1. Action to Adopt Resolution directing the
Regional Superintendent of Schools for The County
of Lake, Illinois, to certify to the County Clerk
of said County the question of imposing a
retailers' occupation tax and a service
occupation tax to be used exclusively for school
facility purposes, school resource officers, and
mental health professionals, for submission to
the electors of said County at the general
election to be held on the 3rd day of November,
2026. (Roll Call Vote)

13.2. Approval of TCI and HMH Social Science
Curriculum and Resource Materials Purchase (Roll
Call Vote) **Presenter:** Dr. Wight

13.3. Approval of NWEA Measure of Academic
Progress Assessment Purchase (Roll Call Vote) **Presenter:** Dr. Wight

13.4. Approval of Student Meal Rates for the
2026-2027 School Year (Roll Call Vote) **Presenter:** Mrs.
Kasprzyk

14. New Business

15. Calendar Review

16. Public Comments

17. Adjourn

FOIA REQUEST REPORT

05-04-26

Request Date	Name / Company	Records Requested	Status	Status Date
1. 4/13/2026	Michael F. Henry Illinois resident	"(...)The name of all law firm(s) currently providing legal services to the district, and the name of any law firm(s) that have provided legal services to the district at any time within the past eight (8) years. Any current engagement agreement(s), contract(s), retention agreement(s), or fee schedule(s) with legal counsel in effect at any time during the past three (3) fiscal years. The total amount paid to each law firm for legal services for each of the past three (3) fiscal years. This may be satisfied by invoices, payment registers, accounts payable records, or other existing financial records reflecting such payments."	Response Made	4/20/26
2. 4/17/2026	Owen Wang Lake County Gazette	(...) the following records for the time period of January 1, 2026 through the present: Policies and Guidance Any and all policies, procedures, guidelines, or administrative directives concerning religious accommodations for students, including but not limited to accommodations related to Ramadan observance. Ramadan-Specific Records Any and all records, including memoranda, guidance documents, or internal communications, specifically addressing accommodations for students observing Ramadan. Prayer Accommodations During School Hours Any and all records reflecting policies, practices, or guidance regarding student prayer during the school day, including but not limited to: Use of designated spaces for prayer; Permission to leave class for religious observance; Staff instructions or administrative guidance concerning such practices. Implementation and Communication Any communications, including emails or memoranda, between district administrators, school staff, or external entities concerning the implementation of accommodations for students observing Ramadan. Complaints or Requests Any records reflecting requests for religious accommodations related to Ramadan, and any records reflecting how such requests were handled, including summaries or reports (excluding personally identifiable student information)."	Response Pending	5/4/26
3. 4/21/2026	Carla Carlos Employee Research Data LLC	"(...) information for district employees: First and last names; Job titles/positions; Work email addresses; Primary campus or department."	Response Made	4/28/26
4. 4/26/2026	Andrew Caldwell The Data Branch Research Team	"(...) all executed contracts, agreements, purchase orders, and related procurement documents for products or services purchased from any of the following vendors or their authorized resellers, for the period January 1, 2021, to the present: All products from: Primex, American Time, and/or Sapling. We are seeking records that reflect the pricing structure of any such engagement, including per-unit costs, subscription or licensing terms, and implementation fees."	Response Pending	5/4/26
5. 4/29/2026	Isacc Delton The Data Branch Research Team	"(...) all executed contracts, agreements, purchase orders, and related procurement documents for products or services purchased from any of the following vendors or their authorized resellers, for the period January 1, 2021, to the present: **All products from:** Blackboard Inc, Finalsite, DMX, Funds for Learning, E-Rate Consulting, N-Able, Raptor Technologies, and/or CSM Consulting We are seeking records that reflect the pricing structure of any such engagement, including per-unit costs, subscription or licensing terms, and implementation fees."	Response Pending	5/4/26

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION REPORT
05-04-2026

Sender	Date	Time	Received by the Board
Rochford, Emily <emily.rochford@district41.org	04-21-26	3:22 PM	2026 NJHS Ceremony Invitation

MEMO



DATE: May 4, 2026

TO: Dr. Sandra Keim-Bounds, Superintendent
Members of the Board of Education

FROM: Jonathan Chase, Director of Technology

RE: Approval of Annual Technology Software and Services Renewals

BACKGROUND:

Each year, the Technology Department evaluates and renews essential software licenses, support agreements, and cloud services required to maintain district operations. These platforms support critical daily functions across Lake Villa School District 41, including our student information systems, cybersecurity, web filtering, help desk operations, district communications, and campus visitor management.

