

Lawnside Board of Education Meeting Minutes

August 10, 2023

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Regular Meeting of the Lawnside Board of Education was called to order at 6:31 in-person. After repeating the Pledge of Allegiance and after observing a moment of silence the following members answered present to the roll call

| Forrest -Y | Hayes - Absent | Arterbridge Y | Catlett Y |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Cauthorne - N came to the meeting at 7:53 pm | Gibson - Y - left the meeting at 7:53 pm | Kittles Y | Still - Y |

6 Present

2 Absent

1 Vacant

Also present was Dr. Ronn Johnson, Superintendent, Mark Gordon Assistant Board Secretary and Darryl Rhone Board Solicitor.

OPENING STATEMENT

Public notice of this meeting pursuant to the Open Public Meetings act Chapter 231 PL 1975 has been given by the Board Secretary in the following manner:

a Posting written notice on the official school bulletin board at the Lawnside Public School and District website

b Sending notice to the Courier Post and the Retrospect newspapers

c Position on the district website

**APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES**

Regular Meeting - July 13, 2023

Motion: Ms. Arterbridge

Second: Ms. Still

| Forrest -Y | Hayes - Absent | Arterbridge Y | Catlett Y |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Cauthorne - Y | Gibson - N - ( left the meeting) | Kittles Y | Still - Y |

Vote - Yes - 6

Motion Carried

PRESENTATION OF THE SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

***“Building Bright Futures!”***

To: Lawnside Board of Education

From: Dr. Ronn H. Johnson, Superintendent

Re: Superintendent’s Report (Recommendations)

Date: *August 10 2023*

***Discussion Items:***

Dr. Henderson- NJDOE Special Education Advisory Council Member appointment

Monthly Newsletter will be developed and sent out electronically

***District Goals:***

*The District Goals were established in collaboration with the Lawnside Board of Education members at the Board retreat on Thursday, June 29, 2023.*

*In June, 70% of students will meet their ELA & Math annual growth targets as measured by the iReady diagnostic assessment.*

*Decrease chronic absenteeism by 10%*

*Effectively communicate with parents and community district information, specifically the New Attendance Policy.*

**StudentEnrollment (Summer)- 95 Summer Enrichment**

**33 Extended School Year**

**Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying:** 0

**Suspensions for July~ 0**

*The Superintendent is not in receipt of any parental request for a Board Hearing at this time.*

**School Security Drills:**

**Fire Drill- 8/3/23 @ 11:45**

**Security Drill- 8/2/23**

**PERSONNEL** - It is recommended by the Superintendent items 1- 14 be approved as written.

1. It is recommended that Dr. Ellen M. Trombetta be approved as the Writing LabTeacher at a salary of $64, 010 (MA Step 5) during 2023-2024.
2. It is recommended that Ms. Monica Baltodano’s Letter of Resignation be approved immediately effective August 3, 2023.
3. It is recommended that Ms. Samantha Bolonese’s Letter of Resignation be approved effective October 4, 2023.
4. It is recommended that Ms. Rebecca Welde’s Request for Maternity leave be approved effective September 1, 2023- March 8, 2024.
5. It is recommended that Steven Klemash provide Student Local ID 32023 with compensatory special education services at a rate of $43.52 per hour. Not to exceed 300 hours.
6. It is recommended that Ms. Donica Venable be approved as a Substitute Teacher at a per diem rate of $125. *(Pending receipt of Substitute Certification and Criminal History Review)*
7. It is recommended that Dr. Carmen Henderson be approved as the district Affirmative Action Officer and SEMI Coordinator for the 2023-2024 school year.
8. It is recommended that Ms. Niphon Kirk be approved as the district Anti-Bullying/HIB Coordinator for the 2023-2024 school year.
9. It is recommended that Ms. Jessyca Harper be approved as the district HIB Specialist, DCP&P, and Homeless Liaison for the 2023-2024 school year.
10. It is recommended that Captain William Plenty be approved as the District Investigator for the 2023-2024 school year at a rate of $300 per investigation.
11. It is recommended Mr. Norman Alston be approved to supervise Open Gym on Wednesdays starting September 13, 2023-June 5, 2024 at a rate of $19.31 per hour.
12. It is recommended that the following staff members be approved as administrators in charge for the “Looking Forward to Success After school Program” at the hourly rate of 43.52.  
    -Alyssa Miller  
    -Carmen Henderson -Niphon Kirk
13. It is recommended that the following positions be posted for the “Looking Forward to Success After school Program''. The program will operate for 3 days (Tuesday-Thursday), and will run from September 13, 2023 - June 6, 2024.  
    -Teachers (9) -Instructional Assistant(2)
14. It is recommended that the following after school position be approved for posting for the 2022-2023 school year as a contract stipend of $965.  
    -Curriculum Writing Lead(2 Teachers).

