SUBJECT TO APPROVAL

LACEY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES REORGANIZATION MEETING - JANUARY 5, 2026

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Interim Board Secretary Constance Stewart at 5:31 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ms. Stewart led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

STATEMENT OF ADEQUATE NOTICE

Adequate notice of the Reorganization Meeting was advertised in the Asbury Park Press and the Beacon on January 9, 2025, and and by posting the notice in the Forked River and Lanoka Harbor Post Offices and by filing a copy of the notice with the Lacey Township Clerk as required by the Open Public Meeting Law.

OATH OF OFFICE

Ms. Stewart conferred the Oath of Office for Megan Forney, Steve Gouin, and Brandon Hurley elected on November 4, 2025.

CALL TO ORDER

The Annual Reorganization Meeting of the Lacey Township Board of Education was held on January 5, 2026 at the Lacey Township High School. The meeting was called to order by Interim Board Secretary Constance Stewart at 6:00 p.m

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ms. Stewart led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

STATEMENT OF ADEQUATE NOTICE

Adequate notice of the Reorganization Meeting was advertised in the Asbury Park Press and the Beacon on January 9, 2025, and and by posting the notice in the Forked River and Lanoka Harbor Post Offices and by filing a copy of the notice with the Lacey Township Clerk as required by the Open Public Meeting Law.

ROLL CALL OF THE NEWLY CONSTITUTED BOARD OF EDUCATION

Present: Salvatore Armato
Dan Bell
Megan Forney
Steve Gouin
Brandon Hurley
Kimberly Klaus

Also Present: William W. Zylinski, Acting Superintendent
Constance Stewart, Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary
Dustin F. Glass, Board Attorney
Bruce W. Padula, Board Attorney (via pre-recorded video)

NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF PRESIDENT

Nomination 1 - Mr. Gouin nominated Mrs. Klaus

Motion to close nominations by Mr. Armato, seconded by Mrs. Klaus

Roll call vote as follows for Mrs. Klaus:

Mr. Armato - aye, Mr. Bell - aye, Dr. Forney - aye, Mr. Gouin - aye, Mr. Hurley - aye, Mrs. Klaus - aye

Majority motion carried - 6 ayes

(Board President Mrs. Klaus presided over the remainder of the meeting.)

NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF VICE-PRESIDENT

Nomination 1 - Mrs. Klaus nominated Mr. Gouin

Nomination 2 - Dr. Forney nominated Mr. Armato

Motion to close nominations by Mrs. Klaus, seconded by Mr. Armato

Roll call vote as follows for Mr. Gouin:

Mr. Armato - nay, Mr. Bell - aye, Dr. Forney - nay, Mr. Gouin - aye, Mr. Hurley - aye, Mrs. Klaus - aye

Majority motion carried - 4 ayes

ANNUAL SCHOOL ETHICS TRAINING

Bruce Padula, Board Attorney, delivered the annually required school ethics training to the Board Members via pre-recorded video.

Mr. Armato inquired about the mode of communication for Board members.

Move that the Board approve the following Resolutions I.1. - I.5.:

Motion by Mr. Bell, seconded by Mr. Hurley. Roll call vote as follows:

Mr. Armato - aye, Mr. Bell - aye, Dr. Forney - aye, Mr. Gouin - aye, Mr. Hurley - aye, Mrs. Klaus - aye

RESOLUTIONS (1 - 5)

1. Code of Ethics

   BE IT RESOLVED, that the members of the Lacey Township School District Board of Education will abide by the New Jersey School Board Member Code of Ethics and certifies the following:

   - That the School Ethics Act and Code of Ethics for School Board Members has been received and discussed.
   - That Policies and Procedures regarding training of District Board of Education Members have been adopted, and
   - That each Board of Education member acknowledges receipt of the Code of Ethics for School Board Members and has become familiar with the Code of Ethics.

2. Combined Statement of Results for 2025

   BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board have the Combined Statement of Results of the November 2025 School Election made part of the annual organization meeting minutes.

3. Parliamentary Procedures

   BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board adopt Robert's Rules of Order as the official parliamentary procedure manual to be used to conduct meetings and appoint Board Secretary to act as the parliamentarian for the 2026 calendar year.

4. Board Bylaws, Policies and Regulations

   BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board approve the adoption of all existing Board Policies and Regulations; including Board Bylaws (Policies 0000.00-0177).

