

SUBJECT TO APPROVAL
LACEY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES SPECIAL MEETING - JUNE 21, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

The Special Meeting of the Lacey Township Board of Education was held on June 21, 2024 in the Lacey Township High School Lecture Hall. The meeting was called to order by Board President Harold “Skip” Peters, Jr. at 4:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Peters 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 January 11, 2024, and as revised and advertised on June 19, 2024, 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 Meetings Act.

ROLL CALL FOR ATTENDANCE

Members Present: Harold “Skip” Peters, Jr., Board President
 Kim Klaus, Vice President
 Salvatore Armato
 Linda A. Walker (4:07 p.m.)
 Jack Conaty
 Cheryl Armato
 Dan Bell

Also Present: Dr. Vanessa R. Pereira, Superintendent
 William W. Zylinski, Assistant Superintendent
 Sharon Ormsbee, Business Administrator/Board Secretary
 Bruce Padula, Board Attorney

(The following Resolution appeared on the agenda, however it did not apply to this meeting.)

RESOLUTION PERMITTING REMOTE MEMBER PARTICIPATION AND VOTING DUE TO A FAMILIAL MEDICAL EMERGENCY

MOTION: Move that the Board approve the following resolution:

Whereas, the Board believes that in-person meetings are the best way for members to be engaged and participate in the deliberative process; and

Whereas, Board Policy 0131 provides, “The Board may, under emergency circumstances, suspend the operation of a bylaw, policy, or regulation and adopt, revise, or abolish a bylaw, policy, or regulation without prior notice. The emergency adoption, revision, or abolishment of a bylaw, policy, or regulation shall terminate at the next meeting of the Board or at such earlier date as may be specified by the Board unless further acted upon by the Board in accordance with this Bylaw;” and

Whereas, Board Member Linda Walker is unable to attend the June 21, 2024 meeting due to a familial medical emergency, but nonetheless wishes to partake in the deliberative process and Board Meeting; and

Whereas, the Board finds that under these circumstances, it shall suspend its regular practice of in-person attendance and permit Mrs. Walker to attend the meeting via telephone and vote on all matters as if she were present; and

Whereas, this exception shall apply for the current meeting only, unless otherwise authorized by resolution of the Board.

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Lacey Township Board of Education that Board Member Linda Walker shall be permitted to participate and vote in the meeting on June 21, 2024 via telephone; and

Be it further resolved that such remote participation be conditioned on the ability of the public and Mrs. Walker to be heard as if she were physically present.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

- Dr. Vanessa R. Pereira welcomed those in attendance. Thank you to everyone who played a role in building the budget. Budget workshops were very helpful. Congratulations to the Graduating Class of 2024 and to the Middle School students who were promoted.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Multiple comments from students, parents, staff, and residents who requested the Board of Education to vote yes on the budget, as well as multiple comments from residents who requested the Board of Education vote no on the budget. Additional public comments included class sizes, student achievement data, alternatives to increase revenue, and the proposed tax increase. Inquiry regarding plans for future budgets and what will be done to change the situation? Taxpayers have no vote on the proposed tax

increase. State formula needs to be fixed. District is not a for-profit business. Monthly cost of District benefits was shared. Comment regarding the meeting of June 11th. Congratulations to all the graduates. Comment regarding the courtesy busing and the revised walk zone. Bring more to the community that can bring revenue to the school district. Comment regarding ethics violations and previous Board election. Recommendations of committee of citizens for the budget development and union give back.

BOARD COMMENT

Thank you for attending the meeting. Congratulations to all the graduates. Students always come first. Voting no does not mean don't care. Concerned for the next school year budget and tax increase may be a short term fix. Increases will always happen and the deficit will continue next year. Students deserve a good education, activities, and support. Comment regarding public comment naming specific Board Members in public. Board will continue to advocate for the community whether voting yes or no to the budget. Being mindful of the whole community and providing the best for the students.

