

LAKE CENTRAL SCHOOL CORPORATION
Lake Central High School
LGI ROOM – Enter Door E
8260 Wicker Avenue, St. John, IN 46373

Board Members Present

Cindy Sues, President
Nicole Kelly, Secretary
Louise Tallent, Board Member
Janice Malchow, Vice President

Board Members Not Present

Howard Marshall, Board Member

Administration Present

Dr. Lawrence Veracco, Superintendent
Sarah Castaneda, Assistant Superintendent
Rob James, Director of Business Services
Yolanda Bracey, Director of Primary Education
Rebecca Gromala, Director of Student Services
Misty Scheuneman, Director of Secondary Education

Administration Not Present

Bill Ledyard, Director of Facilities

*To view the archived video of the meeting in its entirety,
go to the School Board section of website at www.lcsc.us*

*All Motions Were Passed With a 4-0
Vote Unless Otherwise Indicated*

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Monday, August 4, 2025 - 7:00pm

- I. Call to Order – *Cindy Sues*
 - The meeting was called to order and Pledge of Allegiance led by Board President Cindy Sues.
- II. Agenda: Approval, Deletions, Additions – *Dr. Veracco* – **Action Required**
 - Amendments to the Agenda include revisions to the Personnel Packet under Sarah Castaneda's section, and the tabling of item #1 under Yolanda Bracey's section.
 - Nicole Kelly moved to approve the revised Agenda.
 - Louise Tallent seconded the motion.
 - Motion carried.
- III. Correspondence – *Nicole Kelly*
 - There was no correspondence.
- IV. Liaison Committee Updates – *Cindy Sues*
 - A. Personnel Interview Committee: Howard Marshall
 - B. Schererville Redevelopment Commission: Nicole Kelly
 - C. Schererville Parks Department: Nicole Kelly
 - D. Lake Central Education Foundation: Janice Malchow
 - E. Legislative Committee: Janice Malchow
 - F. Dyer Parks Department: Janice Malchow
 - G. St. John Redevelopment Commission: Cindy Sues
 - H. Dollars for Scholars: Cindy Sues
 - I. Dyer Redevelopment Commission: Louise Tallent
 - J. Wellness Committee: Louise Tallent

- V. Official School Board Business Topics: Consent Agenda – *Dr. Veracco* – **Action Required**
- A. Approval of Minutes
 - Regular Board Meeting: Monday, July 14, 2025
 - B. Approval of Claims, Payroll and Extracurricular Expenditures
 - Louise Tallent moved to approve the Consent Agenda.
 - Cindy Sues seconded the motion.
 - Motion carried.
- VI. Public Comments Regarding Action Items
- There were no public comments regarding action items.
- VII. Official School Board Business Topics: Regular Agenda
- A. Superintendent – *Dr. Veracco*
 1. Professional Leave Request - **Action Required**
 - Nicole Kelly moved to approve the professional leave request.
 - Cindy Sues seconded the motion.
 - Motion carried.
 2. Legislative Update
 - B. Assistant Superintendent – *Sarah Castaneda*
 1. Personnel Recommendations – **Action Required - Revised**
 - Janice Malchow moved to approve the revised personnel recommendations.
 - Nicole Kelly seconded the motion.
 - Motion carried.
 2. Professional Leave Request - **Action Required**
 - Louise Tallent moved to approve the professional leave request.
 - Cindy Sues seconded the motion.
 - Motion carried.
 3. LCHS Update on AI Guidelines and SAT Scores
 - C. Director of Primary Education – *Yolanda Bracey*
 - ~~1. Plan for Staff Evaluation - **Action Required**~~
 - This item was tabled.
 2. Elevate Presentation
 3. Update on ILEARN Scores
 - D. Director of Secondary Education – *Misty Scheuneman*
 1. Update on ILEARN Scores
 2. Professional Leave Requests - **Action Required**
 - Nicole Kelly moved to approve the professional leave requests.
 - Cindy Sues seconded the motion.
 - Motion carried.
 3. Field Trip Requests - **Action Required**
 - Janice Malchow moved to approve the field trip requests.
 - Louise Tallent seconded the motion.
 - Motion carried.

- E. Director of Student Services - *Becky Gromala*
1. Emberly's Smiles Playground Communication Boards

F. Director of Facilities – *Bill Ledyard*

G. Director of Business Services – *Rob James*

1. Donations - **Action Required**

- Janice Malchow moved to approve the donations.
- Cindy Sues seconded the motion.
- Motion carried.

VIII. Public Comments – *Cindy Sues*

- There were no public comments.

IX. Board Comments and Consideration of Future Agenda Items – *Cindy Sues*

- Nicole Kelly: I just want to wish everybody, our teachers, our staff, our students, our families, a great first day back next week, good luck.
- Louise Tallent: I want to say ditto to that Mrs. Kelly, thank you so much. And, thank you for all the wonderful reports, amazing, just absolutely amazing.
- Janice Malchow: I'll tell you there's nothing better than hearing energy in the room and in the building. So thank you so much for coming tonight and sharing that. So much to celebrate. We're in a great place, and thanks for your commitment. The floors are shiny and sparkly and the building smells good, so wish you all a great school year and thanks for being here tonight - thanks for the energy you bring to us, we need that energy.
- Cindy Sues: Absolutely. And, I ditto all of that.

X. Board Calendar of Future Activities – *Dr. Veracco*

- Next School Board Meeting: Monday, August 18, 2025

XI. Adjournment – *Cindy Sues* – **Action Required**

- Janice Malchow moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:10pm.
- Cindy Sues seconded the motion.
- Motion carried, meeting adjourned.