**MANAGEMENT-** It is recommended by the Superintendent items 1- 13 be approved as written.

1. It is recommended that the updated Lawnside School District’s Virtual/Remote Learning Plan for 2023-2024 be approved for submission to the New Jersey Department of Education and posted to the district website.
2. It is recommended that the 2024 IDEA Consolidated IDEA-B grant allocations in the amount of $105,596 Basic and $3,287 Preschool be accepted for the 2023/2024 school year.
3. It is recommended that the Marzano Teacher and Administrator Evaluation Model/platform be approved for the 2023-2024 school year.
4. It is recommended that the July 1, 2022-June 30, 2023 School Self-assessment for Determining Grades Under the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act be approved as submitted.
5. It is recommended that the Agreement for Student Internships Between Rowan University and the Lawnside School District be approved for a 3 year period effective August 1, 2023 -June 30, 2026.
6. It is recommended that Bayada be approved to provide nursing services for the 2023-2024 school year.
7. It is recommended that Innovative Designs for Educational Achievement, LLC of provide Speech Language services September 1st - November 30th during the 2023-2024 school year at a hourly rate of $90.
8. It is recommended that Cheerful Chatter provide Student Local ID 32023 with compensatory Speech Language services at a per diem hourly rate of $90. *Not to exceed 17 hours.*
9. It is recommended that the following after school clubs be approved for posting for the 2023- 2024 school year at a contracted stipend of $965. (Stipends to be paid June 2024 as all clubs must maintain membership of at least 10 students)   
   Activities Coordinator Student Council Boys Basketball Girls Basketball Cheer Coach Band/Instrumental Safety Patrol 8th Grade Advisor Yearbook Advisor Horticulture National Junior Honor Society
10. It is recommended that the position for Saturday School coverage be approved for posting during the 2023-2024 school year at a salary of $43.52 (certificated staff) or $19.31 ( non-certificated staff) per hour.
11. It is recommended that Mt. Zion Men’s Mentoring Program will be approved to conduct their 8th grade Male Rites of Passage program during the 2023-2024 school year. *(Members must provide Criminal History clearance)*
12. It is recommended that the SJ LINKS be approved to implement their “Can You Imagine Me” program during the 2023-2024 school year. *(Members must provide Criminal History clearance)*
13. It is recommended that the following Professional Development opportunities be approved.

| Name | Workshop/Training | Date | Cost |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Tomika Wilson  Romaine Artis-Jones | NJECC | 8/17 & 8/24 | $195 |
|  |  |  |  |

14. It is recommended students ID # 33014, 30014,2752 and 25033 were removed from the rolls at the Lawnside Public School effective August 11, 2023.

**FIELD TRIPS**

It is recommended that the following Field Trips be approved for the 2023-2024 school year.

| Grade/Class | Location | Date | Cost |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Select Middle School Students | Revolutionary War Monument, Lawnside | TBD | Free |
|  |  |  |  |

**Executive Session: Residency Appeal**

*Please contact Dr. Johnson at 856-546-4850 ext. 2200 or ronnjohnson@lawnside.k12.nj.us if you have any questions prior to the board meeting on Thursday.*

***RECOMMENDATION OF THE APPROVAL OF THE SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT***

***PERSONAL - ITEM 1-3 AND MANAGEMENT ITEM 1- 7***

Motion: Ms. Arterbridge

Second: Ms. Still

| Forrest -Y | Hayes - Absent | Arterbridge Y | Catlett Y - except #14 |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Cauthorne - Y | Gibson - N ( left the meeting) | Kittles Y | Still - Y |

