

Lawnside Board of Education Meeting Minutes
February 19, 2015

The Regular Meeting of the Lawnside Board of Education was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Conference Room of the Lawnside Public School, 426 Charleston Avenue. Board President Sabrina Forrest presided. After repeating the Pledge of Allegiance after observing a moment of silence, the following members answered present to the roll call:

Ronald DeAbreu	Amy Pierce
Sabrina Forrest	Rhonda Wardlow-Hurley
Amy Kearney	Donza Worlds

6 present, 2 absent, 1 vacancy

Absent: Canute Gardiner, Donica Venable

Also present were Dr. Ronn Johnson, Superintendent, and Theresa Tutt, Board Secretary.

Ms. Forrest announced that notice of the meeting was sent to the Courier Post, Record Breeze, Philadelphia Inquirer and the Lawnside Borough Clerk as required by statute.

There were no Public Comments.

Minutes –
1/6/2015 & 1/15/2015

Motion by Amy Pierce, seconded by Amy Kearney, that the minutes of January 6, 2015 and January 15, 2015 be approved. Motion carried; Roll Call Vote: 6 yes.

There was no Solicitor's Report.

Superintendent's Report

Presentations:

CCESC – Mr. Dan Del Vecchio

Mr. Del Vecchio, Superintendent of the Camden County Educational Services Commission explained the structure and purpose of the Commission and presented an overview of the various services they provide. Since the services are provided at a County level, districts are relieved of the administrative burdens and are able to realize cost savings. He indicated that the Commission is constantly looking for new opportunities to assist districts; they are presently looking to institute a substitute teacher procurement program. He welcomed the opportunity for the Commission to be of service when needed.

Special Services Department – Ms. Rukiah Alwan

Ms. Alwan, Supervisor of Special Services, presented a summary of the educational programs and services available in the district provided by the Child Study Team, special education staff and contracted vendors. She briefly reviewed ongoing tri-district collaborations as well as upcoming initiatives for the student population.

Board Member Canute Gardiner entered during the presentation at 7:24 p.m., making 7 present, 1 absent, 1 vacancy.

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Discussion

- Correspondence from NJDOE re: 21st Century Program Activity – 78 students attended program for 30 days or more
- Correspondence from State of NJ re: School Nutrition Program – new law prohibits denying students meals because payment is owed without prior notice to parent
- Correspondence from Mr. David Zallie – attendance at convention prohibits being present at the Ribbon Cutting ceremony
- Media Center Ribbon Cutting Ceremony – Tuesday, February 10th
- Lawnside Education Foundation Annual Dinner Dance (Saturday, Feb. 28th @6:00 pm)
- Invitation from the Lawnside Scholarship Club (Saturday, March 21st @ 1:00 pm Tavistock)
- Correspondence from Mr. Bruce Taylor (Contract Negotiator) – notice of retirement
- School Performance Report 2013-2014

Overview: This school's academic performance **lags in comparison** to schools across the state. Additionally, its academic performance **lags in comparison** to its peers. This school's college and career readiness **significantly lags in comparison** to schools across the state. Additionally, its college and career readiness **significantly lags in comparison** to its peers. This school's student growth performance **is about average when compared** to schools across the state. Additionally, its student growth performance **is very high when compared** to its peers.

Student Growth: This school outperforms **49%** of schools statewide as noted by its statewide percentile and **81%** of schools educating students with similar demographic characteristics as noted in its peer school percentile in the performance area of Student Growth. Additionally, this school is meeting **100%** percentage of its performance targets in the area of Student Growth. Student Growth measures the performance of students from one year to the next on the New Jersey Assessment of Skills and Knowledge (NJ ASK) in Language Arts Literacy and Math when compared to students with a similar history of performance on NJ ASK.

- National Assessment of Educational Progress – certificate of appreciation for participation
- 8th Grade Dialogue Dessert Reception – Tuesday, March 3rd, sponsored by CCSBA to be held at the Yellin School in Stratford

Board Member Donica Venable entered during the discussion items at 7:52 p.m., making 8 present, 1 vacancy.

