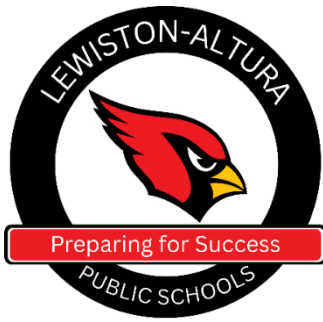




Lewiston–Altura Public School District
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(507) 523-2191

Mark Gruen, Superintendent
Dave Riebel, PreKdg – 5 Principal
Cory Hanson, 6-12 Principal

To: LA School Board Members
From: Mark Gruen
Re: Superintendent's Report
Date: July 13, 2026

VII. Consent Agenda - Requesting a motion to approve the consent agenda.

A. Board Meeting Minutes: June 8, 2026, and June 30, 2026.

B. Financial Reports

- a. Wire and Check Payments
- b. Multi Year Guideline
- c. Accept \$4000.00 POET Community Impact Grant
to be used for pickleball court improvements.

Thank you to the Cardinal Foundation (Holly Burt) for writing the grant on our behalf.

C. Personnel

Accept resignation of Dean Chaffee, Elementary Food Service staff.

Accept resignation of Amy Kingsley, JH Volleyball Coach.

Accept resignation of Ben Oevering, JH Baseball Coach.

Accept resignation of John Harper, Elementary Music Teacher.

Approve the hire of Kimberly Zahrt as MS Math Teacher, pending Out of Field Placement approval at MA/Step 6 in accordance with the 2025-2027 EdMN/L-A Master Agreement.

Approve the hire of Andrew Schultz as Substitute Bus driver pending completion of Driver clearinghouse approval.

Approve the hire of Molly Woodard at MA step 9 as our elementary music teacher.

Approve 2026-2027 Agreement with HVED for Vickie Speltz to continue as HVED's Food Service Director.

VIII. Designation of Identified Official with Authority (IOwA) for MDE. Requesting a motion to A\authorize Cory Hanson as IOwA.

IX. Approve Mark Gruen as signer at Minnwest Bank for the district's CDs and Safety Deposit box. Requesting a motion to approve me as the signer for obvious reasons.

X. Approve Julie Grant as a point of contact for Minnwest Bank for any of the district's bank accounts or related information. – again – we need someone authorized – requesting a motion.

XI. CESO Contract 26-27 – Contract included in the packet. Gwen went through it with Julie – I also sat in on the meeting. Requesting a motion to approve the negotiated enclosed contract.

XII. August Board meeting Date – **That week is the only week all summer that my children’s schedules line up – also Brein cannot make it on Aug. 10. We are recommending Aug. 3 – a week earlier due to the construction and the possibly of needing approval for an unknown. Requesting a motion to move the date.**

XIII. Elementary Gym – **The board needs to decide if we are doing the floor this summer or next. Contractors believe we can still get it finished this summer.**

XIV. Long Term Facilities Maintenance Plan – **Gwen had this on the agenda before I started....**

XV. Tiny Robot or Field Painter Purchase Discussion – **Our Cabinet is in favor of the purchase for many reasons. Requesting a motion to purchase the tiny robot – with the presented plan for payment.**

XVI. Extra Curricular Transportation Policy Addendum – **This is to protect the district from excessive transportation costs while still offering as many activities to our students as possible. Requesting a motion to approve the addendum. (Not sure if we need a second reading for this...)**

XVII. L-A High School Principal's Report

AD - R. Eppen is working on an agreement with Game One and Adidas. A large group of schools in the area are joining together to reduce our prices. – No action necessary.

XVIII.

Superintendent's Report

Dashir Report attached

XIX. Board Committee Reports

Nothing this month

ADJOURN

Superintendent Transition: Gwen was awesome setting up meetings on several days before July 1 for me. I feel like I have been able to hit the ground running. I have had several introductions and we have already held our first cabinet team meeting. I will be reaching out to meet with each of you over the next couple of months.

November 2026 School Board Elections: Learning on this.... Possibly something that could be assigned one of our adm. Assistants. Shelly Pringle is working the required dates. (July 14-17, 20-24, 27 from 9:00am – 1:00pm; and July 28th 8:00am – 5:00pm.)

Summer School Board Meeting Location Change Reminder: The summer meetings on July 13 and *August 10th* will be held at City of Lewiston Council Meeting Room due to the construction, and the HS Library will be inaccessible to the public.

Belief Statements (internal operations- beliefs to drive decisions):

- **LIFELONG LEARNERS:** We believe in the value of education for all ages.
- **ACCOUNTABILITY:** We believe we are accountable for our actions and outcomes.
- **COMMUNITY CENTERED:** We believe our schools are the central hub of our community and essential for building strong communities.
- **ADAPTABLE:** We believe in being responsive to an ever-changing world.
- **RESPECTFUL:** We believe in everyone's right to safety, respect, and dignity in our schools.
- **DIVERSE:** We believe in fostering the value of each other's individual differences, perspectives, and life experiences.
- **STUDENT FOCUSED:** We believe that we are all responsible for the success of students.

Goals

1. **STUDENT SUCCESS:** Provide all students with the education they need for success: academically, emotionally, and socially.
2. **EFFECTIVE STAFFING:** Hire, maintain, train and support staff to be as effective as possible.
3. **FINANCE:** Be financially healthy and sustainable.
4. **FACILITIES:** Have facilities that are safe, modern and conducive to 21st century education.
5. **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:** Engage with parents, community members and business owners.