

Proceedings of Leyton Public Schools Board of Education  
Cheyenne County School District #17-0003  
High School Library  
Regular Board Meeting - January 12, 2026  
6:00 PM

Call to Order:

The regular board meeting of Leyton Public School District Board of Education was called to order on January 12, 2026, at 6:00 PM, in the Library of Leyton High School, Dalton, NE 69131. The Open Meetings Act was posted on the wall of the library. Publicized notice of the meeting was posted in the Sidney Sun-Telegraph, Leyton High School, Leyton Elementary/JH, at various businesses in the community, and on the school website ([www.leytonwarriors.org](http://www.leytonwarriors.org)) on or before Thursday, January 8, 2026.

Attendance Taken at 6:00 PM.

Benish: Present  
Mr. Ernest: Present  
Mrs. Ernest: Present  
Jones: Present  
Schumacher: Present  
Wiedeman: Present

Also present were Mr. McLaughlin, Mr. Jones, Janella Kruse, Alison Haley, Macey Roelle, and Kennedy Roelle.

There was no communication. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Moved by Benish, seconded by Mrs. Ernest, to elect Sam Schumacher for President of the Board of Education. Roll Call vote: Mr. Ernest: Yea, Mrs. Ernest: Yea, Jones: Yea, Schumacher: Yea, Wiedeman: Yea, Benish: Yea. Motion Carried: Yea: 6, Nay: 0

Moved by Jones, seconded by Benish, to elect Dave Weideman for Vice President of the Board of Education. Roll Call vote: Mrs. Ernest: Yea, Jones: Yea, Schumacher: Yea, Wiedeman: Yea, Benish: Yea, Mr. Ernest: Yea. Motion Carried: Yea: 6, Nay: 0

Moved by Benish, seconded by Wiedeman, to elect Suzy Ernest for Secretary of the Board of Education. Roll Call vote: Jones: Yea, Schumacher: Yea, Wiedeman: Yea, Benish: Yea, Mr. Ernest: Yea, Mrs. Ernest: Yea. Motion Carried: Yea: 6, Nay: 0

Moved by Mrs. Ernest, seconded by Jones, to elect Shad Benish as Treasurer of the Board of Education. Roll Call vote: Schumacher: Yea, Wiedeman: Yea, Benish: Yea, Mr. Ernest: Yea, Mrs. Ernest: Yea, Jones: Yea. Motion Carried: Yea: 6, Nay: 0

The Board reorganized into the following committees: Budget Committee: Mr. Benish, Mr. Tim Jones, and Mr. Schumacher. Negotiations Committee: Mr. Benish, Mrs. Ernest, and Mr. Weideman. Building/Grounds Committee: Mr. Benish, Mr. Ernest, and Mr. Schumacher. Curriculum and American Civic Committee: Mr. Ernest, Mrs. Ernest, and Mr. Weideman. Safety/Security/Crisis Committee: Mr. Benish and Mr. Schumacher. School Improvement Committee: Mr. Tim Jones and Mr. Weideman. Transportation Committee: Mr. Ernest and Mr. Schumacher. Technology Committee: Mr. Tim Jones and Mr. Weideman. Wellness Committee: Mr. Benish and Mrs. Ernest.

Moved by Benish, seconded by Wiedeman, to approve the agenda. Roll Call vote: Wiedeman: Yea, Benish: Yea, Mr. Ernest: Yea, Mrs. Ernest: Yea, Jones: Yea, Schumacher: Yea. Motion Carried: Yea: 6, Nay: 0

There were no public comments made during the meeting.

#### Reports:

Macey Roelle presented the student council report to the board.

Mr. Jones and Mr. McLaughlin presented their administrative reports to the board.

#### Regular Agenda: Discussion Items:

The board discussed policies in the series 4041-4064.

Moved by Benish, seconded by Mr. Ernest, to enter into executive session in order to protect the public interest or for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual, and if such individual has not requested a public meeting. The subject matter for entering into executive session tonight is a strategy session with respect to legal counsel as it pertains to the track at 6:35 PM. Roll Call vote: Benish: Yea, Mr. Ernest: Yea, Mrs. Ernest: Yea, Jones: Yea, Schumacher: Yea, Wiedeman: Yea. Motion Carried: Yea: 6, Nay: 0

Moved by Wiedeman, seconded by Jones, to come out of executive session at 7:09 PM; no action was taken during the session. Roll Call vote: Mr. Ernest: Yea, Mrs. Ernest: Yea, Jones: Yea, Schumacher: Yea, Wiedeman: Yea, Benish: Yea. Motion Carried: Yea: 6, Nay: 0

