LITTLETON SCHOOL DISTRICT
LHS Band Room
159 Oak Hill Ave
Littleton, NH 03561

DATE: April 6, 2026
Time: 5:00 p.m.

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Present: Travis Howard (Board Chair), Bill Gendreau (Board Vice Chair), Greg Cook, Lauren Rodier (School Board Members), Steve Nilhas (Superintendent), Patricia Brown (Business Administrator), Sheena Sullivan (School Board Secretary), Rachelle Cox (ATN Director/CTC Principal), Dale Prior (Director of Technology & Operations, Alan Smith (LHS/DBMS Principal), Melissa Jones (LHS/DBMS Assistant Principal), Crystal Martin (LES Principal), Melanie Harkless (LES Assistant Principal), Kelly Noland (Director of Student Services), Marion Anastasia, Jeremy Brown and the robotics team.
Absent: Matthew St. John

I. Call to Order - Travis Howard called the meeting to order at 5:02pm.

II. Consent Agenda

a. March 24, 2026 School Board Meeting Minutes

Motion Gendreau/Cook to approve the March 24, 2026, School Board Meeting Minutes as presented.
Motion carried 4/0.

III. Business Report

Patty said that the Budget continues to increase and enrollment continues to decrease which results in an increase in cost per pupil. This year, 25-26, we held the high school tuition rate at the 24-25 approved rate and increased elementary and middle school tuition only to their actual cost per pupil.

She said her recommendation for next school year 26-27 is to increase the elementary and middle schools to their actual cost per pupil, but to hold the high school at the middle school rate. This will result in an increase across all three tuition rates, but it adjusts the high school rate to a lower rate than the actual cost per pupil (CPP).

Motion Cook/Rodier to approve the 2026-2027 school year Tuition Rates as presented by the Business Administrator.
Motion carried 4/0.

Patty explained that early last fall, we were notified by Berry Transportation that they could not provide one of our bus runs due to a bus driver shortage. This winter, we were notified that Berry Transportation could not provide our second daily run (including CTE/Vocational) due to a driver shortage. All year, Berry Transportation has not been reliable for cocurricular trips. We have relied heavily on Butler's Bus Service, and their pricing is much lower than Berry Transportation's. Our transportation schedulers here at the schools are very happy with Butler's Bus Service and highly recommend we continue with them permanently or at least for the next three school years.

Butler has matched our Berry Transportation contract for our daily runs over the next three years ($557 less). The cocurricular pricing is cheaper; the minimum rate is $150-$155 per trip lower.

This contract includes all fuel costs, with no limitations or exceptions, even if prices skyrocket. Each vehicle/bus has a very advanced camera and communications system that will give parents and the school real-time access. That will be fun for parents to see where the bus is, how far out from home it is, and when it will be at the high school at night, returning from a game or field trip for parent pickup, etc.

She said that the administration, transportation schedulers, and her fully support contracting with Butler's Bus Service moving forward. They have been very good to us and extremely accommodating beyond our expectations. They have also relocated three buses to an intown location for Littleton SD's convenience.

Motion Cook/Gendreau to approve the 2026-2029, 3-year transportation contract with Butler Bus Service as presented by the Business Administrator.
Motion carried 4/0.

IV. New Business

a. Robotics Demonstration - the robotics team gave a demonstration to the board in the gymnasium. The team will be hosting the 4th Annual North Country Robotics Festival on April 11th from 10-4 at the high school. This free, community-focused event featured live robot demonstrations, LEGO builds, and interactive STEM activities.

b. CTE Ambassador Grant - Rachelle explained that we have been awarded the Ambassador Grant to establish an Ambassador Program in CTE.

Motion Rodier/Gendreau to accept the CTE Ambassador Grant in the amount of $6,300 as presented.
Motion carried 4/0.

c. Perkins Redistribution Grant -Rachelle explained that this is a carryover of money that happens every year that the state redistributes. Last year our percentage was $6,800 and this year it is $7,017.12. She has until September 30th to spend the grant.

