

MINUTES OF THE LEWISTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING HELD MONDAY, MAY 18, 2026 AT 5:30 PM AT THE GREEN LADLE. (NOTE: These minutes are not official until approved by the School Committee. Such action, either to approve or amend and approve, is anticipated at the **June 15, 2026** meeting).

Members Present: Luke Jensen, Phoenix McLaughlin, Janet Beaudoin, Elizabeth Eames, Julia Harper, Lynnea Hawkins, Meghan Hird, Donna Gallant, Scott Harriman, Jake Langlais

Members Absent:

Employees Present: Karen Paquette, Bill Grant, Sue Williams, Josh Breau, Adam Hanson, Jaye Rich, Deb Rodrigue, Amanda Bryant, Philip Johnston, Cindy Gish, Rob Callahan, Andrew Bard, Lysa McLemore, Tiffany Sax, Charlotte Johnson

Others Present: Martin Chartrand, Julie Gomez

CALLED TO ORDER

Chair Phoenix McLaughlin called the meeting to order at 5:32 PM, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE INTRODUCTIONS

Recognized member Gallant for service.

CONSENT AGENDA

- 1) Transactions
- 2) Minutes of School Committee meetings
- 3) Personnel

FOR APPROVAL:

Educational Technicians					
Amanda Chick	Special Education 1:1 BHP Education Technician		Farwell Elementary School		May 11, 2026
Management					
Fuad Alew	Tech Specialist I		Dingley Central Office		May 20, 2026
	For Informational Purposes:				
Transfers:					
Certified Professionals					
Name	Position From	Location From	Position To	Location To	Date Effective
Amanda Strayer	Grade 6 Teacher	Montello Elementary School	Grade 5 Teacher	Montello Elementary School	August 24, 2026
Coaches					

Name	Position From	Location From	Position To	Location To	Date Effective
Lianna Hensley	Self Contained BHP Education Technician	Connors Elementary School	Resource Room Education Technician	McMahon Elementary School	May 1, 2026
Support					
Name	Position From	Location From	Position To	Location To	Date Effective
Melissa Smith	Food Service Assistant	Lewiston Middle School	Food Service Cook	Lewiston Middle School	August 28, 2024
Resignations:					
Certified Professionals					
Name	Position		Location		Date Effective
Ifrah Assoweh	ELL Teacher		Connors Elementary School		June 18, 2026
Maria Berriault	Special Education Resource Room Teacher		Lewiston Middle School		June 18, 2026
Jessica Blanchette	Kindergarten Teacher		McMahon Elementary School		June 18, 2026
Andrew Denardo	Speech Teacher		Connors Elementary School		June 18, 2026
Nicole Hartwell	Grade 1 Teacher		Geiger Elementary School		June 18, 2026
Kelley Houghton	STEM United Arts Teacher		McMahon Elementary School		June 18, 2026
Theresa Lewis	Title I United Arts Outdoor Learning Teacher		Connors Elementary School		June 18, 2026
Kathryn Mathon	Special Education Teacher		Connors Elementary School		June 18, 2026
Celia Ramos	Grade 5 Teacher		Connors Elementary School		June 22, 2026
Coaches					
Erik Tiner	Golf Coach		Lewiston High School		May 1, 2026
Educational Technicians					
Name	Position		Location		Date Effective
Lydia Lee	Library Aide Education Technician		Montello Elementary School		May 1, 2026
Management					
Name	Position		Location		Date Effective
Amand Chick	CLIMB BHP		McMahon Elementary School		May 18, 2026
Emily Hunt	CLMB BHP		McMahon Elementary School		May 15, 2026
Colette Kinkade	CLIMB BHP		McMahon Elementary School		May 6, 2026

Support			
Name	Position	Location	Date Effective
Rae Hughes	Food Service Assistant	Connors Elementary School	May 29, 2026

PUBLIC INPUT

Ronnie Paradis – teacher comments online, fixed income concerns. Assessment for taxes/valuation concerns. Go back to the parents and discipline. Teachers are too lenient. An example of her son being restrained was shared - discipline matters. Said “to the Somali People” Don’t trust the white lawyer.

POLICIES

Assistant Superintendent Karen Paquette presented.

VOTED: (1) Motion to approve the 1st read of the following policies:

- a. DC – Use of Credit Cards.
- b. EBBD – Temperature Standards for Schools.

Meghan Hird – Luke Jensen (9-0).

VOTED: (2) Motion to approve the 1st read of the following policy:

- c. JICJ – Student Use of Cell Phones and Other Personal Electronic Devices in Schools.

Julia Harper – Donna Gallant (7-2). Janet Beaudoin, Meghan Hird

FY2027 BUDGET REVIEW WITH VOTE

Superintendent Jake Langlais shared updates and potential reductions.

VOTED: (3) Motion to approve the Superintendent recommendation \$1,169,000 reduction.

Meghan Hird – Luke Jensen (8-1). Janet Beaudoin

REPORT FROM SCHOOL COMMITTEE CHAIR

Chair Phoenix McLaughlin reported on the budget process – knock on doors.

Need to emphasize voting. Vote counts after June 2nd.

REPORT FROM SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT

Superintendent Jake Langlais reported on the congressional discretionary funding grant (CDS). We received reallocation title funds that will be used for summer school. A promising note came in for 21st Century. Last week we had the Top 10 Breakfast. Senior interviews are being done and will be shared out. We have been working with Sandy Hook Promise.

REPORT FROM CITY COUNCIL REP

Scott Harriman reported that on May 19th the City Council will be going over the final votes on the budget – the school included. Bright Spots: Adult Ed had their graduation for the CNA pathway. AVEC Contemporary Issues Group held an event at Bates College.

UPDATES FROM SCHOOL COMMITTEE SUBCOMMITTEES

Facilities – Fire alarm and other RFP’s utilities and comparisons.

Policy – Keeps meeting and prep for 2nd read.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bus Awareness

- Stop for buses
- Be cautious

- School zones
 - Go slow and be safe
- Seniors – 6 more days

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

June 15th

- Goals
- Grading Policy (Elementary)

EXECUTIVE SESSION

VOTED: (4) Motion to enter into executive session to conduct Student A disciplinary hearing [Title 20-A §1001(9) and Title I §405 (6) (B)]. Meghan Hird – Janet Beaudoin (9-0)

Entered into executive session at 8:25 PM

Returned to open session at 8:38 PM

VOTED: (5) Motion to expel with services. (A.H.) Meghan Hird – Janet Beaudoin (9-0)

ADJOURN

VOTED: (6) Motion to adjourn. Janet Beaudoin – Meghan Hird (9-0) 8:39 PM.

K. Jake Langlais, Superintendent
Lewiston Public Schools

KJL/cdc