

Lawnside Board of Education Meeting Minutes
March 12, 2020

The Regular Meeting of the Lawnside Board of Education was called to order at 6:15 p.m. in the Board Conference Room of the Lawnside Public School, 426 Charleston Avenue. After repeating the Pledge of Allegiance after observing a moment of silence, the following members answered present to the roll call:

Sabrina Forrest	Marsharee Wright	Deborah DeAbreu arrived at 6:23 p.m.
Dajshia Gibson	Yareem Ali	Mawusimensah Mears arrived at 6:16
Nana Cauthorne	William Jordan	Dajshia Gibson

Also present was Ronn Johnson, Superintendent, Dawn Leary, Business Administrator and Darryl Rhone, Board Solicitor.

Executive Session was held at 6:16 p.m.

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meeting Act authorizes Board of Education to meet in Executive session under certain circumstances;
WHEREAS, the Open Public Meeting Act requires the Board to adopt a resolution at a public meeting to go into private session; now therefore,
BE IT RESOLVED by the Lawnside Board of Education, that it is necessary to meet in executive session to discuss certain items involving:
1. Personnel and/or Student Matter
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any discussion held by the Board which need not remain confidential will be made public as soon as feasible. The minutes of the executive session will not be disclosed until the need for confidentiality no longer exist; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education will return to open session to conduct business at the conclusion of the executive session.

Motion by William Jordan seconded by Dajshia Gibson to enter into Executive Session.

All in favor: Aye

Student Matter was discussed.

Return to Public Session at 6:32 p.m.

Motion by William Jordan seconded by Deborah DeAbreu to return to Public Session at 6:32 p.m.

Amend Suspension

Motion by William Jordan, seconded by Deborah DeAbreu to amend the suspension of student A to ten days instead of 21. Motion carried; Roll Call Vote: 9 – yes.

Mrs. Forrest – yes

Ms. Wright - yes

Mrs. DeAbreu - yes

Mr. Mears - yes
Mr. Jordan – yes

Mr. Ali - yes
Ms. Wilson – yes

Ms. Gibson - yes
Ms. Cauthorne - yes

Board took a five-minute recess at 7:00 p.m.

Captain William Plenty of the Borough of Lawnside instructed everyone with questions regarding the “Coronavirus (COVID 19) to dial 911.

Mr. Ervin Mears of 411 E. Charleston Ave. Lawnside, asked when can the public receive a copy of the preliminary budget. Mrs. Forrest stated, the document will not be available to the public until the County Office approves it.

Minutes

Motion by William Jordan, seconded by Mawusimensah Mears, that the minutes of February 13, 2020 be approved. Motion carried; Roll Call Vote: 9 – yes.

Mrs. Forrest – yes
Mr. Mears - yes
Mr. Jordan – yes

Ms. Wright - yes
Mr. Ali - yes
Ms. Wilson – yes

Mrs. DeAbreu - yes
Ms. Gibson - yes
Ms. Cauthorne - yes

Superintendent’s Report

Discussion:

Black History Month Program

Quad-District 6th Grade Transition Event- hosted at Lawnside on April 2, 2020 9am-1pm

Upcoming Dates:

Thurs. March 19th- Family Academic Night 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Fri. March 20th- Teacher In-Service

Tues. March 24th- Young Consumers Program Visit to ShopRite 8:45 am

Mon. March 30th- 8th Grade Shadow Day at Haddon Heights 8:30 am

Presentation:

District Goals

The District Goals were established in collaboration with the Lawnside Board of Education members at the Board retreat on Thursday, August 1, 2019.

Goal #1: Continue to engage with our community.

Goal #2: Development and implement programs that increase academic achievement and social emotional learning.

Goal #3: Increase ELA and Math scores by 5% on the NJSLA tests.

Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying: 1

**Unfounded ~
Warnings ~
Suspensions ~1
Investigating Incident ~**

Suspensions for February~2

**Fire and Security drills:
Fire Drill 2/19 @ 2:00p
Lockdown (SIP W/I) 2/25 @ 2:00p**

Enrollment and ADA as of:

Enrollment - 308

ADA - 277

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

PERSONNEL - It is recommended by the Superintendent items 1-5 be approved as written

1. It is recommended Ms. Karen Carter be approved as an Elementary School Teacher at a salary of \$55,968 (Step-1 MA) for the 2019-2020 school year effective 2/14/20.
2. It is recommended Mr. Sebert McKenzie and Ms. Bria Couplin receive the \$500 stipend by June 30, 2020 for obtaining their substitute certificates per the agreement between the Lawnside Board of Education and the Lawnside Education Association.
3. It is recommended Mr. Peter Rentas be approved as a Substitute Custodian as an hourly rate of \$11 per hour for the 2019-2020 school year.
4. It is recommended that Mr. Anthony Coleman’s Letter of Resignation as a Classroom Aide (Paraprofessional) be approved effective March 26, 2020.
5. It is recommended that Ms. ShaQiye Thomas’ Letter of Resignation as a Cafeteria Aide be approved effective February 28, 2020.

