

A G E N D A
for
ORGANIZATION MEETING
JANUARY 5, 2023

BOARD OF EDUCATION
Linden, New Jersey

Rocco G. Tomazic Ed.D.
Interim Superintendent of Schools

Atiya Y. Perkins
Assistant Superintendent for Support

John Serapiglia, Jr.
Business Administrator/
Board Secretary

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

SALUTE TO FLAG

STATEMENT OF ADEQUATE NOTICE:

In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, and 18A:10-3, adequate notice of this meeting has been provided as follows:

On December 7, 2022, notice was sent to the Home News Tribune, Star Ledger, Union County Local Source, and the Clerk of the Municipality.

NO SMOKING NOTICE:

BY STATE LAW, THERE IS NO SMOKING PERMITTED IN THIS BUILDING AT ANY TIME.

ROLL CALL:

Ms. Armstead	P	Dr. Tomazic	
Dr. Berghammer	P	Atiya Perkins	
Ms. Carrillo	P	John Serapiglia	
Ms. Cintron	P	Attorney Mr. Garcia	
Mr. De La Cruz	P		
Mrs. Flemming	P		
Ms. Pino	P		
Ms. Rosado Quezada	P		
Ms. Thomas	P		

The Board Secretary will act as temporary chair of this Organization Meeting until such time as a new president is elected.

ELECTION RESULTS

The following election was held on Tuesday, November 8, 2022 for three members to the Linden Board of Education for a (3) three-year term:

	<u>NO. OF VOTES</u>
BRIANNA M. ARMSTEAD	5,045
DAYANARA ROSADO QUEZADA	4,433
SASQUIA CARRILLO	4,334

The Business Administrator/Board Secretary declares the following persons as duly elected Members of the Linden Board of Education as a result of the election held on Tuesday, November 8, 2022:

FOR A THREE-YEAR TERM

Brianna M. Armstead Dayanara Rosado Quezada Sasquia Carrillo

Administration of the Oath of Office to the newly elected Board Members:

BOARD MEMBER

Brianna M. Armstead
Dayanara Rosado Quezada
Sasquia Carrillo

1. Motion to approve the 2023 Linden Board of Education:

<u>Board Members</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Samuel De La Cruz, Jr.	2023
Jennifer Flemming	2023
Malaysia Thomas	2023
Marlene Berghammer	2024
Lymari Cintron	2024
Antoinette Pino	2024
Brianna Armstead	2025
Dayanara Rosado Quezada	2025
Sasquia Carrillo	2025

MOTION 1:

Roll Call:

Board Members	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Ms. Armstead			X		
Dr. Berghammer			X		
Ms. Carrillo			X		
Ms. Cintron			X		
Mr. De La Cruz	X		X		
Mrs. Flemming			X		
Ms. Pino		X	X		
Ms. Rosado Quezada			X		
Ms. Thomas			X		

Motion 1 carried.

At this time the Business Administrator/Board Secretary entertains nominations for the Office of President of the Linden Board of Education.

2. Motion made by Ms. Antoinette Pino, to nominate Dr. Marlene Berghammer for President.

Dr. Marlene Berghammer accepts the nomination as President.

The Business Administrator/Board Secretary conducts a roll call vote for Dr. Marlene Berghammer as President of the Board.

	Yes	No	Abstain		Yes	No	Abstain
Ms. Armstead	X			Mrs. Flemming	X		
Dr. Berghammer	X			Ms. Pino	X		
Ms. Carrillo	X			Ms. Rosado Quezada	X		
Ms. Cintron	X			Ms. Thomas	X		
Mr. De La Cruz			X				

The Business Administrator/Board Secretary declares election of the new President of the Board and turns the gavel over to Dr. Berghammer to act as the presiding officer of the meeting.

At this time, the newly elected Board President entertains nominations for the Office of Vice-President of the Linden Board of Education.