Minutes of the August 4, 2025 School Board Meeting were approved and adopted by the Board of School Trustees at the August 18, 2025 School Board Meeting.

Cindy Sues, President

ATTEST:

Nicole Kelly, Secretary

SUPPORTING
DOCUMENTS
FOR MINTUES

August Legislative Update SEA 1

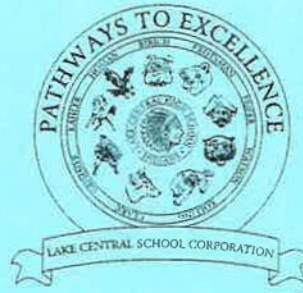
- Lobbyist working with NWI Superintendent study council is looking to visit with members of the Indiana General Assembly regarding SEA 1
- Some members of the Senate have acknowledged that their school districts are being significantly impacted by the new law
- Ideas that will be shared include looking at **caps to maximum levy** given there is justification for tying it to inflation since this revenue stream covers current costs of energy and building repairs
- Additionally, **local option income taxes** are not shared with schools despite the fact that schools are losing significant revenue just like cities and towns. Expanding the sharing arrangement of this revenue would be a tremendous help. (but would only impact schools if and when towns implement the income tax)
- I suggested, again, that perhaps a **study committee could review other state formulas that adjust gross assessed value** prior to applying tax rates. If the new Indiana formula, which will reduce Gross Assessed Value by 67% to arrive at net assessed value is excessive, perhaps it could be adjusted in the next session or the next budget session. If it is similar to other state formulas, then at least folks in the trenches know that they need to get better at passing referenda or local income taxes or plan for and share the reduction of services to constituents.
- While property tax relief is a worthy pursuit, reductions must be balanced against the provision of public services that stakeholders have come to appreciate and in many cases expect from their towns and school systems.

Lake Central School Corporation

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Saint John, IN 46373
Fax: (219) 365-6406

website:lcsc.us



Lawrence Veracco, Ph.D.
Superintendent

Sarah Castaneda
Assistant Superintendent

Yolanda Bracey, Ed. D.
Director of Primary Education

Misty Scheuneman
Director of Secondary Education

Rebecca Gromala
Director of Student Services

TO: Board of School Trustees
FROM: Dr. Larry Veracco, Superintendent
DATE: July 31, 2025
RE: **Board Meeting of August 4, 2025**

PROFESSIONAL LEAVE REQUESTS

NAME	Janice Malchow
POSITION	School Board Vice President
SCHOOL	District
EVENT	2025 ISBA/IAPSS Fall Conference
DATES	9/14 - 9/16/2025
PLACE	Indianapolis, IN
DESCRIPTION	Annual Meeting
SPONSORING ORGANIZATION	Indiana School Boards Association / Indiana Association of Public School Superintendents
EXPENSES	Estimated Meal Cost - \$70 Estimated Hotel Cost - \$400 Estimated Required Fees - \$325 Estimated Travel Cost - Mileage & Parking
FUNDING	030-0-23210-580-0001

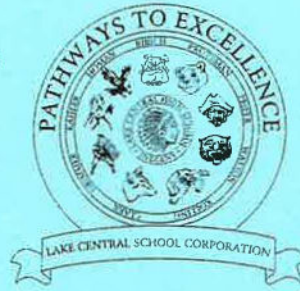
LV/vv

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Rebecca Gromala

Director of Student Services

TO: Board of School Trustees
FROM: Sarah Castaneda, Assistant Superintendent
DATE: July 31, 2025
RE: Board Meeting of August 4, 2025

REVISIONS

Personnel

(Board action required)

We are recommending that the following be approved:

I. Certified Appointment(s), Transfer(s), Resignation(s):

A. Appointment(s):

1. Rakim Ali (rehire), Temporary Math Teacher, Lake Central High School (effective September 19, 2025).
2. Colleen Romeli (rehire), Temporary Math Teacher, Kahler Middle School (effective August 12, 2025).
3. Brianna Kickert (St. John), Temporary Grade 1 Teacher, Bibich Elementary School (effective August 23, 2025).
4. Justin Schranz (rehire), Temporary Resource Teacher, Bibich Elementary School (effective August 12, 2025).
5. Samantha Wagner (Crown Point), Temporary Transition to Teach (TAP) Teacher, Lake Central High School (effective August 12, 2025).
6. Anna Nasinska, (rehire), Temporary English Teacher, Kahler Middle School (effective August 12, 2025).

B. Transfer(s):

1. Courtney Severin, transfer from School Service Provider to Counselor, Lake Central High School (effective August 12, 2025).

C. Resignation(s):

1. Courtney Blackwell, English Teacher, Kahler Middle School (effective July 28, 2025).
2. Casey Granger, Grade 3 Teacher, Peifer Elementary School (effective July 28, 2025).
3. Heather Clarkson, PLTW Teacher, Kahler Middle School (effective July 31, 2025).
4. Cody Michniewicz, Grade 2 Teacher, Protsman Elementary School (effective July 31, 2025).
5. Amanda Serrato, English Teacher, Clark Middle School (effective August 1, 2025).
6. Erica Churilla, Guidance Counselor, Clark Middle School (effective August 4, 2025).

