

4061 Creek Road Youngstown, NY 14174

April 7, 2025 Board Meeting

# OUR MISSION One Purpose. Your Pathway. Our Promise. OUR VISION

Our **PURPOSE** is to ensure that when students leave Lewiston-Porter they will be ready to face the world with confidence in themselves and what they can contribute. While students are here they will be challenged to grow along their **PATHWAY** and discover their personal best because we **PROMISE** to give them our best.

Work Session, Budget Workshop, Regular Board of Education Meeting

Approved Minutes 04/28/2025 Board Meeting April 7, 2025, 6:00 pm

Boardroom, Community Resource
Center

#### **Board of Education:**

President, Danielle M. Mullen (2023-2025)
Vice President, Joseph J. Palermo (2023-2026)
Chuck Barber (2022-2025)
Tessa Connelly (2024-2027)
Sara Ohanessian (2024-2027)
April Saks (2022-2025)
Jack G. Waugaman III (2023-2026)

Superintendent of Schools:Paul J. CasseriAsst. Supt. for Admin. Services:Donna L. HillDistrict Clerk:Marisa I. Barile

The meeting is anticipated to begin with an Executive Session at 5:00 pm and follow with the Regular Session at approximately 6:00 pm.

CALL TO ORDER				
Call to Order	The Board President called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm to enter into Executive Session.	Mrs. Mullen		
Executive Session	Motion made by Mullen, seconded by Waugaman to enter into Executive Session for matters leading to the discipline of a particular person(s).	Approved, CARRIED, 7-0		
	Motion made by Mullen, seconded by Barber to adjourn from Executive Session at 5:53 pm.	Approved, CARRIED, 7-0		
Call to Order	The Board President called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.	Mrs. Mullen		
Acceptance of Agenda	RESOLVED, that the Lewiston-Porter Board of Education accept the Agenda for April 7, 2025.  Motion made by Mullen, seconded by Ohanessian to accept the agenda.	Approved, CARRIED, 7-0		
DISCUSSION ITEMS				
Policy Review Committee	Policy First Reads: Policy 7410, Extracurricular Activities Policy 7411, School Sponsored Student Publications and Activities Policy 7415, Extracurricular Policy - Grades 9-12 Policy 7420, Sports and Athletic Program Policy 7430, Contests for Students, Student Awards and Scholarships Policy 7450, Fund Raising by Students Policy 7470, School Photographs	Mrs. Connelly Mr. Palermo Mr. Waugaman		



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	Policy Second Reads: Policy 1210, Board Members: Nomination and Election Policy 7315, Student Use of Computerized Information Resources (Acceptable Use) Policy 7320, Alcohol, Tobacco, Drugs and Other Substances (Students) Policy 7330, Searches and Investigations into Suspected Student Misconduct Policy 7340, Bus Rules and Regulations Policy 7360, Weapons in School and the Gun-Free Schools Act			
Component District Vote - Meeting Date	April 22, 2025, 8:00 am			
Budget Presentation	Budget Presentation and Discussion	Mr. Casseri Mrs. Hill		
NEW BUSINESS				
Approval of the 2025-2026 Budget	RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Lewiston-Porter Central School District hereby adopts the budget in the amount of \$55,800,177.00 for the fiscal year 2025-2026, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, and said amount shall be presented for vote on May 20, 2025, Annual District Meeting Vote.  Motion made by Mullen, seconded by Palermo to approve NA-1.	NA-1 Approved, CARRIED, 7-0		
Approval of an Employee Placed on Paid Leave	WHEREAS, the Superintendent of Schools placed an employee on paid leave by correspondence dated March 31, 2025, and recommends that said leave continue; it is hereby RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves the continuation of the employee's leave.  Motion made by Mullen, seconded by Barber to approve NA-2.	NA-2 Approved, CARRIED, 7-0		
Approval of an Employee Placed on Paid Leave	WHEREAS, the Superintendent of Schools placed an employee on paid leave by correspondence dated April 1, 2025, and recommends that said leave continue; it is hereby RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves the continuation of the employee's leave.  Motion made by Mullen, seconded by Ohanessian to approve NA-3.	NA-3 Approved, CARRIED, 7-0		
Approval for Emergency Pesticide	This resolution is to request the Authorization of an emergency pesticide emergency application at designated areas across the Lewiston-Porter Central School District Campus  BE IT RESOLVED, that all emergency treatment of school facilities will occur in targeted areas of the district. Applications will only occur during no school activity times, further, application to sports fields will only occur during non-sport season periods of time. At no time will pesticides be used on active playfields or playgrounds. Background information: New York State enacted Chapter 85 of the Laws of 2010. This new law contained limitations regarding pesticide use on playing fields and playgrounds at schools and daycare centers. Specifically, schools and daycare centers are prohibited from using pesticides unless it is deemed to be an emergency situation at which time an exception may be granted to the school district by the appropriate entity. The New York State Education Department has identified school Boards of Education as the appropriate entity to make this emergency determination for public school districts. Each determination is applicable to a single	NA-4 Approved, CARRIED, 7-0		