3. Motion made by Ms. Antoinette Pino, to nominate Ms. Malaysia Thomas for Vice-President.

Ms. Malaysia Thomas accepts the nomination as Vice-President.

The Business Administrator/Board Secretary conducts a roll call vote for Ms. Thomas as Vice-President of the Board.

	Yes	No	Abstain		Yes	No	Abstain
Ms. Armstead	X			Mrs. Flemming	X		
Dr. Berghammer	X			Ms. Pino	X		
Ms. Carrillo	X			Ms. Rosado Quezada	X		
Ms. Cintron	X			Ms. Thomas			X
Mr. De La Cruz	X						

PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURES

4. To adopt Roberts Rules of Order as the official parliamentary procedure manual to be used to conduct meetings, and appoint the board secretary and board attorney to act as the parliamentarians.

BOARD POLICIES/REGULATIONS

5. Motion to adopt the Rules and Regulations of the Board of Education of the City of Linden, Bylaws, Policies and Regulations as stated in the Linden School District Policy Manual.

ADOPTION OF OFFICIAL NEWSPAPERS

6. To authorize the Home News-Tribune, Star Ledger, TAPinto Linden, and Union County Local Source be adopted as the official newspapers to be used for the advertisement of meetings and legal ads, and all other necessary public notifications.

MOTIONS: 4-6

Roll Call:

Board Members	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Ms. Armstead			X		
Dr. Berghammer			X		
Ms. Carrillo			X		
Ms. Cintron			X		
Mr. De La Cruz	X		X		
Mrs. Flemming			X		
Ms. Pino		X	X		
Ms. Rosado Quezado			X		
Ms. Thomas			X		

Motions 4-6 carried.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

7. Motion to approve the Order of Business for 2023 as follows:

Linden Board of Education
ORDER OF BUSINESS – 2023

CALL MEETING TO ORDER
SALUTE TO FLAG
STATEMENT OF ADEQUATE NOTICE
ROLL CALL
APPROVAL OF MINUTES
COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC (Agenda items only)

REPORTS

Superintendent
Attorney

STANDING COMMITTEES (Agenda items requiring a vote)

Education Committee:

(Includes all items pertaining to the education, and physical welfare of students. It includes the purchase of all textbooks and instructional supplies/equipment, the development of educational programs, libraries and the training of professional staff. Additionally, this committee will also deal with matters of audiovisual support.).

Personnel Committee:

Personnel: (Includes all items pertaining to personnel, negotiations, security, public relations, and contracted professional services).

Finance Committee:

Finance: (Includes all matters pertaining to general finance, auditing of bills, official bonds, leases and contracts, insurance, and the annual budget of expenses of the schools. It also includes the cafeteria operation and transportation issues concerning the transportation of students and personnel).

7. Continued:

Buildings, Grounds and Security Committee:

(Includes all issues related to the construction of new buildings, acquisition of sites, and planning for future needs. It will also include all matters pertaining to the operation of buildings and grounds and all matters pertaining to the security of same.)

Planning & Policy Committee:

(Includes matters pertaining to long-range planning of the district initiatives, and shall also coordinate and maintain the district's policies and board bylaws.)

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES/DELEGATES
COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC
NEW/UNFINISHED BUSINESS
BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS
ADJOURNMENT

MOTION 7:

Roll Call:

Board Members	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Ms. Armstead			X		
Dr. Berghammer			X		
Ms. Carrillo			X		
Ms. Cintron			X		
Mr. De La Cruz			X		
Mrs. Flemming		X	X		
Ms. Pino			X		
Ms. Rosado Quezada			X		
Ms. Thomas	X		X		

Motion 7 carried.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

8. Motion to approve the Calendar of Board Meetings as follows:

Linden Board of Education
Calendar of Board Meetings
January 2023 – December 2023

(ACTION MAY BE TAKEN AT ANY MEETING)