II. Classified Appointment(s), Resignation(s), Retirement(s), Transfer(s) & Change of Status:

A. Appointment(s):

1. Kayla Krull (rehire), Paraprofessional, Kahler Middle School (effective August 13, 2025).

2. Emilia Fafrowicz (Crown Point), Paraprofessional, Kolling Elementary School (effective August 13, 2025).
3. Natalie Cauffman (Valparaiso), Paraprofessional, Kolling Elementary School (effective August 13, 2025).
4. Christine Gomeztagle, COTA, Watson and Kolling Elementary Schools (effective August 12, 2025).

B. Resignation(s):

1. Ronna Reznik, Paraprofessional, Lake Central High School (effective July 15, 2025).
2. Pam Draus, Product Assistant, Lake Central High School (effective July 14, 2025).
3. Tricia Crowley, Paraprofessional, Watson Elementary School (effective July 15, 2025).
4. Sam Blackhurst, Paraprofessional, Lake Central High School (effective July 8, 2025).
5. Josephine Visi, Paraprofessional, Lake Central High School (effective May 28, 2025).
6. Lauren Kuipers, Paraprofessional, Grimmer Middle School (effective July 17, 2025).
7. Alaina Powers, Paraprofessional, Bibich Elementary School (effective July 21, 2025).
8. Shannon Ohlenkamp, Paraprofessional, Watson Elementary School (effective July 22, 2025).
9. Juana Luna, Paraprofessional, Lake Central High School (effective July 28, 2025).
10. Tracy Travis, Paraprofessional, Watson Elementary School (effective July 28, 2025).
11. Regina Gianotti, Paraprofessional, Protsman Elementary School (effective July 25, 2025).
12. Victoria Laforte, Paraprofessional, Bibich Elementary School (effective July 29, 2025).
13. Nicole Lale, 9 Month Secretary, Kolling Elementary School (effective July 30, 2025).
14. Jessica Valente, Paraprofessional, Peifer Elementary School (effective July 30, 2025).
15. Madeline Price, Paraprofessional, Homan Elementary School (effective July 31, 2025).
16. Debra Cipkar, Bus Aide, Lake Central Transportation (effective August 1, 2025).
17. Alexandra Trichak, Paraprofessional, Bibich Elementary School (effective August 1, 2025).
18. Katy Clifton, Paraprofessional, Lake Central High School (effective August 4, 2025).

C. Retirement(s):

1. Andrea Balcerak, Product Specialist, Lake Central High School (effective August 1, 2025); *26 years of dedicated service.*
2. Patricia Alexander, Bus Driver, Lake Central Transportation (effective July 23, 2025); *21 years of dedicated service.*

D. Transfer(s):

1. Katie Mikula, from Café Assistant to Product Assistant at Grimmer Middle School (effective August 13, 2025).
2. Melissa Wood, from Café Assistant 3.25 hours to Product Specialist 7.0 hours at Lake Central High School (effective August 13, 2025).

E. Change of Status:

1. Alina Carli, from 5 days to 4 days as a Paraprofessional at Clark Middle School (effective September 1, 2025).
2. Joseph Skvarek, from 5 days to 3 days as a Paraprofessional at Clark Middle School (effective August 13, 2025).
3. Valerie Gallatin, from 3 days to 2 days per week as a Paraprofessional at Kolling Elementary School (effective August 13, 2025).
4. Jessica Stooksbury, from 4 days to 5 days per week as a Paraprofessional at Kolling Elementary School (effective August 13, 2025).

III. Certified Extracurricular Appointment(s):

A. Appointment(s):

1. Tyler Copak, Purchase of Plan- Grade 5 Physical Education (PE), Kahler Middle School (effective August 13, 2025).
2. Daniel Pimentel, Assistant Football Coach, Clark Middle School (effective August 1, 2025).
3. Jereme Rainwater, Varsity Girls Soccer Coach, Lake Central High School (effective June 1, 2025).
4. Jeffrey Fairbairn, Boys Soccer Assistant Coach, Lake Central High School (effective August 4, 2025).

IV. Classified Extracurricular Appointment(s), Transfer(s) & Resignation(s):

A. Appointment(s):

1. Michael Ramirez, Freshman Football Assistant Co-Coach, Lake Central High School (effective August 1, 2025), *Pending background check*.
2. Jerry Paul, Varsity Football Assistant Coach, Lake Central High School (effective August 1, 2025).
3. Darius Lang, Varsity Football Assistant Coach, Lake Central High School (effective August 1, 2025).
4. Tony O'Hara, Varsity Football Assistant Coach, Lake Central High School (effective August 1, 2025).
5. Nicole Masen, Temporary Girls Soccer JV Coach, Lake Central High School (effective August 1, 2025).
6. Nathaniel Fowler, Varsity Girls Wrestling Coach, Lake Central High School (effective June 1, 2025).
7. Meredith Bickell, NJHS Sponsor, Grimmer Middle School (effective August 13, 2025).

B. Transfer(s):

1. Brian Rice, from Freshman Football Assistant Coach to Freshman Football Assistant Co-Coach, Lake Central High School (effective August 1, 2025).

C. Resignation(s):

1. Rob Lukowski, Varsity Football Assistant Coach, Lake Central High School (effective July 15, 2025).
2. Anthony Carter, Assistant Football Coach, Clark Middle School (effective July 24, 2025).
3. Sir Felix Garcia, Boys Freshman Wrestling Assistant Coach, Lake Central High School (effective July 22, 2025).
4. Brandon Davis, Boys Assistant Track Coach, Lake Central High School (effective August 1, 2025).

Approval of Lake Central School Corporation Substitute Staff Appointments and Resignations – Refer to attached list of substitutes that have been hired and have resigned.