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application. Pertinent data: on April 8, 2025 review of the condition of the District fields and ground occurred. The purpose of the review was to determine the safety of the condition of the fields and grounds. Upon close inspection of the grounds and specifically at the cross country track, soccer and baseball fields, it was determined that there were several different types of growths that present long-term safety issues as they create uneven surfaces for athletes contributing to sprains, tears, and pulls. Specifically, we have an infestation of Digitaria sanguinalis, Stellaria media, Taraxacum, and Cirsium. In addition to the athletic concerns, there are health concerns that these infestations attract stinging and boring insects including bees, wasps, and ticks. A review of our grounds also revealed poison ivy and poison oak in several areas. Last year we had several reports of tics found in some of the outfield areas and track event areas, as well as the cross country track area, which will require one or two pesticide treatments. The treatment period for these types of infestations is spring and summer. It is, therefore, requested that the Board of Education make an emergency determination allowing treatment of Herbicides and or pesticides to the soccer fields and baseball areas as well as other designated areas in need of treatment. The pesticide/herbicide will be sprayed on by a certified applicator and all required notifications will be completed as is necessary under the applicable law. After application, it is recommended that students be kept off of the field for a minimum of two days. The District will follow this procedure.

Motion made by Mullen, seconded by Waugaman to approve NA-4.

Approval of the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York Pooled Bond Financing, 2025 A RESOLUTION, DATED APRIL 7, 2025, SPECIFICALLY AUTHORIZING THE LEWISTON-PORTER CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT, NIAGARA COUNTY, NEW YORK (THE "DISTRICT"), TO PARTICIPATE IN A PROGRAM THAT IS CURRENTLY BEING STRUCTURED AND IMPLEMENTED BY THE DORMITORY AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK (THE "AUTHORITY") PURSUANT TO WHICH THE DISTRICT WILL BE ABLE TO SECURE PERMANENT FINANCING ARRANGEMENTS FOR A CERTAIN CAPITAL PROJECT OF THE DISTRICT, AND FURTHER SPECIFICALLY AUTHORIZING THE DISTRICT (ACTING THROUGH THE PRESIDENT OF ITS BOARD OF EDUCATION) TO ENTER INTO, DELIVER AND PERFORM (A) A FINANCING AGREEMENT (INCORPORATING A PROPOSED FINANCIAL PLAN) WITH THE AUTHORITY AND (B) ALL OTHER REASONABLY NECESSARY AND RELATED DOCUMENTS REQUIRED TO BE EXECUTED AND DELIVERED BY THE DISTRICT IN CONNECTION WITH SUCH PROGRAM.

**WHEREAS**, the Lewiston-Porter Central School District, Niagara County, New York (the "District") heretofore issued its \$15,985,000 Bond Anticipation Note, 2024 (the "Prior Note") the proceeds of which were used to finance a capital improvements project consisting of the reconstruction, rehabilitation and renovation, in part, and the construction of improvements and upgrades to, various District buildings and facilities and the sites thereof (the "Project"); and

**WHEREAS**, the Prior Note remains outstanding pending the entry by the District into arrangements for the permanent financing of the Project that was temporarily financed by the issuance of the Prior Note; and

**WHEREAS**, the Prior Note was issued by the District pursuant to a bond resolution that was adopted by the Board of Education of the District (the "Board") on November 23, 2020 (the "Bond Resolution"); and

**WHEREAS,** the Bond Resolution provides that, subject to certain provisions of statutory law, the powers and duties of the Board relative to prescribing the terms, form and contents and details as to the sale and issuance of the bonds authorized

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by the Bond Resolution are delegated to the President of the Board, as the chief fiscal officer of the District (the "President") or, under certain circumstances, to the Vice President of the Board; and

**WHEREAS**, the Bond Resolution remains in full force and effect and has not been amended, modified or revoked; and

**WHEREAS**, Chapter 383 of the Laws of 2001 (the "Act") significantly altered the method and timing whereby building aid from the State of New York (the "State") is to be paid to the District; and

WHEREAS, the Act contemplates and permits the participation of individual school districts in a program for pooled financing of their outstanding indebtedness and other authorized but unissued indebtedness through the issuance of bonds by such school districts directly to the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York (the "Authority"), in connection with the contemporaneous issuance of bonds by the Authority to the public; and

