Special School Board Meeting
August 19, 2026

MINUTES

Official minutes of this Special School Board Meeting will provide a record of action taken by the Lake County School Board on agendaed items. This meeting has been digitally recorded. The archived digital recording and the official minutes are stored at the Lake County School District Office, 201 West Burleigh Boulevard, Tavares, by the Superintendent's Office.

The School Board of Lake County met for a Special School Board Meeting, Wednesday, August 19, 2026, in the Board Room of the Lake County School District Office, 201 W. Burleigh Boulevard, Tavares, Florida.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:
Bill Mathias, Chairman
Dr. Stephanie Luke, Vice Chairman
Tyler Brandeburg
Mollie Cunningham
Marc Dodd

ALSO PRESENT:
Diane Kornegay, Superintendent
Scott Cole, Board Attorney
Jessica Marshall, School Board Clerk
District employees and community members

ABSENT:
There were no absences.

1. **OPENING ITEMS**:
1.01. Chairman Mathias called the Special School Board Meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. and led the Moment of Silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. **PUBLIC INPUT:** Members of the public addressed the Board:
    1. Representing LCEA
    2. Regarding the Superintendent Search
    3. Regarding the Superintendent Search – Public input notice was received by email, Chair acknowledged receipt and comment was read aloud by School Board Clerk.

3. **TOPICS:**

3.01. **Budget Overview:** Scott Ward, Chief Financial Officer presented a budget overview. The presentation included a review of the total budget, budgeted and restricted expenditures, general fund balance and fund balance ratio, Base Student Allocation (BSA), the estimated financial impact of a Consumer Price Index (CPI) increase, student enrollment data for Traditional, Virtual, Charter, and Scholarship programs, the current 0.75 voter-approved additional millage budget, and employee positions funded through the voter-approved millage.

3.02. **Five Year Capital Plan:** Kelly Randall, Executive Director Facilities/Growth Planning presented the Five-Year Capital Plan for the 2026-2027 school year. The presentation included an overview of the capital planning timeline, capital outlay funding, and revenue sources, including the 1.5-mill ad valorem tax, impact fees, sales tax proceeds, and proportionate share mitigation funds. Ms. Randall reviewed the 2027-2031 Revenue Plan, including associated challenges and goals, revenue projections, ongoing expenditures, new-capacity projects, renovation projects, and other planned capital improvements.

The presentation also included updates on the Beverly Shores Elementary Replacement project and capital projects completed in 2026, including the Leesburg Bus Depot, Eustis Bus Lot, South Lake High School softball restroom improvements, and the East Ridge High School Littlest Knights Program building. Updates were provided on projects currently in progress, including the Eustis High School addition, Carver Middle School renovations, Eustis Elementary School renovation, and Leesburg Elementary School addition. Ms. Randall concluded with a review of the 2027-2031 Work Plan.

3.03. **Superintendent Search Posting Results & Selection Process:** Guido Zamora, Assistant Superintendent Human Resources, presented the Superintendent posting results and reviewed the applicant pool. He outlined two potential courses of action for Board consideration: Option 1 is the appointment of one of the two qualified candidates as the next

Superintendent or Option 2 is the implementation of a structured public interview process prior to selection. Board members engaged in discussion regarding both options.

Chairman Mathias called for a motion on Option 1. Dr. Stephanie Luke made the motion and Tyler Brandeburg seconded. The motion carried unanimously (5-0).

4. **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:**
Mr. Brandeburg – He is excited for the transition period and has confidence Mr. Farnsworth will carry on the legacy established by Superintendent Kornegay. He congratulated Mr. Mathias on his fourteen years of leadership and service.

Ms. Cunningham – She commented that, based on the presentations regarding the budget overview, capital plan, and superintendent transition, the district is in good hands. She congratulated Mr. Farnsworth and looks forward to working with him.

Mr. Dodd – He expressed appreciation for Mr. Ward's budget presentation, noting that the information was communicated in a clear and understandable manner. He congratulated Mr. Farnsworth, citing his proven leadership and stability, and looks forward to hearing his vision for the district at the upcoming workshop. Mr. Dodd thanked Superintendent Kornegay for being a great leader and creating a smooth process to select the next Superintendent.

Dr. Luke – She thanked Superintendent Kornegay for her investment in the district and community, along with the foresight shown in planning for the next Superintendent. She stated that she has spoken with Mr. Farnsworth about his vision and expressed confidence the positive momentum will continue under his leadership.

Chairman Mathias – Mr. Mathias congratulated Mr. Farnsworth on his appointment and has confidence in his ability to lead the district. He is proud to serve on the School Board, alongside his fellow Board members and is optimistic about the district's future.

5. **SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS:** Superintendent Kornegay congratulated Mr. Farnsworth and expressed pride in the Board's decision, stating it reflects the best interest of the students, community, and the district.

6. **ATTORNEY COMMENTS:** Mr. Cole congratulated Mr. Farnsworth and mentioned the importance of having the Board's support when stepping into a new position. He wished him the best of luck and looks forward to working together in the future.

7. **ADJOURNMENT:** Chairman Mathias adjourned the Special School Board Meeting at 12:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Attest:

_____ _____

William J. Mathias, Chairman Diane S. Kornegay, Superintendent and Ex Officio, Secretary

MINwkshp.2026.08.19jm