District Goals

- *Goal #1 – Continue to focus on enhancing curriculum and instruction in English/Language Arts and Mathematics to improve student achievement*
- *Goal #2 – Continue to positively impact school culture by initiating student-centered programs.*
- *Goal #3 – Communicate the district's culture, strengths and successes to all stakeholders of the district.*

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Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying

There were 0 incidents of documented Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying resulting in

Warnings 0 Detentions 0 Suspensions 0

Fire and Security Drills	
Fire Drill	Friday, January 20, 2015 @ 10:30 a.m.
School Lockdown/Active Shooter	Friday, January 13, 2015@ 2:40 p.m.

Enrollment and ADA for November

Enrollment – 282	ADA - 265
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Recommendations

PERSONNEL

1. It is recommended that Ms. Judy Ruiz be approved as a Part-Time Child Study Team Secretary (12 month) at a rate of \$11.76 per hour for the remainder of the 2014-2015 school year.
2. It is recommended that Ms. Shyya Comb’s Request for Leave (FMLA) be approved effective January 14, 2015 through March 14, 2015.

Personnel
Item #1 – 2

Motion by Amy Pierce, seconded by Amy Kearney,
that Personnel Recommendations #1 – be approved. Motion
carried; Roll Call Vote: 8 yes.

MANAGEMENT

1. It is recommended that the School Calendar for 2015-2016 be approved for submission to the County Office of Education for approval.
2. It is recommended Scholar Options be approved to provide grant writing services for the 21st Century Community Learning Centers NGO at a fee of \$8,000. Additional compensation at a rate of 5% for yearly evaluation will be provided upon receipt of the grant.
3. It is recommended Ms. Fatima Allen (Lower Merion High School) be approved to complete her Senior Project within the Lawnside Public School during the 2014-2015 school year.
4. It is recommended that the 2015-2016 Preschool Program Plan and budget be approved.
5. It is recommended that the 2014-2015 Consolidated Amendment I be approved.
6. It is recommended that Ms. Laura Moore’s (Long Term Substitute Teacher) per diem rate be adjusted to \$80 per diem for the 2014-2015 school year. *(Receipt of Teaching Certificate of Eligibility).*

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Management -
Items #1 – 6

Motion by Amy Pierce, seconded by Ronald DeAbreu,
that Management Recommendations #1 – 6 be approved.
Motion carried; Roll Call Vote: 8 yes.

Correspondence

1. Letter from Lawnside Scholarship Club re: upcoming event
2. Letter from Lawnside Education Foundation re: availability of teacher instructional project grants

There was no Old Business.

There were no Committee Reports.

Ms. Forrest indicated that Terri Lewis, NJSBA Field Service Representative, will be present on February 26th at 6:00 p.m. for a training session. This session will be in lieu of the traditional committee meetings and is open to the full membership.

New Business

R E S O L U T I O N #25-2015

GENERAL FUND:

<u>ACCOUNT</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>
11-120-100-101-00-RG Salaries – Teachers Grades 1-5	\$10,000	
11-213-100-101-00-RG Salaries – Resource Room	9,500	
11-000-230-339-00-00 Other Purchased Prof. Services	1,000	
11-213-100-101-00-SB Substitutes – Resource Room		\$ 4,500
11-000-100-566-00-00 Tuition – Pvt. School for Disabled		15,000
11-000-230-340-00-00 Purchased Technical Services	<u> </u>	<u>1,000</u>
	<u>\$20,500</u>	<u>\$20,500</u>

Resolution #25-2015 –
Line Item Transfers

Motion by Donica Venable, seconded by Rhonda Wardlow-Hurley,
that Resolution #25-2015 be approved. Motion carried; Roll
Call Vote: 7 yes.

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R E S O L U T I O N #26-2015

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Borough of Lawnside, at its February 19, 2015 meeting, requests a waiver from participation in the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program for the 2015-2016 school year due to low projected pupil eligibility.

R E S O L U T I O N #27-2015

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Borough of Lawnside, at its February 19, 2015 meeting approves and authorizes submission of the Preschool Program Plan for the 2015-2016 school year.

