

LEIPSIC LOCAL SCHOOL
Board of Education
Minutes

Date: January 14, 2026 . Kind of Meeting: Regular .

The Leipsic Local Board of Education met in regular session on Wednesday, January 14, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. in the Media Center.

The following board members were present: Rachel Niese, Brian Reynolds, Barry Ward, Karen Ward, and Kirk Wensink.

Administration present included: Brian Bennett, MS/HS Principal; Megan Tobe, Elementary Principal; and David Miller, Treasurer. Also present was Darren Henry, Interim Superintendent – appointment elect.

In attendance were five staff members.

A motion was made by Kirk Wensink, and seconded by Karen Ward, to approve the minutes of the January 2 2026 board meeting. Vote: Kirk Wensink—yea; Karen Ward—yea; Rachel Niese—yea; Brian Reynolds—yea; and Barry Ward—yes. Motion passed 5-0.

014-26
Minutes

Barry Ward made a motion, and Kirk Wensink seconded the move, to approve financial statements as presented (Bills, Interest, etc.). Vote: Barry Ward—yea; Kirk Wensink—yea; Rachel Niese—yea; Brian Reynolds—yea; and Karen Ward—yea. Motion passed: 5-0.

015-26
Financial
Statements

Recognition of Visitors and Comments from Guests: Christa Lammers presented Board Appreciation recognition gifts to the board members on behalf of the Certified Staff, Classified Staff, CentralAdmin. Staff, and the community.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Fiscal Items:

Rachel Niese made a motion, and Karen Ward seconded the motion, to approve the following Transfers/Advances/Advance Backs:

<u>Type</u>	<u>From Fund</u>	<u>To Fund</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Advance Back	572-9095	001-0000	\$88,339.93
Advance Back	584-9095	001-0000	12,302.57
Advance Back	590-9095	001-0000	15,568.11

016-26
Transfers/
Advances/
AdvanceBack

Vote: Rachel Niese—yea; Karen Ward—yea; Brian Reynolds—yea; Barry Ward—yea; and Kirk Wensink—yea. Motion passed: 5-0

Personnel:

Brian Reynolds made a motion, and Kirk Wensink seconded the motion, to approve the Resolution Appointing Interim Superintendent per attached.

017-26
Interim
Supt.

Vote: Brian Reynolds—yea; Kirk Wensink—yea; Rachel Niese—yea; Barry Ward—yea; and Karen Ward--yea. Motion passed: 5-0.

Barry Ward made a motion, and Rachel Niese seconded the motion to approve the athletic supplemental contracts per the athletic director's recommendation and as approved by the hs principal per attached.

018-26
Athletic
Supp.
Contracts

<u>Name</u>	<u>Coaching Position</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Exp.*</u>	<u>Compensation</u>
Barry Newell	Varsity Baseball Asst.	7%	9	\$3,978.00
Travis Schroeder	Varsity Baseball Volunteer			
Sean Brock	Varsity Softball	10.5%	0	4,738.00
Brian Wagler	Varsity Softball Asst.	6%	0	2,708.00
Briana Schroeder	Varsity Softball Volunteer			
Brayden Casteel	Varsity Track Asst.	6%	0	2,708.00
Hunter Casteel	Jr High Track Boys	4%	1	1,827.00
Jailynn Pena	Jr High Girls Track	4%	3	1,872.00

Vote: Barry Ward—yea; Rachel Niese—yea; Brian Reynolds—yea; Karen Ward—yea; and Kirk Wensink—yea. Motion passed: 5-0.

Kirk Wensink made a motion, and Karen Ward seconded the motion, to approve non-traditional classroom substitute Candidates for the 2025-2026 school year per attached. 3 Year Pre-service: Tessa Long and Hannah Windau. Vote: Kirk Wensink—yea; Karen Ward—yea; Brian Reynolds—yea; Rachel Niese—yea; and Barry Ward—yea. Motion passed: 5-0.

