

Agenda of Joint Operating Committee Meeting

The Joint Operating Committee Lenape Technical School

A Joint Operating Committee Meeting of the Joint Operating Committee of Lenape Technical School will be held Thursday, August 20, 2026, beginning at 6:30 PM School Library, 2215 Chaplin Avenue, Ford City, PA 16226.

1. CALL TO ORDER BY THE PRESIDENT

Speaker(s): Board President

Description: The Joint Operating Committee meeting convened at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, August 20, 2026, with JOC President, Mr. Luke, presiding.

1.A. Roll Call

Speaker(s): Board Secretary

1.B. Pledge of Allegiance

Speaker(s): Board President

1.C. Welcome Visitors

Speaker(s): Board President

Description: *Visitors are welcome to comment on any agenda item at this time provided it is understood that all remarks from the floor are subject to the same parliamentary procedure followed by the Board and within reasonable limits of time, under the direction of the President. Discussion from the floor will not be entertained while the Board is acting on agenda items.*

2. EXECUTIVE SESSION

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4. REPORTS

4.A. Board Secretary's Meeting Reports

Description:

Prior to this evening's meeting, there was a closed Executive Session held to discuss personnel. The session convened at 6:32 p.m. and adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

4.B. Director's Report

Description:

- Public Relations Report
- Enrollment Update
- Schedule for In-Service Day & Professional Development

4.C. Superintendents Report

4.D. Practical Nursing Report

5. PERSONNEL

5.A. 2026-2027 Bus Drivers

5.B. Co-Op Student Hiring

5.C. 2026-2027 Substitute Renewal List

Description: Instructional Personnel Substitutes

- Ciara Rupp - Instructional
Instructional Assistant Teacher Substitutes
- Aislinn Aimino - Advertising/Digital and Computer Information Technology
- Keisha Brocious - Culinary Arts
- Jesse McClain - Construction Trades Technology
- Beth Shaffer - Automotive Technology

5.D. Part-Time Cafeteria Worker Hiring

5.E. Full-Time Custodian Hiring

5.F. Professional Status/Tenure

5.G. Student Teacher Placements

Description:

- Keirsten Bowser
- Summer Adams

5.H. Assistant Principal Job Description

5.I. Part-Time PN Instructor Hiring

5.J. Resignation

6. FINANCE

6.A. Payment of Bills

6.B. Treasurer's Report

6.C. Substitute Pay Rates for the 2026-2027 School Year

6.D. 2026 Affordable Care Act Employer Reporting Proposal

7. CURRICULUM / CONFERENCES / TEXTBOOKS

7.A. Conferences/Workshops/Field Trips

7.B. MOU - BCTE Technical Assistance Program

7.C. 2026-2027 Faculty Handbook

8. BUILDING / GROUNDS

8.A. Disposal of Equipment

Description:

- **[Information Technology]** - 99 various items [Approximate Value = \$15-\$150 / Reason for Disposal = Outdated / Suggested Method of Disposal = Recycle]
- **[Information Technology]** - [1] HP DesignJet T1300 [Approximate Value = \$2755 / Reason for Disposal = Damaged beyond repair / Suggested Method of Disposal = Recycle]

- **[Information Technology]** - [1] HP LaserJet 700 [Approximate Value = \$2759 / Reason for Disposal = No current use / Suggested Method of Disposal = Recycle

8.B. Building Use Requests

Description:

- Armstrong Athletics Baseball & Softball to use the Lenape Cafeteria for an Spaghetti Fundraiser on Wednesday, September 30, 2026, from 3:00pm to 9:00pm, as per board policy.
- Approval for DKG Society/Krista Simcik to use the Cafeteria/Cosmetology Clinic to hold their meeting & use of Cosmetology clinic on Wednesday, September 30, 2026, from 4:00pm to 8:00pm, as per board policy.
- Approval for the Lenape Tech Dance Committee to use the Lenape Gymnasium/Gym Lobby to hold the Snowball on Friday, January 22, 2027 from 11:00am to 11:00pm, as per board policy.
- Approval for the Lenape Tech Dance Committee to use the Lenape Gymnasium/Gym Lobby to hold Prom Grand March on Friday, April 16, 2027, from 11:00am to 7:00pm, as per board policy.