Personnel Items
1-5

Motion by Marsharee Wright
seconded by Deborah DeAbreu
to approve personnel items 1-5.
Motion Carried; Roll Call Vote:
9 – yes.

Mrs. Forrest – yes
Mr. Mears - yes
Mr. Jordan – yes

Ms. Wright - yes
Mr. Ali - yes
Ms. Wilson – yes

Mrs. DeAbreu - yes
Ms. Gibson - yes
Ms. Cauthorne - yes

MANAGEMENT - It is recommended by the Superintendent 1-7 be approved as written.

1. It is recommended that the Job Description for Classroom Aides (Paraprofessionals) be updated and approved effective March 13, 2020.
2. It is recommended that New Behavior Network be approved to provide a paraprofessional aid effective 3/37/2020 for students SID # 7034825612, SID # 8506354138 at a rate of \$35 dollars per hour.
3. It is recommended that Caring Counselors be approved to provide therapeutic services 2 days a week for 3 hours per day at a rate of \$125 per hour for individual and \$175 an hour for group therapy.
4. It is recommended that Learning Sciences International be approved to provide online Administrator and Teacher Evaluation training for the 2019-2020 school year at a cost of \$2,592.
5. It is recommended that the following Out-Of-District (OOD) Placement be approved for the 2019-2020 school year:

<i>Student ID</i>	<i>Placement</i>	<i>Tuition</i>	<i>Related Services</i>
5017909041	Haddon Heights	\$17,492*	1:1 Aide*

6. It is recommended the following Professional Development opportunities be approved for the 2019-2020 school year: *All professional development will be funded through Title II*

<i>Name</i>	<i>Workshop</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Cost</i>
Dr. Ronn Johnson Mark Gordon Helen Snowden	Annual PBSIS Leadership Forum	Mercer County College	5/27/20	\$14.50 per person
Adam Carpenter	Innovative Games and Movement	Cherry Hill	4/20/20	\$249
Antoinette Davis Chantelle Davis	Creative Curriculum Training	Pitman School District	3/31/20	\$115 each
Karen Carter Monica Baltodano	Guided Math	Cherry Hill	5/18/20	\$279 each
Paula Davis	Discipline Disparities	Brick Two	4/1/20	\$149

7. It is recommended the following field trips be approved for the 2019-2020 school year.

<i>Grade</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Cost</i>
Grade 4	ShopRite Lawnside	3/24/20	Free
Grade 8	Haddon Heights High School	3/30/20	Free
Honor Society & Student Council	Ronald McDonald House Camden, NJ	5/15/20	Free
Math Hoops Gr. 6-8	Southwark School Phila, PA	3/31/20	Free
Math Hoops Gr. 6-8	Mastery Cramer Hill Camden, NJ	4/9/20	Free

Management Items

#1-7

Mrs. Forrest – yes
Mr. Mears - yes
Mr. Jordan – yes

Ms. Wright - yes
Mr. Ali - yes
Ms. Wilson – yes

Motion by Marsharee Wright seconded by Deborah DeAbreu to to approve Management Items #1-7. Motion carried; Roll Call Vote: 9 – yes.

Mrs. DeAbreu - yes
Ms. Gibson - yes
Ms. Cauthorne - yes

Correspondence – Ms. Leary reminded board members to complete Disclosure Forms emailed by The School Ethics Commission.

Committee Reports

Policy

First Reading

#4123 Paraprofessionals
(Classroom Aides)

Mrs. Forrest – yes
Mr. Mears - yes
Mr. Jordan – yes

Ms. Wright - yes
Mr. Ali - yes
Ms. Wilson – yes

Motion by Deborah DeAbreu seconded by Marsharee Wright to approve policy #4123 for a first reading. Motion Carried; Roll Call Vote: 9 – yes.

Mrs. DeAbreu - yes
Ms. Gibson - yes
Ms. Cauthorne – yes

Personnel & Finance
Architect/Project Mgr

Motion by William Jordan
seconded by Sabrina Forrest
to approve "New Road Construc-
tion as Architect/Project Mgr.
Motion Carried; Roll Call Vote
5 – yes 4 - abstentions.

Mrs. Forrest – yes
Mr. Mears - abstained
Mr. Jordan – yes

Ms. Wright - yes
Mr. Ali - abstained
Ms. Wilson – yes

Mrs. DeAbreu - yes
Ms. Gibson - abstained
Ms. Cauthorne - abstained

Outreach

Mrs. DeAbreu stated Haddon Heights will be shutting down their school on Friday, March 13, 2020 for a deep cleaning.