019-26
Classroom
Substitutes

Barry Ward made a motion, and Brian Reynolds seconded the motion, to approve the Bus Maintenance Contract between Leipsic Local SD and Dave's Repair for the 2026 calendar year per attached. Vote: Barry Ward—yea; Brian Reynolds—yea; Rachel Niese—yea; Karen Ward--yea; and Kirk Wensink—yea. Motion passed: 5-0.

020-26
Bus
Maintenance

Kirk Wensink made a motion, and Rachel Niese seconded the motion, to approve the Field Agency Contract between the Leipsic Local SD and Defiance College for the purpose of providing field-based educational learning experience for social work students per attached. Vote: Kirk Wensink--yea; Rachel Niese—yea; Brian Reynolds—yea; Barry Ward—yea; and Karen Ward—yea. Motion passed: 5-0.

021-26
Student
Social
Work

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Date: January 14, 2026 . Kind of Meeting: Regular .

Barry Ward moved, and Kirk Wensink seconded the motion, to approve the Student Teacher and Field-Based Experience Agreement between the Leipsic Local SD and the University of Findlay for the purpose of teacher education students per attached. Vote: Barry Ward—yea; Kirk Wensink—yea; Brian Reynolds—yea; Rachel Niese—yea; and Karen Ward—yea. Motion passed: 5-0. 022-26 Student Teacher

Brian Reynolds made a motion, seconded by Barry Ward, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Kent State University and the Leipsic Local SD for the purpose of College Credit Plus per attached. Vote: Brian Reynolds—yea; Barry Ward—yea; Rachel Niese—yea; Karen Ward—yea; and Kirk Wensink—yea. Motion passed: 5-0. 023-26 MOU CCP

Karen Ward made a motion, seconded by Rachel Niese, to approve the Amenities Resolution for the calendar year 2026. Vote: Karen Ward—yea; Rachel Niese—yea; Brian Reynolds—yea; Barry Ward--yea; and Kirk Wensink--Abstain. Motion passed: 4-0-1. 024-26 Amenities Resolution

Executive Session:

Brian Reynolds made a motion, seconded by Kirk Wensink, to enter into Executive Session at 6:17 pm to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion or compensation of a public employer or official, or the investigation of charges, or complaints against an employee, official, licensee or student; and matters required to be kept confidential by federal law or rules or state statutes. Vote: Brian Reynolds—yea; Kirk Wensink—yea; Rachel Niese—yea; Barry Ward—yea; and Karen Ward—yea. Motion passed: 5-0. 025-26 Executive Session

Personnel:

Rachel Niese made a motion, and Kirk Wensink seconded the motion, to approve the contract of David C. Miller as Assistant Treasurer effective 08/01/2026 per attached. Vote: Rachel Niese—yea; Kirk Wensink—yea; Brian Reynolds—yea; Barry Ward—yea; and Karen Ward—yea. Motion passed: 5-0. 026-26 D. Miller Contract

Brian Reynolds moved, and Karen Ward seconded the motion, to accept the resignation, for retirement purposes, of David C. Miller as Treasurer/Assistant Treasurer effective 12/31/2026 per attached. Vote: Brian Reynolds—yea; Karen Ward—yea; Rachel Niese—yea; Barry Ward—yea; and Kirk Wensink—yea. Motion passed: 5-0. 027-26 D. Miller Retirement

PLANNING and DISCUSSION

- Superintendent Comments
- Board Round Robin
 - Check curriculum committee assignment to include: Barry Ward, Chair/Rachel Niese
 - Schedule Personnel committee meeting for January 22nd
 - Schedule Building & Grounds committee meeting for February 4th.

Karen Ward made a motion, seconded by Rachel Niese, to hold a Regular Board Meeting at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 11, 2026 in the Media Center. Vote: Karen Ward—yea; Rachel Niese —yea; Brian Reynolds —yea; Barry Ward—yea; and Kirk Wensink—yea. Motion passed: 5-0. 028-26 Meeting Date

Kirk Wensink made a motion, seconded by Karen Ward to adjourn the meeting. Vote: Kirk Wensink—yea; Karen Ward—yea; Brian Reynolds—yea; Rachel Niese—yea; and Barry Ward—yea. Motion passed: 5-0. 029-26 Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

_____ President

_____ Treasurer