

Lawnside Board of Education Meeting Minutes
April 16, 2015

The Regular Meeting of the Lawnside Board of Education was called to order at 7:02 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	Donica Venable
Canute Gardiner	Rhonda Wardlow-Hurley
Amy Kearney	Donza Worlds

8 present, 1 vacancy

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.

Public Comments

Michele Mendenhall, 1103 Parkway Ave., Union, NJ read the following:

Good Evening Members of the Board of Education, Dr. Johnson and members of the community!

My name is Michele Mendenhall and I am President of the Lawnside Education Association. In another few weeks we will start the next round of PARCC testing. As I'm sure you are aware, we successfully completed the March section of the PARCC and were one of the lucky districts that had no issues with the initial testing: we had no students opt out of the test, there were no glitches with the technology and because of the amazing scheduling, our students missed minimal instruction time!

This was a whole group effort, from the Board, Dr. Johnson, the administrative team members, to the Lawnside staff and the parents. I know you have heard the adage that "it takes a village", well our village is working together to do what's right for our students and it certainly was evident when our 3rd – 8th graders took the PARCC in March. On behalf of the LEA I want to thank the Board and administration for all of your support and accommodations throughout the school year.

And that's what brings me to speak to you tonight.

There has been a lot of coverage about the PARCC test and we still don't know what the legislature will do about PARCC. However, I am asking you to stay informed about PARCC to make sure our students are not over tested or improperly labeled by test results. The members of the Lawnside Education Association hope that we can continue to work with the Board and Administration to ensure that our students receive the best education possible. Thank you.

Ms. Forrest thanked Ms. Mendenhall for her comments.

Minutes –

3/12/2015 & 3/26/2015

Motion by Amy Pierce, seconded by Amy Kearney, that the minutes of March 12, 2015 and March 26, 2015 be approved. Motion carried; Roll Call Vote: 7 yes, 1 abstention – Rhonda Wardlow Hurley – March 12, 2015 minutes; 8 yes – March 26, 2015 minutes.

There was no Solicitor's Report.

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Superintendent's Report

Dr. Johnson expressed appreciation and thanks to Ms. Mendenhall and the members of the Lawnside Education Association for all they do for our students.

Discussion

- Correspondence from Lawnside Town Watch Association re: thanking district for allowing students to participate in their Black History Month program
- Correspondence from Garden State Equality organization re: advocacy for inclusion of all students (LGBT)
- Pre-Kindergarten & Kindergarten Registration Updates – presently 13 students signed up for three-year old program
- Choice Caps and possibility of Staff enrolling their children – cap on choice program continues; increased enrollment could be realized if staff members' children attended; an interest has been expressed; per policy a tuition rate must be determined
- Transportation policy regarding video/audio tapes on school buses – CCESC providing advance notice of policy changes that will affect all bids and quotes to be compliant with NJS 2A:156A-3
- Young Consumers Program Grades 4 and 5 with the Student Council and Junior Honor Society – chaperones are needed to assist with program at ShopRite

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.*

Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying

There was 1 incident of documented Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying resulting in

Warnings 1 Detentions 0 Suspensions 0

Fire and Security Drills	
Fire Drill	Wednesday, March 11, 2015 @ 9:30 p.m.
Non-Evacuation Drill	Friday, March 13, 2015 @10:00 a.m.

Enrollment and ADA for November

Enrollment – 279	ADA - 262
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Recommendations

PERSONNEL

1. It is recommended that Ms. Theresa Tutt's Letter of Retirement as the School Business Administrator from the Lawnside School District after 37 years be approved effective June 30, 2015.
2. It is recommended that Ms. Christina Finnegan's (Middle School Language Arts Teacher) request for Maternity Leave be approved from approximately April 24, 2015 through December 14, 2015.
3. It is recommended that Ms. Kristina Curcio be approved to fill the Maternity Leave for Middle School Language Arts at a pro-rated salary of \$54,552 (Step 1 – MA) for the 2014-2015 school year.
4. It is recommended that Ms. Qihvah Morrison be approved as a Homebound Instructor for Student #15051 at a rate of \$36.75 for 2 hours per diem beginning April 13, 2015 – June 19, 2015.
5. It is recommended that the following staff members be approved for employment for the 2015-2016 school year:

