

Lackawanna City School District  
Board of Education  
245 South Shore Boulevard  
Thursday, February 16, 2023

APPROVED MAR 16 2023

Minutes of the REGULAR MEETING of the Lackawanna City School District’s Board of Education Meeting held on Thursday, February 16, 2023 at 7:00 PM in the Superintendent’s Conference Room, 245 South Shore Blvd, Lackawanna, NY 14218.

**A) OPENING:**

Meeting called to order by Board President Azaldeen Mohamed at 7:02 PM, in the Superintendents Conference Room, 245 South Shore Blvd, Lackawanna, NY 14218.

**ROLL CALL:**

Present: Michael Algawani, Shokey Albaneh, Mohamed Munassar, Leonard Kowalski, Azaldeen Mohamed.

Excused: Kimberly Bukaty

Azaldeen Mohamed asked all to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:**

Keith Lewis                                    Superintendent of Schools  
Nadia Nashir                                 Assistant Superintendent  
Louis Violanti, Esq.                         School Attorney

**C) ANNOUNCEMENTS / PRESENTATIONS:**

**C-1    Announcement of Upcoming Meeting Dates:**

Monday, March 13, 2023 – Worksession @McKinley Admin Building, 6 PM

Thursday, March 16, 2023 – Regular Meeting@ McKinley Admin Building, 7 PM

**C-2 - Presentations:** NONE

**C-3 - Public Comment:** NONE

**D)    MINUTES:**

**D-1    January 17, 2023 – Regular Meeting**

Motion was made by Anthony Catuzza and seconded by Michael Algawani to accept the January 17, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes.

ALL IN FAVOR/NONE OPPOSED

Passes 6-0

**E)    PERSONNEL-TEACHING**

**E-1    Approve Graduate Hours Increase – J. Georger**

Motion was made by Mohamed Munassar and seconded by Anthony Catuzza, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Keith Lewis, to approve graduate hours for John Georger as attached.

DULY PUT TO A VOTE

ALL IN FAVOR/NONE OPPOSED

Passes 6-0

E-2 Approve Preferred Substitute

Motion was made by Mohamed Munassar and seconded by Anthony Catuzza, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Keith Lewis, to approve James Ackley as a Preferred Substitute at Martin Road Elementary as attached.

DULY PUT TO A VOTE

ALL IN FAVOR/NONE OPPOSED

Passes 6-0

E-3 Approve Long Term Substitute Posting

Motion was made by Michael Algawani and seconded by Mohamed Munassar, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Keith Lewis to approve the attached request for a Long-Term Substitute at Martin Road Elementary.

DULY PUT TO A VOTE

ALL IN FAVOR/NONE OPPOSED

Passes 6-0

E-4 Approve Addition to Homebound Teacher List

Motion was made by Mohamed Munassar and seconded by Anthony Catuzza, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Keith Lewis, to approve Eric Redder to the list of Homebound Teachers.

DULY PUT TO A VOTE

ALL IN FAVOR/NONE OPPOSED

Passes 6-0

E-5 Approve Resolution – Amendment to Supt. Contract

Motion was made by Mohamed Munassar and seconded by Shokey Albaneh to approve the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, the Lackawanna City School District’s Board of Education wanted to amend the Employee Contract for the Superintendent of Schools, and

**NOW THEREFORE**, BE IT RESOLVED that the BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE LACKAWANNA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT hereby authorizes and directs the President of the Board of Education to enter into and execute on behalf of the Lackawanna City School District the Amendment to Superintendent’s Employee Contract between Keith E. Lewis and the Lackawanna City School District, dated June 1, 2018, attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference, setting forth the amended terms and conditions of Keith E. Lewis’ employment during the term of his appointment as Superintendent of Schools.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, THAT THIS RESOLUTION TAKES EFFECT IMMEDIATELY UPON ITS ADOPTION.

Leonard Kowalski asked if the only change was the misspelling of a word and Mr. Violanti replied yes.

DULY PUT TO A VOTE  
ALL IN FAVOR/NONE OPPOSED  
Passes 6-0

E-6 Approve Resolution – Amendment to Assist Supt./Business Official Contract

Motion was made by Mohamed Munassar and seconded by Shokey Albaneh to approve the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, the Lackawanna City School District’s Board of Education wanted to amend the Employee Contract for the Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services/Business Official; and

**NOW THEREFORE**, BE IT RESOLVED that the BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE LACKAWANNA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT hereby authorizes and directs the President of the Board of Education to enter into and execute on behalf of the Lackawanna City School District the Amendment to Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services/Business Official Employee Contract between Daniel W. Grant and the Lackawanna City School District, dated December 23, 2018, attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference, setting forth the amended terms and conditions of Daniel W. Grant’s employment during the term of his appointment as Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services/Business Official.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, THAT THIS RESOLUTION TAKES EFFECT IMMEDIATELY UPON ITS ADOPTION.

