

MINUTES OF THE LEWISTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING HELD MONDAY, MARCH 2, 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 **March 9, 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, Kathy McNamara, Tiffany Sax, Jaye Rich, Phil Downs, Jenny Darigan, Rob Callahan, Paul Kennedy,

Others Present: David Rackmales, Matt Agren, Ifra, Martin Chartrand

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

CONSENT AGENDA

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

FOR APPROVAL:

Coach:

Justin Bisson, Varsity Football Head Coach, Lewiston High School, effective August 1, 2026

Education Technician:

Julie Cibola, Special Education RISE, BHP Education Technician, Geiger Elementary School, effective March 10, 2026

FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES:

TRANSFERS:

Certified Professional:

Erica Cooper, Math Coach, Connors Elementary School to Grade 5 Teacher, Connors Elementary School, effective February 4, 2026

Support:

Diana Marfo, Food Service Assistant 6.5 hours, Lewiston High School to Food Service Assistant 7.5 hours, Lewiston High School, effective February 26, 2026

RESIGNATIONS:

Administration:

Kellie Burgess, Assistant Principal of Special Education, Connors Elementary School, effective June 30, 2026

Amy St.Pierre, Assistant Principal of Special Education, Connors Elementary School, effective June 30, 2026

Education Technician:

Shaqaeq Ahmadi, RISE, BHP Education Technician, Farwell Elementary School, effective February 10, 2026

Daniel Muissa, Resource Room Education Technician, McMahon Elementary School, effective February 27, 2026

Management:

Elizabeth LaManna, Student Information System Specialist, Dingley Building, effective February 20, 2026
Farooq Safi, Language Facilitator, District Wide, effective February 26, 2026

Support:

Nichole Dubois, Food Service Assistant, Geiger Elementary School, effective February 13, 2026
Jeanette Priester, Food Service Aide, Geiger Elementary School, effective January 23, 2026

PUBLIC INPUT

David Rackmales – Out of district enrollment. Concern is that it isn't clear on the website. Seeking transparency.

Matt Agren – If items are going to be voted on, the documents should be included in the packet. Also, when does the 30-minute rule apply to agenda items?

Ifra – Disruption from immigration enforcement. Families did not feel the district was supportive enough with remote school and counseling. Others request that the district do more.

Martin Chartrand – Wants more said about supporting kids through trauma/immigration enforcement. We can offer tools and support. Fear is ongoing.

RECOGNITION

Superintendent Jake Langlais presented.

Kathy McNamara was recognized for Counselor of the Year.

FIELD TRIP

Rob Callahan and Paul Kennedy presented.

VOTED: (1) Motion to approve the field trip request to Bangor for the SkillsUSA State Conference. Janet Beaudoin – Meghan Hird (9-0).

PROCEDURAL RULES

Superintendent Jake Langlais presented.

VOTED: (2) Motion to approve the procedural rules with edits. Meghan Hird– Janet Beaudoin (9-0).

SEWALL FOUNDATION

Jenny Darigan shared slides for funding to maintain effort.

VOTED: (3) Motion to approve the submission of the Sewall Foundation application. Meghan Hird– Elizabeth Eames.

- **Withdraw Meghan Hird and Elizabeth Eames.**
- **Move to future meeting.**

SCHOOL COMMITTEE POLICY BDB

Superintendent Jake Langlais presented.

- Discussion about items in the policy.
- Discussion about vice chair or pro tem.
- No action taken.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE SUBCOMMITTEE AND OTHER ROLES

Superintendent Jake Langlais presented.

Finance – J. Beaudoin, L. Hawkins, P. McLaughlin

Facilities – L. Hawkins, M. Hird, D. Gallant

Curriculum – L. Jensen, E. Eames
Negotiations – L. Jensen, J. Beaudoin, J. Harper, S. Harriman
Policy – E. Eames, J. Harper
District Wellness – M. Hird
Drop Out Prevention – J. Harper, L. Hawkins
Public Health – Lisa Escobar
Legislative – E. Eames

GOALS DISCUSSION

Superintendent Jake Langlais presented. Suggestions for Goals were taken from the School Committee members.

FUTURE AGENDA STRUCTURE PLANNING

Chair Phoenix McLaughlin presented.
Use goals to create themes that are strategically timed.

LPS ADMINISTRATOR'S ASSOCIATION CONTRACTS FOR 2026-2027

Superintendent Jake Langlais presented. Discussion about a question that Janet Beaudoin had but it could not be asked in public session.

VOTED: (4) Motion to approve the LPS Administrator's Association contracts for 2026-2027. Scott Harriman – Lynnea Hawkins (7-0). 2-obstained – Luke Jensen, Janet Beaudoin

SCHOOL CALENDAR 2026-2027

Assistant Superintendent Karen Paquette presented.

VOTED: (5) Motion to approve the 2026-2027 School Calendar. Donna Gallant – Janet Beaudoin (9-0).

Meghan Hird – wishes there were more “full” weeks for continuity.
Jaye – Start of year time.

REPORT FROM SCHOOL COMMITTEE CHAIR

Chair Phoenix McLaughlin reported that the Top 10 Breakfast is 5/14/26 and Graduation is 6/5/26.

REPORT FROM SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT

Superintendent Jake Langlais reported on attendance. Today we had a guest that visited our schools, Commissioner Pender Makin from the Department of Education. Unified basketball is happening and you should check it out. Budget work is underway. The Student Resource Center has been doing a lot of work in and around our community. We've been sharing out therapeutic supports. There was a film screening done by Bates around second responders.

REPORT FROM CITY COUNCIL REP

Scott Harriman reported on new garbage collection system, moratorium proposal on lot rent increases for mobile homes, emergency ordinance regarding municipal employees interacting with federal immigration enforcement, the sale of the Colisee to a new owner and a review of the 10/25 hardship items.

UPDATES FROM SCHOOL COMMITTEE SUBCOMMITTEES

None

SCHOOL COMMITTEE COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Boys Hockey Team is playing Wednesday night in Portland.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Sewall Grant

Consolidate Goals

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

Entered into executive session at 9:01PM

Returned to open session at 9:41 PM

No Vote

ADJOURN

VOTED: (7) Motion to adjourn. Janet Beaudoin – Meghan Hird (9-0) 9:45 PM.

K. Jake Langlais, Superintendent
Lewiston Public Schools

KJL/cdc