

Lawnside Board of Education Meeting Minutes
May 7, 2015

A Special Meeting of the Lawnside Board of Education was called to order at 7:03 p.m. in Board Conference Room of the Lawnside Public School, 426 Charleston Avenue. Board President Sabrina Forrest presided. After repeating the Pledge of Allegiance and observing a moment of silence, the following members answered present to the roll call:

Ronald DeAbreu	Amy Kearney
Sabrina Forrest	Amy Pierce
Canute Gardiner	Donza Worlds
6 present, 2 absent, 1 vacancy	

Absent: Donica Venable, Rhonda Wardlow-Hurley

Also present were 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

Mayor Mary Ann Wardlow expressed thanks on behalf of the family of Councilperson Lucille Wakefield-Moore. The family was overwhelmed by the outpouring of condolences and support they have received.

Mayor Wardlow further conveyed the uniqueness of the relationship between the Superintendent, School Board President and herself. In other municipalities, these titled individuals often are at odds and do not get along nor work in collaboration. She briefly outlined the proposed summer program to be run by the YMCA. A fee will be charged; children can participate on a full-day or half-day basis; flyers are forthcoming.

Board Member Rhonda Wardlow-Hurley entered at 7:05 p.m., making 7 present, 1 absent.

Public Hearing on 2015-2016 Budget

The Superintendent presented a PowerPoint slideshow to report the district goals and school highlights for the current school year as well as outline the proposed enhancements contained in the 2015-2016 budget. The proposed enhancements were categorized as follows: Academic and Instructional Improvements, Technological Upgrades, Facility Renovations Enhancements, and Community Outreach Initiatives. The Board Secretary presented a slideshow to review all areas of the proposed spending plan for 2015-2016; the presentation included a comparison of the current year with that of the ensuing year.

The 2015-2016 budget that was approved by the Executive County Superintendent totaled \$8,858,621 and was categorized as follows:

Total Operating Budget	\$8,463,242
Total Grant & Entitlements	293,621
Total Debt Service	<u>218,901</u>
Grand Total	\$8,975,764

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The breakdown of the proposed Operating Budget for the 2015-2016 school year is as follows:

Tuition	\$2,790,556	(33%)
Instruction	2,204,299	(26%)
Employee Benefits	1,064,177	(13%)
Support Services	897,530	(11%)
Operations & Maintenance	533,578	(6%)
Administration & Business	390,603	(4%)
Transportation	341,113	(4%)
Capital Outlay	99,485	(1%)
Charter Schools Transfer	<u>141,901</u>	(2%)
	<u>\$8,270,589</u>	

Aid received was the same as the 2014-2015 school year. The tax levy needed to support the Operating Budget for the 2015-2016 school year is \$4,177,499; this is \$114,417 more than the current school year and represents a 2.82% increase. The projected tax rate is \$2.024 per \$100 assessment, a 7.5¢ increase.

Board Member Amy Pierce left at 7:50 p.m., making 7 present, 1 absent.

R E S O L U T I O N #43-2015

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Borough of Lawnside approves the school district budget for the 2015-16 School Year as approved by the Executive County Superintendent after the public hearing as follows:

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Tax Levy</u>
Total Operating Budget	\$8,463,242	\$4,177,499
Total Grant & Entitlements	293,621	
Total Debt Service	<u>218,901</u>	<u>215,032</u>
	\$8,975,764	\$4,392,531

Resolution #43-2015 Motion by Rhonda Wardlow-Hurley, seconded by Amy Kearney ,
that Resolution #43-2015 be approved. Motion carried; Roll Call
Vote: 7 yes.

Board Member Amy Pierce returned at 7:53 p.m., making 8 present, 0 absent.

Ms. Forrest assigned the following members to the Outreach Committee: Amy Kearney, Chair, Rhonda Wardlow-Hurley and Donza Worlds. The immediate assignments include finding a candidate to fill the vacant seat on the Board and working on the Back to School Bonanza.

Ms. Forrest reminded the membership to complete the Superintendent's evaluation; majority participation is needed.

Board Member Amy Pierce left at 7:58 p.m., making 7 present, 1 absent.

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Public Comments

Board Member Rhonda Wardlow-Hurley thanked the Board for the Resolution for Councilperson Wakefield-Moore; she was a supporter who loved Lawnside Public School.

Mrs. Forrest indicated that there is a need to conduct a student hearing in Executive Session during the May 11th meeting.

Adjournment
8:05 p.m.

Motion by Rhonda Wardlow-Hurley, seconded by Canute Gardiner, that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried by Unanimous Voice Vote.