Motion Gendreau/Rodier to accept the Perkins V Prog Imp Redistribution Grant in the amount of $7,017.12 as presented.
Motion carried 4/0.

d. The Community Builders Hub - Rachelle explained that LHS students involved in the YLTA program participated in the Community Builders Hub pitch contest sponsored by the North Country Health Consortium on March 6th and they won $1,000. The students will use the funds for a Crusader Corner. It will house items for students in need of essentials (toothpaste, snacks, clothing, etc.) and they will be able to access it on a daily basis.

Motion Cook/Rodier to accept the Community Builders Hub donation in the amount of $1,000 as presented.
Motion carried 4/0.

e. Snow Days

Steve explained that students will not need to make up the two snow days, as they have plenty of hours.

He also said that the last day of school must not be more than 5 days after graduation and the Leadership Team recommends moving the last day of school for students from June 15 to June 12. Steve also asked if the board would like the teachers to make up the two snow days we had this school year. The Board decided that teachers will not be required to make up the two snow days used this year.

Motion Cook/Gendreau to change the last day of school for students from June 15, 2026 to June 12, 2026.
Motion carried 4/0.

Motion Gendreau/Rodier to change the last day of school for teachers to June 16, 2026 from June 18, 2026 (not making up the two snow days).
Motion carried 3/0/1. Cook abstained.

Motion Cook/Gendreau to change the last day of school for teachers and paras to June 16 and paras will be paid their hourly rate for the 17th.
Motion carried 4/0.

f. Summer School Proposal - Kelly Noland said this proposal outlines a specialized Summer School Program designed to provide extended learning opportunities for students requiring special education services, as well as a select group of students identified for potential intervention. The program will operate four days per week, for three hours per day. It will focus on academic reinforcement, skill-building, and therapeutic support to help students achieve their individual educational goals.

Motion Cook/Gendreau to approve the Summer School Proposal as presented.
Motion carried 4/0.

g. NH School Funding Fairness Project - Steve and Marion shared that this is an invitation request from NH School Funding Fairness Project to do some North Country forums in the fall of 2026. The last time that they presented in Littleton was in 2022.

h. Proposal to Relocate Littleton Academy to Littleton High School - Kelly Noland said this has come up every year through a facilities lens. The administration has had discussions about what is best for our students and teachers and they recommend relocating the academy to the high school. Dale suggested that we form a study committee as to what our options are for the building. The building will still be used as a gym.

Motion Cook/Rodier to approve the Proposal to Relocate Littleton Academy to Littleton High School as presented.
Motion carried 4/0.

i. FY 2026-2027 General Assurances - Steve informed the Board of the district's annual Federal Grants General Assurances for the 2026–2027 school year. These assurances confirm the district's commitment to comply with all federal laws and regulations associated with grant funding. This includes using funds appropriately and responsibly, maintaining accurate financial records, and ensuring transparency in all expenditures. The assurances also emphasize providing equitable access to programs and services for all students, particularly those most in need, while upholding all civil rights requirements. The district will continue to monitor program effectiveness, use data to guide improvements, and complete all required state and federal reporting.

Motion Gendreau/Cook to accept the FY 2026-2027 General Assurances for Grants for the school year 2026-2027 as presented by the Superintendent.
Motion carried 4/0.

j. Quarterly Meeting 4-23-26 - Steve shared that the next Joint Quarterly meeting will be on Thursday, April 23, 2026 at the Community Center.

V. Unfinished Business

a. Teacher Residency Program - Steve said that they have interviewed seven candidates so far. They will meet with PSU tomorrow to review the candidate interviews.

