



LINCOLN CONSOLIDATED SCHOOLS
Ypsilanti, Michigan
BOARD OF EDUCATION / REGULAR MEETING
April 28, 2025
6:00 p.m.
District Boardroom-Lincoln High School

OFFICIAL MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Jennifer LaBombarbe, President
Matthew Bentley, Vice President
Jason Moore, Treasurer
Lauren Smith, Secretary
Alisa Soos, Trustee
JaVon Jason, Trustee

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT

Robert Jansen, Superintendent
Karensa Smith, Assistant Superintendent Curriculum & Instruction
Paula Robinette, Human Resources Director

OTHERS PRESENT

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

President LaBombarbe called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

2.0 ROLL CALL

Roll call showed all Board Members were present except for Czachorski.

3.0 ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

A quorum was established.

4.0 PLEDGE TO FLAG

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the Board and audience members.

5.0 PRESENTATIONS

5.5 Student Trip Paris/Barcelona

Students and staff present appreciation for their trip

5.6 Employee of the Month

It is with great pleasure that I nominate paraprofessional Eun-Sook McDonald as LCS' Employee of the Month

Over the years, I have been impressed with her dedication and strong work ethic. It is outstanding! She consistently leads with kindness in all her interactions. She goes the extra mile in her efforts and is a true team player. Her commitment to putting students first is evident in the nurturing environment she creates. She ensures that every child feels valued and supported.

Mrs. McDonald's conscientious nature is reflected in her impressive attendance record, as she rarely misses a day of work. Beyond her role in the classroom, Mrs. McDonald actively engages with the community, reinforcing her belief in the power of education. She is a supporter of not only her students but also the staff and families.

Mrs. McDonald has a strong ethical framework and maintains high expectations for all her students. She believes that every child has the potential to succeed and works tirelessly to help them reach their goals. Her unwavering commitment to excellence inspires those around her, making her an invaluable asset to the educational community.

Mrs. McDonald could be LCS' Employee of the Month every month because she is that incredible. Our Brick Community has been lucky in getting to work with her for so many years.

Thank you,
Cassandra Coker

6.0 SUPERINTENDENT AND STAFF CORRESPONDENCE

6.5 Superintendent's Report

- Congratulations to Lauren Smith on receiving her Level 1 and Award of Merit from MASB
- The District sent out an email to families that utilize our Transportation Department explaining the driver shortage and driver absences causing cancellations.
- The hiring of the next Bishop Principals is in the final stages, and we should have a new building leader soon.
- The Century 21 Team has a presentation coming soon presenting a sound plan moving the District forward.
- The District received a \$250,000 grant for a feasibility study.
- We are excited about the District opportunity to pilot a CTE drone program at Bessie Hoffman.
- The District has several grant funded positions that do not minimize the General Fund. Position like the STEM Coordinator is funded through the Toyota Grant

6.6 Finance Report

- 6.6.1 March Enrollment Report
Report included in Board packet
- 6.6.2 March Food Service Report
Report included in Board packet

7.0 PUBLIC COMMENT

- Jim Harless has questions about the District leasing new vehicles.
- Jessica Sieloff was happy to hear the Board supporting CTE programs and invited the Board to an upcoming forum. (Ty Smith emailed specifics)

Please fill out the attendance form including your email and phone number. Comments will be limited to 3 minutes or less. Comments with respect to the performance of specific district employees are not appropriate during public comment. A list of complete guidelines are listed on the agenda.

8.0 CONSENT AGENDA

8.5 Minutes of Previous Meeting

- 8.5.1 Regular Meeting March 17, 2025
- 8.5.2 Study Session April 7, 2025
- 8.5.3 Committee of the Whole, April 17, 2025
- 8.5.4 Closed Session, April 17, 2025

Enclosed are the minutes of March 17, 2025, Regular Meeting, April 7, 2025, Study Session Meeting and April 17, 2025, Committee of the Whole Meeting and Closed Session as presented.

