

Lackawanna City School District
Board of Education
245 South Shore Boulevard

Thursday, January 13, 2022, immediately following the 6:00 P.M. Work Session.

Minutes of the REGULAR MEETING of the Lackawanna City School District's Board of Education Meeting held on Thursday, January 13, 2022, immediately following the Work Session, in the Superintendents Conference Room, 245 South Shore Blvd, Lackawanna, NY 14218.

A) OPENING:

Meeting called to order by Board President Leonard Kowalski at 6:32 P.M., in the Superintendents Conference Room, 245 South Shore Blvd, Lackawanna, NY 14218.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Azaldeen Mohamed, Mohamed Munassar, Mona Abdula, Kimberly Bukaty, and Leonard Kowalski.

Excused: Anthony Catuzza and Nicholas Sobaszek

Leonard Kowalski asked all to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

Keith Lewis	Superintendent of Schools
Louis Violanti, Esq.	School Attorney
Dr. Kiel Illg	Assistant Superintendent
Daniel Grant	Asst. Superintendent for Administrative Services/Business

C) ANNOUNCEMENTS / PRESENTATIONS:

C-1 - Announcement of Meeting Dates:

Monday, February 14, 2022 – Work Session @ McKinley Administrative Building, 6:00 P.M.
Thursday, February 17, 2022 – Regular Meeting @ McKinley Administrative Building 7:00.PM.

C-2 - Presentations: NONE

C-3 - Public Comment: NONE

D) MINUTES:

D-1 – December 9, 2021 –Regular Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Lackawanna City School District's Board of Education held on Thursday, October 14, 2021, at 7:38 P.M. at the McKinley Administration Building in the Superintendents Conference Room located at 245 South Shore Blvd Lackawanna, NY 14218. Motion made by Dr. Mohamed Munassar and seconded by Mona Abdulla to "accept as read."

DULY PUT TO A VOTE

ALL IN FAVOR / NONE OPPOSED

Passes 5-0

E) PERSONNEL-TEACHING:

E-1 Approve Student Teacher and Cooperating Teacher at LMS

Motion made by Azaldeen Mohamed and seconded by Dr. Mohamed Munassar, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Keith Lewis, to approve the attached request for Zanayia Hercules to student teach in Teresa Rizzo's Middle School Class.

DULY PUT TO A VOTE

ALL IN FAVOR / NONE OPPOSED

Passes 5-0

E-2 Approve Board Canvass-Substitute Teacher Additions

Motion made by Azaldeen Mohamed and seconded by Dr. Mohamed Munassar, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Keith Lewis, to approve a Board Canvass taken on December 17, 2021, approving additions to the Substitute Teacher list.

DULY PUT TO A VOTE

ALL IN FAVOR / NONE OPPOSED

Passes 5-0

E-3 Approve Student Teachers and Cooperating Teachers at MRES

Motion made by Azaldeen Mohamed and seconded by Dr. Mohamed Munassar, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Keith Lewis, to approve the following Student Teachers and Cooperating Teachers at Martin Road Elementary School: Cassidy Faddis Student Teacher with Russell Carere and Grace Chiavetta Student Teacher with Lydia Pulka. President Leonard Kowalski: What is the influx with all the student teaching this year? Keith Lewis: It allows us to get current and updated people in the District to see we offer a great place to work.

DULY PUT TO A VOTE

ALL IN FAVOR / NONE OPPOSED

Passes 5-0

E-4 Approve Board Canvass-Resignation of Teacher

Motion made by Azaldeen Mohamed and seconded by Dr. Mohamed Munassar, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Keith Lewis, to approve the Board Canvass taken on December 30, 2021, approving to accept the resignation of Kelliann Sellon from her position as First Grade Teacher at Truman Elementary, effective January 18, 2022, and to post for this vacancy.

DULY PUT TO A VOTE

ALL IN FAVOR / NONE OPPOSED

Passes 5-0

E-5 Approve Leave Teachers

Motion made by Azaldeen Mohamed and seconded by Dr. Mohamed Munassar, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Keith Lewis, to approve to increase the following Preferred Substitutes to Leave Teacher Pay with benefits, effective January 31, 2022, for completing a full semester in their current roles: Nicole Marton in for Sean Gong since 10/25/21, Peter Szymanski in for Jeff Otremba since 8/31/21 and Gerard Frank in for Vacancy Technology Teacher since 8/31/21.