8.C. Donations

Description:

- Metal Stock [Approximate value \$8,000.00] for Precision Machining from Chick Machining
- Donation of tools for Construction Trades students in honor of Harmon E. North

9. POLICY / LEGISLATIVE

9.A. Policy No. 622 | Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement 34

9.B. Policy 707 | Use of School Facilities

9.C. Policy No. 716 | Integrated Pest Management

10. OTHER BUSINESS

10.A. None

11. SCHOOL CALENDAR

Description:

- August 17-19.....Teacher In-Service
- August 20.....First Day of School
- August 25.....Picture Day
- September 7.....Labor Day [No School]
- September 10.....PAC Meeting
- September 17.....Smiles Dental Program
- September 17.....JOC Meeting
- September 18.....Local Advisory Committee

12. NEXT JOC MEETING: SEPTEMBER 17, 2026

12.A. Concerns or comments from JOC members

Description: Visitors are welcome to comment on any agenda or non-agenda item at this time provided it is understood that all remarks from the floor are subject to the same parliamentary procedure followed by the Board and within reasonable limits of time, under the direction of the President.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Description: The meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.



JOINT OPERATING COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES [June 18, 2026]

1. CALL TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: led by Mr. Luke

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

ABSENT

- | | | |
|--|---------------------------|----------------|
| ▪ Apollo-Ridge School District: | Sue Wenckowski | Paul King |
| ▪ Armstrong School District: | Todd Luke
Brady Shafer | Darlene Smail |
| ▪ Freeport Area School District: | Melanie Zembrzusi | Sylvia Maxwell |
| ▪ Leechburg Area School District: | Darius Lovelace | Joseph Lepish |

- **Also Present:** Amy Schrempf, Solicitor
Wes Kuchta, Administrative Director
Dr. Jason Gurski, Assistant Director/Principal
Suzanne Stuben, Board Secretary
Teresa Edinger, Lenape Tech Business Manager
Jason Zimmerman, Lenape Tech Faculty Member
Luann Carrillo, Lenape Tech Practical Nursing Coordinator

REGULAR MEETING: The Joint Operating Committee meeting convened at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 18, 2026, with JOC President, Mr. Luke, presiding.

2. EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion by Mr. Shafer with a second by Mr. Lovelace, the Joint Operating Committee entered Executive Session.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion by Ms. Wenckowski with a second by Mr. Shafer, the minutes of the regular meeting of May21, 2026, were approved. Motion Carried Unanimously

4. INFORMATION SESSIONS - REPORTS

a. Board Secretary's Meeting Reports

- Prior to this evening's meeting, there was a closed Executive Session held to discuss personnel and the Annual School Safety and Security Report. The session convened at 6:32 p.m. and adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

b. Director's Report

- Public Relations Report
- Grants and Donations
- During the Director's Report, Mr. Kuchta discussed the new water testing standards. Previous standards were continually met, the new standards for lead levels, are not able to be met, as the water from the borough coming into the building does not meet the new standards. This is something that all area Superintendents, as well as CTC Directors, across the state are all in the similar situations waiting on additional guidance. Updates to the JOC will be provided.

c. Superintendent's Report

d. Practical Nursing Report

5. PERSONNEL

On motion by Mr. Lovelace with a second by Ms. Wenckowski, the following Personnel items [5a-5i] were approved. Motion Carried Unanimously

a. 2026-2027 Administrative/Coordinator Salaries

Approved Administrative/Coordinator salaries for the year 2026-2027.

b. 2026-2027 Administrative Support Personnel Salaries

Approved Administrative Support Personnel salaries for the year 2026-2027.

c. 2026-2027 Practical Nursing Faculty Salaries

Approved Practical Nursing Faculty salaries for the year 2026-2027.

d. 2026-2027 Substitute Renewal Lists

Approved the 2026-2027 Instructional and Support substitute renewal list.