DULY PUT TO A VOTE  
ALL IN FAVOR/NONE OPPOSED  
Passes 6-0

E-7 Approve Resolution -1.0 Elementary Teacher, J. Perry

Motion was made by Michael Algawani and seconded by Anthony Catuzza, to approve the following resolution:

The Superintendent recommends Jennifer Perry be appointed as a 1.0 Elementary Teacher in accordance with the Resolution at Item E-7

DULY PUT TO A VOTE  
ALL IN FAVOR/NONE OPPOSED  
Passes 6-0

The Superintendent and Board of Education congratulated Ms. Perry.

E-8 Approve to Post for Principal of Extended Learning, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning and Community Engagement

Motion was made by Michael Algawani and seconded by Mohamed Munassar, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Keith Lewis, to approve to post for Principal of Extended Learning, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning and Community Engagement as attached.

DULY PUT TO A VOTE

ALL IN FAVOR/NONE OPPOSED

Passes 6-0

**F) PERSONNEL-NON-TEACHING**

**F-1 Approve Create and Post Teacher Aide Position**

Motion was made by Mohamed Munassar and seconded by Anthony Catuzza, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Keith Lewis, to approve to create and post one Teacher Aide position and for Superintendent Keith Lewis and Board President Azaldeen Mohamed to sign on behalf of the District.

DULY PUT TO A VOTE

ALL IN FAVOR/NONE OPPOSED

Passes 6-0

**F-2 Approve Board Canvass – Additions to Watchpersons List**

Motion was made by Michael Algawani and seconded by Anthony Catuzza, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Keith Lewis, to approve the Board Canvass taken on January 24, 2023 adding two new Watchpersons for the 2022-2023 school year.

Shokey Albaneh stated that his son was on the proposed Watchperson List.

DULY PUT TO A VOTE

ALL IN FAVOR/NONE OPPOSED

Passes 6-0

**F-3 Approve Resolution – R. Cieslica, Cleaner**

Motion was made by Anthony Catuzza and seconded by Mohamed Munassar, to approve the following resolution:

The Superintendent recommends Richard Cieslica to the position of Cleaner in accordance with the Resolution at Item F-3.

DULY PUT TO A VOTE

ALL IN FAVOR/NONE OPPOSED

Passes 6-0

**F-4 Approve Non-Teaching Substitute Lists**

Motion was made by Mohamed Munassar and seconded by Michael Algawani, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Keith Lewis, to approve the attached additions to the Non-Teaching Substitute Lists.

DULY PUT TO A VOTE

ALL IN FAVOR/NONE OPPOSED

Passes 6-0

**F-5 Approve Resignation of Hall Monitor**

Motion was made by Mohamed Munassar and seconded by Anthony Catuzza, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Keith Lewis, to approve the attached resignation of Jordan Anderson, Hall Monitor and post for the position.

DULY PUT TO A VOTE  
ALL IN FAVOR/NONE OPPOSED  
Passes 6-0

F-6 Approve Spring Coaches

Motion was made by Michael Algawani and seconded by Mohamed Munassar, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Keith Lewis, to approve the attached list of Spring Coaches for the 2022-2023 school year.

DULY PUT TO A VOTE  
ALL IN FAVOR/NONE OPPOSED  
Passes 6-0

F-7 Approve to Post for Fall and Winter Coaches

Motion was made by Michael Algawani and seconded by Mohamed Munassar, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Keith Lewis, to approve to Post for Fall and Winter Coaching positions for the 2023-2024 school year.

DULY PUT TO A VOTE  
ALL IN FAVOR/NONE OPPOSED  
Passes 6-0

F-8 Transfer of Cleaner

Motion was made by Mohamed Munassar and seconded by Anthony Catuzza, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Keith Lewis, to approve the attached request to transfer a cleaner.

DULY PUT TO A VOTE  
ALL IN FAVOR/NONE OPPOSED  
Passes 6-0

F-9 Approve Resolution – M. Basty, Cleaner

Motion was made by Anthony Catuzza and seconded by Mohamed Munassar, to approve the following resolution:

The Superintendent recommends Marie Basty to the position of Cleaner in accordance with the Resolution at Item F-9.

DULY PUT TO A VOTE  
ALL IN FAVOR/NONE OPPOSED  
Passes 6-0

F-10 Approve Resignation of School Nurse and Post

Motion was made by Michael Algawani and seconded by Mohamed Munassar, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Keith Lewis, to accept the resignation of Rebecca Bielat, School Nurse and post for the position.