8.6 Student Trips

- 8.6.1 Brick 5th Grade Camp
- 8.6.2 Childs 5th Grade Camp

The group will leave Childs and Brick Elementary on Wednesday, May 14th at around 9:15 and travel to the Howell Nature Center. The students will eat a sack lunch, which they will bring with them, when we arrive at the Nature Center. After lunch, the students will participate in various cross-curricular programs and activities throughout the afternoon. The group will eat dinner, which will be catered by the Nature Center. Following dinner, the students will participate in a dance party. The students will sleep on bunk beds in cabins at the Nature Center divided by gender. There will be adult chaperones sleeping in each cabin. In the morning, the group will eat breakfast, which will be catered by the Nature Center. The remainder of the day will be similar to the first day with programs and activities in the morning, afternoon, and evening, with lunch and dinner catered by the Nature Center. In the morning, the group will eat breakfast, which will be catered by the Nature Center. After breakfast, the students will again participate in a variety of cross-curricular programs and activities. The group will eat lunch catered by the Nature Center. Shortly after lunch, the group will board buses and return to Childs Elementary on Friday, May 16th.

Childs Cost-Students \$160 and Adults \$150
Brick Cost-Covered by Title I

- 8.7 March 2025 Finance Report
Enclosed are the March 2025 Financial Reports. The Superintendent recommends approval as presented.
- 8.8 March 2025 Check Register
Enclosed is the March 1-31, 2025, check register in the amount of \$2,864,785.03. The Superintendent recommends approval as presented.
- 8.9 March 2025 Trust & Agency
Enclosed is the March 2025 Trust & Agency Report. The Superintendent recommends approval as presented.
- 8.10 Personnel Transactions
Personnel Transaction were provided in informational packet

It was moved by Bentley and seconded by Moore that we accept the Consent Agenda as presented.

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Motion carried 6-0

9.0 BUSINESS MATTERS

- 9.1 Website & App Proposal-Apptegy
Following our evaluation, the team recommends the adoption of Apptegy as the district's unified communication platform, pending final reference checks. Apptegy stood out for its clean and intuitive user interface, streamlined back-end experience for staff, comprehensive support and training offerings, and strong integration with PowerSchool
- Next Steps**
Upon approval, the district will begin onboarding with Apptegy to ensure full implementation by the start of the 2025–26 school year. Staff and family training will be prioritized throughout the transition process to ensure a smooth and effective rollout.
We appreciate your consideration and support in helping us improve communication, equity, and engagement across our school community.

It was moved by Bentley and seconded by Smith that that the district contract with Apptegy in the amount of \$37,525.00 for the implementation and use of a unified communication system beginning with the 2025–2026 school year to be funded through the Stronger Connections Grant

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Motion carried 6-0

9.2 Miller Johnson Policy Update

Policy manual updates were reviewed by the Board of Education at April's Study Session. The item was moved forward for Board approval.

It was moved by Bentley and seconded by Soos that we approve the Miller Johnson Policy Manual Update as presented.

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Motion carried 6-0

9.3 District Summer School 24-25 School Year

Elementary Summer School

Vision:

Provide historically marginalized students with the opportunity to maintain and improve skills taught during the previous school year and increase their academic achievement level in targeted language arts and math instruction in grades K-5 NWEA and standards/skills deficit areas district wide.

Rationale:

Spring 2024 M-STEP data and Fall 2024 NWEA scores show that achievement gaps in specific populations (Economically Disadvantaged, African American, Hispanic, EL, and Special Education students) still exist. We need to continue to address these areas so that all of our students are successful. Summer school data from previous years has shown success for our historically marginalized population in reducing summer loss and showing growth. We would like to continue to provide them this opportunity for growth this summer.

Midde School Summer School

Vision:

Provide historically marginalized students with the opportunity to maintain and improve skills taught during the previous school year and increase their academic achievement level in targeted language arts and math instruction in grades 6-8 NWEA and standards/skill deficit areas.

Rationale:

Spring 2024 M-STEP and Fall 2024 NWEA scores show that achievement gaps in specific populations (Economically Disadvantaged, African American, Hispanic, EL, and Special Education student) still exist. We need to continue to address these areas so that all of our students are successful. School data from previous years has shown success for our historically marginalized population in reducing summer loss and showing growth. We would like to continue to provide them this opportunity for growth.

High School Summer School

Vision:

Provide at-risk students the opportunity to recover lost credit and improve academic skills. Proposed courses will include Language Arts, Science, Math, and Social Studies for grades 9th – 12th.