WHEREAS, school districts electing to participate in such program are able to obtain, pursuant to the Act, the assurance of the State Education Department that they will receive building aid for all or substantially all of the aid-eligible portion of the debt service payments to be made on the bonds that they issue to the Authority; and WHEREAS, the Authority duly adopted, on February 7, 2018 its Amended and Restated Master School Districts Financing Program Revenue Bond Resolution (the "Master Resolution"), and on one or more dates subsequent thereto duly adopted its Supplemental Resolutions (each such Supplemental Resolution being referred to herein as the "Supplemental Resolution") authorizing multiple Series of its School Districts Revenue Bond Financing Program Revenue Bonds (the "Authority Bonds"); and

WHEREAS, the Authority has deemed it necessary and in keeping with its purposes to issue, under the Master Resolution (and the Supplemental Resolution), the Authority Bonds therein authorized for the purpose of lending to certain school districts as defined in the Act funds sufficient to (A) finance or refinance the costs of certain capital projects undertaken by such school districts, and (B) pay the costs of issuance of the bonds to be issued by the Authority; and

**WHEREAS**, the District has requested the Authority to finance or refinance the Project, and the Authority has agreed, on the basis of certain representations and warranties to be made by the District, to make a loan or loans to the District to currently refund and retire the Prior Note; and

WHEREAS, the District desires to receive a loan or loans from the Authority upon substantially the terms and conditions set forth in the Financing Agreement between the Authority and the District, a substantially final form of which has been presented to the Board and by this reference is incorporated herein (the "Financing Agreement"), and has authorized the execution and delivery of bonds of the District payable to the Authority (the "School District Bonds" or the "Bonds") to evidence its obligation to repay such loan or loans; and

**WHEREAS**, the Authority has authorized the issuance of the Authority Bonds pursuant to the Master Resolution (and the Supplemental Resolution), a portion of the proceeds of which are to be applied for purposes of making a loan or loans to the District for the permanent financing of the Project; and

**WHEREAS**, the Authority Bonds are to be special obligations of the Authority payable solely from the revenues or other receipts, funds or moneys to be derived by the Authority under or pursuant to the Financing Agreement and from other revenues pledged and available therefor under the Master Resolution (and the Supplemental Resolution); and



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WHEREAS, pursuant to the Financing Agreement the District will deliver its School District Bonds to the Authority and pledge to the Authority, to secure the payments to be made by the District under the Financing Agreement, a sufficient portion of any and all public funds to be apportioned or otherwise made available by the State of New York to the District;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** by the Board (by the favorable vote of not less than two-thirds of all the members of the Board) as follows:

**SECTION 1.** For the purpose of currently refunding and retiring the Prior Note relating to the Project and generating moneys that will be sufficient to pay (A) the principal amount of the Prior Note, (B) the costs and expenses incidental to the issuance of the School District Bonds herein authorized and the Authority Bonds which they support, including, but not limited to, the District's proportionate share of the fees and costs of the Authority incurred in connection with the issuance of the Authority Bonds (including, without limitation, the compensation payable to the underwriter of the Authority Bonds), (C) the fees and costs of the municipal advisory and bond counsel firms retained by the District in connection with the issuance of the School District Bonds, and (D) all other fees and costs of issuance associated with the issuance of the Authority Bonds and the School District Bonds, there are hereby specifically authorized to be issued by the District the School District Bonds, as contemplated by the Financing Agreement, in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$15,485,000, with the precise final amount to be determined by the President of the Board (acting on the advice of the District's municipal advisory firm) and included in the Financing Agreement. The Bonds shall be dated on or about June 17, 2025, shall be of the denomination of \$5,000 or any integral multiple thereof not exceeding the principal amount of each respective maturity (unless a bond of odd denomination is required), and shall mature and shall bear interest on such dates as are set forth in a Notice of Terms that is to be delivered by the Authority to the District, a form of which is attached as Exhibit I to the Financing Agreement (the "Notice of Terms").

**SECTION 2.** The School District Bonds shall be executed in the name of the District by the manual or facsimile signature of the President of the Board, and the District's seal shall be imprinted thereon and attested by the District Clerk. The School District Bonds shall contain the recital of validity clause provided for in Section 52.00 of the Local Finance Law and shall otherwise be in such form and contain such recitals as the President of the Board shall determine.