DULY PUT TO A VOTE

ALL IN FAVOR / NONE OPPOSED

Passes 5-0

E-6 Approve Retirement of Teacher

Motion made by Azaldeen Mohamed and seconded by Dr. Mohamed Munassar, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Keith Lewis, to approve the retirement of Lisa Leach, 3rd Grade Teacher at Martin Road Elementary, effective February 9, 2022. I further recommend posting for this position. The Board would like to thank Mrs. Leach for her 26 years of service. President Leonard Kowalski: I would like to thank Mrs. Leach for her service to the children of this District and I wish her a happy and healthy retirement.

DULY PUT TO A VOTE

ALL IN FAVOR / NONE OPPOSED

Passes 5-0

E-7 Approve to Rescind Appointment of Preferred Substitute

Motion made by Azaldeen Mohamed and seconded by Dr. Mohamed Munassar, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Keith Lewis, to approve to rescind the appointment of Huda Muttaher as a Preferred Substitute and place her on the Non-Certified Per Diem Substitute list.

DULY PUT TO A VOTE

ALL IN FAVOR / NONE OPPOSED

Passes 5-0

E-8 Approve Board Canvass-Posting for Five Teaching Positions

Motion made by Azaldeen Mohamed and seconded by Dr. Mohamed Munassar, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Keith Lewis, to approve a Board Canvass taken on January 5, 2022, approving to post for five positions at the MS/HS as attached.

DULY PUT TO A VOTE

ALL IN FAVOR / NONE OPPOSED

Passes 5-0

E-9 Approve Additions to Home Tutor List

Motion made by Azaldeen Mohamed and seconded by Dr. Mohamed Munassar, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Keith Lewis, to approve the attached two additions to the Home Tutor List.

DULY PUT TO A VOTE

ALL IN FAVOR / NONE OPPOSED

Passes 5-0

E-10 Approve Termination of Preferred Substitute

Motion made by Azaldeen Mohamed and seconded by Dr. Mohamed Munassar, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Keith Lewis, to approve the attached request to terminate a Preferred Substitute Teacher at Martin Road Elementary School.

DULY PUT TO A VOTE

ALL IN FAVOR / NONE OPPOSED

Passes 5-0

E-11 Approve Resolution-1.0 Speech Pathologist M. Felker

Motion made by Azaldeen Mohamed and seconded by Dr. Mohamed Munassar to approve the following Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that pursuant to Education Law Section 2509(1) and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Monika Felker, possessing NYS certification in Speech and Language Disabilities, is hereby appointed as a 1.0 Speech Pathologist for a probationary period of 4 years at Step 3 of the Master's Salary Schedule.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that except to the extent required by the applicable provisions of Education Law Sections 2509, 2573, 3212 and 3014, in order to be granted tenure at the conclusion of the probationary period, said teacher shall have received composite or overall annual professional performance review ratings of either effective or highly effective in at least three of the four preceding years, and if said teacher receives an ineffective composite or overall rating in the final year of the probationary period, they shall not be eligible for tenure at that time.

DULY PUT TO A VOTE

ALL IN FAVOR / NONE OPPOSED

Passes 5-0

E-12 Approve Teacher Assignment Change

Motion made by Azaldeen Mohamed and seconded by Dr. Mohamed Munassar, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Keith Lewis, to approve the attached Teacher Assignment Change for the 2021/2022 school year.

DULY PUT TO A VOTE

ALL IN FAVOR / NONE OPPOSED

Passes 5-0

E-13 Approve Additions to Substitute Teacher Lists

Motion made by Azaldeen Mohamed and seconded by Dr. Mohamed Munassar, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Keith Lewis, to approve the attached additions to the Substitute Teacher Lists as attached.

DULY PUT TO A VOTE

ALL IN FAVOR / NONE OPPOSED

Passes 5-0

F) PERSONNEL – NON-TEACHING:

F-1 Approve Board Canvass Resignation of Hall Monitor and Posting

Motion made by Azaldeen Mohamed and seconded by Dr. Mohamed Munassar, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Keith Lewis, to approve a Board Canvass taken on December 22, 2021, accepting the resignation of a Hall Monitor at the Middle School and to post for this position.

DULY PUT TO A VOTE

ALL IN FAVOR / NONE OPPOSED

Passes 5-0

F-2 Approve Board Canvass Non-Teaching Substitute Additions

Motion made by Azaldeen Mohamed and seconded by Dr. Mohamed Munassar, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Keith Lewis, to approve a Board Canvass taken on December 21, 2021, approving additions to the Non-Teaching Substitute List.

