

MINUTES OF THE LEWISTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING HELD MONDAY, AUGUST 17, 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 **September 14, 2026** meeting).

Members Present: Luke Jensen, Phoenix McLaughlin, Elizabeth Eames, Lynnea Hawkins, Meghan Hird, Scott Harriman, Jake Langlais

Members Absent: Janet Beaudoin, Julia Harper, Emily Levasseur

Employees Present: Karen Paquette, Bill Grant, Sue Williams

Others Present: Ronnie Paradis

CALLED TO ORDER

Chair Phoenix McLaughlin called the meeting to order at 5:33 PM, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE INTRODUCTIONS

CONSENT AGENDA

- 1) Minutes
- 2) Personnel

Minutes from 6/15/26 and 7/29/26 were set aside.

FOR APPROVAL:

Certified Professionals			
Name	Position	Location	Date Effective
Leyla Aldhaibani	Math Teacher	Lewiston Middle School	August 24, 2026
Amber Brackett	Special Education Resource Room Teacher	Connors Elementary School	August 24, 2026
Michelle Cabezas	Special Education Speech Therapist	Connors Elementary School	August 24, 2026
Lisa Dalrymple	Branches/Owl Alternative Teacher	Longley High School	August 24, 2026
Karen Grant	STEM Unified Arts Teacher	McMahon Elementary School	August 24, 2026
Danica Jackman	Kindergarten Teacher	McMahon Elementary School	August 24, 2026
Madison Lestage	Grade 1 Teacher	Connors Elementary School	August 24, 2026
Kathryn Maguire	English for Speakers of Other Languages Teacher	Montello Elementary School	August 24, 2026
Heidi Ouedraogo	Social Studies Teacher	Lewiston Middle School	August 24, 2026
Maria Reinstein	English Teacher	Lewiston High School	August 24, 2026
Coaches			
Name	Position	Location	Date Effective

Educational Technicians					
Name	Position		Location		Date Effective
Christopher Albert	Special Education RISE,BHP Ed Tech		Lewiston Middle School		August 26, 2026
Alicia Alimandi	Special Education FLS, BHP Ed Tech		Connors Elementary School		August 26, 2026
Cristina Lewis	Title I Ed Tech III		Montello Elementary School		August 26, 2026
Madison MacFawn	CLIMB BHP Ed Tech		McMahon Elementary School		August 24, 2026
Mary Sorumeito	Special Education RISE,BHP Ed Tech		Connors Elementary School		August 26, 2026
Keri Tucker	CLIMB Ed Tech		McMahon Elementary School		August 24, 2026
Ashley Turcotte	Special Education RISE, BHP Ed Tech		McMahon Elementary School		August 26, 2026
Management					
Name	Position		Location		Date Effective
Flor Amaya Soto	Specialized Tutor		District Wide		August 24, 2026
Elizabeth Sanchez	Language Facilitator		District Wide		August 24, 2026
Support					
Name	Position		Location		Date Effective
Patricia Calunga	Food Service Assistant		Connors Elementary School		August 26, 2026
Heather Hanley	Senior Principal Clerk		Connors Elementary School		August 17, 2026
	For Informational Purposes:				
Transfers:					
Administration					
Name	Position From	Location From	Position To	Location To	Date Effective
Certified Professionals					
Name	Position From	Location From	Position To	Location To	Date Effective
Kimberly Harding	Special Education Resource Room Teacher	Connors Elementary School	Special Education Resource Room Teacher	Farwell Elementary School	August 24, 2026

Educational Technicians					
Name	Position From	Location From	Position To	Location To	Date Effective
Misty Deraps	RISE, BHP Ed Tech	Lewiston High School	Day Treatment, BHP Ed Tech	McMahon Elementary School	August 26, 2026
Management					
Name	Position From	Location From	Position To	Location To	Date Effective
Resignations:					
Administration					
Name	Position		Location		Date Effective
Certified Professionals					
Name	Position		Location		Date Effective
Breanna Allard	Title 1 Literacy Coach		Lewiston Middle School		August 11, 2026
Flor Amaya Soto*	Rooted Alternative Teacher		Longley High School		August 6, 2026
Nicholas Beauchesne	Gifted and Talented Teacher		District Wide		July 30, 2026
Coaches					
Name	Position		Location		Date Effective
Educational Technicians					
Name	Position		Location		Date Effective
Patricia Prout	1:1 BHP Education Technician		Lewiston High School		August 8, 2026
Mark Smith	Special Education RISE, BHP Ed Tech		Lewiston Middle School		
Rebecca Whitten	CLIMB Medical Technician		McMahon Elementary School		
Management					
Name	Position		Location		Date Effective
Support					
Colleen Rivers	Food Service Assistant		Lewiston High School		August 1, 2026