VI. Committee Reports

a. Negotiations - none
b. Facilities - next meeting on April 10, 2026
c. Policies - none

VII. Student Representative Report - no report

VIII. Superintendent's Report

a. Name a Plow Truck Winner

Crystal Martin shared that the DOE contacted her and asked if she would pilot their "Name a plow truck" contest as the first school in the north country (partnered with DOT). She agreed and rolled out the project. Students in grades 3-6 were allowed to participate and submit a plow truck coloring page with their suggested name. The teachers narrowed down the contest to the top 3 and then students voted on the winner. 5th grade student Ryland Ramsey was our contest winner with the plow truck name "Scoop Dogg." Scoop Dogg will be visiting with his driver and the commissioner of education on Thursday morning!

b. NHIAA Scholar Athlete Awards - Steve shared that our senior recipients of the NHIAA Scholar Athlete Awards this year are: Kendall Adams, Mason Allaire, Julianne Bromley, Ashton Chadburn, Ella Horsch, Ryan Mahy, Madison Nelson and Sam Reagey. Congratulations to all!

c. Building Aid Application - Dale said that he is working on the building application in order for us to stay on the list.

d. NEASC Visit - Al said that our Decennial Accreditation Visit is scheduled on October 1-3, 2029. Our school's two-day Collaborative Conference Visit will be held in 2027 and has been scheduled on October 13-14, 2027. Our Collaborative Conference visiting team will include six (6) visitors.

e. Crusader End of Year Events - see linked list of upcoming events

f. Lakeway End of Year Events - see linked list of upcoming events

IX. Public Input - none

X. Non-Public Session

Motion Gendreau/Cook to enter into non-public session at 6:09 pm under Paragraph II, Section 3 of the RSA 91A:3 of the Right-to-Know law for:

(1) The dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him or her, unless the employee affected (1) has a right to a public meeting, and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted.

(2) The hiring of any person as a public employee

(3) Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely adversely affect the reputation of any person, other than a member of this board, unless such person requests an open meeting. This exemption shall extend to include any application for assistance or tax abatement or waiver of a fee, fine or other levy, if based on inability to pay or poverty of the applicant.

Taking: Superintendent Nilhas, Marion Anastasia, Patricia Brown and Melanie Harkless.

Roll call vote: Bill Gendreau/Lauren Rodier/Greg Cook/Travis Howard.
Motion carried 4/0.

Motion Cook/Rodier to return to the public session at 7:23pm.
Motion carried 4/0.

Motion Rodier/Cook to accept the following nominations as presented.

a. Katie Glennon-SY 26-27 Elementary Teacher - Kindergarten
b. Micah Weaver SY 26-27 MS Social Studies Teacher
c. Ajilla Pospesil SY 26-27 Social Worker
d. Melanie Harkless SY 26-27 LES Principal
e. Danielle Whitcomb SY 26-27 Middle School Math Interventionist/Teacher

Motion carried 4/0.

Motion Gendreau/Rodier to approve the Renewal Nominations Related to Board List #1- Cook
Motion carried 4/0/1.

Motion Cook/Rodier to approve the Renewal Nominations Related to Board List #2 -Gendreau GC/LR
Motion carried 4/0/1.

Motion Rodier/Cook to approve the SY 26-27 Renewal Nominations:

Renewal Nominations- List A - Lakeway
Renewal Nominations - List B- Custodians
Renewal Nominations - List C - Academy/Special Education providers
Renewal Nominations - List D - CTC
Renewal Nominations - List E - DBMS/LHS
Renewal Nominations - List F- SAU

Motion carried 4/0.

Motion Rodier/Cook to accept the following resignations with appreciation as presented.

a. Patricia Brown - Business Administrator, effective 6/30/2026

b. Melissa Jones - DBMS/LHS Principal effective 6/30/2026

Motion carried 4/0.

The following announcement was made:
Serenna Anan Francisco - Asst. Drama Director

XI. Adjournment

Motion Rodier/Cook to adjourn at 7:28 pm.
Motion carried 44/0.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheena Sullivan
Board Secretary

School Board Approved 4/20/2026