NEW CERTIFIED HIRES FOR 2025-2026

<u>Last Name</u>	<u>First Name</u>	<u>Hire Date</u>	<u>Position/School</u>	<u>Deg/Exp</u>	<u>University</u>	<u>Board Approved</u>
Corral	Yesenia	8/12/2025	Grade 1/Peifer	Bachelors/2 yrs.	Purdue NW	6/16/2025
Lakomek	Ashley	8/12/2025	Art/Kolling	Masters/2 yrs.	Valparaiso University	6/16/2025
Macak	Delayna	8/12/2025	Grade 1/Homan	Bachelors/0	Purdue NW	6/16/2025
Michniewicz	Kari	8/12/2025	Preschool/Bibich	Bachelors/4 yrs.	Purdue University	6/16/2025
Ramirez	Justine	8/12/2025	Applied Skills/Bibich	Bachelors/3 yrs.	Indiana Univ. NW	6/16/2025
Peterson	Allison	8/12/2025	Science/Kahler MS	Bachelors/0	Purdue University	7/14/2025
Clarkson	Heather	8/12/2024	PLTW/Kahler MS	M/29	IN Univ./Purdue	7/14/2025
Copak	Tyler	8/12/2025	Temp. PE/Kahler MS	Bachelors/0	Indiana Univeristy	7/14/2025
VanVleck	David	8/12/2024	App. Skills/Kahler MS	Bachelors/0	Valparaiso University	7/14/2025
Baran	Amy	8/12/2025	Temp. SSP/Grimmer MS	Bachelors/0	Purdue University	7/14/2025
Rakim	Ali	9/12/2025	Temp. Math/LCHS	Bachelors/0	Univ. West Alabama	8/4/2025
Romeli	Colleen	8/12/2025	Temp. Math/Kahler MS	Bachelors/4 yrs.	Purdue NW	8/4/2025
Kickert	Brianna	8/23/2025	Temp. Grade 1/Bibich	Bachelors/0	Western Governors University	8/4/2025
Schranz	Justin	8/12/2025	Temp. Resource/Bibich	Bachelors/1	University of Illinois	8/4/2025
Wagner	Samantha	9/1/2025	Temp. TAP/LCHS	Bachelors/0	Purdue University	8/4/2025
Nasinska	Anna	8/12/2025	Temp. ELA/Kahler MS	B/9	Eastern Illinois University	8/4/2025

8/4/2025

Substitutes - Hired

Employee Name	Hire Date	Job Description
Sophia Tenn	7/14/2025	Cafeteria Sub
Ronna Reznik	7/14/2025	Sub Teacher
Rosina Giovane	8/12/2025	Cafeteria Sub
Andrea Balcerak	8/1/2025	Cafeteria Sub
Aimee Dupin	8/12/2025	Sub Teacher
Paul Morley	8/12/2025	Sub Teacher
Kim Marksteiner	8/12/2025	Sub Teacher
Donna King	8/11/2025	Cafeteria Sub

Substitutes - Resigned

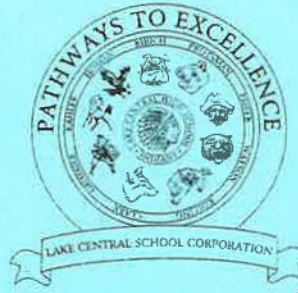
Employee Name	Resignation Date	Job Description
Ron Ortega	7/10/2025	Sub Food Service
Kathy Binole	7/14/2025	Retired LC Teacher Sub
Sophia Tenn	7/14/2025	Sub Transportation
Vanessa Merkle	7/16/2025	Sub Teacher
Julia Grzywana	7/16/2025	Sub Teacher
Cathy Schmiedl	7/17/2025	Sub Transportation
Felipe Ochoa-Gamino	7/17/2025	Sub Transportation
Haley Verdick	7/22/2025	Sub Teacher
Jennifer Smith	7/25/2025	Classified Sub
Marylyn Stafford	7/28/2025	Classified Sub
Kaitlyn Lopez	7/28/2025	Sub Teacher
Kelly Hawkins	8/1/2025	Sub Teacher
Laura Solivais	8/4/2025	Sub Teacher
Maria Asche	8/4/2025	Sub Transportation
Maria Rajch	8/4/2025	Sub Transportation

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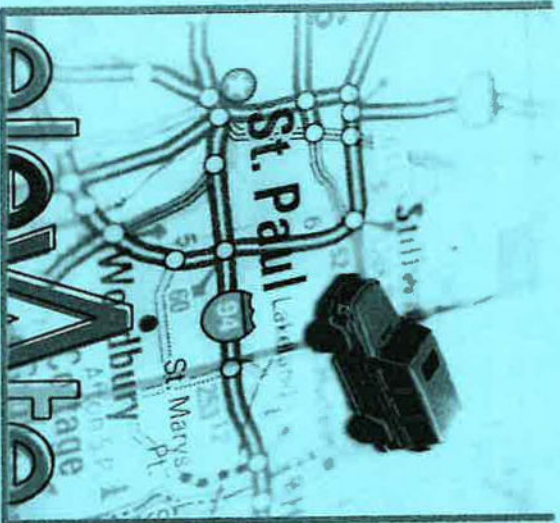
Rebecca Gromala
Director of Student Services

TO: Board of School Trustees
FROM: Sarah Castaneda, Assistant Superintendent
DATE: July 31, 2025
RE: **Board Meeting of August 4, 2025**

PROFESSIONAL LEAVE REQUESTS

NAME	Sarah Castaneda
POSITION	Assistant Superintendent
SCHOOL	District
EVENT	Preparing for the Future Conference
DATES	9/07 - 9/09/2025
PLACE	Indianapolis, IN
DESCRIPTION	Conference is dedicated to strengthening the pipeline of school district leaders of color in Indiana
SPONSORING ORGANIZATION	Indiana Association of Public School Superintendents
EXPENSES	Estimated Meal Cost - \$70 Estimated Hotel Cost - \$465 Estimated Required Fees - \$275 Estimated Travel Cost - Mileage & Parking
FUNDING	030-0-23290-3 200-0001

SC/vv



ELEVATE CONFERENCE
MINNEAPOLIS 2025



WATSON KINDERGARTEN AND 1ST GRADE



WHAT IS ELEVATE?



