

The Board of Education of LaHarpe Community School District #347 held a special School Board meeting on 7 May 2026 in the Board room. President Dustin Detherage called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Roll call was answered by Blythe, Dowell, Burt, Detherage, Gebhardt, Walker and Deitrich. Principal Ryan Hopper and Board Secretary Liz McCarter were also in attendance.

Visitors in attendance: Laura Jones

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

A Moment of Silence was observed.

Public Comment: None

Business Items:

A motion was made by Gebhardt with a second by Blythe to approve the Items on the Agenda as presented. Roll Call: Blythe- yes; Burt – yes; Detherage – yes; Dowell – yes; Gebhardt – yes; Walker – yes; Deitrich – yes Motion Carried 6 – yay, 0 – abstain, 0 – nay, 0 – Absent: Motion Carried: 7-0.

2026-2027 IESA Membership Renewal:

Hopper stated that each year there are fees that need to be paid to IESA. The amount for next year is \$1,325.00.

A motion was made by Dowell with a second by Walker to approve the IESA Membership in the amount of \$1,325.00 for the 2026/2027 school year. Roll Call: Blythe- yes; Burt – yes; Detherage – yes; Dowell – yes; Gebhardt – yes; Walker – yes; Deitrich – yes Motion Carried 6 – yay, 0 – abstain, 0 – nay, 0 – Absent: Motion Carried: 7-0.

Cafeteria Table Design:

The board was given two options by the architect for designs on the new cafeteria tables. The board discussed and chose option 2. Hopper asked if the seating was going to be the benches as pictured or individual seating. Burt asked if the architect could send us a draft of what we will be getting. Discussion was had regarding price difference on tables and options. Detherage is going to email the architect with all the questions and the decision on the design.

A motion was made by Deitrich with a second by Walker to adjourn to closed session at 6:07pm to discuss (1)The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, specific individuals who serve as independent contractors in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or specific volunteers of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee, a specific individual who serves as an independent contractor in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or a volunteer of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. However, a meeting to consider an increase in compensation to a specific employee of a public body that is subject to the Local Government Wage Increase Transparency Act may not be closed and shall be open to the public and posted and held in accordance with [the Open Meetings Act]. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1). Roll Call: Blythe- yes; Burt – yes; Detherage

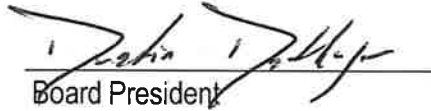
– yes; Dowell – yes; Gebhardt – yes; Walker – yes; Deitrich – yes Motion Carried 6 – yay, 0 – abstain, 0 – nay, 0 – Absent: Motion Carried: 7-0.

Detherage called closed session to order at 6:09pm on May 7, 2026. Roll Call: Blythe- yes; Burt – yes; Detherage – yes; Dowell – yes; Gebhardt – yes; Walker – yes; Deitrich – yes Motion Carried 6 – yay, 0 – abstain, 0 – nay, 0 – Absent: Motion Carried: 7-0.

A motion was made by Dowell with a second by Blythe to adjourn the closed session at 7:06pm.

A motion was made by Dowell with a second by Burt to approve the retirement agreement as presented for Dr. Janet Gladu. Roll Call: Blythe- yes; Burt – yes; Detherage – yes; Dowell – yes; Gebhardt – yes; Walker – yes; Deitrich – yes Motion Carried 6 – yay, 0 – abstain, 0 – nay, 0 – Absent: Motion Carried: 7-0.

A motion was made by Detherage with a second by Gebhardt to adjourn the May 7, 2026 special board meeting at 7:07pm. (voice vote)


Board President


Board Secretary

5-19-26
Date Approved