Alaguella, Fatima	Allen, Charrisse	Alston, Norman
Alwan, Rukiah	Artis-Jones, Romaine	Backus, Alexis
Bailey, Timothy	Baltodano, Monica	Bernal, Gloria
Boone, Charlene	Brown, Kira	Carr, Nina
Cobia, Patricia	Coleman, Brittany	Combs, Shyya
Daniels, Leslie	Davis, Antoinette	Davis, Paula
Debrececi, Nancy	DelSignore, Margaret	DiSandro, Colleen
Dobias, Kathryn	Finnegan, Christina	Flagler, Harry
Gordon, Mark	Greer, Althea	Guzman, Jeovanni
Hall, Veanna	Henderson-Marvin, Robbin	Henry, Terry
Hill, David	Hinson-Harvey, Tia	Hoover, Brent
Jenkins, Harold	Johnson, Kenneth	Jones, Veda
Kirk, Niphon	Langford, Melissa	Love, Melissa
Mendenhall, Michele	Messick, Scott	Miller, Alyssa
Morrison, Qihvah	Reilly, Meghan	Rosner, Christine
Shanks, Tisha	Smith, Patricia	Snowden, Helen
Thompson, Norman	Walden, Donna	Walsh, Sonya
Webb, Doretha	Welde, Rebecca	Williams, Gina
Wilson, ShaNell	Wilson, Tomika	

Personnel
Items #1 – 5

Motion by Donica Venable, seconded by Ronald DeAbreu, that Personnel Recommendations #1 - 5 be approved. Motion carried; Roll Call Vote: 7 yes, 1 abstention – Donica Venable for Item #1; 8 yes for Items #2 - 5.

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MANAGEMENT

1. It is recommended that the revised calendar for the 2014-2015 school year be approved for distribution.
2. It is recommended that the 21st Century Community Learning Centers grant application be approved for submission to the New Jersey Department of Education.
3. It is recommended that the 21st Century Community Learning Centers Summer Program be approved to function on Monday – Friday from July 1, 2015 – July 31, 2015 from 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
4. It is recommended that the 21st CCLC Summer Program positions (4-8) be approved for posting:
 - Special Education Teacher
 - Teacher of Technology
 - Physical Education Teacher
 - STEM Instructor(s)
 - Guidance Counselor
 - Paraprofessionals (3)
 - Student Workers (3)
5. It is recommended that the Shining Stars Summer Program (K-3) be approved to function on Monday – Friday from July 1, 2015 – July 31, 2015 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
6. It is recommended that the following positions for the Shining Stars Summer Program be approved for posting:
 - Head Teacher
 - Elementary School Teachers (4)
 - Instructional Aides (4)
 - Nurse
7. It is recommended Ms. Susan Fortin (Seton Hall University) be approved to complete 50 hours of Internship within the Lawnside School District as a requirement for her Master's Degree during the 2014-2015 school year.
8. It is recommended that the following positions be approved for posting:
 - Teacher of English Language Arts (Highly Qualified) - Maternity
 - Teacher of Students with Disabilities - Math
 - School Business Administrator
9. It is recommended that the Extended School Year Program for special needs students be approved to function on Monday – Thursday from July 6, 2015 – August 6, 2015 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. (Funding through IDEA grant)
10. It is recommended Dr. Ronn Johnson be approved to attend the 2015 National Alliance of Black School Educators Exemplary Leadership Summit for African American Superintendents in Baltimore, MD on June 25 – 27, 2015. (No cost to the district)

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Management -
Items #1 – 10

Motion by Donica Venable, seconded by Amy Kearney,
that Management Recommendations #1 – 10 be approved.
Motion carried; Roll Call Vote: 8 yes.