- ❖ ELEVATE is a conference that is all about supporting and uplifting early childhood and elementary educators in their quest to improve instruction for the students they serve.
- ❖ The ELEVATE team consists of highly experienced and award-winning educators who are currently teaching in the classroom or actively serving in schools.
- ❖ ELEVATE supports educators. The conferences provide teachers with the absolute best professional development sessions offered for Pre-k to 2nd grade educators.
- ❖ Every ELEVATE conference includes multiple sessions on all core academic strands (including science of reading, science of writing, math, science, & social studies), as well as administrative, SEL, school culture, classroom management, and culturally responsive teaching workshops.
- ❖ ELEVATE, sets the bar high! All of the presenters are required to support their presentation content with current research, model best-practice instructional methods, incorporate active-engagement strategies within their sessions, and provide complementary lesson plans/activities for attendees to take back and use immediately in their classrooms.

DAY 1:

- Welcome speech with Mr. Greg Smedley- Warren
- Kick off party with Jack Hartman
- *Jack shared songs that demonstrate fun and creative movement to a wide variety of early childhood topics including: language development and phonological awareness skills, math with counting and subitizing, number skills, spatial awareness and patterning. The presentation was very uplifting and interactive.
- *It was like being at a Taylor Swift concert for teachers.

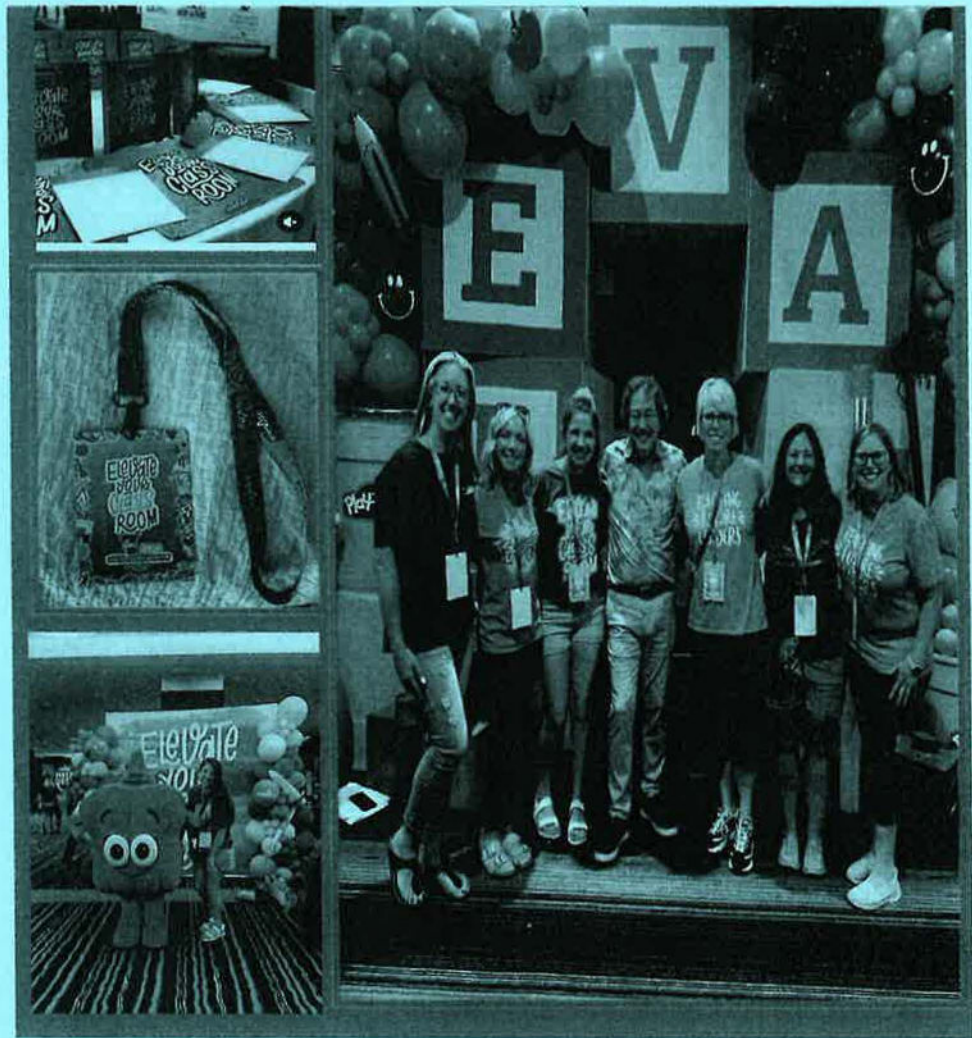
Takeaways:

- Great positive atmosphere welcoming 1,500 fellow educators!

-Preparation for the next 2 days of conferences including how the conference will function and expectations.