DULY PUT TO A VOTE

ALL IN FAVOR / NONE OPPOSED

Passes 5-0

F-3 Approve Board Canvass Anticipated Account Clerk Typist Posting

Motion made by Azaldeen Mohamed and seconded by Dr. Mohamed Munassar, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Keith Lewis, to approve a Board Canvass taken on December 23, 2021, approving to post for an Anticipated Account Clerk Typist at Martin Road Elementary School due to an expected retirement.

DULY PUT TO A VOTE

ALL IN FAVOR / NONE OPPOSED

Passes 5-0

F-4 Approve Resignation of Cleaner

Motion made by Azaldeen Mohamed and seconded by Dr. Mohamed Munassar, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Keith Lewis, to approve the resignation of Kevin Lutz from his position as Cleaner, effective January 7, 2022. I further request to post for this position.

DULY PUT TO A VOTE

ALL IN FAVOR / NONE OPPOSED

Passes 5-0

F-5 Approve Retirement of Account Clerk Typist

Motion made by Azaldeen Mohamed and seconded by Dr. Mohamed Munassar, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Keith Lewis, to approve the retirement of Shirley Opalka, Account Clerk Typist at Martin Road Elementary, effective January 31, 2022. The Board would like to thank Mrs. Opalka for her 25 years of service and President Leonard Kowalski wishes her a long and healthy retirement.

DULY PUT TO A VOTE

ALL IN FAVOR / NONE OPPOSED

Passes 5-0

F-6 Approve Board Canvass Post for Temporary Custodian

Motion made by Azaldeen Mohamed and seconded by Dr. Mohamed Munassar, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Keith Lewis, to approve a Board Canvass taken on December 30, 2021, approving to post for a Temporary Custodian.

DULY PUT TO A VOTE

ALL IN FAVOR / NONE OPPOSED

Passes 5-0

F-7 Approve Leave Request School Nurse

Motion made by Azaldeen Mohamed and seconded by Dr. Mohamed Munassar, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Keith Lewis, to approve the attached request

for a Leave of Absence from Nancy Fanning, School Nurse and to post for a temporary school nurse position.

DULY PUT TO A VOTE
ALL IN FAVOR / NONE OPPOSED
Passes 5-0

F-8 Approve Resolution Cleaner

Motion made by Azaldeen Mohamed and seconded by Dr. Mohamed Munassar to approve the following Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Mackenzie Suto, is hereby appointed to a position of Cleaner subject to a 52-week probationary period. The probationary period will commence after fingerprint clearance. The salary for the school year 2021-2022 is \$13,452.00.

DULY PUT TO A VOTE
ALL IN FAVOR / NONE OPPOSED
Passes 5-0

F-9 Approve Resolution Termination of Employee "A"

Motion made by Azaldeen Mohamed and seconded by Dr. Mohamed Munassar to approve the following Resolution:

WHEREAS an employee of the Lackawanna City School District, herein designated as "Employee A" is a person holding a position by permanent appointment in a competitive class of the classified Civil Services; and

WHEREAS "Employee A" had entered into a Last Chance Agreement ("Agreement") with the Lackawanna City School District (the "District") and the Lackawanna Competitive Education Secretaries Association, ("LCES") on June 30, 2021; and

WHEREAS the Superintendent of Schools has reported to the Board of Education certain allegations concerning violations of said Agreement by "Employee A" and has offered the specifications for the Board's review; and

WHEREAS upon review of the Agreement, the violations of the Agreement, and the specifications brought forth by the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education having found sufficient grounds herein to commence with the termination of the employment of "Employee A".

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, pursuant to the terms of the Agreement "Employee A" is hereby immediately terminated from employment with the District.

DULY PUT TO A VOTE
ALL IN FAVOR / NONE OPPOSED
Passes 5-0

F-10 Approve Non-Teaching Assignment Change

Motion made by Azaldeen Mohamed and seconded by Dr. Mohamed Munassar, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Keith Lewis, to approve the attached non-teaching assignment change for the 2021-2022 school year.

DULY PUT TO A VOTE

ALL IN FAVOR / NONE OPPOSED

Passes 5-0

F-11 Approve Resolution Hall Monitor

Motion made by Azaldeen Mohamed and seconded by Dr. Mohamed Munassar to approve the following Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Dominic Taverna, is hereby appointed to a position of Hall Monitor subject to a 52-week probationary period. The probationary period commences upon finger-print approval. The hourly rate for the school year 2021-2022 is \$12.50 per hour.