FIELD TRIPS

1. It is recommended the following field trips be approved for the 2014-2015 school year.

Grades	Date	Destination	Cost
4 th - 5 th	4/22/2015	ShopRite	Free
PreK & K	5/15/2015	Philadelphia Zoo	\$20.00
NJHS	5/13/2015	Ronald McDonald House	Free
21 st CCLC Students	6/15/2015	Cheyney University	Free

2. It is recommended the following field trip be approved for the 2014-2015 school year.

Grades	Date	Destination	Cost
6 th - 8 th	5/13/2015	Rancocas State Park	\$20.00

Field Trips
Items #1 – 2

Motion by Amy Pierce, seconded by Rhonda Wardlow-Hurley,
that Field Trips Recommendations #1 – 2 be approved. Motion
carried; Roll Call Vote: 7 yes, 1 abstention – Donica Venable.

There was no Correspondence.

Old Business

Facilities Use Requests

Motion by Amy Pierce, seconded by Amy Kearney,
that the following facilities use requests be approved:

	Organization	Date	Time	Activity
1	Lawnside Public School	5/23/2015	5:00 – 10:00 pm	Soul Food/Game Night: Fundraiser to offset cost of annual safety patrol trip
2	Lawnside Public School	6/27/2015	11:00 am – 6:00 pm	Basketball Tournament & Foul Shooting Contest: Fundraiser – Lloyd Lewis Scholarship Fund

Motion carried; Roll Call Vote: 7 yes, 1 no – Donica Venable.

There were no Committee Reports.

Ms. Forrest indicated that at the March 26th meeting action was taken which resulted in a change in Board Committee structure. A vote to continue to function using standing committees was defeated; therefore, a committee as a whole structure would begin. This action would require a change in the Board's Bylaws.

Ms. Forrest stated that several members came to her with questions and were unclear of the difference between the structures and/or the reasons a change was being made. It was pointed out that even if the standing committee structure remained, any member who wished to attend a committee meeting could do so. If five or more members were expected to attend a committee meeting, the meeting would be advertised as such; however, no official action would occur.

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Although the 4th Thursday monthly has been designated as the night for committees to meet, it would not be necessary for a committee to meet if there are no issues to be addressed. Each committee chair would advise the other members accordingly.

Rescind Action Motion by Donica Venable, seconded by Amy Pierce, that the action taken on March 26, 2015 be rescinded thus the Board will continue to operate under a standing committee structure. Motion carried; 5 yes, 2 no – Canute Gardiner, Rhonda Wardlow-Hurley, 1 abstention – Donza Worlds.

New Business

RESOLUTION #37-2015

WHEREAS, the State Department of Education permits transfers among the budgetary line item accounts;

AND WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Board of Education of the Borough of Lawnside to make such transfers;

AND WHEREAS, the need exists to adjust line item accounts to meet obligations encumbered and anticipated,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the Borough of Lawnside that the Secretary is hereby authorized to make the following line item transfers:

GENERAL FUND:

<u>ACCOUNT</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>
11-120-100-101-00-RG Salaries – Teachers Grades 1-5	\$ 5,000	
11-130-100-100-00-SB Substitutes – Grades 6-8	4,000	
11-213-100-101-00-RG Salaries – Resource Room	10,600	
11-000-223-600-00-00 Supplies & Materials	2,500	
11-000-266-100-00-00 Salaries – Security	2,000	
11-000-270-505-00-00 Contracted Services – AIL Choice	150	
11-130-100-101-00-RG Salaries – Teachers Grades 6-8		\$ 6,400
11-190-100-610-00-00 General Supplies		2,600

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11-213-100-101-00-SB Substitutes – Resource Room	6,000
11-219-100-101-00-00 Salaries – Home Instruction (Special)	4,600
11-000-251-330-00-00 Purchased Professional Services	2,500
11-000-262-100-00-00 Salaries – Custodians	2,000
11-000-270-512-00-00 Transportation – Other than H/S	<u>150</u>
	<u>\$24,250</u>
	<u>\$24,250</u>

Resolution #37-2015 – Motion by Donica Venable, seconded by Amy Kearney,
Line Item Transfers that Resolution #37-2015 be approved. Motion carried; Roll
Call Vote: 8 yes.