Rationale:

According to current Powerschool records, there is a significant number of Lincoln students that are off-track to graduate on time with their 4 year cohort class. During the 2024-25 school year, we will identify approximately students not currently on track to graduate with their 4 year group (more precise counts will be determined after exams). We will need to offer this summer program to help address the credit deficit. It is the goal for this learning summit to provide students an opportunity to earn up to 2 full credits in core content. Our hopes are:

- To help students regain credits to regain eligibility to graduate with the 4 year cohort
- To help students move on to the next level of specific subject areas
- To decrease student failure rates and drop-out rates
- To increase knowledge and improve MME/ACT success and increase overall test scores
- To help build positive self concept

It was moved by Bentley and second by Moore that we approve the recommendation for District Summer School as presented.

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Motion carried 6-0

9.4 Bessie Hoffman Renovation

Bessie Hoffman Renovation Proposal:

To renovate Bessie Hoffman School, a 44,000-square-foot facility, by utilizing the plan created to spark in the overall objective to transition Bessie Hoffman into a career exploration center. The project includes upgrades to three classrooms, the gymnasium, restrooms, and select building-wide systems, as well as exterior improvements.

All lighting improvements, and HVAC repairs are recommended to be funded separately through an energy savings bond. Ceiling tile replacement is limited to 20,000 sq ft at a reduced rate, Wi-Fi is targeted to 5,000 sq ft, and internal resources will handle flooring refinishing and deep cleaning to minimize costs. Work will begin on May 1, 2025, and conclude by August 1, 2025.

Recommendation

We request approval for a budget of \$372,000, excluding all lighting improvements and HVAC repairs (to be funded via an energy savings bond), with ceiling tile replacement limited to 20,000 sq ft at \$1/sq ft, Wi-Fi targeted to 5,000 sq ft, restroom renovations optimized, and flooring refinishing and deep cleaning handled internally. This approach maximizes efficiency and leverages existing resources and alternative funding. Funding may be sourced from district reserves, grants, or other mechanisms, pending board approval, with potential payback utilizing the sinking fund millage. A small contingency (e.g., 5%, or \$18,600) is recommended but not included to maintain the minimum cost.

It was moved by Bentley and seconded by Moore that we approve the Bessie Hoffman Renovation project as recommended by the Superintendent.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 1 (Soos)

Motion carried 5-1

9.5 Equipment Lease-Operational Vehicles

Sinking Fund: Equipment Lease - Operational Vehicles:

We propose acquiring seven new Ford F-250 trucks to replace the district's aging fleet, utilizing the \$29 million sinking fund millage and proceeds from selling the current fleet (\$40,000-\$48,000). Through the State of Michigan Vehicle and Equipment Purchase Program, the district can buy outright or lease-to-own over five years, with a plan to sell the leased trucks after six years and repeat the process. This strategy ensures a modern fleet every six years, maximizes savings, and delivers \$500,000-\$750,000 in 10-year benefits, aligning with fiscal and operational goals.

Recommendation

Annual costs (\$47,900-\$76,900 Year 1; \$59,500-\$66,500 Years 25) fit within \$2.9M/year, leaving funds for other projects. Selling after 6 years recovers \$84,000-\$119,000, reducing net costs and enabling a new cycle. Over 10 years, the district gains \$500,000-\$750,000 in savings and assets, with a modern fleet throughout. Outright purchase, while viable, ties up more upfront funds without the renewal benefit.

It was moved by Bentley and seconded by Moore that we approve the Equipment Lease-Operational Vehicles funded by the Sinking Fund as presented

Ayes: 5

Nays: 1 (Smith)

Motion carried 5-1

9.6 Michigan Department of Transportation Performance Resolution
Resolution included in Board documents

It was moved by Bentley and seconded by Moore that we approve and execute the Michigan Department of Transportation Performance Resolution as required by the Michigan Department of Transportation Department.

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Motion carried 6-0

9.7 WISD Resolution to Consider Designation of Electoral Representative

The biennial election for the Washtenaw Intermediate School District (WISD), to elect three board members for two six-year terms and one two-year term, will be held on **June 2, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.** By law, the body electing intermediate school district board members will be composed of one representative of the board from each constituent district who shall be designated by the constituent board. The board shall **consider** the resolution at not less than one public meeting before adopting the resolution. This can be done **prior to May 12, 2025**. To be in compliance with the law, **between Monday, May 12, 2025, and Monday, June 2, 2025**, a local constituent Board of Education must **adopt** a resolution to select its voting representative and identify the candidates it supports.