Vote - Yes - 6

Motion Carried

*Please contact Dr. Johnson at 856-546-4850 ext. 2200 or*

*ronnjohnson@lawnside.k12.nj.us if you have any questions prior to the board meeting on Thursday.*

**CORRESPONDENCE** -None.

**OLD BUSINESS** - None

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**: - None.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Policy Committee - Recommendation to approve the Student Attendance Report- 3rd Read by Ms. Arterbridge and Second by Ms. Kittles:**

| Forrest -Y | Hayes - Absent | Arterbridge Y | Catlett Y |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Cauthorne -Y | Gibson - N (left the meeting) | Kittles Y | Still - Y |

**Vote - Yes -**

**Motion Carried**

**Outreach:**

The Board is scheduled to host its 13th annual Back-to-School Bonanza on August 26th, from 12 pm to 3 pm. Formal correspondences have been dispatched to vendors, although the response rate has been notably sluggish. The Nation Hookup of Black Women of Cherry Hill has generously contributed 37 bookbags.

Moreover, a chef has been confirmed for the event, who will additionally furnish a grill for the purpose of barbecuing food. The exact timing of the coordinator's arrival is yet to be determined and will need to be decided by the board.

Linda from ShopRite has affirmed their commitment to donate 250 hotdogs, hamburgers, and buns. The district is scheduled to collect these provisions between 9 and 11 am on the day of the event. Additionally, the participation of Mr. Softy has been confirmed.

Presently, the Board has successfully secured the services of barber Qaadir Wicks, who will perform six haircuts during the event. Haircut sessions are scheduled at intervals of 30 minutes. The Board has proposed the implementation of a raffle for the available six haircuts, and has also recommended exploring the possibility of acquiring vouchers for additional haircut offerings.

Amidst the array of entertainment options, the inclusion of a bouncy house, a fire truck, and a skilled face painter has been confirmed. The Board is in the process of initiating communication with the Fire Department to determine the feasibility of hosting a demonstration.

The event schedule is set to feature Double Dutch dancers at 1:30 PM, followed by a performance from the Lawnside dance team at 2 PM.

**Commission:**

Two county meetings are slated for October 12th and December 18th. Specifically, on October 12th, Camden County College and Camden County Vocational School will jointly conduct a recruitment session targeted at students in grades 7 through 12.

**Board Comments:**

During the board discussion, Ms. Alterbridge raised a query regarding the completion date of the ongoing board retreat. Ms. Forrest addressed the inquiry, stating that the wrap-up is scheduled for the upcoming school year and assured that this matter will be addressed at their forthcoming committee meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**APPROVAL OF RESOLUTIONS # 1 THROUGH #33**

1. Resolution #26- LineItem Transfers - $500.00

2. Resolution # 27- Line Item Transfer - $217.59

3. Resolution #28- Line Item Transfer - $3609.50

1. Resolution# #29- Line Item Transfer - $486.16
2. Resolution#30- Line Item Transfer - $150.00
3. Resolution #31- Line Item Transfer -$200.00
4. Resolution #32 - Line Item Transfer - $14,604.00
5. Resolution $33 - Line Item Transfer - $300.00
6. Resolution #34- Line Item Transfer - $5025.00