DULY PUT TO A VOTE  
ALL IN FAVOR/NONE OPPOSED  
Passes 6-0

F-11 Approve Resignation of Teacher Aide and Post

Motion was made by Mohamed Munassar and seconded by Anthony Catuzza, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Keith Lewis, to approve the attached resignation of Manar Mohsin, Teacher Aide and post for the position.

DULY PUT TO A VOTE

ALL IN FAVOR/NONE OPPOSED

Passes 6-0

F-12 Approve Leave of Absence Extension- K. Clark

Motion was made by Anthony Catuzza and seconded by Mohamed Munassar, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Keith Lewis, to approve to extend a Leave of Absence extension for Kimberly Clark, Food Service Worker.

DULY PUT TO A VOTE

ALL IN FAVOR/NONE OPPOSED

Passes 6-0

F-13 Approve Civil Service Name Change

Motion was made by Michael Algawani and seconded by Mohamed Munassar, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Keith Lewis, to change the title of Minority Group Specialist to Cultural Resource Specialist and for the Board President and Superintendent to sign on behalf of the District.

Leonard Kowalski asked if this change was discussed with Civil Service and Nadia Nashir said yes.

DULY PUT TO A VOTE

ALL IN FAVOR/NONE OPPOSED

Passes 6-0

**G) GENERAL ITEM**

Motion was made by Anthony Catuzza and seconded by Mohamed Munassar, to omnibus Items G-1 thru G-16.

ALL IN FAVOR/NONE OPPOSED

Passes 6-0

G-1 Approve Policy #7150 Remote Instruction

G-2 Approve Board Canvass – Distance Learning Tutoring

G-3 Approve NYSAA Annual Athletic Director’s Conference

G-4 Approve Professional Development for Special Ed Teachers

G-5 Approve Art Portfolio Development Independent Study Course

G-6 Approve Board Canvass – Funding for EVOLV

G-7 Approve Board Canvass – Independent Hearing Officer

G-8 Approve Service Agreement with VIA

G-9 Approve DATAG Spring Conference/RIC ONE Conference – A. Tamarazio

G-10 Approve to Recycle Outdated Devices

G-11 DELETE

G-12 Approve CSE/CPSE Reviews and Report Summary/Annual Report

G-13 Approve Collaboration with City of Lackawanna

G-14 Approve IReady Leadership Success and Innovation Conference

G-15 Approve VIA Evaluation Proposal for a Staff Feedback Survey

G-16 Approve 2023-2024 Instructional Calendar

Motion was made by Anthony Catuzza and seconded by Mohamed Munassar to accept as read.  
DULY PUT TO A VOTE

ALL IN FAVOR/NONE OPPOSED

Passes 6-0

G-17 Approve 2023 Election Resolution

Motion was made by Michael Algawani and seconded by Mohamed Munassar, to approve the following resolution:

2023 ELECTION RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education authorizes the Board Clerk to prepare for the Annual Election of School Board Members that will be held on May 16, 2023 by expediting the following:

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board Clerk prepares notices of election/propositions to be published in the following school papers: AM POL EAGLE and WEST SENECA BEE.

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board Clerk acquire an Official Register from the Erie County Board of Elections with proper distribution of voters.

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board Clerk arranges for the FIVE (5) POLLING SITES:

- Bocce Court, 175 Madison Ave

- o LACK 1-1

- St Anthony's Church, 306 Ingham Ave

- o LACK 1-2, LACK 1-3 & Lack 1-4

- Queen of Angel's Church, 144 Warsaw St

- o LACK 1-5, LACK 2-1 LACK 2-2, LACK 2-3, LACK 2-4 & LACK 2-5

- McKinley School 245 South Shore Blvd

- o LACK 3-1, LACK 3-2, LACK 3-3, LACK 3-4 & LACK 3-5

- Senior Citizens Center, 230 Martin Rd,

- o LACK 4-1, LACK 4-2, LACK 4-3, LACK 4-4, & LACK 4-5

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board Clerk acquire the necessary number of Voting Machines FIVE (5) Plus one (1) Auto Mark Machine per polling site) from the Erie County Board of Elections and The Board of Elections will deliver and retrieve the Voting Machines to and from the FIVE (5) Polling Sites. The County will also prepare paper Ballots for new Voting Machines after the Board Clerk submits an estimate number of voters.

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board Clerk hire THREE (3) members to staff the Board of Registration. The Board of Registration shall meet Monday, April 17, 2023 at the Administration Building, 245 South Shore Boulevard for the purpose of preparing for the Absentee Ballot Process for the Annual Board Election to be held on May 16, 2023.

