

Lawnside Board of Education Meeting Minutes
August 13, 2020

The Regular Meeting of the Lawnside Board of Education was called to order at 7:03 p.m. remotely through "Zoom". After repeating the Pledge of Allegiance and after observing a moment of silence, the following members answered present to the roll call:

Marsharee Wright	Deborah DeAbreu
Dajshia Gibson	Nana Cauthorne arrived at 7:06 p.m.
Mawusimensah Mears	William Jordan arrived at 7:06 p.m.

Absent: Yareem Ali, Alexis Wilson, and Sabrina Forrest

Also present was Ronn Johnson, Superintendent, Dawn Leary, Business Administrator.

Open Public Meeting Act

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.

Minutes

Motion by Deborah DeAbreu seconded by Dajshia Gibson, that the minutes of July 9th, and July 23rd, 2020 be approved. Motion carried; Roll Call Vote: 5 – yes, 1 - no.

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

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

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

Superintendent's Report

Discussion:

***8th Grade Graduation- Special thank you to staff, board members, and municipal officials
Lawnside School District Restart Plan***

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: 0

Unfounded ~ 0

Warnings ~ 0

Suspensions ~ 0

Investigating Incident ~ 0

Suspensions for June ~ 0

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 1-8 be approved as written

1. It is recommended that Kira Brown be approved as an Elementary Teacher for the 2020-2021 school year at a salary of \$64,729 (Step-7MA).
2. It is recommended that Courtney Vance be approved as a Special Education teacher for the 2020-2021 school year at a salary of \$56,032 (Step-1 BA)
3. It is recommended that Leonard Lewis be approved as a Paraprofessional for the 2020-2021 school year at a salary of \$20,573 (Step- 7 BA)
4. It is recommended that Victoria Sahina be approved as a Paraprofessional for the 2020-2021 school year at a salary of \$20,573 (Step-7BA).
5. It is recommended that Deborah Hanson be approved as a In-House Long Term Substitute for the 2020-2021 school year at \$100 per diem.

6. It is recommended that Ms. Corlis Clark be approved as a Cafeteria/Playground Aide at an hourly rate of \$11.00 for the 2020-2021 school year.

7. It is recommended that the following staff members request to work from home remotely due to either a medical exemption or conflict with child care be approved for the 2020-2021 school year: *(Documentation has been provided from either a medical provider or school district.)*

Alexis Backus

Monica Baltodano

Kristina Curcio

Antoinette Davis

Colleen DiSandro

Mark Forchic

Brittany Coleman

8. It is recommended Damier Daniels be approved as a Substitute Custodian at a rate of \$11 per hour for the 2020-2021 school year.

Personnel Items
1-8

Motion by Deborah DeAbreu
seconded by Dajshia Gibson
to approve personnel items 1-8.
Motion Carried; Roll Call Vote:
5 – yes, 1 - no.

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

Ms. Wright – yes (abstain #6)
Mr. Ali - absent
Ms. Wilson – absent

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

Mr. Mears stated he received the agenda packet on August 10th and did not have enough time to review the documents. He said he will be voting “no” to everything on the agenda.

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

1. It is recommended that Niphon Kirk be approved as the Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying (HIB) Coordinator for the district during the 2020-2021 school year.
2. It is recommended Jessyca Harper be approved as the Affirmative Action Officer and HIB Specialist for the 2020-2021 school year.
3. It is recommended Gina Lewis be approved as the Special Education Medical Initiative (SEMI) Coordinator and McKinney Vento (Homeless) liaison for the 2020-2021 school year.

- 4. It is recommended that the Lawnside District Professional Development Plan and Mentoring Plan be approved for the 2020-2021 school year.
- 5. It is recommended that the 2020-2021 contract for New Behavioral Network be approved to provide various behavioral services including consultation, intervention, and group training.
- 6. It is recommended that the 2020-2021 contract for Brett DiNovi & Associates be approved to provide behavioral/educational consultation.
- 7. It is recommended to approve the Lawnside Restart Plan 2020-2021.

Management Item
1-7

Motion by Deborah DeAbreu
seconded by Dajshia Gibson
to approve management item 1-7.
Motion Carried; Roll Call Vote:
5 – yes, 1 - no.

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

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

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

Correspondence - None

Committee Reports

Policy – Mrs. DeAbreu stated the Committee will meet in September.

Haddon Heights – Mrs. DeAbreu stated Haddon Heights approved their re-opening plan.

Outreach – Ms. Cauthorne stated the “Back to School Bonanza” will be held on Saturday, August 29th from 12-3 p.m.