Organization Meeting Thursday, January 5, 2023 7:00 p.m.			
<u>Work Session</u> Tuesday – 6:00 p.m.		<u>Regular Meeting</u> Thursday – 7:00 p.m.	
Month & Date	Location	Month & Date	Location
January 24, 2023	School #1 Gymnasium 728 N Wood Avenue Linden	January 26, 2023	School #1 Gymnasium 728 N Wood Avenue Linden
February 21, 2023		February 23, 2023	
March 28, 2023		March 30, 2023	
April 25, 2023		April 27, 2023	
May 23, 2023		May 25, 2023	
June 27, 2023		June 29, 2023	
July 25, 2023		July 27, 2023	
August 29, 2023		August 31, 2023	
September 26, 2023		September 28, 2023	
October 17, 2023		October 19, 2023	
November 28, 2023		November 30, 2023	
*December 14, 2023		*December 14, 2023	

*The December Meetings will both be held on the second Thursday due to Christmas. The Regular Meeting will begin immediately following the Work Session, but no later than 8:00 p.m.

MOTION 8:

Roll Call:

Board Members	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Ms. Armstead			X		
Dr. Berghammer			X		
Ms. Carrillo			X		
Ms. Cintron			X		
Mr. De La Cruz	X		X		
Mrs. Flemming		X	X		
Ms. Pino			X		
Ms. Rosado Quezada			X		
Ms. Thomas			X		

Motion 8 carried.

ETHICS

9. Pursuant to School Ethics Code N.J.S.A.18A:12-24.1, Code of Ethics for School Board Members, each member swears to and affirms the following:
- a) I will uphold and enforce all laws, rules and regulations of the State Board of Education, and court orders pertaining to schools. Desired changes shall be brought about only through legal and ethical procedures.
 - b) I will make decisions in terms of the educational welfare of children and will seek to develop and maintain public schools that meet the individual needs of all children regardless of their ability, race, creed, sex, or social standing.
 - c) I will confine my board action to policy making, planning, and appraisal, and I will help to frame policies and plans only after the board has consulted those who will be affected by them.
 - d) I will carry out my responsibility, not to administer the schools, but, together with my fellow board members, to see that they are well run.
 - e) I will recognize that authority rests with the board of education and will make no personal promises nor take any private action that may compromise the board.
 - f) I will refuse to surrender my independent judgment to special interest or partisan political groups or to use the schools for personal gain or for the gain of friends.
 - g) I will hold confidential all matters pertaining to the schools which, if disclosed, would needlessly injure individuals or the schools. In all other matters, I will provide accurate information and, in concert with my fellow board members, interpret to the staff the aspirations of the community for its school.
 - h) I will vote to appoint the best qualified personnel available after consideration of the recommendation of the chief administrative officer.
 - i) I will support and protect school personnel in proper performance of their duties.
 - j) I will refer all complaints to the chief administrative officer and will act on the complaints at public meetings only after failure of an administrative solution.

MOTION 9:

Roll Call:

Board Members	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Ms. Armstead			X		
Dr. Berghammer			X		
Ms. Carrillo			X		
Ms. Cintron			X		
Mr. De La Cruz	X		X		
Mrs. Flemming			X		
Ms. Pino			X		
Ms. Rosado Quezada			X		
Ms. Thomas		X	X		

Motion 9 carried.

10. **WHEREAS**, the Linden Board of Education is required pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12 and N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7 to adopt policy and approve travel expenditures by board members using local, State, or Federal funds to ensure that travel is educationally necessary and fiscally prudent; and

WHEREAS, the board of education has determined that the training and informational programs sponsored by New Jersey School Boards Association and Union County School Boards Association, and set forth below are directly related to and within the scope of the current responsibilities and the board’s professional development plan; and

WHEREAS, the board of education has determined that participation in the New Jersey School Boards Association and Union County School Boards Association training and informational programs requires school district travel expenditures and that this travel is critical to the instructional needs of the district and/or furthers the efficient operation of the district; and