BE IT RESOLVED, Voter registration with the Board of Registration will be held on Tuesday, May 2, 2023, from Noon -3:00 P.M., in Room 107, 245 South Shore Blvd. for all those interested in registering to vote.

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board Clerk hire the necessary Board Inspectors approximately Twenty-Five (25) and other necessary personnel TWO Assistant Clerks (2) to staff the FIVE (5) polling sites and FIVE (5) Substitutes if needed.

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education shall meet on Wednesday, May 3, 2023, at 6:00 P.M. in Martin Road Elementary Cafeteria, 135 Martin Road, for the Budget Hearing, prior to the May 16, 2023 election.

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education shall meet on Wednesday, May 17, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. in the Superintendent's Conference Room 202, 245 South Shore Blvd. Lackawanna, to certify the votes/results of the election.

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board Clerk will assure publication of Legal Notice of School Budget Hearing on these six dates leading up to the election: March 30, 2023, April 6, 2023, April 13, 2023, April 20, 2023, April 27, 2023, and May 11, 2023.

Further notice is hereby given that petitions nominating candidates for the office of Member of the Board of Education are available in the Board Clerk's Office and shall be RECEIVED AND FILED by the Board Clerk of said District located at McKinley Administration Bldg. Room 107, 245 South Shore Blvd., not later than Wednesday, April 26, 2023, between 9:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M. Further notice is given that the drawing for determination of order on the ballot and voting machine will be on Thursday April 27, 2023.

This year, the annual election will be held to elect Two (2) Board Members for a THREE (3) year term beginning on July 1, 2023 until June 30, 2026.

DULY PUT TO A VOTE

ALL IN FAVOR/NONE OPPOSED

Passes 6-0

#### G-18 Approve Wrestling Camp

Motion was made by Michael Algawani and seconded by Mohamed Munassar, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Keith Lewis, to approve ten students to attend a wrestling camp as attached.

DULY PUT TO A VOTE

ALL IN FAVOR/NONE OPPOSED

Passes 6-0

### H) FINANCIAL MATTERS

#### H-1 Approve Health and Welfare Services – Lancaster Central Schools

Motion was made by Michael Algawani and seconded by Mohamed Munassar, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Keith Lewis, to approve the attached Health and Welfare Services Contract with Lancaster Central School District and for Superintendent Keith Lewis to sign on behalf of the District.

DULY PUT TO A VOTE

ALL IN FAVOR/NONE OPPOSED

Passes 6-0

#### H-2 Approve Health and Welfare Services – West Seneca Central Schools

Motion was made by Mohamed Munassar and seconded by Anthony Catuzza, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Keith Lewis, to approve the attached Health and Welfare Services Contract with West Seneca Central School District and for Superintendent Keith Lewis to sign on behalf of the District.



DULY PUT TO A VOTE  
ALL IN FAVOR/NONE OPPOSED  
Passes 6-0

**D) RECEIVE AND FILE**

Motion was made to R&F Michael Algawani and seconded by Mohamed Munassar.

- I-1 Treasurer's Report – December 2022
- I-2 Appropriation Status Report – 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter
- I-3 Revenue Status Report – 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter
- I-4 Budget Transfers – December 2022
- I-5 Leave of Absence – J. Santiago
- I-6 MOA with LTF regarding 2023-2024 School Year
- I-7 MOA with LTF regarding Coaching Stipends
- I-8 MOU with CSEA regarding Custodians

DULY PUT TO A VOTE  
ALL IN FAVOR/NONE OPPOSED  
Passes 6-0

**J) TABLED ITEMS – NONE**

Mr. Robert Kita was in the audience and asked for information regarding obtaining petitions for the Board Election.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion was made by Anthony Catuzza and seconded by Mohamed Munassar to go into Executive Session at 7:25 PM

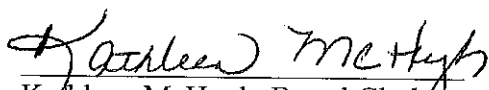
ALL IN FAVOR/NONE OPPOSED  
Passes 6-0

The Board came out of Executive Session and all were present at 7:35 PM.

**M) ADJOURNMENT**

Motion was made by Michael Algawani and seconded by Mohamed Munassar to adjourn the REGULAR MEETING of the Lackawanna City School District's Board of Education held on Thursday, February 16, 2023 in the Superintendent's Conference Room, 245 South Shore Blvd., Lackawanna, NY 14218.

ALL IN FAVOR/NONE OPPOSED  
ADJOURNED AT 7:36 PM.

  
Kathleen McHugh, Board Clerk