Budget – State Aid Reduction 2020-2021 Presentation

REVISED REVENUE FOR 2020-21

OPERATING BUDGET	PROPOSED 2020-21	STATE AID CUTS 2020-21	\$ INCREASE/ DECREASE
LOCAL TAX LEVY	4,815,125	4,815,125	0
* STATE AID	4,527,621	4,305,946	(221,675)
INTEREST INCOME	2,000	2,000	0
FUND BALANCE	571,125	571,125	0
UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE	71,898	71,898	0
TUITION RESERVE WITHDRAWAL	200,000	200,000	0
INTEREST ON RESERVE	100	100	0
SEMI PROJECTION	18,843	18,843	0
TOTAL OPERATING BUDGET	10,206,712	9,985,037	(221,675)

LAWNSIDE BOARD OF EDUCATION

County Narrative:

The district initially received an overall increase in State Aid of \$227,359.00. In July the district was cut by \$221,675.00. Overall the district received a slight increase of \$55,684.00 which is illustrated below:

State Aid Increase originally	\$277,359.00
Cut in July 2020	<u>\$221,675.00</u>
Difference (resulting in an increase)	55,684.00

The following appropriations will be reduced in order to comply with the reductions in State Aid while maintaining the 2020-2021 budget:

11-000-270-518-00-00	(Transportation)	(159,345)
11-000-100-566-00-00	(Private Tuition)	(48,848)
11-000-291-270-00-00	(Health Benefits)	<u>(13,482)</u>
Total reductions in appropriations		(221,675)

Transportation – Extra money was budgeted here for student transportation. Since several students have returned to the district, money appropriated to this line item can be removed/reduced.

Private Out of District Tuition – Money was initially budgeted here for a student who has returned to the district and will be receiving resources on-site.

Health Benefits – Funds were budgeted here based on 6% increase. The broker notified the district of a 3% increase making these funds available in other areas if necessary.

Given the State Aid reduction, the district is still able to maintain a budget that is sufficient to provide a *“thorough and efficient education for all students”*.

RESOLUTION
REDUCTION IN STATE AID

The Lawnside Board of Education was notified of a reduction in state aid and has elected to reduce appropriations from the level contained in the original budget certified for taxes. The NJDOE does not require district to re-enter revised state aid revenue or appropriations into the 2020-21 Budget Application. The adjustments will be made mid-year.

Transfers from appropriation accounts must be in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-13.3 and executed only by board of education.

Motion to approve reduction in state aid in the amount of \$221,675.00 for 2020-2021:

Reduction in State Aid

Motion by Dajshia Gibson
seconded by Deborah DeAbreu
to approve the reduction in State
Aid for the 2020-2021 budget.
Motion Carried; Roll Call Vote:
5 – yes, 1 - no.

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

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

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

New Business

R E S O L U T I O N #62 (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>
11-000-100-566-00-00 Tuition to Pvt School	2,200.00	

11-000-100-566-00-00 Tuition to Pvt Schools	30,000.00	
10-000-100-561-00-00 Transfers to Charter Schools		2,200.00
11-000-230-334-00-00 Architect Fees		30,000.00
Total	<u>\$32,200.00</u>	<u>\$32,200.00</u>

R E S O L U T I O N #63 (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>
11-130-100-101-00-SB Substitutes – Grade 6-8	6,600.00	
11-120-100-101-00-SB Substitutes – Grades 1-5	8,900.00	
11-110-100-101-00-SB Substitutes – Kdg/Preschool	1,400.00	
11-130-100-101-00-00 Salaries of Teachers – Gr. 1-5		16,900.00
Total	<u>\$16,900.00</u>	<u>\$16,900.00</u>

R E S O L U T I O N #63A (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>
11-000-262-100-00-00 Salaries - Custodians	1,300.00	
11-000-266-100-00-00 Salaries - Security		1,300.00
Total	<u>\$1,300.00</u>	<u>\$1,300.00</u>

R E S O L U T I O N #64 (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>
11-000-230-334-00-00 Architect Fees	8,000.00	
11-000-216-100-00-00 Salaries	2,500.00	
11-000-230-331-00-00 Legal Services		8,000.00
11-000-216-320-00-00 Purch. Profess Ed Svc.		2,500.00
Total	<u>\$10,500.00</u>	<u>\$10,500.00</u>

R E S O L U T I O N #1 (2020-21)

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>
11-000-240-500-00-00 Other Purchased Svc.	1,000.00	
11-000-240-300-00-00 Purchased Profess & Tech Svc.		1,000.00
Total	<u>\$1,000.00</u>	<u>\$1,000.00</u>

R E S O L U T I O N #4 (2020-21)

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>
11-000-291-270-00-00 Health Benefits	5,000.00	
11-000-266-610-00-00 Security Supplies.		1,000.00
Total	<u>\$5,000.00</u>	<u>\$5,000.00</u>

Line Transfer
Resolution #62-64
#1 & #4

Motion by Mawusimensah Mears
seconded by Deborah DeAbreu
to approve line transfer resolution
#62-64 (2019-20) and #1 & #4
(2020-2021). Motion Carried; Roll
Call Vote: 5 – yes, 1 - no.