WHEREAS, the board of education has determined that the school district travel expenditures to New Jersey School Boards Association and Union County School Boards Association programs are in compliance with State travel guidelines as established by the Department of the Treasury and within the guidelines established by the federal Office of Management and Budget (OMB), except as superseded by conflicting provision of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes; and

WHEREAS, the board of education finds that a mileage reimbursement rate equal to the OMB reimbursement rate of .35 cents per mile is a reasonable rate; and

WHEREAS, the board of education has determined that participation in the New Jersey School Boards Association and Union County School Boards Association training and informational programs are in compliance with the district policy on travel; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the board of education hereby approves the attendance of the listed number of school board members New Jersey School Boards Association and Union County School Boards Association training and informational programs, and the cost of attendance including all registration fees, and statutorily authorized travel expenditures, provided that such expenditures are within the annual maximum travel expenditure amount, as follows:

Brianna Armstead	Jennifer Flemming
Marlene Berghammer	Antoinette Pino
Sasquia Carrillo	Dayanara Rosado Quezada
Lymari Cintron	Malaysia Thomas
Samuel De La Cruz	

MOTION 10:

Roll Call:

Board Members	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Ms. Armstead			X		
Dr. Berghammer			X		
Ms. Carrillo			X		
Ms. Cintron			X		
Mr. De La Cruz		X	X		
Mrs. Flemming	X		X		
Ms. Pino			X		
Ms. Rosado Quezada			X		
Ms. Thomas			X		

Motion 10 carried.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Members of the public desiring to make a public comment may come forward at this time.

Please begin your comments by stating your name and address. Individuals are invited to speak on one topic at a time, and no individual will speak more than once, until all individuals so desiring have spoken once.

The public is reminded that to ensure the efficient and orderly operations of the meeting, members of the public will be limited to speaking on items for three minutes.

Greg Halloran
120 Donaldson Place

Mr. Halloran congratulated and wished the new board members well. He is looking forward to working with everyone.

Mayor Derek Armstead
516 Carnegie Street

Mayor Armstead congratulated the three new board members. He appreciates them stepping up to the plate. If you do not have a good education system you do not have a good city. His main objective is to make Linden a better place and to work with the Board of Education so that our school system is second to none. He is so proud of his daughter Brianna Armstead. We have a very diverse city and it is his intention that everyone has a fair and equal opportunity in this town. He would like to thank them all for running for the board. He congratulated Dr. Berghammer and Ms. Thomas. He also thanked Dr. Tomazic for taking the interim superintendent position. Also, congratulated Mrs. Perkins on her position of Assistant Superintendent. Let's continue to move this board and the city forward.

Lisa Ormon – Councilman
901 Summit Street

Mrs. Ormon is a former board member. She congratulated the new board members. She is so proud that other members of the community that stepped up to the plate to help our school board become the best that it could possibly be. A word came to mind, Legacy. Legacy is something passed on, but legacy can take many forms. She addressed Ms. Armstead and said, you may not know this but you are a legacy that started with our uncle Maurice Smith. He was the first African American President of the Linden Board of Education, back in the 60's. You are now the third generation of Armstead's that are serving our school district. You have a hard job ahead of you, but it can be done. She congratulated the new team, the assistant superintendent and the interim superintendent. She wished the best and blessings for the upcoming school year.

The following people congratulated and/or wished the new board members, the entire board, newly elected board President and Vice President, the new Business Administrator, the new Assistant Superintendent and the interim Superintendent well in the upcoming school year.