Retiring:					
Certified Professionals					
Name	Position	Location		Date Effective	
Rescinded:					
Educational Technicians					
Name	Position	Location		Date Effective	
Samantha Hopkins	Special Education FLS BHP Ed Tech	Lewiston High School		July 31, 2026	
Felicity Tardif	Kindergarten Teacher	McMahon Elementary School		July 21, 2026	

PUBLIC INPUT

Ronnie Paradis – The role we need to play in front of our kids. Get involved with schools. Take up issues and not people. Find out what is really going on in our schools. Volunteer to read or help at schools. Seeking options for students getting involved in Government, campaigns, etc.

POLICIES

Assistant Superintendent Karen Paquette presented.

VOTED: (1) Motion to approve the 2nd read of the following policies:

- a. JE – Student Attendance
- b. GBN – Family and Medical Leave

Meghan Hird – Luke Jensen (6-0).

POLICY ADJUSTMENTS FOR SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Superintendent Jake Langlais reviewed policy BDA and policy BE.

At 6:02 pm agenda item #6 was withdrawn by Meghan Hird and Elizabeth Eames.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING CALENDAR

Superintendent Jake Langlais presented.

VOTED: (2) Motion to approve with edits. Meghan Hird – Scott Harriman (5-1) L. Jensen

RESTATED 403(B) PLAN

Superintendent Jake Langlais presented.

VOTED: (3) Motion to approve the adoption of the restated 403(b) Plan.

Meghan Hird – Elizabeth Eames (6-0).

REPORT FROM SCHOOL COMMITTEE CHAIR

Chairperson Phoenix McLaughlin reported that the Curriculum Subcommittee will start with grades/grading. Discussion to follow in September. School updates can be throughout the year. The State study on screen time. Do we have data?

REPORT FROM SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT

Superintendent Jake Langlais reported that Fall Sports started today. Looking at school programs – modified recovery credits at the high school - After 2 program. The start of school is 8/24 for staff and 8/26 for kids. There is a film screening done by a Bates professor and students for second responders. It will be in Biddeford on Sunday.

REPORT FROM CITY COUNCIL REP

City Council Representative Scott Harriman reported that the City Council meets tomorrow. Opioid Fund Settlement is on the agenda. Questions: Trash can info packets.

UPDATES FROM SCHOOL COMMITTEE SUBCOMMITTEES

Wellness Committee – Nutrition guidelines – nutrition changes.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Senator Rotundo announced funds to help with homeless prevention. Housing Navigator.

Balloon Festival is Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Backpack distribution event in conjunction with Summer Fun & Films at Connors on 8/19.

Bus Safety – Please Be Aware.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

NWEA Scores, At, Above or Below grade level – Luke Jensen

Screen Time – Elizabeth Eames

EXECUTIVE SESSION

VOTED: (4) Motion To enter into executive session to discuss a personal matter in accordance with 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6) (A). Meghan Hird – Luke Jensen (6-0).

Entered into executive session at 6:43 PM

Returned to open session at 6:56 PM

VOTED: (5) Motion to not move forward with termination hearing for Staff A. Elizabeth Eames – Meghan Hird (6-0)

VOTED: (6) Motion To enter into executive session on a legal matter in accordance with 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(E). Meghan Hird – Luke Jensen (6-0).

Entered into executive session at 6:56 PM

Returned to open session at 7:03 PM

ADJOURN

VOTED: (7) Motion to adjourn. Meghan Hird – Elizabeth Eames (6-0) 7:04 PM.

K. Jake Langlais, Superintendent
Lewiston Public Schools

KJL/cdc