Freebies: Binder, Elevate swag, T-Shirt, Notebook, post it notes, hardback [Spookley's 1st Day book with link to a lesson for reading](#), Mr. Greg's autographed book, lots of vendor freebies and giveaways.

We also have full access to the Elevate Virtual conference which includes 26 speakers and presentations until September.



DAY 2, KEYNOTE SPEAKER: MR. JONATHAN HINES

GEORGIA PRE-K TEACHER OF THE YEAR

1 | Who they are

Jonathan Hines



2 | What they taught

Jonathan was a professional basketball player who grew up in Atlanta and played in South America. Inspired by his middle school coach, he came home and started working as a para. In time, he became a Pre-K teacher. First impressions are a lasting impression for children, so he created a wonderful learning environment. He realized that in his community there's a shortage of positive male role models, so he wanted to show children that African American men can be heroes in an everyday role. In 2020, he made history by becoming the first African American male Pre-K teacher of the year for the state of Georgia.

3 | Takeaways from the lesson

***Relationships matter!** Just one relationship can be life changing.

***Finding ways to connect is essential to building a relationship in the classroom.**

***Human connection starts with trust.**

***Trust is hard to develop and easy to be broken.**

***It is a delicate balance of setting and meeting each other's expectations.**

***He explained how important it is to not only set up trust with the students but to also get involved with the families and community.**

DAY 3, KEYNOTE SPEAKER: GERRY BROOKS

PRINCIPAL



1 | Who they are

Best-Selling Author, YouTube Sensation,
Comedian and Principal



2 | What they taught

Gerry is an inspiration that had us laughing as he shared advice, practical ideas that focus on personal/school climate, and staff culture. He challenged us to be the best we can be in all aspects of our personal and professional lives and how that will allow us to support our students, their parents, and our coworkers in the best way possible.




3 | Takeaways from the lesson

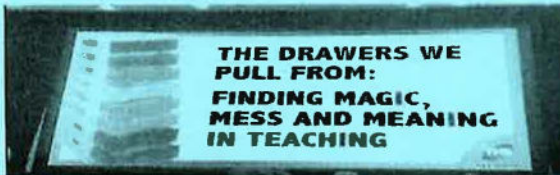
*Positive Change and Culture

- *Be a change agent.
- *Remember to adjust your own mask before you attempt to help others.
- *Remember to reach out to parents.
- *Growth means more than anything.
- *Repeated mistakes are called choices.
- *Pacifier (represents someone's baby)- Regardless of how old they are, they are someone's baby.
- *Speak up for those that can't.
- *Something great is going to happen today. I wonder what it's going to be.
- *Plain coffee cup- The best thing you can give a child is their dignity.

ALL THE GREAT SESSION ATTENDED

<i>Reading</i>	<i>Math</i>	<i>Writing & Other</i>
Soar with High Frequency Words Speaker Mary Amoson	Playful Numbers Engaging and Effective Math Games Speaker Hilary Statum	Games Galore Engaging Students through Intentional Games Speaker Jackie Powell
Games Galore -games to play and teach the standards Speaker Mary Amoson	Math Outside the Curriculum Speaker: Whitney Ramirez	Katie Knight and the 7 Tips to Wiggle While you Work
Management Multi-Sensory Classroom Engagement to Kick off the Year Speaker Jake Daggett		Write from the Start:Guiding our Littlest Learners Through the Writing Process (in a developmentally appropriate and science aligned way) Speaker Holly Ehle
Differentiating Phonics Block for Below, Above, and Multilingual Learners Speaker Jake Daggett		Dictation: Reimagining Spelling Instruction Speaker: Jake Daggett
Let's Streamline your Literacy Centers Speaker Kim Jordano		A Writing Piece a Week Speaker: Whitney Ramirez
Retelling Strategies That Stick Speaker: Kimberly Jordano		Data Bros Speakers: Katie Knight & Greg Smedley-Warren
Literacy Lab Speaker: Hilary Statum		Let's Write! 7 Big Ideas with a BIG Writing Impact Speaker: Keri Brown
		Move to the Music! Speaker: LeAnna Wolkis-Goldstein

GREG SMEDLEY-WARKEN THE DRAWERS WE PULL FROM-CLOSING REMARKS



1Who they are

Kindergarten Teacher,
Nationally Recognized Speaker and Curriculum
Author



Teaching can be Messy and chaotic. We are the MacGyvers.

Planning Drawer-hopes and dreams- Everything is beautiful until it is not (fire drill, assemblies, kid eats dirt thinking it is Oreos, underwear on the floor). This drawer holds our passion & creativity. When a lesson connects, it's electric. We have the passion to change what works one child at a time.

The best teaching ideas come when we are showering.

Emotional Drawer-not talked about in education. In this drawer you will see tears where you cried in your slushie over a student, sticky notes with drawings from kids that brightened your day, half eaten food they gave you to show they love you, and strength from our students. We need our students as much as they need us. They give us a purpose. Their sense of wonder and laughter (and some days frustration) make us better & make us grow. We do the heavy lifting taking care of kids in crisis. Our passion lies in this drawer.

We need each other.

Empty Drawer-nothing left. This is the drawer we open and think can we do this today? Do I have enough to give? Some of us might have opened it. When a drawer feels empty, it never really is as we are a family. It is refilled when one of our kids or colleagues give us a smile or admin says we are doing a good job.