Craig Halloran 120 Donaldson Place	Michele Dorny 1863 Winding Brook Way Scotch Plains
Cleydael Way 1027 Essex Avenue	Rob Mangel 18 Trinity Place Montclair
Lisa McClure – Library Director	Carlos Rivas 1415 Husa Street
David Walker – Principal of School 10 642 Summit Avenue Kenilworth	Erika Armstead 460 West 149 Street New York, NY
Linda Carter – Assemblywoman District 22 Plainfield	Keira Ormon 901 Summit St
Eloy Delgado 842 Grove Street Elizabeth	Tonya Dunham – former Linden Pop Warner Cheer Coach
Claudia Dolan – LEA Vice President 1309 Thomas Ave North Brunswick	Franklin Carrillo 601 West Salem, Street
Dani Orelie 516 Carnegie Street	

COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS:

Ms. Armstead congratulated her running mates, Sasquia Carrillo and Dayanara Rosado Quezada. She also congratulated Dr. Berghammer, Ms. Thomas and Mrs. Perkins. She is excited to embark on this journey. She is a product of the Linden School System and she understands that success and education go hand in hand. She is a recent college graduate and can provide insight on areas that may need improvement to better prepare our children. She hopes that she can be a resource and an outlet for everyone to voice their concerns. She thanked the residents of Linden for electing her and the teachers that taught her both academically and life lessons. She also thanked her friends and family.

Ms. Carrillo thanked all who her voted for her in the election and to Dr. Tomazic and all the board members for welcoming her with open arms. She thanked her parents and said they are her

biggest support system. She congratulated Ms. Armstead and Ms. Rosado Quezada, Dr. Berghammer and Mrs. Perkins on their new positions. She attended Linden Schools from elementary through high school. She continued her education at Montclair State University. She has a passion for working with the public. She said this will be a learning experience for her. She is here to learn to be a part of the continued positive impact that the board brings. She thanked everyone for their support and said it is an honor to be in this position.

Ms. Rosado Quezada said that she is honored to have been given the opportunity to be elected to the Linden Board of Education. Her children are a part of the school system and since her daughter started pre-k she was involved in the school. She said it is her goal to work together with all the members of the Board of Education to represent our district residents and their children in the creation of policies that enhance the education in Linden. She is accepting tonight the challenge of becoming the voice of everyone in our district. Ms. Rosado Quezada assures everyone that she will fulfill her duties to the best of her abilities. She thanked her family, for all who voted for her and the mayor of Linden.

Mrs. Flemming congratulated Dr. Berghammer, Ms. Thomas and the new board members. Over the last two years that she has been on this board they have accomplished many great things. The board continues to be fiscally responsible. She prays for a happy and healthy 2023.

Ms. Cintron said welcomed the newly elected board members. She has learned a lot from her fellow board members. She congratulated Dr. Berghammer, Ms. Thomas and Mrs. Perkins. She thanked everyone for attending the meeting tonight.

Mr. De La Cruz congratulated the new board members, Dr. Berghammer and Ms. Thomas. He said working together we will be one. He congratulated Mrs. Perkins. A three-year turn is not enough to get the work done but we are making it. We have another long journey this year. He thanked everyone. Good luck for 2023.

Ms. Pino greeted everyone and said it is nice to see everyone here. Happy New Year. She is here to help out. She appreciates everyone and thanked everyone.

Ms. Thomas greeted everyone. She addressed the new board members and told them it is not easy but they will all work through it together. She congratulated Mrs. Perkins and thanked Dr. Tomazic and Dr. Berghammer. She looks forward to moving forward in 2023.

Dr. Berghammer thanked the new board members for becoming part of this board, all the other board members for working with her, Dr. Tomazic and Mrs. Perkins. She said they are going to serve this community, our children and our parents. They are looking forward to tomorrow. Lastly she said thank you all and have a good night.

At 8:54 p.m. Mr. De La Cruz made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mrs. Flemming.

Roll Call:

Board Members	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Ms. Armstead			X		
Dr. Berghammer			X		
Ms. Carrillo			X		
Ms. Cintron			X		
Mr. De La Cruz		X	X		
Mrs. Flemming	X		X		
Ms. Pino			X		
Ms. Rosado Quezada			X		
Ms. Thomas			X		

Motion carried.

John Serapiglia, Jr.
Business Administrator/Board Secretary