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

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

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

Cares Act Grant
2020-2021

Motion by Dajshia Gibson
seconded by Deborah DeAbreu
to approve submission of the
Cares Act Grant to the NJ Depart
Education. Motion Carried; Roll
Call Vote: 5 – yes, 1 – no.

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

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

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

Re-opening of Petty Cash
2020-2021

Motion by Dajshia Gibson seconded
by Deborah DeAbreu to approve
the reopening of petty cash for
The 2020-2021 school year.
Motion Carried; Roll Call Vote: 5 –
yes, 1 – no.

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

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

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

RESOLUTION #2

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Borough of Lawnside that the following salaries be funded through the listed federal grants for the 2020-2021 school year:

Grant	Staff Member	Budgeted Salary	Grant Funding	% Funded
Title I/ESSA 100-100	Kenneth Johnson	\$85,272	\$85,272	100
100-100	Patricia Cobia	\$63,601	\$37,754	59

Resolution #2
Grant Funded Salaries

Motion by Dajshia Gibson seconded by Deborah DeAbreu to approve Grant Funded Salaries for the 2020-2021 school year. Motion Carried; Roll Call Vote: 5 – yes, 1 – no.

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

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

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

Amerihealth Renewal
2020-2021

Motion by Dajshia Gibson seconded by Deborah DeAbreu to approve Amerihealth rates for the 2020-2021 school year. Motion Carried; Roll Call Vote: 5 – yes, 1 – no.

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

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

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

W.J. Gross Roofing
Contractor

Motion by Dajshia Gibson seconded by Deborah DeAbreu to approve W.J. Gross General Contractor for roof repairs for 2021 school year. Motion Carried; Roll Call Vote: 5 – yes, 1 – no.

Mrs. Forrest – absent
Mr. Mears – no

Ms. Wright - yes
Mr. Ali - absent

Mrs. DeAbreu - yes
Ms. Gibson - yes

The Secretary reports as of June 30, 2020:

Fund 10 Cash in Bank	\$2,106,566.76
Fund 20 Cash in Bank	0
Fund 30 Cash in Bank	0
Fund 40 Cash in Bank	<u>1.96</u>
Total Cash in Bank	\$2,106,568.72

The Treasurer’s report as of June 30, 2020:

Fund 10 Cash in Bank	\$2,106,566.76
Fund 20 Cash in Bank	0
Fund 30 Cash in Bank	0
Fund 40 Cash in Bank	<u>1.96</u>
Total Cash in Bank	\$2,106,568.72

Resolution #3 (2020-2021)

Motion by Deborah DeAbreu seconded by Dajshia Gibson to approve the Secretary & Treasurer Report Resolution #3 2020-2021. Motion Carried; Roll Call Vote: 5 – yes.

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

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

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

Payment of Bills/Receipts

Motion by Deborah DeAbreu seconded by William Jordan that the bills totaling \$346,228 .79 for the General Fund for July and \$8,063.81 for Food Service be approved for payment pending availability of funds. Motion Carried; Roll Call Vote: 6 – yes.

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

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

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

Public Comments at 7:37 p.m.

Ervin Mears asked who developed the school budget and how many board members were the architects of the budget. He also asked how many were non-dueling members. How did the budget arrive at 10 million dollars and who put the numbers in place.

Ms. Leary explained the budget process and reviewed the architect of record.

Mr. Mears stated his question was not answered.

Mr. Rhone, Board Solicitor stated Ms. Wright, Vice President of the Board has done her best to answer the question. Ms. Wright stated Mr. Mears could submit an OPRA Request.

Board Member Comments at 7:45 p.m.

Mrs. DeAbreu thanked everyone that participated in the "Back to School Plan". She said she appreciated everyone's time. Dr. Johnson thanked her for her kind words.

Ms. Leary discussed the bids for transportation and reviewed the cost received.

Motion by Dajshia Gibson seconded by Deborah DeAbreu to adjourn the board meeting.

All in favor: 6 – Ayes. Motion carried by Unanimous Voice Vote.

Adjournment – 7:50 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 *August 13, 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