

Minutes
Lostant CUSD #425
Wednesday
March 25, 2026
6:00 PM FY 26 Regular Meeting Agenda

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL - REGULAR MEETING

Greg Ruff, B.O.E. President Ruff called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 PM

Present: Ruff, Chambers, Mertel, Lawless, Cooper, Freitag, Popplewell

Present via Zoom: None

Present via Telephone: None

Absent: None

Recording Secretary: Bob Ketcham, Superintendent

Audience Members: Dr. Sandra Malahy, Courtney Klobuchar, Missy Einhaus.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. PUBLIC COMMENT/CORRESPONDENCE/RECOGNITION

3.1 The board thanked Shayla Chambers for the \$100 donation for the 8th grade trip

4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

4.1 Approve the March 25, 2026 agenda

ACTION ITEM

A motion by Popplewell and seconded by Chambers to approve the March 25 agenda. Roll call: Yea: Ruff, Chambers, Mertel, Lawless, Cooper, Freitag, Popplewell. Aye: 7; Nay: None. Abstain: None. Motion passes.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

5.1 Approve minutes from the February Regular Board Meeting, Executive Session

5.2 Approve the Treasurer's Report

5.3 Approve Activity Account Report

5.4 Approve Imprest Account Report

5.5 Approve \$51,050.85 for February Disbursements

5.6 Approve March Payroll

5.7 Approve CD Interest

5.8 FOIA - CT Mills - Contact Information of leadership in charge of various curricular areas. Request responded to.

ACTION ITEM

A motion by Cooper and seconded by Lawless to approve the March 25 consent agenda. Roll call: Yea: Ruff, Chambers, Mertel, Lawless, Cooper, Freitag, Popplewell. Aye: 7; Nay: None. Abstain: None. Motion passes.

6. FINANCIAL REPORT

6.1 Fund Activity

The district is 67% through the school year. Revenues are 91.79% and Expenditures are 66.20%.

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>Revenue</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
10	Education	89.87 %	62.17%
20	Operation & Maintenance	97.61%	78.15%
30	Debt	101.06 %	95.75 %
40	Transportation	73.62 %	50.91 %
50/51	Social Security & IMRF	97.53 %	69.79 %
60	Capital Projects	0.00 %	0.00 %
70	Working Cash	101.27 %	0.00 %
80	Tort	102.76 %	69.84%
90	Fire/Health Life Safety	<u>100.19 %</u>	<u>0.00 %</u>
	Total	91.79 %	66.20 %

ACTION ITEM

A motion by Mertel and seconded by Chambers to approve the financial report. Roll call: Yea: Ruff, Chambers, Mertel, Lawless, Cooper, Freitag, Popplewell. Aye: 7; Nay: None. Abstain: None. Motion passes.

6.2 Fund Transfers - None this month

7. REPORTS, UPDATES, AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

7.1 Principal's Report - Mrs. Klobuchar reported on the status of the USDA DLT grant. Revisions of the student handbook were made available for the board to review. Read across America will begin the week of April 2. IAR testing was highlighted as well.

7.2 Athletic Director Report - Mrs. Klobuchar reported that track schedules have been confirmed and shared, with 26 students participating in track. End of the year equipment orders were given to Joanne to order and the award banquet is in the planning phases.

7.3 Employee Reports - Nothing this month

7.4 PTO Report - Nothing this month

7.5 Committee Reports - Nothing this month

7.6 Business Manager Report - A brief report of the roof status was given as well as various state reports that were completed, and the HS tuition that was paid.

8. OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS

8.1 No Old Business reported.

8.2 No New Business reported.

9. OTHER DISCUSSION

9.1 No Additional Discussion items.

10. ACTION ITEMS

10.1 26-27 Board Calendar

ACTION ITEM

A motion by Chambers and seconded by Mertel to approve the 26-27 Board Calendar. Roll call: Yea: Ruff, Chambers, Mertel, Lawless, Cooper, Freitag, Popplewell. Aye: 7; Nay: None. Abstain: None. Motion passes.

