

The Board of Education of LaHarpe Community School District #347 held a regular School Board meeting on 15 July 2025 in the Board room. President Dustin Detherage called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Roll call was answered by Blythe, Dowell, Deitrich, Burt, Detherage, Gebhardt, and Walker. Superintendent Janet Gladu, Board Secretary Liz McCarter, and Principal Ryan Hopper were also in attendance.

Visitor in attendance was Jason Siegworth

A Moment of Silence was observed.

Public Comment: none

Business Items:

The Consent Agenda included the approval of the agenda, Open Meeting Minutes of the 15 July 2025 Regular Board Meeting Minutes of the LaHarpe CSD 347 School, Minutes of the 28 July 2025 Athletic Committee Meeting, Minutes of the 5 August 2025 Special Meeting, Financial Reports, Individual Fund Balances, Payment of Bills, action to delete the verbatim closed session meeting records that were 18 months and older, and the 2025-2026 Risk Management Plan.

Individual Fund Balances (chart below)

<b>Fund</b>	<b>FY 2026</b>
Education	\$2,464,325.99
Building	\$483,082.70
Debt Services	\$193,836.46
Transportation	\$146,402.03
IMRF	\$130,597.40
Capital Projects	\$0
Working Cash	\$44,796.57
TORT Immunity	\$85,914.15
Fire Prevention & Safety	\$228,970.98
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,777,926.28</b>

A motion was made by Walker with a second Deitrich to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda: 15 July 2025 Open Meeting Minutes, 28 July 2025 Athletic Committee Meeting Minutes, 5 August 2025 Special Meeting Minutes, financial report, payment of bills, and the deletion of verbatim closed session recording older than 18 months, and the 2025-2026 Risk Management Plan. Roll Call: Deitrich – yes; Burt- yes; Blythe – yes; Detherage – yes; Dowell – yes; Gebhardt – yes; Walker – yes; Motion Carried 7 – yay, 0 – abstain, 0 – nay, Motion Carried: 7-0.

Public Hearing for Interfund Transfers: A motion was made by Walker with a Second by Detherage to enter the Public Hearing at 6:01pm concerning the intent of the Board of Education of the district to authorize the permanent interfund transfer of \$100,000 from the Education fund to the Capital Projects Fund. Roll Call: Deitrich – yes; Burt- yes; Blythe – yes; Detherage – yes; Dowell – yes; Gebhardt – yes; Walker – yes; Motion Carried 7 – yay, 0 – abstain, 0 – nay, Motion Carried: 7-0.

Public Hearing for Interfund Transfers: Superintendent Gladu stated the board needs to decide on a ballpark number of what the district wants to pay for the upcoming cafeteria addition project. In previous meetings the amount has ranged from \$250,000 to \$750,000. We have spent approximately \$42,000 on architect fees. She stated that what we transfer into that fund we have to spend on the cafeteria project. Burt stated that he would prefer not to move a lot of money. Gladu stated that she would get an estimate of what the architects fees would be before we sell the bonds. Detherage stated that we will put it on next month's agenda to discuss the amount of cash on hand we will spend. Dowell stated she is not comfortable spending over the amount the board told the public in the beginning of all of this.

A motion was made by Blythe with a second by Dowell to exit the public hearing at 6:11pm concerning the intent of the Board of Education of the District to authorize the permanent interfund transfer of \$100,000 from the Education fund to the Capital Project Funds. Roll Call: Deitrich – yes; Burt- yes; Blythe – yes; Detherage – yes; Dowell – yes; Gebhardt – yes; Walker – yes; Motion Carried 7 – yay, 0 – abstain, 0 – nay, Motion Carried: 7-0.

Resolution Authorizing Interfund Transfers (Education Fund to Capital Projects):

A motion was made by Burt with a second by Detherage to approve the Resolution Authorizing the Interfund Transfer of \$100,000 from the Education Fund (10) to the Capital Projects Fund (60). Roll Call: Deitrich – yes; Burt- yes; Blythe – yes; Detherage – yes; Dowell – yes; Gebhardt – yes; Walker – yes; Motion Carried 7 – yay, 0 – abstain, 0 – nay, Motion Carried: 7-0.

2025-2026 Budget Hearing Date/Time:

Superintendent Gladu stated that typically we have the budget hearing during the regular September meeting with an approval as the next item. A motion was made by Walker with a second by Blythe to set the 2025-2026 Budget hearing for September 16, 2025 at 6:05pm. Roll Call: Deitrich – yes; Burt- yes; Blythe – yes; Detherage – yes; Dowell – yes; Gebhardt – yes; Walker – yes; Motion Carried 7 – yay, 0 – abstain, 0 – nay, Motion Carried: 7-0.

2025-2026 Bus/Transportation Routes: Superintendent Gladu stated that Mr. Hopper and the bus drivers worked hard to update the routes to now include our new students. The routes are as even as possible and do not include individualized special education students that are transported out of district. Mr. Hopper had a meeting with the Transportation Team on August 13<sup>th</sup>.

A motion was made by Dowell with a second by Deitrich to approve the 2025-2026 bus/transportation routes. Roll Call: Deitrich – yes; Burt- yes; Blythe – yes; Detherage – yes; Dowell – yes; Gebhardt – yes; Walker – yes; Motion Carried 7 – yay, 0 – abstain, 0 – nay, Motion Carried: 7-0.

Bus Bids/Disposition: Superintendent Gladu said that she has a bid of \$1,802 from Braden Finch to purchase Bus #8.