R E S O L U T I O N #38-2015

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Borough of Lawnside at its April 16, 2015 meeting approves the 2015-2016 One-Year Preschool Program Plan Budget in the amount of \$49,519.

Resolution #38-2015 – Motion by Amy Pierce, seconded by Ronald DeAbreu,
FY16 Preschool Plan that Resolution #38-2015 be approved. Motion carried; Roll
Call Vote: 8 yes.

R E S O L U T I O N #39-2015

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Borough of Lawnside at its April 16, 2015 meeting authorizes the submission of an application for the 21st Century Community Learning Centers Program – Competitive Grant: Cohort 11.

Resolution #39-2015 – Motion by Amy Pierce, seconded by Amy Kearney,
21st CCLC Application that Resolution #39-2015 be approved. Motion carried; Roll
Call Vote: 8 yes.

R E S O L U T I O N #40-2015

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lawnside Board of Education does not require the Pineland Learning Center, Inc. to charge students for reduced and/or paid meals for the 2015-2016 school year.

Resolution #40-2015 – Motion by Ronald DeAbreu, seconded by Donica Venable,
Pinelands – Meal Costs that Resolution #40-2015 be approved. Motion carried; Roll
Call Vote: 8 yes.

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Nutri-Serve Food Management Motion by Ronald DeAbreu, seconded by Donica Venable, that Nutri-Serve Food Management, Inc. be approved to operate the district's food service program for the 2015-2016 school year with a management fee of \$12,687.50. Motion carried; Roll Call Vote: 7 yes.

Facilities Use -
Lawnside 4th of July Committee Motion by Amy Pierce, seconded by Amy Kearney, that the Lawnside 4th of July Committee be permitted to use the school grounds on Saturday, June 27, 2015 between the hours of 12:00 noon and 10:00 pm as the fireworks launch site for the Lawnside Heritage Day Celebration. Motion carried; Roll Call Vote: 8 yes.

Secretary/Treasurer Reports

The Secretary reports as of February 28, 2015:
Fund 10 Cash in Bank \$1,044,545.16
Fund 20 Cash in Bank 116,179.61
Fund 30 Cash in Bank -40,249.15
Fund 40 Cash in Bank 257,273.90
Total Cash in Bank \$1,377,749.52

The Treasurer reports as of February 28, 2015:
Fund 10 Ending Cash Balance \$1,044,545.16
Fund 20 Ending Cash Balance 116,179.61
Fund 30 Ending Cash Balance -40,249.15
Fund 40 Ending Cash Balance 257,273.90
Total Ending Cash Balance \$1,377,749.52

Receipt Motion by Donica Venable, seconded by Rhonda Wardlow-Hurley, that the Secretary and Treasurer Reports for the period ending February 28, 2015 be received. Motion carried; Roll Call Vote: 8 yes.

R E S O L U T I O N #41-2015

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 (c) 4, the Lawnside Board of Education certifies that as of February 28, 2015 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.

Resolution #41-2015 Motion by Amy Pierce, seconded by Ronald DeAbreu, that Resolution #41-2015 be approved. Motion carried; Roll Call Vote: 8 yes.

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R E S O L U T I O N #42-2015

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 (c) 3, I certify that as of February 28, 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 #42-2015

Motion by Amy Pierce, seconded by Ronald DeAbreu, that Resolution #42-2015 be approved. Motion carried; Roll Call Vote: 8 yes.

Payment of Bills

Motion by Amy Pierce, seconded by Rhonda Wardlow-Hurley, that the bills totaling \$428,520.96 for the General Fund and \$17,879.20 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.

Adjournment –
7:49 p.m.

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