The following is a list of our renewals for the upcoming school year that are above the \$15k threshold. Each vendor and its associated renewal cost is outlined below:

Vendor/Service	Renewal Cost
Avaya (3Y)	\$9,478.80
Google (3Y) w/ annual payments	\$43,597.44
Rapid Identity (1Y)	\$24,552
Meridian IT (3Y) w/ annual payments	\$22,992
Microsoft Campus Agreement (1Y)	\$18,074.86
PowerSchool (5Y) w/ annual payments	\$305,830.73
Xima (Phone System)	

RECOMMENDATION:

It is the recommendation of the administration that the Board of Education approve the annual technology software and services renewals as presented above.

MEMO



DATE: May 4, 2026

TO: Dr. Sandra Keim-Bounds, Superintendent
Members of the Board of Education

FROM: Sandy Allen, Director of Personnel

RE: Recommendation for Renewal of Intergovernmental Agreement with
Gavin School District 37

We are requesting Board of Education approval for the renewal of the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between Lake Villa Community Consolidated School District 41 and Gavin School District 37 for the 2026–2027 school year. Gavin School District 37 continues to have a need for physical therapy services, and this agreement provides an opportunity for continued collaboration between the two districts. We anticipate that cooperative partnerships such as this may become increasingly common, particularly in the area of special education services.

The purpose of the IGA is to formalize an arrangement for sharing the services of a Physical Therapist employed by District 41 for the 2026–2027 school year, with the agreement subject to annual review. Under the agreement, the therapist will spend 10% of their work time—approximately one-half day per week—in District 37 and the remaining 90% in District 41. District 41 will remain the therapist’s official employer and will continue to manage all employment responsibilities, including salary, benefits, evaluation, and legal compliance. District 37 will have the opportunity to provide input regarding the therapist’s evaluation.

Financially, District 37 will reimburse District 41 for 10% of the therapist’s total salary and benefits, professional development costs, and any related technology or equipment expenses. In addition, District 37 will cover 50% of the mileage reimbursement for travel between districts.

The agreement will go into effect upon signing and will automatically renew each year unless terminated by either party with written notice by February 1 of the intended final school year. Both districts will maintain appropriate liability insurance as part of the agreement.

MEMO



DATE: May 4, 2026

TO: Dr. Sandra Keim-Bounds, Superintendent
Members of the Board of Education

FROM: Sandy Allen, Director of Personnel

RE: Renewal of Licensed Occupational Therapist Agreement for the 2026–2027 School Year with Ampersand Therapy

BACKGROUND:

The District is recommending renewal of its agreement with Ampersand Therapy to provide a licensed Occupational Therapist for the 2026–2027 school year. The District continues to experience challenges in recruiting and securing qualified occupational therapy candidates for open positions. Renewal of this agreement will ensure continuity of in-person occupational therapy services for students during the 2026–2027 school year.

Occupational Therapists provide therapy services, conduct screenings and evaluations, contribute to the development and implementation of Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) and 504 plans, and participate in meetings with families and staff. They support students across all tiers of the Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) by helping teams identify sensory, motor, and functional needs and recommending appropriate interventions. Continuity of services required under IEPs and 504 plans must be maintained to avoid regression and ensure compliance with applicable federal and state laws and regulations.

Ampersand Therapy provided a qualified Illinois-licensed Occupational Therapists during the 2025-2026 school year, ensuring students receive specialized and effective interventions while supporting operational efficiency and resource management. Continuing this partnership helps mitigate legal risk, maintain regulatory compliance, and avoid interruptions in mandated student services.

The cost for the contracted 1.0 FTE Occupational Therapist for the 2026–2027 school year to serve Thompson School and Palombi School is based on 37.5 hours per week, with annual hours not to exceed 1,462.5, at an hourly rate of \$99.00, for a total cost of \$144,787.50. Hours of service include evaluations, report writing, occupational therapy services, IEP/504/staff meetings, and consultation with families, students, and staff during the 2026–2027 school year calendar.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the renewal of the contract with Ampersand Therapy for up to 37.5 hours per week for up to 39 weeks to provide Occupational Therapy services for the 2026–2027 school year.