R E S O L U T I O N #28-2015

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Borough of Lawnside, at its February 19, 2015 meeting authorizes the filing of an amendment for the following NCLB projects:

Title I - \$8,528

Title IIA - \$9,964

Resolution #26-2015 –
Resolution #28-2015

Motion by Donica Venable, seconded by Amy Pierce, that Resolutions #26-2015, #27-2015, and #28-2015 be approved. Motion carried; Roll Call Vote: 8 yes.

Facilities Use -
Lawnside Track

Motion by Donica Venable, seconded by Ronald DeAbreu, that Lawnside Lightning Track & Field be permitted to use an available classroom on February 25, 2015 between the hours of 6:30 and 7:30 p.m. for a parent meeting, available hallways Monday – Thursday for the period March 2 through March 23, 2015 for conditioning from 6:30 – 8:15 p.m. , and the gym Monday – Thursday for the period March 24 through June 1, 2015 from 6:30 – 8:15 p.m. for track practice. Motion carried; Roll Call Vote: 8 yes.

Secretary/Treasurer Reports

The Secretary reports as of December 31, 2014:

Fund 10 Cash in Bank	\$604,337.18
Fund 20 Cash in Bank	15,330.42
Fund 30 Cash in Bank	-40,257.22
Fund 40 Cash in Bank	<u>257,273.90</u>
Total Cash in Bank	\$836,684.28

The Treasurer reports as of December 31, 2014:

Fund 10 Ending Cash Balance	\$604,337.18
Fund 20 Ending Cash Balance	15,330.42
Fund 30 Ending Cash Balance	-40,257.22
Fund 40 Ending Cash Balance	<u>257,273.90</u>
Total Ending Cash Balance	\$836,684.28

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Receipt

Motion by Ronald DeAbreu, seconded by Amy Kearney, that the Secretary and Treasurer Reports for the period ending December 31, 2014 be received. Motion carried; Roll Call Vote: 8 yes.

R E S O L U T I O N #29-2015

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 (c) 4, the Lawnside Board of Education certifies that as of December 31, 2014 and after review of the Secretary's Monthly Financial Report and the Treasurer's Monthly Financial Report and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, to the best of the Boards' knowledge, no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 (a) 1 and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

R E S O L U T I O N #30-2015

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 (c) 3, I certify that as of December 31, 2014, no budgetary line item account has obligations and payments (contractual orders) which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the Lawnside Board of Education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8.1 and N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8.2 and no budgetary line item account has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6:23-2.12 (a) 1.



Theresa Tutt, Board Secretary

Resolution #29-2015 –
Resolution #30-2015

Motion by Donica Venable, seconded by Amy Pierce, that Resolution #29-2015 and Resolution #30-2015 be approved. Motion carried; Roll Call Vote: 8 yes.

Payment of Bills

Motion by Amy Pierce, seconded by Amy Kearney, that the bills totaling \$400,617.85 for the General Fund and \$20,724.81 for the Food Service Fund be approved for payment pending availability of funds. Motion carried; Roll Call Vote: 8 yes.

There were no Public Comments.

Executive Session – not required.

Ms. Forrest updated the membership regarding steps taken to fill the vacant seat on the Board. She stated that she reached out to an individual who was a write-in candidate in the November election. Contacts were made via telephone and certified letter, but no response has been received. The position remains posted on the district's website requesting interested persons to respond.

There was a discussion regarding presenting the President of the Lawnside Education Foundation with some token of thanks for the work that has been accomplished for the school district. It was suggested that the organization rather than one individual be recognized.

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LEF Proclamation

Motion by Amy Pierce, seconded by Rhonda Wardlow-Hurley, that a Proclamation be prepared expressing appreciation to the Lawnside Education Foundation for their mission and financial support provided to the school district; the Proclamation is to be presented at the upcoming LEF Dinner Dance. Motion carried; Roll Call Vote: 7 yes, 1 abstention – Donica Venable.

Adjournment –
8:41 p.m.

Motion by Ronald DeAbreu, seconded by Amy Pierce, that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried by Unanimous Voice Vote.