#### Regular Agenda: Action Items:

Moved by Mr. Ernest, seconded by Mrs. Ernest, to recognize the Spelling Bee winners who will represent Leyton at the Cheyenne County Spelling Bee: 1st Place – Wade Ascherl, 2nd Place – Mira Vaughter, 3rd Place – Jakeb Bunner, 4th Place – Raymus Phillip, 5th Place – Liam Deaver, 6th Place – Cainyn Rushman. “A” Honor Roll grades 5-8: Breckyr Cranmore, Sarah Dunn, Brooks Frerichs, Grayson McDaniel, Ainsley Mertz-Cleveland, Kasen Miller, Madilynn Mitchell, Regan Moore, Raymus Phillip, Adyleigh Rushman. “A-B” Honor Roll grades 5-8: Conner Blanke, Roberto Garcia, LaNaya Gutierrez, Kyleigh Jeppson, Natalie Tucker, Mira Vaughter, Liam Deaver, Judah Kepler, Airadezza Emory, Ashlynn Romick, Honor Syverson. “A” Honor Roll High School: Cooper Benish, Auvi Cranmore, Isabella Fischer, Paige Frerichs, Hadlee Guggenmos, Mercedes Heidemann, Henry McLaughlin, Jaylyn Noel, Kennedy Roelle, Madalynn Stout. “A-B” Honor Roll High School: Rolin Baca, Riley Benish, Sierra Blanke, Calvin Borgmann, Ashlee Doty, Faith Lee, Kyler Lojka, Kinley McDaniel, Chase Moore, Connor Rieken, Macey Roelle, Brody Turman, Colt Van Anne, Max Wiggins, Marlee Wiggins. The towns of Gurley and Dalton for their work in delivering treat bags during Christmas to all the Elementary Students. The PAC for their work in putting on the School Store for our students during Christmas. Roll Call vote: Mrs. Ernest: Yea, Jones: Yea, Schumacher: Yea, Wiedeman: Yea, Benish: Yea, Mr. Ernest: Yea. Motion Carried: Yea: 6, Nay: 0

Moved by Jones, seconded by Benish, to approve the minutes of the December 8, 2025, regular meeting. Roll Call vote: Jones: Yea, Schumacher: Yea, Wiedeman: Yea, Benish: Yea, Mr. Ernest: Yea, Mrs. Ernest: Yea. Motion Carried: Yea: 6, Nay: 0

Moved by Benish, seconded by Wiedeman, to approve the claims, warrants, and transfers. Roll Call vote: Schumacher: Yea, Wiedeman: Yea, Benish: Yea, Mr. Ernest: Yea, Mrs. Ernest: Yea, Jones: Yea. Motion Carried: Yea: 6, Nay: 0

Moved by Schumacher, seconded by Mrs. Ernest, to approve the appointment of Matt McLaughlin as the designated official of the Board of Education with authority to apply for Elementary and Secondary Education Act Grants and to testify before legislative committees, and as the district Nondiscrimination Compliance Coordinator. Roll Call vote: Wiedeman: Yea, Benish: Yea, Mr. Ernest: Yea, Mrs. Ernest: Yea, Jones: Yea, Schumacher: Yea. Motion Carried: Yea: 6, Nay: 0

Moved by Schumacher, seconded by Jones, to approve the mission and vision statements. Roll Call vote: Benish: Yea, Mr. Ernest: Yea, Mrs. Ernest: Yea, Jones: Yea, Schumacher: Yea, Wiedeman: Yea Motion Carried: Yea: 6, Nay: 0

Moved by Wiedeman, seconded by Mrs. Ernest, to approve designating legal counsel for the district as Simmons Olson Law Firm. Roll Call vote: Mr. Ernest: Yea, Mrs. Ernest: Yea, Jones: Yea, Schumacher: Yea, Wiedeman: Yea, Benish: Yea. Motion Carried: Yea: 6, Nay: 0

Moved by Mrs. Ernest, seconded by Mr. Ernest, to approve the appointment of Mr. Charles Jones as the Title IX Coordinator and Compliance Coordinator. Roll Call vote: Mrs. Ernest: Yea, Jones: Yea, Schumacher: Yea, Wiedeman: Yea, Benish: Yea, Mr. Ernest: Yea. Motion Carried: Yea: 6, Nay: 0

Moved by Schumacher, seconded by Benish, to approve designating Points West Community Bank as the depository bank for the district. Roll Call vote: Jones: Yea, Schumacher: Yea, Wiedeman: Yea, Benish: Yea, Mr. Ernest: Yea, Mrs. Ernest: Yea. Motion Carried: Yea: 6, Nay: 0

Moved by Jones, seconded by Benish, to approve the designation of Rauner and Associates as the auditors for the district. Roll Call vote: Schumacher: Yea, Wiedeman: Yea, Benish: Yea, Mr. Ernest: Yea, Mrs. Ernest: Yea, Jones: Yea. Motion Carried: Yea: 6, Nay: 0

Moved by Mr. Ernest, seconded by Schumacher, to approve the annual report of the district. Roll Call vote: Wiedeman: Yea, Benish: Yea, Mr. Ernest: Yea, Mrs. Ernest: Yea, Jones: Yea, Schumacher: Yea. Motion Carried: Yea: 6, Nay: 0

Moved by Wiedeman, seconded by Benish, to approve the resignation of Julie Bellendir and thank her for her years of service to the district. Roll Call vote: Benish: Yea, Mr. Ernest: Yea, Mrs. Ernest: Yea, Jones: Yea, Schumacher: Yea, Wiedeman: Yea. Motion Carried: Yea: 6, Nay: 0

Informational Items:

Next Regular Meeting is February 9, 2026, at 6:00 PM in the High School Library.

Adjournment:

Moved by Benish, seconded by Mr. Ernest, to adjourn at 7:33 PM. Roll Call vote: Mr. Ernest: Yea, Mrs. Ernest: Yea, Jones: Yea, Schumacher: Yea, Wiedeman: Yea, Benish: Yea. Motion Carried: Yea: 6, Nay: 0

Approved by,

Respectfully Submitted,

Suzy Ernest, Secretary  
Leyton Board of Education

Matt McLaughlin,  
Recording Secretary