RESOLUTION #24 (2019-20)

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>
11-213-100-101-00-RG Salaries – Resource Room	1,000.00	
11-213-100-101-00-SB Substitute – Resource Room		1,000.00
Total	<u>\$1,000.00</u>	<u>\$1,000.00</u>

R E S O L U T I O N #25 (2019-20)

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>
11-000-230-530-00-00 Communications/Telephone	1,800.00	
11-000-230-530-00-00 Communications/Telephone	1,100.00	
11-000-230-332-00-00 Audit Fees		1,800.00
11-000-230-340-00-00 Purchase Technical Services		1,100.00
Total	<u>\$2,900.00</u>	<u>\$2,900.00</u>

Line Transfer
Resolution #24 & #25

Motion by Marsharee Wright
seconded by Deborah DeAbreu
to approve line transfer resolution
#24 & #25. Motion Carried; Roll
Call Vote: 6 – yes, 2 – no,
1 – abstention.

Mrs. Forrest – yes
Mr. Mears - no
Mr. Jordan – yes

Ms. Wright - yes
Mr. Ali - no
Ms. Wilson – yes

Mrs. DeAbreu - yes
Ms. Gibson - abstained
Ms. Cauthorne - yes

RESOLUTION #27-2020

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Borough of Lawnside approved the school district budget for the 2020-21 school year for submission to the Executive County Superintendent for review as follows:

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Tax Levy</u>
Total Operating Budget	\$10,206,712	\$ 4,815,125
Total Grants & Entitlements	377,658	
Total Debt Service	<u>290,283</u>	<u>290,283</u>
	\$ 10,874,653	\$5,105,408

Resolution #27
Budget 2020-21

Motion by Marsharee Wright
seconded by Deborah DeAbreu
to approve school budget 2020-21.
Motion Carried; Roll Call
Vote: 6 – yes, 2 – no,
1 – abstention.

Mrs. Forrest – yes
Mr. Mears - no
Mr. Jordan – yes

Ms. Wright - yes
Mr. Ali - no
Ms. Wilson – yes

Mrs. DeAbreu - yes
Ms. Gibson - abstained
Ms. Cauthorne - yes

RESOLUTION (MAINTENANCE RESERVE)
DEPOSIT

In accordance with 6A:23A-14-2, Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-41 subsection (b), deposits may be made to the maintenance reserve account by board resolution at year end of any unanticipated revenue or unexpended line item appropriation or both. N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-14.3 subsection (b) defines year end for the purpose of depositing surplus into reserve accounts as an amount approved by the district board of education between June 1 and June 30. Deposits may still be done at budget time.

The Lawnside Board of Education wishes to deposit \$200,000 into maintenance reserve to use for support required maintenance.

Maintenance Reserve
Deposit

Motion by Marsharee Wright
seconded by Deborah DeAbreu
to approve school budget 2020
-21. Motion Carried; Roll Call

Vote: 6 – yes, 2 – no, 1 – abstention.

Mrs. Forrest – yes
 Mr. Mears - no
 Mr. Jordan – yes

Ms. Wright - yes
 Mr. Ali - no
 Ms. Wilson – yes

Mrs. DeAbreu - yes
 Ms. Gibson - abstained
 Ms. Cauthorne - yes

Facility Use Application
 Lawnside Day Basketball

Youth Basketball Game; Lawnside Day Basketball; Future Athletes Maturing; Saturday, June 27, 2020 11:30 – 6:30 p.m. Motion Carried; Roll Call Vote: 6 – yes, 2 – no, 1 – abstention.

Mrs. Forrest – yes
 Mr. Mears - no
 Mr. Jordan – yes

Ms. Wright - yes
 Mr. Ali - no
 Ms. Wilson – yes

Mrs. DeAbreu - yes
 Ms. Gibson - abstained
 Ms. Cauthorne - yes

Secretary Report/Treasurer Report

RESOLUTION #26-(2019-20)

Secretary’s Report – The Board Secretary certifies that no line item accounts in January 2020 have been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c)3 and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district’s financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year. **See Attachment XI.**

Treasurer’s Report – Treasurer’s Report in accordance with 18A:17-36 and 18A: 17-9 for the month of January 2020. The Treasurer’s Report and Secretary’s Report are in agreement for the month(s) of January 2020. **See Attachment XI.**

Board Secretary – Board Secretary in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 (a) certifies that there are no changes in anticipated revenue amounts or revenue sources.

Board of Education Certification - Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-6.10 (c) the Lawnside Board of Education certifies that as of January 31, 2020 Secretary Financial Report and the January 31, 2020 Treasurer’s Monthly Report and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, that to the best of the Board’s 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.