****Challenge in a world that Public Education is taking a beating-**
Post positive things our school is doing. Drown out the negative with positive. Teachers and students do amazing things and they should be celebrated. #classrooms

Sarah and LC does a great job with this with our Parent Square and LC Facebook page -sharing our classroom successes

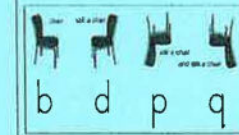
Magic drawer- filled with bubbles, stickers, costumes and wigs. Bring more fun into the classroom. Teach the standards but in a way that is joyful for the kids. Just as children need to celebrate their successes, so do teachers. Got attendance in on time -yeah!

Your drawer is enough-you are enough. Your drawers are your story. The world needs what is inside of us...we are magical.

HOLLY EHLE

WRITE FROM THE START: GUIDING OUR LITTLEST LEARNERS THROUGH THE WRITING PROCESS-SCIENCE ALIGNED WAY

The brain's visual system is initially wired to store in whole images - like faces. The orientation of an object really doesn't matter to the brain. Items can be flipped or mirrored-image form, and the brain is wired to recognize them despite their orientation.



1 | Who they are

Kindergarten Teacher, SoR Professor, and Reading Science Program Specialist at Huntington University



2 | What they taught

Holly shared how to approach writing instruction for primary students by moving away from writer's workshop and embracing cutting edge, research-based methods that align with children's cognitive and physical development as well as best practices. The Writing Process in 4 manageable steps: Think - Plan - Write- Revise (each on a different day)

3 | Takeaways from the lesson

- The Writer's workshop model was developed for experienced adult writers and not for children as young as 5.
- Evidence based writing practice is: explicit, systematic, and strategic
- Prioritize brief, focused bursts of instruction to captivate and engage
- Leverage techniques- collaborative and teacher controlling the pen (reduce cognitive overload and empower students to focus on writing composition essentials
- Guide students through the whole process in a week (teacher modeling)
- Motivation & self-regulation must be recognized
- Foundational writing skills x composition= skilled written expression

Providing short, daily opportunities to write is the first of four recommendations in the Institute of Education Science Report (Graham et al., 2012)

KATIE KNIGHT: 7 TIPS TO WIGGLE WHILE YOU WORK



1 | Who they are



Katie Knight - 1st grade teacher

2 | What they taught

Katie Knight shared 7 effective strategies for keeping students engaged and active throughout the school day across various subjects.

3 | Takeaways from the lesson

1. Student Buy-In
2. So Many Levels
3. Bag It Up
4. *Get Them Moving*
 - a. Gallery Walk - letting them learn from each other
5. Sense of Audience
6. Vibing Vocab
7. Wake Them Up

JAKE DAGGETT

DIFFERENTIATING A PHONICS BLOCK FOR BELOW AND MULTILINGUAL LEARNERS



1 | Who they are

Literacy specialist, college mentor, and 1st grade teacher



2 | What they taught

Jake focused on strategies to get moving and grooving with multisensory and kinesthetic approaches to add into our daily phonics block.

3 | Takeaways from the lesson

*He gave cross curricular examples that used rhythm and movement in the literacy classroom.

*We need effective multimodal phonics instruction that is repetitive, articulation-based, systematic and predictable.

*He gave examples of visual drills, auditory drills, blending drills, and dictation.

PLAYFUL NUMBERS PRESENTED BY HILARY STATUM



1 | Who they are

Kindergarten Teacher, national presenter, and math coach



What they taught

In this jam packed session, Hilary shared her favorite math activities, games, and centers for our whole-group and small group math instruction.

3 | Takeaways from the lesson

Game based learning benefits-they are fun and engaging and an important tool for learning.

Strategic learning-students look for various strategies to solve problems and deepen number understanding

Computational fluency-games played repeatedly support development of computational fluency

