LinkEd Public Schools (LPS) Board Meeting

Minutes LPS Board of Directors Meeting

LinkEd Public Schools (LPS) Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Location: 1701 18th St Bakersfield CA 93301 | Zoom Meeting: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83868086112 Meeting ID: 831 3586 5007 Passcode: iKhn6Q
Date: May 26, 2026
Time: 1:00PM

I. Opening Items

1.1 Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 1:05 PM by Board President David James

1.2 Flag Salute
The Pledge of Allegiance was led by David James and acknowledged by all members present.

1.3 Roll Call

- Board Members Present:
  Lila Ray
  Leslie Walters
  Ernie Unruh
  David James
- Board Members Absent:
  None
- Staff Present:
  Greg West (CEO)
  Joanna Kendrick (Superintendent)
- Guests Present:
  David Olson Charter Impact

1.4 Changes to Agenda
No changes were made to the agenda.

1.5 Public Comment
No public comments were received on non-agenda items.

II. Consent Agenda

2.1- Approval of April 28 board meeting minutes
2.2- Approval of April check register

Motion to approve: Lila Ray
Second: Leslie Walters
Vote: Approved unanimously

III. Closed Session

Motion to enter closed session: Lila Ray
Second: Leslie Walters
Vote: Approved unanimously

No action was taken during the closed session.

IV. Open Session

Report of Closed Session
No reportable action was taken during the Closed Session.

4.1- LCAP and Budget Preview and Feedback (presentation)

Administration presented a preview of the 2026–27 LCAP and budget, including updates related to the Governor's May Revision, increased LCFF COLA, and changes in special education and student services funding.

Key highlights included:

- Estimated LCFF COLA increase from 2.4% to 4.31%
- Increased special education and student services funding allocations
- Projected enrollment of approximately 657 students with 611 funded ADA
- Estimated $2.9 million increase in total revenue
- Projected year-end surplus of approximately $549,000
- Continued focus on instructional programs, arts expansion, technology, and student support services
- Progress toward reducing aging accounts payable and strengthening reserves

Administration also reviewed stakeholder engagement efforts, including advisory committees, Faculty Senate, School Site Council, and parent engagement structures.

No action was taken.

4.2- Review and Approve Boys and Girls Club Contact

Administration presented a contract with the Boys and Girls Club to operate the expanded after-school program, including enrichment opportunities in arts, drama, wellness, and student support programming.

Motion: Ernie Unruh moved to approve the Boys and Girls Club Contract. Leslie Walters seconded.

Vote: Approved 4-0

4.3 -Review and Approve Insights Psychology Services

Administration presented a contract renewal with Insights Psychology Services to provide oversight, consultation, and support for special education psychology services and compliance.

Motion: Lila Ray moved to approve the Insights Psychology Services Contract. Leslie Walters seconded.

Vote: Approved 4-0

4.4-Review and Approve March Consulting Contract

Administration presented a renewal of the March Consulting contract to continue supporting college and career readiness programming, with an increased scope aligned to high school expansion.

Motion: Lila Ray moved to approve the March Consulting Contract. Leslie Walters seconded.

Vote: Approved 4-0

4.5- Review and Approve Technology Services Contract

Administration presented a contract with ATECH Technology Services to provide expanded IT support, including network infrastructure, cybersecurity, and help desk services.

Following review of multiple proposals, ATECH was selected based on service scope, responsiveness, and cost effectiveness.

Motion: Ernie Unruh moved to approve the Technology Services Contract. Lila Ray seconded.

Vote: Approved 4-0

4.6- Review and Approve CAAT 2025-2026 Academic Calendar

Administration presented the 26/27 academic calendar, which maintains 180 instructional days and aligns with key regional district calendar considerations while preserving monthly professional development days.

Motion: Lila Ray moved to approve the CAAT 26/27 Academic Calendar. Leslie Walters seconded.

Vote: Approved 4-0

4.7- Review and Approve CAAT Graduation Requirements

Administration presented updated graduation requirements, including A–G coursework, expanded English and math requirements, science, foreign language, computer science, performing arts, and portfolio/externship components.

Board discussion included graduation appeals and accommodations for students with unique circumstances.

Motion: Ernie Unruh moved to approve the CAAT Graduation Requirements. Leslie Walters seconded.

Vote: Approved 4-0

V. Communication

5.1 Superintendent Report
Joanna Kendrick provided updates on enrollment, student programs, and upcoming events.

Key updates included:

- Enrollment continues to grow, with approximately 40 new applications received per month and over 500 applications submitted for the 2026-27 school year.
- Current enrollment projections remain approximately 620 students, with a waitlist of more than 350 students.
- Upcoming end-of-year events include Kindergarten Graduation, Eighth Grade Promotion, Family Barbecue, and Mutual Promise meetings for newly enrolled families.
- Summer programming will include Physical Education courses, Math for Physics, Extended School Year (ESY) services, Summer Bridge activities, high school orientation and academic planning meetings, and TK/Kindergarten family readiness workshops.
- Administration continues preparations for the upcoming school year while supporting summer programs and facility transitions.

5.2 CEO Report
Greg West provided updates on facility planning, staffing, and charter oversight activities.

Key updates included:

- The Material Revision application is scheduled for consideration by the Kern County Superintendent of Schools Board on June 9, 2026.
- Administration continues planning for the 18th Street facility expansion and reviewed preliminary classroom layouts and facility improvements.
- Staffing for the 2026-27 school year is nearly complete, including the successful hiring of high school instructional staff to support continued growth.

- The annual oversight visit conducted by Kern County Superintendent of Schools staff resulted in positive feedback regarding governance, academics, and special education services.
- Administration is working to address minor compliance items identified during the oversight review and anticipates completing corrective actions by the end of June.

VI. Closing Items

Adjournment
Motion to adjourn: Leslie Walters
Second: Lila Ray
Time adjourned: 2:00 PM
Vote: Approved unanimously