5. Meeting Schedule

NOTICE OF MEETINGS

LACEY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
JANUARY 2026 - DECEMBER 2026

Date	Type of Meeting	Time	Location
Thursday, January 15	Regular Meeting	6:00 p.m.	LTHS Lecture Hall
Thursday, February 19	Regular Meeting	6:00 p.m.	LTHS Lecture Hall
Thursday, March 19	Regular Meeting	6:00 p.m.	LTHS Lecture Hall
Thursday, April 16	Regular Meeting	6:00 p.m.	LTHS Lecture Hall
Tuesday, May 5	Special Meeting Public Hearing & Adoption 2026-2027 Budget	6:00 p.m.	LTHS Lecture Hall
Thursday, May 21	Regular Meeting	6:00 p.m.	LTHS Lecture Hall
Monday, June 22	Regular Meeting	6:00 p.m.	LTHS Lecture Hall
Thursday, July 16	Regular Meeting	6:00 p.m.	LTHS Lecture Hall
Thursday, August 20	Regular Meeting	6:00 p.m.	LTHS Lecture Hall
Thursday, September 17	Regular Meeting	6:00 p.m.	LTHS Lecture Hall
Thursday, October 15	Regular Meeting	6:00 p.m.	LTHS Lecture Hall
Thursday, November 19	Regular Meeting	6:00 p.m.	LTHS Lecture Hall
Thursday, December 17	Regular Meeting	6:00 p.m.	LTHS Lecture Hall

Regular and Special meetings will begin at 6:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted.
Reports and Presentations will begin at approximately 7:00 p.m.

A reorganization meeting will be held on Monday, January 4, 2027 at 6:00 p.m.

Constance Stewart
Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary

APPOINTMENTS MADE BY THE PRESIDENT - EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY

FINANCE & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Facilities, Finance, Food Service, Personnel, Technology (Hardware), Transportation, Township Liaison, Superintendent Search, Referendum

1. Steve Gouin, Chairperson
2. Kimberly Klaus
3. Brandon Hurley
4. Kerry Opitz, Alternate

POLICY COMMITTEE

Policy, Co-Curricular, Safety & Security, LTASA Liaison, LTCSTEA Liaison, LTCSTEA Negotiations

1. Brandon Hurley, Chairperson
2. Kimberly Klaus
3. Kerry Opitz
4. Megan Forney, Alternate

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

Curriculum, Health & Wellness, Community Relations, LTEA Liaison, LTEA Negotiations, Special Education,Technology (Software)

1. Dan Bell, Chairperson
2. Salvatore Armato
3. Megan Forney
4. Kerry Opitz, Alternate

DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES

NJSBA - Delegate: Dan Bell OCSBA - Delegate: Megan Forney Alternate: Kimberly Klaus
Alternate: Salvatore Armato

(No Alternates for Negotiations. The appointment of Kerry Opitz is pending until the injunction is lifted.)

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment congratulating the board on having six non-conflicted members, suggestion for the board and township to move forward constructively by forming citizens advisory committees to reduce tension, improve community engagement, and address rising taxes. Also suggested a full review of regionalization using available state grants, and encouraged officials to utilize New Jersey School Boards Association community engagement resources. Well wishes from the public.

EXECUTIVE SESSION, (IF APPLICABLE)

None

BOARD COMMENTS

Board members congratulated the newly elected members and expressed optimism for the year ahead, encouraging them to stay true to their convictions, remain open to discussion, and work collaboratively. Several members shared their excitement about getting started, making positive changes, and supporting one another, while thanking voters and families for their trust and support. The board president expressed appreciation for the confidence placed in her leadership and outlined major priorities for the coming year, including hiring permanent leadership, improving district performance, maintaining board certification, and addressing a significant budget deficit. She also reviewed procedural expectations, emphasizing clear communication, adherence to the chain of command, preparation and attendance at meetings, and the importance of confidentiality to ensure effective governance.

ACTING SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Mr. Zylinski thanked the Board Members for their support and working together. Looking forward to a new year.

ADJOURNMENT

Move to adjourn the Reorganization Meeting.

Motion by Mr. Armato, seconded by Mr. Gouin. All in favor.

The Reorganization Meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m

Respectfully submitted,



Constance Stewart
Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary