

**LAWNSIDE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
December 11, 2025**

Prior to the start of tonight's meeting Lawnside Student Councils newly elected cabinet and grade representatives were sworn in by the Board Solicitor, Darryl Rhone. Councilwoman Rhonda Wardlow-Hurley, Member Sydney Hurley, and Student Council Advisor Ms. Hennel are working with the students to their roles, the value of government leadership and the positive impact that can be made to the community.

The Regular Meeting of the Lawnside Board of Education was called to order at **7:03 PM** in person by the Board President, Darlene Still, following the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence, the following members were present during roll call.

**Roll Call Vote:**

Still;Hayes;Austin;Arterbridge;Catlett;Cauthorne;Harper;Hurley;Kittles;9 Present

Also present were Alyssa Miller, Director of Curriculum, Niphon Kirk, Assistant Principal, Jennifer Johnson, Board Secretary, Mark Gordon, Assistant Business Administrator and Darryl Rhone, Board Solicitor.

***OPENING STATEMENT***

President Still read that public notice of this meeting, pursuant to the Open Public Meeting Act Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, has been provided by the Board Secretary in the following manner:

1. Posting written notice on the official school bulletin board at the Lawnside School
2. Sending notice to the Courier-Post and Retrospect newspapers
3. Posting on the district website

***APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES***

Motion by Arterbridge, seconded by Catlett to approve the November 13, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes.

**Roll Call Vote:**

Still;Hayes;Austin;Arterbridge;Catlett;Cauthorne;Harper;Hurley;Kittles;8 Yes

Motion Carried

**LAWNSIDE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
December 11, 2025**

***SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT***

Motion by, Harper, seconded by Kittles to approve the Superintendent's Report as written and presented by Mrs. Miller on behalf of the Superintendent:

**Mission Statement**

The mission of the Lawnside School District is to educate our students, through mastery of the New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS), to become independent thinkers and problem solvers so they will be empowered to meet the challenges of and achieve success in tomorrow's emerging world community. The educational community will provide a safe, nurturing environment in which individual and civic responsibility is fostered and diversity is respected.

**Annual School Plan Goals:**

To address the academic and social needs of our students, the Stakeholder Group of the district developed our Annual School Plan. The following Annual School Plan Goals will be a priority for the 2025-2026 school year:

**Area of Focus #1: ELA**

By June 2026, 31% students will show proficiency of grade level standards by achieving a score of "Meets Expectations" as measured by the Linkit Benchmark Assessment.

**Area of Focus #2: SEL**

90% of the staff will utilize the PBSIS goal of a 3:1 ratio of positive student-staff interaction for every one corrective action as documented through ClassDojo and teacher observations/walkthroughs.

**Area of Focus #3: Math**

By June 2026, 16.9% will show proficiency of grade level standards by achieving a score of "Meets Expectations" as measured by the LinkIt Benchmark assessment.

**Area of Focus #4: Writing**

50% of students will achieve a proficient score, "3" for grades 3-8 and a "2" for grades K-2, as measured by common rubric by the end of 2025-2026 school year.

**Informational Items:**

December & January Activities Calendar  
Student Nutrition Committee Agenda/Notes  
Faculty Lunch

**Student Enrollment-342**

**ADA- 301**

**Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying: 2 (Both Founded)**

**Suspensions for November ~ 2**

*The Superintendent is not in receipt of any parental request for a Board Hearing at this time.*

**LAWNSIDE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
December 11, 2025**

***SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT CONTINUED***

**School Safety Drills:**

Fire Drill- 11/24/25 @ 2pm

Safety Drill- 1/12/25 @ 9:40am Shelter in Place without Instruction

**PERSONNEL** - It is recommended by the Superintendent item 1-4 be approved as written.

1. It is recommended that Natasha Brooks' Letter of Resignation as a Paraprofessional be approved effective December 3, 2025.
2. It is recommended that Alaina Lucret Staff ID#416 be approved as an Instructional Assistant for the 2025-2026 school year starting at Step 5 - \$32,057.
3. It is recommended that Najerah Ross Staff ID# 392 be approved as an Instructional Assistant for the 2025-2026 school year starting at Step 5 - \$32,057.
4. It is recommended Brittany DiNuova Staff ID #415 be approved as a Cafeteria Aide for the 2025-2026 school year at an hourly rate of \$16. (Pending Criminal History Review)

**MANAGEMENT**- It is recommended by the Superintendent item 1-2 be approved as written.

1. It is recommended that the 2026-2027 School Calendar be approved as developed.
2. It is recommended that Zakera Small (Rutgers University) be approved to conduct her clinical shadowing hours in the Lawnside Public School during the 2025-2026 school year.

**Roll Call Vote:**

Still;Hayes;Austin;Arterbridge;Catlett;Cauthorne;Harper;Hurley;Kittles;8 Yes

Motion Carried

**LAWNSIDE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
December 11, 2025**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS on ACTION ITEMS**

Motion by Hayes, seconded by Arterbridge, and unanimously approved by all present to open the floor to public comment.

No comments.

Motion by Hayes, seconded by Arterbridge, and unanimously approved by all present to close the floor to public comment.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

None at this time.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None at this time.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Committees meet to discuss Board Business between meetings. The committee chairperson will update the full board on their meeting and present any recommendations for approval.

Policy	Chanelle Arterbridge
Curriculum	Fatimah Hayes
Outreach	Nana Cauthorne
Personnel & Finance	Ferin Catlett
Haddon Heights Representative	Fatimah Hayes
Camden County Educational Services Commission	Michael Harper

**POLICY:**

Ms. Arterbridge provided a handout to all Members which explained how the policy committee obtains updates from the New Jersey School Boards Website. If anyone has any questions please reach out to Ms. Arterbridge.

Motion by Catlett, seconded by Hayes to accept the committee's recommendation to approve the second reading for changes to policy *1330 USE OF FACILITIES*.

**Roll Call Vote:**

Still;Hayes;Austin;Arterbridge;Catlett;Cauthorne;Harper;Hurley;Kittles;8 Yes

Motion Carried

**LAWNSIDE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
December 11, 2025**

***COMMITTEE REPORTS CONTINUED***

**CURRICULUM:**

The annual school plan team met with “Kate from the State” at their last meeting. Unfortunately she could not provide any answers to their questions/concerns for our students and the state testing changes. It is still unknown what benchmarks are needed for the district to get out of status. All our concerns were raised and clearly communicated.

**HADDON HEIGHTS:**

The meeting was held Tuesday, December 9th, included a presentation on their academic programs. It was discussed that all three sending school students were struggling with prealgebra. For these students to get on track they would need to double up on math to get back on the college track. Seventy percent of the students go on to college. The number of trades is growing.

**CCESC:**

The meeting was held on December 3rd, regular business was conducted. No meeting will be held for January.

***PUBLIC COMMENTS***

Motion by Hayes, seconded by Arterbridge, and unanimously approved by all present to open the floor to public comment.

**Councilwoman Wardlow-Hurley**, thanked everyone for coming out tonight to support and witness the swearing in of our 2025-2026 student government members. This year is the Centennial Celebration of the Boroughs Incorporation. There will be a year's worth of activities and events planned that will be sent through class dojo.

This weekend events are the Earl Wardlow Love Luncheon from noon to 2pm held at the Lawnside School. And from 1 to 4pm snacks with Santa will be held at the Community Center.

On behalf of Mayor Mary Ann Wardlow and members of Borough Council, Councilwoman thanked the school administration and faculty for their continued support over the years and wished everyone a safe, blessed and happy holiday season.

**Brent Hoover**, *Co-president Lawnside Education Association (LEA)*, on behalf of the Members of the association thanked Mrs. Hayes for her dedication and service to the students and staff of Lawnside School.

Mr. Hoover acknowledged and thanked the Board for the many years the LEA and Members of the Board have worked so well together. He asked for their assistance to help resolve contract language that is still unresolved at this time.

Motion by Hayes, seconded by Arterbridge, and unanimously approved by all present to close the floor to public comment.

**LAWNSIDE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
December 11, 2025**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS CONTINUED**

**Petal Robertson**, Vice President of the New Jersey Education Association (NJEA), and **Tina Dare**, Secretary-Treasurer of the NJEA, addressed the Lawnside Board of Education and the members of the community present to acknowledge Fatima Hayes and the outstanding advocate she has been for all black and brown students in the State of New Jersey. Mrs. Hayes accomplishments as an educator, NJEA member, and as a Board Member are noteworthy and appreciated.

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Ms. Hayes was presented with flowers and an acknowledgment of her service read by Mr. Harper, acknowledging the end of her role as a Lawnside Board Member.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Motion by Cauthorne, seconded by Harper to approve the following resolutions:

Resolution #254	Payment of Bills preliminary list attached
Resolution #255	Line Item Transfers for the month of October 2025.
Resolution #256	Board Secretary and Treasurer Reports for October 2025.
Resolution #257	Facility use request from Mt. Zion Church for March 7, 2026.

Roll Call Vote:

Still;Hayes;Austin;Arterbridge;Catlett;Cauthorne;Harper;Hurley;Kittles;8 Yes

Motion Carried

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

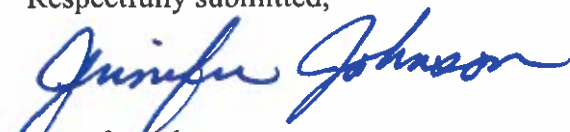
At 7:36 pm there was a motion by Still, seconded by Catlett and unanimously approved to hold an executive session to discuss legal and personnel matters. The Board Solicitor announced to the public present that no action would be taken following the executive session.

At 8:48pm there was a motion by Kittles, seconded by Catlett and unanimously approved to come out of executive session.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by Hurley, seconded by Still and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting at **8:49pm.**

Respectfully submitted,

  
Jennifer Johnson  
Board Secretary