▪ **Instructional Personnel Substitutes**

- Debbie Benton
- Steven Blaniar
- John Fontaine
- Nichol Schawl
- George Snyder
- Jill Strong
- Selina Vargo-Hendrickson
- Michael Woodside
- Robert Woodside

▪ **Instructional Assistant Substitutes**

- Gary Endlich
- Nichol Schawl
- Jennifer Vensel

▪ **Custodial Substitutes**

- Alex Painter

e. Employment

Approved the Administrative Director to advertise and hire faculty and staff for the start of the 2026-2027 school year subject to JOC approval.

f. Student Teacher Agreement

Approved an agreement for student teachers between Lenape Technical School and Indiana University of Pennsylvania for the 2016-2027 school year.

g. Natural Resources Technology Instructor Hiring

Approved hiring Jessica Myschisin, as Natural Resources Technology Instructor, at a wage of \$60,003 (Step 2/Master's Degree) and benefits as per the current teacher association contract, pending all employment requirements, including Act 34 and 151 clearances, effective for the 2026-2027 school year.

h. Full-Time Custodians Hiring

Discussion on the recommendation for approval to hire Michael Reed, and Ron Wojcik, as a full-time Custodians, with wages and benefits as per current bargaining unit contract, pending completions of employment requirements, with a projected start date of July 1, 2026.

i. Assistant Principal

Approved Mr. Grant Gourley as a 210 Day Assistant Principal, effective July 1, 2026, at a salary of \$81,687.00.

6. FINANCE

On motion by Ms. Wenckowski with a second by Mr. Lovelace, the following Finance items [6a-6n] were approved. Motion Carried Unanimously

a. Payment of Bills

Approved the May payments in the amounts listed:

As of May 31, 2026

- i. Fund 11 – General.....\$953,447.14
- ii. Fund 51 – Cafeteria\$ 20,245.57
- iii. Fund 55 – Adult/LPN\$114,579.58
- iv. Fund 81 – Student.....\$ 26,810.13

b. Presentation of Financial Reports

Approved May financial reports.

c. Year-End Budget Transfers

Approved year-end budget transfers, as needed, for General and Adult Education funds at the end of the fiscal year, June 30, 2026.

d. Board Designated Fund Budget Transfer

Approved Board Designated Fund budget transfer.

e. Insurance Renewal

Approved the renewal of insurance coverage for the period of 7/1/26 through 7/1/27 through CM Regent Insurance Company for an annual premium of \$98,944 [a 3% increase over 2025-2026].

f. Cyber Insurance Renewal

Approved the renewal of cyber insurance for the period of 7/1/26 through 7/1/27 through Gallagher for an annual premium of \$4,110.

g. Participant [Student] Accident Insurance Renewal

Approved the renewal of participant [student] accident insurance for the 2026-2027 school year through AXIS Insurance Company for an annual premium of \$3,500.

h. Fixed Assets Agreement

Approved the agreement from Turnley Robertson & Associates, LLC, in the amount of \$2,000 as initial input to maintain the fixed assets and related depreciation for GASB 34 reporting in the audited financial statement.

i. Keystone Agenda

Approved Keystone Agenda as the new JOC Agenda software for the 2026-2027 school year at a cost of \$2,000.

j. PSBA Policy Maintenance Program Participation Agreement

Approved to continue participation in the PSBA Policy Maintenance Program Participation Agreement for the 2026-2027 school year at a cost of \$6,160.00 which includes the PSBA Standard Membership and Keystone Agenda cost.

k. Acceptance of Funds – Donation

Approved the acceptance of the following donation:

- Query Paige – for the Special Programs Student Outreach Pantry.....\$ 150.00
 - [10] Ten - \$15 Sheetz Gift Cards

l. School Physician Agreement

Approved agreement for school physician with Children’s Community Pediatrics of Kittanning at a cost of \$3,500 per year for two years.

m. Contract Agreement between Lenape Area Vocational-Technical School and Family Counseling Center of Armstrong County

Approved contract agreement between Lenape Area Vocational-Technical School and Family Counseling Center of Armstrong County.

n. Equipment Purchase

Approved the purchase of a HAAS CNC Mill from the Freeport Area School district in the amount of \$17,500, pending approval of agreement by solicitor.

7. CURRICULUM / CONFERENCES / TEXTBOOKS

On motion by Mr. Shafer with a second by Ms. Zembrzusi, the following Curriculum/Conferences and Textbooks items [7a-7e] were approved. Motion Carried Unanimously

a. Conferences/Workshops/Field Trips

Approved the conferences, workshops, seminars, and field trips.

b. Letter of Agreement - ARIN IU 28 ELECT

Approved the ARIN Intermediate Unit 28 to file the application for the Education Leading to Employment and Career Training (ELECT); and that such authorization action is recorded in the minutes of the schools’ board meeting held on or before the date shown below; the ARIN Intermediate Unit 28 is the administrator of the consortium, is authorized to receive and expend funds under the ELECT Program for the implementation of the ELECT Program and conduct the activities outlined in the program application. Dated July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2030.

c. 2026-2027 LPN Student Handbook

Approved the proposed 2026-2027 LPN student handbook.

d. Armstrong/Indiana/Clarion Drug & Alcohol Commission Student Assistance Program

Approved continued agreement with the Armstrong/Indiana/Clarion Drug & Alcohol Commission for the 2026-2027 school year, consistent with Lenape’s Student Assistance Program.

e. Articulation Agreement

Approved the local articulation agreement with Mt. Aloysius for Allied Health, Computer Information Technology, and Law Enforcement Information Technology.

8. BUILDING/GROUNDS

On motion by Ms. Wenckowski with a second by Mr. Lovelace, Building/Grounds item [8a-i] was tabled and will be resubmitted at the August 20, 2026, JOC Meeting with a policy revision. Motion Carried Unanimously

a. Building Use Request

Tabled the following Building Use Request:

- i. Armstrong Girls Elementary Basketball Association to use the Lenape Gymnasium for Basketball Practice, on Mondays and Wednesdays from October 5, 2026 through March 31, 2027 from 5:00pm to 9:00pm, as per board policy.

On motion by Mr. Shafer with a second by Ms. Wenckowski, Building/Grounds item [8a-ii] was approved.
Motion Carried Unanimously

Approved the following Building Use Request:

- ii. Steel City Nosework, LLC to use the entire Lenape Technical School for Nosework Events, on Saturday, September 19, 2026 and Sunday, September 20, 2026 from 8:00pm to 8:00pm, as per board policy.

On motion by Mr. Lovelace with a second by Ms. Zembrzuski, Building/Grounds item [8b] was approved. Motion Carried Unanimously

b. Donations

Approved the following donations:

- 2019 Chevrolet Trax [Approximate Value = \$12,920] and a 2018 GMC Acadia [Approximate Value = \$14,935] for the Automotive Technology Program from General Motors and the Community College of Allegheny County

9. POLICY/LEGISLATIVE

On motion by Mr. Lovelace with a second by Ms. Wenckowski, the following Policy/Legislative items [9a-9c] were approved. Motion Carried Unanimously

a. Policy No. 716 | Integrated Pest Management

Approved the first reading of Policy No. 716 | Integrated Pest Management.

b. Physician Panel List

Approved Lenape Technical School's Physician Panel List with no revisions [as required by the Pennsylvania Workers Compensation Act, amended June 24, 1996].

c. MOU between Lenape Area Vocational-Technical School and Law Enforcement Agencies

Approved MOU between Lenape Area Vocational-Technical School and the following law enforcement agencies from July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2028.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

The Joint Operating Committee will not meet in July 2026.