A motion was made Dowell with a second by Deitrich to accept the bid from Braden Finch in the amount of \$1,802 to purchase Bus #8. Roll Call: Deitrich – yes; Burt- yes; Blythe – yes; Detherage – yes; Dowell – yes; Gebhardt – yes; Walker – yes; Motion Carried 7 – yay, 0 – abstain, 0 – nay, Motion Carried: 7-0.

Policy Update: Superintendent Gladu stated this is the 2<sup>nd</sup> and final read. The majority of the policies are either 5-year review and/or minor footnote/legal updates to align with statute.

A motion was made by Blythe with a second by Detherage to approve the policy updates as presented. Policies updated were: 1:10-School Dist.; 1:20 -Dist. Organization; 1:20-AP – Checklist for MOU; 1:30- Dist. Philosophy; 2:10;– School Dist. Governance; 2:120- E1- Mentor to Bd Member; 2:120-E2- Bd training; 2:125-E3 – Bd Reimbursements; 2:130 Bd/Supt Relationships; 2:200-AP – Bd Mtgs; 2:220-E4 – Open Minutes; 2:220-E7- Closed Minutes; 2:220-E9- Quorum; 2:240- Policy; 2:240-E1 – PRESS; 2:240-E2 – Local Policy; 3:30 – Chain of Command; 3:30-E- Organizational Chart; 3:70-AP – Succession Plan; 4:15-E1- SSN; 4:15-E2 – Collecting SSN; 4:15-E3 – SSN; 4:50- Payments; 4:55 – Credit Card; 4:120-AP – Food Services; 4:170-AP5 – Unsafe School Choice; 4:180-AP2 – Pandemic; 4:180-AP3- Grant Flexibility – deleted; 5:125-E – Tech & Social Media; 5:170-AP1 – Copyright; 5:170-AP2- Copyright; 5:170-AP3 – Instructional Materials; 5:170-E1 – Adapt Material; 5:190-E2 – Licensure; 5:190-E3 – Licensure; 5:240-AP Suspensions; 6:120-AP4 – Diabetes; 6:190-AP – Extracurricular; 6:235-E5- COPPA; 6:250-AP – Volunteer Screening; 7:40 – Nonpublic Students; 7:90- Release during school; 7:130- Student Rights; 7:140- Search & Seizure; 7:140-E –Right to Privacy; 7:240-AP2 – Consent to Participate; 7:300- Extracurricular Athletics; 8:80- Gifts to the District; 8:95-E2 – School Visitation; 8:110 – Public Suggestions & Concerns.

Roll Call: Deitrich – yes; Burt- yes; Blythe – yes; Detherage – yes; Dowell – yes; Gebhardt – yes; Walker – yes; Motion Carried 7 – yay, 0 – abstain, 0 – nay, Motion Carried: 7-0.

#### Reports:

Board Committee: Gebhardt stated the Athletic Co-Op Committee met. They discussed the max number of athletes per team as stated by IESA for post season play. There was concern from some parents about the way the baseball roster was handled. He said he was in contact with one parent and he was able to address the questions and concerns. He said that he hates for any kid to be turned away from playing a sport. Blythe stated that there can only be so many kids in the dugout and they need to know how to behave because the coaches are busy.

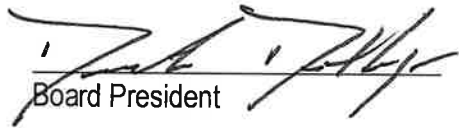
Board Members: Burt asked when the board approved the meeting for the public notice because the wording in the notice stated the Board of Education approved it and he didn't know anything about it. Dowell stated that she wondered the same thing. They were both approached by community members with questions about it and they didn't know what they were talking about. Superintendent Gladu stated that it was posted in the paper and on the doors. She also stated that the wording for the public notice is something that comes from our attorney. Detherage stated that maybe we need to change the wording so board members approve before date is set for public notice. The on-site solar was brought up by Burt. Detherage stated that he is aware people are upset with the project. He mentioned that he had talked with several of the neighbors when they were first discussing the project. Detherage provided a list of at least 15 times where the solar project was discussed in board meetings. Dowell asked if there was some kind of plan to put a fence or barrier around them. Detherage stated that a barrier can be discussed. Detherage also stated that we post the agenda ahead of time, and send it to the newspaper. He stated that we are not trying to make people unhappy, he said he encourages people to come to meetings to talk to the board.

Principal/Athletic Director/Transportation Director: Registration went well. Classes are finalized and everyone is excited to get started with school. The staff have been working hard in their rooms getting everything ready for students. Back to school night is coming up and the PTO has done a great job making everyone feel special. Baseball tryouts have started and there are 18 players on the team. He said they had nearly 30 students attend tryouts. Hopper stated that schedules and officials have been finalized for us. He is waiting on this from Dallas City. He does have the Cross-Country schedule. The driver meeting for transportation went well. The drivers have contacted all the families, practiced their routes and are ready to roll.

Superintendent: Superintendent Gladu stated that we had two days of In-Service training for the staff. There was a leadership training, team building, and training on AI. Superintendent Gladu shared that she was invited by ISBE to sit on an advisory board at the state level to help ISBE refine and select new indicators and scoring criteria for teaching programs, school support personnel programs and administrative programs on the Illinois Educator Preparation Profile. This advisory board provides score cards and performance data for all teacher preparation programs in the state.

Jason Siegworth was in attendance and asked if he was able to ask a fire department question regarding the solar panels. He wanted to know if they could have a shut off in case of an emergency. Superintendent Gladu stated that she would get him contact information for the people he would need to talk to.

A motion was made by Detherage with a second by Dowell to adjourn the 19 August 2025 board meeting at 6:36pm.

  
Board President

  
Board Secretary

9-16-25  
Date Approved