# SUBJECT TO APPROVAL LACEY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES SPECIAL MEETING #2 APRIL 16, 2025 2025-2026 BUDGET WORKSHOP

# CALL TO ORDER

The Special Meeting of the Lacey Township Board of Education was held on April 16, 2025 in the Lacey Township High School Media Center. The meeting was called to order by Board President Kim Klaus at 6:00 p.m.

# PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mrs. Klaus led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

# STATEMENT OF ADEQUATE NOTICE

Adequate Notice of this meeting was advertised in the Asbury Park Press and the Beacon on Thursday, April 10, 2025 and by posting the notice in the Forked River Post Office and the Lanoka Harbor Post Office, and by filing a copy of the notice with the Lacey Township Clerk as required by the Open Public Meeting Act.

# **ROLL CALL FOR ATTENDANCE**

Kim Klaus, President
Jack Conaty, Vice President
Linda A. Walker (6:10 p.m.)
Cheryl Armato
Dan Bell (left meeting at 6:43 p.m.)
Salvatore Armato
Harold "Skip" Peters, Jr.
William W. Zylinski, Acting Superintendent
Sharon Ormsbee, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

#### SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Mr. Zylinski welcomed and thanked the Board for attending the meeting to discuss the 2025-2026 budget. Mr. Zylinski provided general guidelines to the meeting format. Mr. Zylinski shared a presentation with the Board. The Board of Education, Mr. Zylinski, and Ms. Ormsbee discussed the 2025-2026 budget. Discussion included marketing ideas. Board discussion included marketing options, creating an educational foundation, donations versus tax increases, naming rights, fundraising, alumni contacts, media exposure, contract negotiations, shared services, health benefits, contacting legislators, and the next steps.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Public comments regarding the 2025-2026 school year budget. Concerns included staff cuts, class sizes, cutting programs, transportation cuts, quality of the district and community, a tax increase, and loss of tax revenue from the power plant. Suggestion to take a trip to Trenton, create a petition, concessions from the teachers union, and reach out to corporations in Lacey for assistance.

#### **BOARD COMMENT**

Proposed cuts to the district, tax increases, and making difficult budgetary decisions. Community partnerships and looking for alternatives. Investing in the community and making tough decisions. Thank you to everyone who attended the meeting. Fight is with the state. Encourage donations to the school district. Board will come together for the children of Lacey.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Move to adjourn the Special Meeting. Motion by Mr. Conaty. All in favor. The Special Meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m Respectfully submitted,

Amste

Sharon Ormsbee Business Administrator/Board Secretary