11. SCHOOL CALENDAR

- July 13, 14, 15New Student Orientation
- August 13.....PAC Meeting
- August 17, 18, 19.....In-Service | Clerical Days
- August 20.....First Day of School

12. NEXT JOC MEETING

The next regular meeting of the Lenape Joint Operating Committee is scheduled to be held on Thursday, August 20, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. in the Library of the Lenape Technical School, 2215 Chaplin Avenue, Ford City, PA 16226.

Concerns or Comments from JOC Members

Mr. Shafer proposed evaluating commencement arrangements for the Class of 2027, including the potential need to relocate the ceremony to a larger venue or to consider an outdoor setting. Current space limitations

restrict attendance to four tickets per graduating student. Additionally, he suggested assessing opportunities to improve the sound system to better accommodate a larger audience.

12. ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Ms. Wenckowski with a second by Mr. Lovelace, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Suzanne L. Stuben

Suzanne L. Stuben, Board Secretary
Armstrong County Area Vocational-Technical School
Lenape Joint Operating Committee

The minutes for the June 18, 2026, meeting of the Lenape Joint Operating Committee were submitted and accepted at the August 20, 2026, meeting.

Board President



SPECIAL MEETING OF THE JOINT OPERATING COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES [July 7, 2026]

1. CALL TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: led by Mr. Shafer, Vice President

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

ABSENT

- | | | |
|--|---|-----------|
| ▪ Apollo-Ridge School District: | Sue Wenckowski | Paul King |
| ▪ Armstrong School District: | Todd Luke [via phone]
Brady Shafer
Darlene Smail [via Zoom] | |
| ▪ Freeport Area School District: | Sylvia Maxwell [via phone]
Melanie Zembrzusi [via Zoom] | |
| ▪ Leechburg Area School District: | Darius Lovelace
Joseph Lepish [via Zoom] | |
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- **Also Present:** Lee Price, Solicitor [via Zoom]
Dr. Jason Perrin, Superintendent of Record
Wes Kuchta, Administrative Director
Suzanne Stuben, Board Secretary
Teresa Edinger, Lenape Tech Business Manager [via Zoom]

SPECIAL MEETING: The Joint Operating Committee meeting convened at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 7, 2026, with JOC Vice President, Mr. Shafer, presiding.

2. PERSONNEL

On motion by Ms. Wenckowski with a second by Mr. Lovelace, the following Personnel items [5a-5b] were approved. Motion Carried Unanimously

a. Resignation

Approved the resignation of Shannon Walker, Information Technology Coordinator, effective June 26, 2026.

b. MOA with LVTEA Calendar Change

Approved the MOA with LVTEA regarding Work Days for the 2026-2027 School Year.

6. FINANCE

On motion by Ms. Wenckowski with a second by Mr. Lovelace, the following Finance item [6a] was approved. Motion Carried Unanimously

a. Managed Information Technology Services

Approved Questeq, Educational Technology Management to provide managed information technology services for the 2026-2027 school year.

12. NEXT JOC MEETING

The next regular meeting of the Lenape Joint Operating Committee is scheduled to be held on Thursday, August 20, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. in the Library of the Lenape Technical School, 2215 Chaplin Avenue, Ford City, PA 16226.

12. ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Ms. Wenckowski with a second by Mr. Lovelace, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Suzanne L. Stuben

Suzanne L. Stuben, Board Secretary
Armstrong County Area Vocational-Technical School
Lenape Joint Operating Committee

The minutes for the July 7, 2026, special meeting of the Lenape Joint Operating Committee were submitted and accepted at the August 20, 2026, meeting.