The Secretary reports as of January 31, 2020:

Fund 10 Cash in Bank	\$2,003,792.82
Fund 20 Cash in Bank	(94,991.56)
Fund 30 Cash in Bank	0
Fund 40 Cash in Bank	(1.96)
Total Cash in Bank	\$1,908,799.30

The Treasurer’s report as of January 31, 2020:

Fund 10 Cash in Bank	\$2,003,792.82
Fund 20 Cash in Bank	(94,991.56)
Fund 30 Cash in Bank	0
Fund 40 Cash in Bank	<u>(1.96)</u>
Total Cash in Bank	\$1,908,799.30

Resolution #26 (2019-2020)

Motion by William Jordan seconded by Marsharee Wright to approve the Secretary & Treasurer Report Resolution #26 2019-2020. Motion carried; Roll Call Vote: 8 – yes, 1 – no.

Mrs. Forrest – yes
 Mr. Mears - no
 Mr. Jordan – yes

Ms. Wright - yes
 Mr. Ali - yes
 Ms. Wilson – yes

Mrs. DeAbreu - yes
 Ms. Gibson - yes
 Ms. Cauthorne - yes

Payment of Bills/Receipts

Motion by William Jordan seconded by Dajshia Gibson that the bills totaling \$680,381.04 for the General Fund for March and \$21,189.73 for Food Service be approved for payment pending availability of funds. Motion Carried; Roll Call Vote: 8 – yes, 1 - no.

Mrs. Forrest – yes
 Mr. Mears - no
 Mr. Jordan – yes

Ms. Wright - yes
 Mr. Ali - yes
 Ms. Wilson – yes

Mrs. DeAbreu - yes
 Ms. Gibson - yes
 Ms. Cauthorne - yes

Public Comments at 7:14 p.m.

Mr. Ervin Mears of 411 Charleston Ave in Lawnside asked when the Superintendent’s Evaluation would be complete. Mrs. Forrest stated the evaluation would be completed by June. He also stated the test scores for several grade levels did not proficient and that the district was a failing district. The district goal is to increase test scores by 5%. He stated the district was 539 from the top and now stands at 558. He referred the board to look at NJ Data Source.

Fatima Hayes of 324 Lincoln Ave commended the board for a job well done. She stated her daughter was educated in Lawnside and now attends Ohio State University. She said the scores are not relevant and that the teachers work hard.

Lavinia Taylor of Emlen Ave in Lawnside stated she noticed the signs teachers were carrying in front of the building. The community supports the teachers. She encouraged the board to settle the teacher’s contract.

Celeste Brown, of 79 La Pierre Ave and PTA President, thanked the teachers for working without a contract. She stated seven of her children were educated in Lawnside. The PTA held a meeting in which 25 people attended. She stated Dawn Wright-McCloud handled the Census which will be mailed to all resident soon. Family Academic Night will be held on Thursday, March 19, 2020, Book Fair will take place the week of March 23rd; Wellness Day will be held on May 15th. Mrs. Brown thanked the board for attending the PTA events. She stated she will be keep track of board members attendance at all future events.

Summer Clash of 9 Edward Court in Lawnside asked if she could donate wipes to the classrooms. Dr. Johnson said he will check and let her know.

Mark Bass of 376 Rutledge Way in Lawnside stated he was at the board meeting on behalf of the teachers. He said he considers the teachers to be his friend. He stated he cannot lose them and encouraged the teachers to stand up. If we lose the teachers, we fail our students.

Board Member Comments

Mr. Mears stated he received his packet yesterday and said he needs more than one night to review the information which is why he voted "no" on several agenda items. Mrs. Forrest stated board packets are delivered on Tuesdays before the meeting. Mr. Jordan stated Mr. Mears can be sent his packet online.

Mrs. DeAbreu asked if the board can address the signing of purchase orders. Ms. Leary stated she checked with other districts and most of them sign purchase orders/checks the same way.

Motion by Marsharee Wright seconded by Dajshia Gibson to adjourn the board meeting.

All in favor: 9 – Ayes. Motion carried by Unanimous Voice Vote.

Adjournment – 7:30 p.m.

CERTIFICATION

I, Dawn Leary, Business Administrator/Board Secretary of the Board of Education of the Borough of Lawnside in the County of Camden, New Jersey, HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing extract from the minutes of a meeting of the Board of Education duly called and held on *March 12, 2020* has been compared by me with the original minutes as officially recorded in the Minute Book of the Board of Education and is true, complete and correct copy thereof and of the whole of the original minutes so far as they relate to the subject matters referred to in the extract.

Respectfully Submitted



Dawn Leary
Business Administrator/Board Secretary