**SECTION 3.** A Financial Plan showing the estimated details of the proposed issuance of the Authority Bonds and the School District Bonds will be prepared by the underwriter retained by the Authority (the "Financial Plan"). The Financial Plan will show the estimated sources, amounts and uses of all funds required to accomplish such transaction. The Financial Plan will be prepared based upon the assumption that the School District Bonds will be issued in the aggregate principal amount of not more than \$15,485,000 and that the School District Bonds will be issued in such amount, will mature, will be of such terms, and will bear interest as set forth in the final Notice of Terms that is to be approved by the President of the Board in accordance with this resolution. The President of the Board is hereby authorized and directed to determine (or adjust) the amount of the Prior Note (or any replacement notes) to be refunded, the amount of the School District Bonds to be issued, the date of such School District Bonds and the date of issue, maturities and terms thereof, the provisions relating to any redemption of the School District Bonds prior to maturity, whether the School District Bonds will be insured by a policy or policies of municipal bond insurance or otherwise enhanced by a credit enhancement facility or facilities, the terms of the private sale of the School District



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Bonds to the Authority, including the form, terms and conditions of the Financing Agreement providing for the sale of the School District Bonds, and all powers in connection therewith are hereby delegated to the President of the Board; provided that the terms of the School District Bonds to be issued, including the rate or rates of interest borne thereby, shall comply with the requirements of any applicable law. The President of the Board shall file a copy of the certificate determining the final details of the School District Bonds and the final Financial Plan with the District Clerk not later than ten (10) days after the delivery of the Bonds, as herein provided. **SECTION 4**. The President of the Board is hereby delegated all powers of the Board with respect to agreements for credit enhancement, derived from and pursuant to Section 168.00 of the Local Finance Law, for the School District Bonds including, but not limited to, the determination of the provider of such credit enhancement facility or facilities and the terms and contents of any agreement or agreements related thereto.

**SECTION 5**. The faith and credit of the District are hereby irrevocably pledged for the payment of the principal of and interest on the School District Bonds as the same respectively become due and payable. An annual appropriation shall be made in each year sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the School District Bonds becoming due and payable in such year. There shall annually be levied on all the taxable real property of the District a tax sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the School District Bonds as the same become due and payable.

**SECTION 6**. The Board hereby approves and directs the execution and delivery (by the President of the Board, acting on behalf of the District) of the Financing Agreement, the School District Bonds, the Letter of Representation, the Continuing Disclosure Agreement, the Arbitrage and Use of Proceeds Certificate (all as defined in the Financing Agreement) and any and all other agreements, certificates or other documents required or contemplated by the Financing Agreement (collectively, the "Agreements") in order to provide for the permanent financing of all or a portion of the Prior Note, as may be required by the Authority. The President of the Board is authorized and directed to execute such other documents, and take such other actions, as are necessary or appropriate to refinance all or a portion of the Prior Note (or any notes issued in contemplation or replacement thereof) through the Authority and to perform the District's obligations under the Agreements (if applicable). The President of the Board's execution and delivery of any such documents prior to the date hereof is hereby ratified, approved and adopted. **SECTION 7**. The President of the Board is further authorized to take such actions

**SECTION 7**. The President of the Board is further authorized to take such actions and execute such documents as may be necessary to ensure (if applicable) the continued status of the interest on the School District Bonds as excludable from gross income for federal income tax purposes pursuant to Section 103 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code") and (if applicable) to designate the School District Bonds authorized by this resolution as "qualified tax-exempt obligations" in accordance with Section 265 of the Code.

**SECTION 8**. In the absence or unavailability of the President of the Board, the Vice President of the Board is hereby specifically authorized to exercise the powers delegated to the President of the Board in this resolution.

**SECTION 9**. The District hereby determines that the issuance of the School District Bonds is a Type II action that will not have a significant effect on the environment and, therefore, no other determinations or procedures under the State Environmental Quality Review Act ("SEQRA") are required.

**SECTION 10**. The President of the Board and, to the extent appropriate, the District Clerk, are hereby authorized and directed for and on behalf of the District to execute



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	and deliver all certificates and other documents, perform all acts and do all things required or contemplated to be executed, performed or done by this resolution or any document or agreement approved or contemplated hereby, including, but not limited to, the Financing Agreement, the other Agreements, and all documents defined therein or required or contemplated thereby.  SECTION 11. All other matters pertaining to the terms and issuance of the School District Bonds shall be determined by the President of the Board and all powers in connection therewith are hereby delegated to the President of the Board.  SECTION 12. Except to the extent modified by this resolution, the Bond Resolution is hereby confirmed and ratified in all respects.  SECTION 13. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.  Motion made by Mullen, seconded by Palermo to approve NA-5.  ADJOURNMENT	
Adjournment	Motion made by Mullen, seconded by Waugaman to adjourn the public meeting at 6:29 pm.	Approved, CARRIED, 7-0

Marisa A. Barile

Marisa I. Barile, District Clerk