Board President



LenapeTech

EDUCATION AT **WORK** JOINT OPERATING COMMITTEE **PR REPORT**

AUG. 20, 2026

**COMING
SOON**
Stay Tuned

AUGUST 25

PICTURE DAY

SEPTEMBER 7

LABOR DAY - NO SCHOOL

SEPTEMBER 10

PAC MEETING

SEPTEMBER 17

SMILES DENTAL PROGRAM

SEPTEMBER 17

JOC MEETING

SEPTEMBER 18

LOCAL ADVISORY
COMMITTEE MEETING

Back to School 2026-2027

Lenape Tech is excited to welcome over 600 students to the school on Thursday, August 20th. The staff returned on Monday, August 17th for their traditional professional development to prepare for the upcoming school year.

Cooperative Education

The Co-op Program at Lenape Tech continues to demonstrate outstanding success in connecting classroom learning with meaningful, real-world work experiences.

During the 2025-2026 school year, we proudly placed 66 students in cooperative education positions across a wide range of industries. These placements provided students with valuable hands-on training while strengthening our partnerships with local employers, who consistently commend our students for their professionalism, technical skills, and workplace readiness.

In addition, 14 students continued their co-op placements throughout the summer, allowing employers to maintain continuity in their operations while giving students the opportunity to further develop their skills, gain additional experience, and build lasting professional relationships.

AS WE LOOK TO THE FUTURE, LENAPE TECH REMAINS COMMITTED TO EXPANDING WORK-BASED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES THAT PREPARE STUDENTS FOR SUCCESSFUL CAREERS. THROUGH STRONG PARTNERSHIPS WITH LOCAL BUSINESSES AND INDUSTRY LEADERS, WE CONTINUE TO ENSURE OUR GRADUATES ARE NOT ONLY CAREER-READY BUT ALSO CONFIDENT, EXPERIENCED, AND CONNECTED TO THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITIES THEY WILL SERVE.

Work-Based Learning Statistics

	CO-OP STUDENTS	66
	JOB SHADOWS	238
	FIELD TRIPS	76
	GUEST SPEAKERS	38
	SUMMER CO-OP	14
	TOTAL AMOUNT EARNED	\$299,533.60

Welcome New Teachers!



Ms. Jessica Myschisin Natural Resources Instructor

Jessica Myschisin joins the Lenape Tech family as the Natural Resources Technology Instructor. She holds a Master's degree in Education, Development, and Community Engagement, with a focus in Agricultural Education, and brings three years of teaching experience in a variety of educational roles.

Outside the classroom, Jessica enjoys traveling with her family, volunteering at community events, hiking with friends, and tending to her garden.

In her new role at Lenape Tech, Jessica is especially excited about connecting students with local food and fiber systems while providing hands-on learning experiences and opportunities to develop the leadership skills they need to succeed in a variety of agricultural careers.

Mr. Austin Toy Welding Instructor

Austin Toy is excited to return to the Lenape Tech CTC family as the Instructor of Welding Technology. A proud Lenape Tech alumnus, Austin graduated from the school in 2015 and is honored to come back as an instructor to help prepare the next generation of skilled trades professionals.

With 15 years of welding experience, Austin brings valuable industry knowledge, hands-on expertise, and a passion for the trade to his new role. Outside of welding, he enjoys being at camp fishing and floating the river, spending time with family, and riding motocross tracks.

"Coming back to Lenape Tech as an instructor is a great opportunity to give back to the school that helped launch my career. I look forward to sharing my knowledge, experience, and passion for welding with the next generation of students while helping them develop the skills and confidence they need to pursue successful careers in the trades."

Summer 2026 Projects

Much appreciation to Mr. Fahlor and his crew for their hard work and management of the many projects completed this summer. Their efforts continue to enhance, update, and improve Lenape Tech for our students, staff, and community.

- Asbestos Abatement
- Brick Pointing
- Business Office Relocation
- Construction Trades Garage Door
- Faculty Room Renovation
- Fire Alarm System
- Gutter Replacement
- Library
- Main Hallway Baseboard Replacement
- New Academic Classroom
- New Classroom
- Precision Machining Program Build-Out
- Parking Lot Paving Project
- Roof Sealing
- Sanitation of Entire Building
- Sidewalk Reconstruction
- Window Project