DAY 3, WHAT WE WON



- 1 | Stephanie won an ABC Bootcamp retailed \$110.00



- 2 | Melisa won a

\$10.00 gift card to TKS store



- 3 | Amanda won admission to the conference next year

for sharing all the conference fun on social media

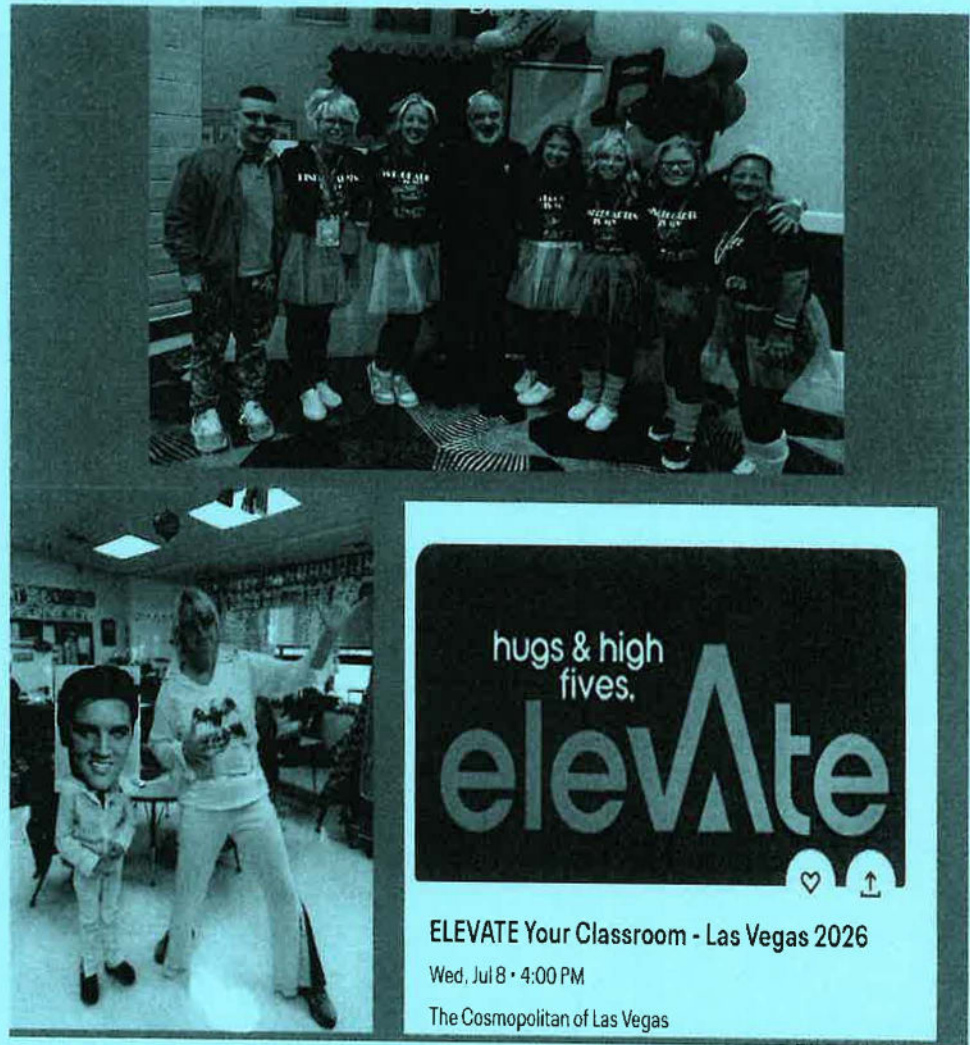


WE DID SOME TEAM
BONDING IN THE EVENING
AND CAUGHT THE FINAL OF
THE COMMISSIONER'S CUP
TO WATCH THE INDIANA

FEVER WIN!



THANK YOU, DR. BRACEY
AND LAKE CENTRAL
SCHOOL CORPORATION,
FOR GIVING US THIS
AMAZING OPPORTUNITY!



ILEARN 2025

LCSC Grades 3-8 ILEARN Data (Spring 2025):

- Math 3-8: 54.6% (up from 49.9) (State: 42.1%)
- ELA 3-8: 52.4% (down from 54.3) (State: 40.6%)
- Combined 3-8: 41.8% (up from 39.8) (State: 40.6%)

Lake Central School Corporation

8260 Wicker Avenue
Tel: (219) 365-8507

Saint John, IN 46373
Fax: (219) 365-6406

website: lcsc.us



Lawrence Veracco, Ph.D.
Superintendent

Sarah Castaneda
Assistant Superintendent

Yolanda Bracey, Ed. D.
Director of Primary Education

Misty Scheuneman
Director of Secondary Education

Rebecca Gromala
Director of Student Services

TO: Board of School Trustees
FROM: Misty Scheuneman, Director of Secondary Education
DATE: July 31, 2025
RE: **Board Meeting of August 4, 2025**

PROFESSIONAL LEAVE REQUESTS

NAME	Elliot Smith
POSITION	Director of Bands
SCHOOL	LCHS
EVENT	Lancer Joust Invitational
DATES	9/06/2025
PLACE	Roselle, IL
DESCRIPTION	Marching band performance/competition
SPONSORING ORGANIZATION	Lake Park High School
EXPENSES	Estimated Meal Cost - \$0 Estimated Hotel Cost - \$0 Estimated Required Fees -- \$0 Estimated Travel Cost - \$0
FUNDING	Self-Funded

MS/vv

Board Meeting of August 4, 2025

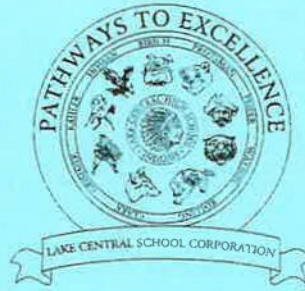
NAME	Elliot Smith
POSITION	Director of Bands
SCHOOL	LCHS
EVENT	VJA Invitational
DATES	9/13/2025
PLACE	Tinley Park, IL
DESCRIPTION	Marching band performance/competition
SPONSORING ORGANIZATION	Victor J. Andrew High School
EXPENSES	Estimated Meal Cost - \$0 Estimated Hotel Cost – \$0 Estimated Required Fees – \$0 Estimated Travel Cost – \$0
FUNDING	Self Funded

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Superintendent

Sarah Castaneda
Assistant Superintendent

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Director of Primary Education

Misty Scheuneman
Director of Secondary Education

Rebecca Gromala
Director of Student Services

TO: Board of School Trustees

FROM: Misty Scheuneman, Director of Secondary Education

DATE: July 31, 2025

RE: **Board Meeting of August 4, 2025**

FIELD TRIP REQUESTS

Elliot Smith, Director of Bands at LCHS, requests to take approximately (110) members of the Lake Central Marching Band to Roselle, IL on September 6, 2025. The band will perform and compete in the Lancer Joust Invitational at Lake Park High School. This is a self-funded event.

He also requests to take the same group to Tinley Park, IL on September 13, 2025. The group will perform and compete in the VJA Invitational at Victor J. Andrew High School. This is a self-funded event.

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Lawrence Veracco, Ph. D.
Superintendent

Rob James
Director of Business Services

To: Board of School Trustees

From: Mr. Rob James, Director of Business Services

Date: July 31, 2024

RE: Board Meeting August 4, 2025

Donations (Action Required)

Received

The Lake Central High School Athletic Department received a donation of \$17,110 from the Lake Central Athletic Football Booster Club.

The Administration recommends approving the donations as indicated above.