DULY PUT TO A VOTE

ALL IN FAVOR / NONE OPPOSED

Passes 5-0

F-12 Approve Resolution Hall Monitor

Motion made by Azaldeen Mohamed and seconded by Dr. Mohamed Munassar to approve the following Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Brian O'Connor, is hereby appointed to a position of Hall Monitor subject to a 52-week probationary period. The probationary period commences upon finger-print approval. The hourly rate for the school year 2021-2022 is \$12.50 per hour.

DULY PUT TO A VOTE

ALL IN FAVOR / NONE OPPOSED

Passes 5-0

G) GENERAL ITEMS:

Motion was made by Azaldeen Mohamed and seconded by Dr. Mohamed Munassar to Omnibus G1-G12.

ALL IN FAVOR / NONE OPPOSED

G-1 Approve Agreement with OLV/BVS

G-2 Approve Use of Facilities Moves-N-Motion

G-3 Approve Conference Request Starting a Movement

G-4 Approve Board Canvass MOA with CSEA

G-5 Approve Board Canvass-Revised 21-22 Instructional Calendar

G-6 Approve DATAG Winter Conference

G-7 Approve Impartial Hearing Officer

G-8 Approve CSEA/SPSE Reviews and Report Summary/Annual Report

G-9 Approve NYS High School Football Coaches Association Clinic

G-10 Approve Impartial Hearing Officer

G-11 Approve to Recycle Outdated Equipment

G-12 Approve Agreement with Canisius College

Motion was made by Azaldeen Mohamed and seconded by Dr. Mohamed Munassar to accept as read.

DULY PUT TO A VOTE

ALL IN FAVOR / NONE OPPOSED

Passes 5-0

H) FINANCIAL MATTERS

H-1 Approve Agreement with Capital Markets Advisors

Motion made by Azaldeen Mohamed and seconded by Dr. Mohamed Munassar, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Keith Lewis, to approve the attached agreement with Capital Market Advisors and authorize the Superintendent to sign on behalf of the District President Leonard Kowalski: Mr. Violanti did you review this contract. L. Violanti: Yes, I did. President Leonard Kowalski: You are fine with the dates in the contract. L. Violanti: Yes, I am ok with the dates in the contract.

DULY PUT TO A VOTE

ALL IN FAVOR / NONE OPPOSED

Passes 5-0

H-2 Approve Proposal for Environment Consulting Services

Motion made by Azaldeen Mohamed and seconded by Dr. Mohamed Munassar, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Keith Lewis, to approve the attached proposal from Fisher Associates to provide environmental consulting services for the proposed capital project, as coordinated by Hodgson & Russ, our bond counsel and for Superintendent Keith Lewis to sign on behalf of the District. President Leonard Kowalski: I do have question, what is your level of auditing working on a classified action? D. Grant: It has yet to be determined. That's going to be some of the work that the Fisher Group will do. Coordinating with the Bond Counsel and getting us thought that process and need for information. President Leonard Kowalski: It's a large enough fee to where I'm assuming the whole loan would be used. D. Grant: Yes. I see your point because it says level one someone could just say it does not meet the criteria. Because all the work and the size of the project it must all be reviewed. President Leonard Kowalski: Ok, I just wanted to make sure.

DULY PUT TO A VOTE

ALL IN FAVOR / NONE OPPOSED

Passes 5-0

I) RECEIVE AND FILE

Recommended by Azaldeen Mohamed and seconded by Dr. Mohamed Munassar to omnibus all Receive and File.

DULY PUT TO A VOTE

ALL IN FAVOR / NONE OPPOSED

Passes 5-0.

I-1 Treasurer's Report November

I-2 Budget Transfers November

I-3 Leave Request Approval

J) Tabled Items:

L) Public Comment:

M) ADJOURNMENT: 6:50 P.M.

Motion to adjourn made by Azaldeen Mohamed and seconded by Dr. Mohamed Munassar to adjourn the REGULAR MEETING of the Lackawanna City School District's Board of Education held on Thursday, January 13, 2022, at 6:32 P.M., in the Superintendents Conference Room, 245 South Shore Blvd, Lackawanna, NY 14218.

ADJOURNED AT 6:50 PM.

Amber Illg, Board Clerk