

**Lawnside Board of Education Annual Reorganization
(Virtual)
Meeting Minutes
January 6, 2022**

AGENDA: Karen Willis , Board Secretary presides until the President is elected

I. **Call to Order by the Board Secretary, Ms. Karen Willis**

The meeting of the Lawnside Board of Education is called to order at 7:04 in accordance with the New Jersey Open Public Meeting Act with adequate notice provided to the Retrospect, Courier Post and the Lawnside Borough Clerk

II. **Flag Salute**

III. **Moment of Silence**

IV. **Ms. Karen Willis to announce Certification of Election Results**

Three year term	Sabrina Forrest	418
Three year term	Fatimah Hayes	473
Three year term	Brigette Kittles	433
Three year term	Darlene Still	587

V. **Administration of the Oath of Office by Ms. Karen Willis**

Sabrina Forrest

I, **State Your Name**, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of New Jersey, and that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same and to the Governments established in the United States and this State, under the authority of the people. So help me God.

I, **State Your Name**, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I possess the qualifications prescribed by law for the office of member of a board of education, am not disqualified as a voter pursuant to RS 19:4-1, am not disqualified due to conviction of a crime or offense listed in N.J.S.A. 18A:12-1, and that I will faithfully, impartially, and justly perform all the duties of that office according to the best of my ability. So help me God.

Fatimah Hayes & Darlene Still (individually sworn in)

I, **State Your Name**, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of New Jersey, and that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same and to the Governments established in the United States and this State, under the authority of the people. So help me God.

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I, **State Your Name**, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will undergo a criminal history background Investigation for the purpose of ensuring that I am not disqualified from

membership due to conviction of a crime or offense listed in N.J.S.A. 18A: 12-1, and the results are/will be pending.

Ms. Brigette Kittles - did not get sworn in at this meeting, waiting for Criminal Background check.

VI. Roll Call of Members

The following answered to New Board Member Roll Call:

Mrs. Forrest - Present Ms. Hayes - Present Mr. Mears - Absent
Ms. Still - Present Ms. Cauthorne - Present Ms. Gibson - Present
Ms. Catlett - Present

Also present were Dr. Johnson, Superintendent and Mr. Darryl Rhone, Board Solicitor

VII. Nomination of Board President

The Board Secretary called for a motion for nominations for Board President

Ms. Hayes nominated Mrs. Forrest; Ms. Gibson seconded the nomination.

Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Forrest	yes	Ms. Hayes	yes	Ms. Gibson	yes
Mr. Mears	absent	Ms. Cauthorne	yes	Ms. Catlett	yes
Ms. Still	yes				

Motion carried.

Board President for 2022: Mrs. Sabrina Forrest

VIII. New Board President Assumes Charge of the Meeting

XI. Nominations for Vice President

Ms. Cauthorn motioned to nominate Ms. Hayes for the Officer of Vice President, seconded by Ms. Catlett

Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Forrest	yes	Ms. Hayes	yes	Ms. Gibson	yes
Mr. Mears	absent	Ms. Cauthorne	yes	Ms. Catlett	yes
Ms. Still	yes				

Motion carried.

Board Vice President for 2022: Ms. Fatimah Hayes

X. Board of Education Meeting Schedule for 2022

THE LAWNESIDE BOARD OF EDUCATION WILL MEET ON THE 2nd THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 7:00 P.M. AND 4TH THURSDAY AT 7:00 P.M. FOR COMMITTEE MEETINGS.

THE DATES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

JANUARY 6, 2022 (REORGANIZATION)

JANUARY 13, 2022

JANUARY 27, 2022

FEBRUARY 10, 2022

FEBRUARY 24, 2022

MARCH 10, 2022

MARCH 24, 2022

APRIL 14, 2022

APRIL 28, 2022

MAY 12, 2022

MAY 26, 2022

JUNE 9, 2022,

JUNE 23, 2022

July 14, 2022

JULY 28, 2022

AUGUST 11, 2022

AUGUST 25, 2022

SEPTEMBER 8, 2022

SEPTEMBER 22, 2022

OCTOBER 13, 2022

OCTOBER 27, 2022

NOVEMBER 10, 2022

NOVEMBER 24, 2022

DECEMBER 8, 2022

DECEMBER 22, 2022

Motion by Ms. Gibson, seconded by Ms. Catlett to approve the Board of Education calendar for 2022 to meet the second and fourth Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m.
Motion carried.

Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Forrest -yes
Mr. M. Mears - absent
Ms. Still - yes

Ms. Hayes _Yes
Ms. Cauthorne – yes

Ms. Gibson- ye
Ms. Catlett - yes

Haddon Heights Board Representative - Tabled.

Camden County Educational Service Commission - Board Representative- **Tabled.**

Correspondence

Ms. Forrest stated the board received a letter of interest from Ms. Alexis Wilson. The letter was read out loud at the meeting by the School Business Administrator. The board will conduct the swearing in of Ms. Wilson to ensure that the board continues with a quorum.

Mrs. Forrest stated Ms. Alexis Wilson is a returning board member and already has her fingerprints completed.

Administration of the Oath of Office by Ms. Dawn Leary

Alexis Wilson

I, **State Your Name**, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of New Jersey, and that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same and to the Governments established in the United States and this State, under the authority of the people. So help me God.

I, **State Your Name**, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I possess the qualifications prescribed by law for the office of member of a board of education, am not disqualified as a voter pursuant to RS 19:4-1, am not disqualified due to conviction of a crime or offense listed in N.J.S.A. 18A:12-1, and that I will faithfully, impartially, and justly perform all the duties of that office according to the best of my ability. So help me God.

Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Forrest -yes
Mr. M. Mears - absent
Ms. Still - yes

Ms. Hayes _Yes
Ms. Cauthorne – yes

Ms. Gibson- ye
Ms. Catlett - yes

Motion carried.

Ms. Willis congratulated and welcomed Ms. Wilson back to the board.

**XI. Camden County Educational Service Commission - Board Representative
Ms. Wilson requested to be the Board Representative for the District**

Motion by: Ms. Gibson

Seconded by: Ms. Nana Cauthorne

To elect Ms. Wilson as the CCESC Board Representative representative for the 2022 school year.

Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Forrest -yes
Mr. M. Mears - absent
Ms. Still - yes
Motion carried.

Ms. Hayes _Yes
Ms. Cauthorne – yes

Ms. Gibson- yes
Ms. Catlett - yes

XII. Public Comments at 7:35 p.m.

Ms. Margaret Hightower - Expressed her congratulations to all of the new board members.

Ms. Dawn Wright-McLeod- (City Council Woman) Expressed her gratitude for Dr. Johnson and his staff commended him on a job well done and for doing the right thing regarding students and staff members. She also congratulated the newly elected board members and those members who were returning. She recognizes that you are doing this job because you have the passion and you will continue to do what is best for our community. God bless you and Happy New Year.

Dr. Johnson - Happy New Year and Congratulations to the newly elected board members. He expressed that we do not take it lightly in providing the best education services to our students. Please know that I am always available to you and the community of Lawnside. He asked not to look to other communities as to what is needed here at Lawnside, decisions made here at the Lawnside School District are made in regards to the needs of our students and staff members, not in regards as to what other school districts do.

XIII . Board Members Comments at 7:43 p.m.

Ms. Hayes - Happy New Year. Thank everyone and that she is proud to serve on the Board. She also wanted to commend Dr. Johnson and the staff for doing the right thing last year.

Ms. Still - Wanted to thank everyone who voted for her and that she is eager to learn about the Board of Education. She also wanted to inform the public that Mr. Fisher, a Lawnside native who graduated from Lawnside and Haddon Heights will be on television this evening at 8:00 pm portraying Emmet Till's father on Hulu.

Ms. Forrest - Expressed her gratitude to the voters who voted for her and explained that this job is a pleasurable but also difficult position. She understands that this is a very stressful position because we as board members carry the future in our hands. If you are a praying person she solicits your prayers and she also wanted to commend and thank Dr. Johnson for his commitment to the School District. Our kids need us more than ever and it is important to be in-person, now more than ever. We will continue to support your efforts whether in-person or virtually.

Adjournment – 7:54 p.m.

Motion by Ms. Wilson seconded by Ms. Hayes to adjourn the board meeting.

All in favor: 6 – Ayes. Motion carried by Unanimous Voice Vote.

CERTIFICATION

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 *January 6, 2022* 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 Administrator/Board Secretary