There are two resolutions enclosed for your use – one to consider the resolution to designate the school district's election representative to be used at the first meeting and one to adopt the appointment of the representative and designating the candidates for which the representative's vote is to be initially cast to be used at the second meeting.

The members elected to the Washtenaw Intermediate School District Board of Education will begin their six-year term on July 1, 2025. Not more than two members of the Intermediate School District board shall be from the same local school district. The terms that are expiring this year are that of Diane Hockett (Ann Arbor) and Mary Jane Tramontin (Ann Arbor). A third seat with a term ending in 2027 is open due to resignation last year. It is currently occupied by Dorcas Musili (Ypsilanti). Members continuing on the Washtenaw Intermediate School District board include one member from Chelsea and one member from Lincoln. You will receive an official list of candidates that have filed with the Washtenaw County Clerk's office for the open positions, after the **May 5, 2025** filing deadline.

It was moved by Bentley and seconded by Moore that we approve the Board to consider a resolution to appoint JaVon Jason as the designated representative of this District for the electoral body of the ISD biennial election to be held June 2, 2025, and Jason Moore as an alternate in the event the designated representative is unable to attend.

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Motion carried 6-0

9.8 25-26 Bus Purchase

PURPOSE

The transportation department is seeking to purchase three new school buses from Midwest Transit Equipment, Inc. The buses are three (3) general education buses. All three buses will be equipped with air conditioning, LED 8-way light system and the new technology package for school buses. They will also have fully lit "School Bus" signs in the front and rear of the bus to identify them on dark roads that are not well lit. This package will also contain fully illuminated stop signs instead of the traditional 2 flashing lights. Each bus will cost \$170,021. The goal of these purchases is to begin replacing the 10 buses that will reach their 10-year life span within the next 3 years.

ANALYSIS

Purchasing these new 2026/2027 buses will begin addressing the aging fleet. We have 10 2017 buses that will reach their life span in the next 2 years. Parts for these older buses will become more difficult as the fleet gets older. This should help with the cost of maintenance, breakdowns, and rusty frames. All new buses are being purchased with reinforced frames to address our terrible backroads and assist in keeping the buses certified through state inspections.

Recommendation

It is my recommendation to purchase these new buses and continue to improve the overall age of our bus fleet. It is recommended that the Superintendent approve the purchase of the three buses (3) new school buses from Midwest Transit Equipment, Inc. at the total cost of \$510,063

It was moved by Bentley and seconded by Moore to approve the purchase of three new Midwest Transit Equipment, Inc. buses funded by the Sinking Fund costing \$510,063.00 as presented by the Transportation Director and Superintendent.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0
Motion carried 6-0

9.9 25-26 Transportation Cameras Purchase

The transportation department is seeking to purchase a new camera system for all our school buses. The current cameras that were purchased from Pro-Vision in 2019 are no longer made and can no longer be replaced or serviced. We are looking to stay with the current vendor and upgrade to the current technology that is available.

ANALYSIS

The new camera system will have panoramic views so we can cover more of the bus with less equipment. We will also have Cloud Connect which will allow us to download the video clips directly to our computer without going out to the bus and pulling the SD card every time we need to watch the clips. There is an option for us to be able to log into a bus and be able to view the passengers and drivers in real time. Pro-Vision gave us a large discount due to the contract they signed with my introduction to Ann Arbor Public Schools. Pro-Vision removed \$48,892 from the quote as a result. We were given 2 purchase options by them.

- I. Option 1- Purchase the cameras out right at the cost of \$119,612 and they will come with a 5-year warranty. There is an annual fee of \$8,160 per year for the software and tech support.
2. Option 2- Pay a yearly fee of \$41,208 and at the end of 5 years they will come out and fully upgrade all cameras in the fleet with the latest technology and we will renew the yearly fee for 5 more years. Included in this fee is warranty and tech support.

Recommendation

It is my recommendation to purchase these new cameras, which includes the Cloud Connect software from Pro-vision at the total cost of \$119,612

It was moved by Bentley and seconded by Moore that we approve the purchase of Transportation Cameras funded by the Sinking Fund from Pro-Vision in the amount of \$119,612.00 presented by the Transportation Director and the Superintendent.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0
Motion carried 6-0

~~10.0 CLOSED SESSION~~

~~10.1 Negotiations~~
Canceled Closed Session

11.0 ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Bentley and seconded by Smith that we adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0
Motion carried 6-0

President LaBombarbe declared the meeting adjourned.