MEMO



DATE: May 4, 2026

TO: Dr. Sandra Keim-Bounds, Superintendent
Members of the Board of Education

FROM: Dr. Vic Wight, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning

RE: 2025-2026 Professional Development
2026 Summer Professional Development

This memo outlines the professional development (PD) opportunities that will be offered to Lake Villa School District 41 staff during the summer of 2026 and professional development during the 2025-2026 school year. These sessions are designed to strengthen instructional practices, enhance student support systems, and ensure alignment with district priorities including standards-based grading, MTSS, and high-quality core instruction.

Dates Offered:

- **Primary Summer PD Sessions:** August 5–7
- **Additional PD & Collaborative Planning:** August 12–14

All sessions will take place at Thompson Elementary, with structured time blocks and opportunities for both full-day and half-day participation.

Key PD Topics and Sessions

August 5–7 Highlights:

- **Instructional Practices & Curriculum**
 - The Writing Revolution 2.0: From Sentences to Success (K–8)
 - 5 Practices for Math Instruction
 - Strategic Math Groups and data-driven small group instruction
 - Using and Creating Structured Visuals to support comprehension
- **Standards-Based Learning & Assessment**
 - Standards-Based Grading for Middle School
 - Aligning instruction to priority standards and levels of progression
- **Student Support & Behavior**
 - Proactive Strategies to Support Behavior in the Classroom
 - Strategies for Social-Emotional Regulation
 - CPI (Nonviolent Crisis Intervention)

- **Collaboration & Instructional Models**
 - Co-Teaching in K–5
 - Building effective collaborative instructional environments
- **Technology & Innovation**
 - Gemini AI: foundational use and instructional applications
 - Canva with AI: designing instructional resources

August 12–14 Highlights:

- **Professional Collaboration & Planning**
 - Dedicated PLC Planning time with instructional coach support
- **Literacy & Language Development**
 - Bringing Words to Life: Robust Vocabulary Instruction (K–8)
 - Instruction to Support Comprehension (QtA framework)
 - Organizing the ELA Block for maximum instructional impact
- **Targeted Student Supports**
 - Strategic ELA Groups aligned to Science of Reading practices
 - Supporting Students with Universal Accessibility Features
 - Exploring Augmentative & Alternative Communication (AAC)
- **Inclusive & Specialized Practices**
 - Co-Teaching in Grades 6–8
 - Fading Adult Support of Diverse Learners
 - Trauma-Informed Practices (Wired Differently)
- **Behavior & Safety**
 - CPI training opportunities for staff requiring certification or renewal

Design and Alignment

These professional learning opportunities were developed through collaboration with instructional coaches, building administrators, and analysis of staff feedback.

The structure reflects a balance of:

- High-impact instructional strategies
- Systems-level implementation (MTSS, SBG, inclusive practices)
- Opportunities for teacher choice and differentiation
- Time for collaboration, planning, and application

Additionally, this work builds coherence with prior institute days and ongoing district initiatives, including standards-based grading implementation, instructional frameworks, and safety training protocols .

We are confident that the 2026 Summer Professional Development Series will continue to build staff capacity, strengthen instructional consistency, and support improved outcomes for all students across Lake Villa District 41.

Additional Institute Day Professional Development Alignment

In addition to the 2026 Summer PD series, professional learning throughout the year has been organized through staff institute days to support districtwide implementation of instructional, safety, assessment, and student support priorities.

October 10, 2025 Institute Day Highlights

- Illustrative Math: Understanding Student Thinking to Assess for Understanding
- Incorporating Student Voice into School Culture and Classes
- Imagine Learning Language and Literacy / Español
- SLD Project
- Unique Session 2
- My Path Exploration
- Skyward Qmlativ training
- LEAP Innovation Update / PLC Time
- Illustrative Math for Administrators

February 13, 2026 Institute Day Highlights

- ALICE Training
- Ukeru Training
- SBG Rubrics / I Can Statements
- TeachTown
- Creative Curriculum
- PLC
- Speech Pathology Sessions
- Social Thinking Course

MEMO



DATE: May 4, 2026

TO: Dr. Sandra Keim-Bounds, Superintendent
Members of the Board of Education

FROM: Melissa Rhodes, Dean of Culture and Discipline

RE: Anti-Bullying Committee

Throughout the 2025-2026 school year, the Anti-Bullying Committee has met 26 times to foster a kinder and more positive environment. Led by students in the Leadership Development class along with Mrs. Calabrese and Mrs. Rhodes, the group has expanded on last year's work. After previously establishing a student-friendly definition of bullying, our leaders have now identified the specific behaviors that define the four types of bullying. To ensure clarity across the student body, these definitions are prominently displayed on posters in every classroom and common areas.