10.2 26-27 School Calendar

ACTION ITEM

A motion by Lawless and seconded by Ruff to approve the 26-27 School Calendar. Roll call: Yea: Ruff, Chambers, Mertel, Lawless, Cooper, Freitag, Popplewell. Aye: 7; Nay: None. Abstain: None. Motion passes.

10.3 Student Parent Handbook

ACTION ITEM

A motion by Cooper and seconded by Mertel to approve the Student Parent Handbook. Roll call: Yea: Ruff, Chambers, Mertel, Lawless, Cooper, Freitag, Popplewell. Aye: 7; Nay: None. Abstain: None. Motion passes.

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION

11.1 Personnel

ACTION ITEM

A motion by Chambers and seconded by Cooper to enter into executive session at 7:22 pm. Roll call: Yea: Ruff, Chambers, Mertel, Lawless, Cooper, Freitag, Popplewell. Aye: 7; Nay: None. Abstain: None. Motion passes.

ACTION ITEM

A motion by Lawless and seconded by Cooper to enter into open session at 8:07 pm. Roll call: Yea: Ruff, Chambers, Mertel, Lawless, Cooper, Freitag, Popplewell. Aye: 7; Nay: None. Abstain: None. Motion passes.

12. ACTION ITEMS AS A RESULT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

12.1 Resolution

ACTION ITEM

A motion by Popplewell and seconded by Lawless to approve the resolution to the Superintendent's contract. Roll call: Yea: Ruff, Chambers, Mertel, Lawless, Cooper, Freitag, Popplewell. Aye: 7; Nay: None. Abstain: None. Motion passes.

12.2 AD Resignation

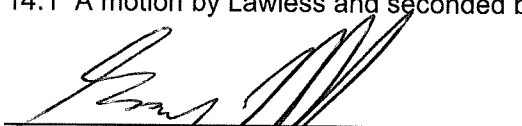
ACTION ITEM

A motion by Lawless and seconded by Chambers to accept the resignation of the Co-Op Athletic Director. Roll call: Yea: Ruff, Chambers, Mertel, Lawless, Cooper, Freitag, Popplewell. Aye: 7; Nay: None. Abstain: None. Motion passes.


13. DIRECT SUPERINTENDENT TO REPORT TO THE BOARD

14. ADJOURN

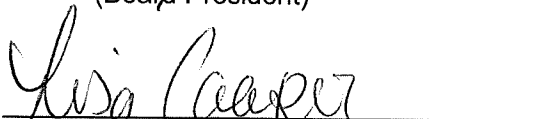
14.1 A motion by Lawless and seconded by Cooper to adjourn at 8:21 PM



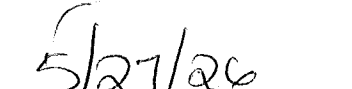
(Board President)



(Date)



(Board Secretary)



(Date)

Minutes
Tonica CCSD #79
Wednesday, March 25, 2026
School Board Executive Session Minutes

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Date: April 29, 2026
Time: 7:29 p.m.
Location: Tonica Grade School Media Center
Absent: None
Remote: None

A motion by Chambers and seconded by Cooper to adjourn to closed meeting at 7:22 pm to discuss:

X The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District or legal counsel for the District, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee or against legal counsel for the District to determine its validity. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1).


- Personnel - The board discussed a resolution to the Superintendent's contract to pay unused vacation days.
- Personnel - The board discussed the resignation of the Co-Op Athletic Director.

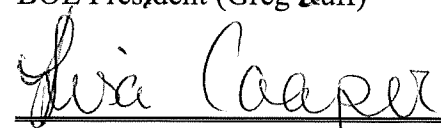
Closed Meeting Roll Call:

"Yeas"	"Nays"
Ruff, Lawless, Cooper, Chambers, Mertel, Freitag, Popplewell	

Motion: X Carried Failed

A motion by Lawless and seconded by Cooper to reconvene into open session at 8:07 p.m.
Roll call. 7-0


 BOE President (Greg Ruff) 5/27/26
 Date


 BOE Secretary (Lisa Cooper) 5/27/26
 Date