10. Resolution #35 - Line Item Transfer - 26,050.00

11. Resolution #36 - Line Item Transfer - $1215.00

12. Resolution #37 - Line Item Transfer - $5255.00

13. Resolution #38 - Line Item Transfer - $295,000.00

14. Resolution #39 - Line Item Transfer - $65,000.00

15.. Resolution #40 - Line Item Transfer - $15,000.00

16. Resolution #41 - Line Item transfer \_ $5000.00

17 Resolution #42- Line Item Transfer - 65,124.00

18. Resolution #43 - Line Item Transfer - $1,000.00

19. Resolution #44- Line Item Transfer - $2720.00

20. Resolution #45 - Line Item Transfer - $3100.00

21. Resolution #46 - Line Item Transfer \_ 5,000.00

22. Resolution #47- Line Item Transfer - $267,500.00

23. Resolution #48 - Line Item Transfer - $108,883.00

24. Resolution #49 - Line Item Transfer- 173.00

24. Resolution #50- Line Item Transfer - 11,151.47

25. Resolution #51- Line Item Transfer - $960.00

26. Resolution #52 - Line Item transfer - $300.00

27. Resolution #53- Line Item Transfer - 6642.00

28. Resolution #54 - Line Item Transfer - 935.00

29. Resolution #55 - Accept &Approve ESEA Budget for 23-24 SY

30. Resolution #56- Accept & Approve IDEA Budget for 23-24 SY

31. Resolution #57- TCU Application County Approval

32. Resolution #58- Toilet room Facility for Early Intervention, Pre-K and Kindergarten Class

33. Resolution #59 - Donation of First Aid Kits

**APPROVAL OF RESOLUTIONS** # 1- 33 Motion: Ms. Catlett Second: Ms. Arterbridge

Vote - Yes -

Motion Carried

| Forrest -Y | Hayes - Absent | Arterbridge Y except for item # 29 | Catlett Y |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Cauthorne - Y | Gibson -N ( left the meeting) | Kittles Y | Still - Y |

**APPROVAL OF THE BOARD SECRETARY REPORT/ TREASURER’S REPORT**

**July 2023 - Tabled**

**APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF THE BILLIS**

Motion: Ms. Catlett

Second: Ms. Kittles

| Forrest -Y | Hayes - Absent | Arterbridge Y | Catlett Y |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Cauthorne - Y | Gibson - N ( left the meeting) | Kittles Y | Still - Y |

Vote - Yes - 6

Motion Carried

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion to go into Executive Session at 6:37 pm - Legal Matters/ Student Matters

Hearing following finding of non-residency by truancy/investigating for parent/ guardians of students 33015,30014,27052,25033. The board held an informal evidentiary hearing. Discussion followed regarding the Superintendent's recommendation to remove students from attendance rolls.

Motion: Ms.Kittles

Second: Ms. Hayes

| Forrest Y | Hayes -Absent | Arterbridge Y | Catlett Y |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Cauthorne - N | Gibson - Y | Kittles Y | Still Y |

Vote Yes - 6

Motion Carried

Motion to come out of Executive Session at 7:53 pm

Motion: Ms. Aterbridge

Second: Ms. Kittles

| Forrest Y | Hayes - Absent | Arterbridge Y | Catlett Y |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Cauthorne - Rescued | Gibson Y | Kittles Y | Still Y |

Vote 6 Yes

Motion Carried

Recommendation - see #14 under Management in the Superintendent’s Report.

**Public Comments**

During the public comment session, Micael Harper of 508 Ellis Ave commended the board's prior decision to implement mandatory mask-wearing for students at the start of the previous school year. He also expressed concern about the current surge in COVID cases and proposed the idea of students wearing masks for the initial two weeks of the upcoming school year. In response, Ms. Forrest acknowledged Mr. Harper's suggestion and conveyed that the board will review and consider his request.

**BOARD COMMENTS**

During the board discussion, Ms. Alterbridge raised a query regarding the completion date of the ongoing board retreat. Ms. Forrest addressed the inquiry, stating that the wrap-up is scheduled for the upcoming school year and assured that this matter will be addressed at their forthcoming committee meeting.

Motion for adjournment: 8:11 pm

Motion - Ms. Catlett

Second by Ms. Kittles

| Forrest Y | Hayes Absent | Arterbridge Y | Catlett Y |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Cauthorne - Y | Gibson N | Kittles Y | Still Y |

Vote 6 Yes

Motion Carried

I Karen Willis Business Administrator/Board Secretary of the Board of Education of the Borough of Lawnside in the County of Camden New Jersey Hereby Certify that the foregoing extract from the minutes of a meeting of the Board of Education duly called and held on August 10, 2023 has been compared by me with the original minutes as officially recorded in the Minute Book of the Board of Education and is true complete and correct copy thereof and of the whole of the original minutes so far as they relate to the subject matters referred to in the extract

Respectfully submitted

Karen Willis

Karen Willis

Business Administration/ Board Secretary