The committee's work also includes a focus on visibility and peer-to-peer engagement. Beyond transforming our hallways with hand-painted ceiling tiles and motivational posters, these student leaders have utilized morning announcements to challenge their peers to engage in positive social interactions. The committee also developed real-life scenarios for Team Huddle time, which are designed to help students build genuine empathy and work through peer conflict. Finally, the committee also focused on the role of the "upstander." The committee created a dedicated bulletin board featuring specific language and strategies, empowering students with the tools they need to safely and effectively intervene when they witness unkind behavior.

MEMO



DATE: May 4, 2026

TO: Dr. Sandra Keim-Bounds, Superintendent
Members of the Board of Education

FROM: Dr. Vic Wight, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning

RE: TCI and HMH Social Science Curriculum and Resource Materials Purchase

BACKGROUND:

Lake Villa School District 41 has conducted a curriculum review in the area of Social Science starting in the spring of 2025. During this time, two pilots were selected for elementary and middle school. The pilots took place this fall and winter of 2025-2026. A rubric for curriculum adoption was defined based on the best practices for social science. The committee also reviewed an analysis of curriculum resources through ED Reports and What Works Clearinghouse, which rates resources for effectiveness.

The cost for the TCI social science curriculum for our elementary school is \$211,514.10 for a six-year contract. The cost for the HMH social science curriculum for middle school \$153,360.00 for a six-year contract. The combined total investment for both resources , including professional development, is \$364,874.10 over six years.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Social Science Committee recommends the purchase of TCI for our elementary and HMH for middle school core social science resource materials. For the combined cost for both resources at \$364,874.10 over six years.

MEMO



DATE: May 4, 2026

TO: Dr. Sandra Keim-Bounds, Superintendent
Members of the Board of Education

FROM: Dr. Vic Wight, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning

RE: NWEA/MAP Renewal

BACKGROUND:

The NWEA MAP assessment tool has been our local district-wide assessment for over twenty years and was last renewed in 2024. The two-year contract will expire at the end of this school year.

The recommendation is to continue utilizing the MAP assessment to identify areas of strength and needed instruction and monitor student growth throughout the school year. Additionally, the NWEA MAP assessment is utilized for school improvement planning purposes.

The two - year renewal has a total cost of \$73,450.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the purchase of NWEA-MAP at the two-year cost of \$73,450.

MEMO



DATE: May 4, 2026

TO: Dr. Sandra Keim-Bounds, Superintendent
Members of the Board of Education

FROM: Anna Kasprzyk, CSBO

RE: The Meal Rates for 2026-2027 School Year - Approval

BACKGROUND:

Each year, a review of meal rates is conducted to evaluate our revenue against expenses for the food service program. At the April 20 Board of Education meeting, the Board was presented with the proposed increase of \$.20 for student full paid breakfast and full paid lunch meal.

DISCUSSION

USDA released the minimum lunch price requirement for 2026-2027. The minimum lunch price for SY 2026-2027 is \$4.16. LVSD41's current lunch price is \$3.65. Per USDA regulation, if the ending balance in the food service account is negative, lunch prices must be increased by at least 10 cents. As of June 2025, the food service account recorded a negative balance of \$216,241, and therefore, an increase to meal prices is required.

The student breakfast and lunch prices below reflect 20 cents increase, which not only meets the price increase requirement but also will help to reduce the shortfall in the non-profit food services account in the future.

Proposed Rates for 2026-2027 School Year

Meal	Current Price	Proposed Price for 26-27
Breakfast	\$2.00	\$2.20
Lunch	\$3.65	\$3.85

The 20-cent increase helps ensure the price does not fall too far below the USDA's minimum price requirements, while keeping the cost of lunch within the \$3-\$4 range—comparable to the average student lunch cost.

Per USDA regulations, the student reduced breakfast price must be set at \$0.30 and the reduced lunch price must be set at \$0.40. Adult lunch price must be at least \$0.50 more than full paid lunch price.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Education approves the Student and Adult Meal prices as presented.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.