Move that the Board approve the following Adoption of the 2024-2025 School Year Budget:

Motion by Mrs. Klaus, seconded by Mr. Conaty. Roll call vote as follows:

Mr. Bell - aye

Mrs. Armato - nay

Mr. Conaty - aye

Mrs. Walker - aye

Mr. Armato - nay

Mrs. Klaus - aye

Mr. Peters - aye

ADOPTION OF THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR BUDGET

MOTION: Move that the Board adopt the final budget for the 2024-2025 school year.

WHEREAS, the Lacey Township School District Board of Education adopted a tentative budget on June 11, 2024 to be submitted to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools for approval; and

WHEREAS, the tentative budget was approved by the Executive County Superintendent of Schools on June 13, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the approved budget was advertised in the legal section of the Asbury Park Press on June 19, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the approved budget was presented to the public during a public hearing in the Lacey Township High School, Lanoka Harbor, NJ, on June 21, 2024;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the budget be adopted for the 2024-2025 school year using the 2024-2025 state aid figures and the Secretary to the Board of Education be authorized to submit the following adopted budget to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools in accordance with the statutory deadline:

	General	Special	Debt	
	<u>Fund</u>	<u>Revenues</u>	<u>Service</u>	<u>Total</u>
Total Expenditures	\$71,318,748	\$7,885,167	\$3,302,700	\$82,506,615
Less: Anticipated Revenues	<u>12,859,719</u>	<u>7,885,167</u>	<u>560,727</u>	<u>21,305,613</u>
Taxes to be Raised	\$58,459,029	\$0	\$2,741,973	\$61,201,002

And to advertise said tentative budget in the Asbury Park Press newspaper in accordance with the form suggested by the State Department of Education and according to law; and

Travel and Related Expense Reimbursement

WHEREAS, the Lacey Township Board of Education recognizes school staff and Board members will incur travel expenses related to and within the scope of their current responsibilities and for travel that promotes the delivery of instruction or furthers the efficient operation of the school district; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.3 et seq. requires Board members to receive approval of these expenses by a majority of the full voting membership of the Board and staff members to receive prior approval of these expenses by the Superintendent of Schools and a majority of the full voting membership of the Board; and

WHEREAS, the Lacey Township Board of Education established \$90,647 as the maximum travel amount for the current school year and has expended \$65,424 as of this date; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves travel and related expense reimbursements in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.3, to a maximum expenditure of \$70,300 for all staff and board members for the 2024-2025 school year.

Authorization to Implement the 2024-2025 Budget

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lacey Township School District Board of Education authorize the Superintendent and Business Administrator/Board Secretary to implement the 2024-2025 budget pursuant to local and state policies.

A4F – Tax Levy Certification Forms A and B

BE IT RESOLVED, that the amount required for school purposes in the school district of Lacey Township, County of Ocean for the 2024-2025 school year is \$61,201,002 and is required to be levied for local school district purposes.

Approval of the 2024-2025 Tax Payment Schedule

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lacey Township School District Board of Education approve the following payment schedule to receive the current expense tax levy and the debt service tax levy for the 2024-2025 school year.

Date Due	Amount Due	General Fund	Debt Service Fund
July 10, 2024	\$5,096,428	\$4,871,586	\$224,842
August 10, 2024	4,871,586	4,871,586	0
September 10, 2024	5,145,783	4,871,586	274,197
October 10, 2024	4,871,586	4,871,586	0
November 10, 2024	4,871,586	4,871,586	0
December 10, 2024	5,803,392	4,871,586	931,806
January 10, 2025	4,871,586	4,871,586	0
February 10, 2025	4,871,586	4,871,586	0
March 10, 2025	6,182,714	4,871,586	1,311,128
April 10, 2025	4,871,586	4,871,586	0
May 10, 2025	4,871,586	4,871,586	0
June 10, 2025	4,871,583	4,871,583	0
Total 2024-2025 School Year	\$61,201,002	\$58,459,029	\$2,741,973

ADJOURNMENT

Move to adjourn the Special Meeting.

Motion by Mrs. Walker, seconded by Mr. Conaty. All in favor.

The Special Meeting adjourned at 6:31 p.m

Respectfully submitted,



Sharon Ormsbee
Business Administrator/Board Secretary