

A G E N D A

for

ORGANIZATION MEETING

JANUARY 6, 2025

BOARD OF EDUCATION
Linden, New Jersey

Atiya Y. Perkins
Superintendent of Schools

Annabell Louis
Assistant Superintendent for
Support

David M. Walker
Assistant Superintendent for
Academics

John A. 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, adequate notice of this meeting has been provided as follows:

On November 26, and December 20, 2024, notice was sent to the Home News Tribune, Star Ledger, TAPinto Linden, 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.

NOTICE:

In addition to the listed items in this agenda, this Board of Education may discuss and act upon other items not specifically referred to herein as is allowed at the regularly scheduled monthly Board meeting under the Sunshine Law.

ROLL CALL: 6:16 p.m.

Ms. Armstead	P	Mrs. Perkins	P
Dr. Berghammer	P	Mrs. Louis	A
Ms. Carrillo	A	Mr. Walker	P
Ms. Cintron	P	Mr. Serapiglia	P
Mr. De La Cruz	P	Attorney	P
Ms. Elweshahy	P		
Ms. Pino	P		
Ms. Thomas	P		
Ms. Ullisse	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 5, 2024 for three members to the Linden Board of Education for a (3) three-year term:

	<u>NO. OF VOTES</u>
MARLENE BERGHAMMER	7,638
LYMARI CINTRON	7,551
ANTOINETTE PINO	7,578

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 5, 2024:

FOR A THREE-YEAR TERM

Marlene Berghammer

Lymari Cintron

Antoinette Pino

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

BOARD MEMBER

Marlene Berghammer
Lymari Cintron
Antoinette Pino

Oath of Office administered by Mayor Derek Armstead to all three Board Members.

1. Motion to approve the 2025 Linden Board of Education:

<u>Board Members</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Brianna Armstead	2025
Maryam Elweshahy	2025
Sasquia Carrillo	2025
Samuel De La Cruz, Jr.	2026
Malaysia Thomas	2026
Kimberly Ullisse	2026
Marlene Berghammer	2027
Lymari Cintron	2027
Antoinette Pino	2027

MOTION:

Roll Call:

Board Members	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Ms. Armstead			X		
Dr. Berghammer			X		
Ms. Carrillo					
Ms. Cintron			X		
Mr. De La Cruz	X		X		
Ms. Elweshahy			X		
Ms. Pino			X		
Ms. Thomas		X	X		
Ms. Ullisse			X		

Motion 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. Thomas, to nominate Dr. Berghammer for President.

Dr. Berghammer accepts the nomination as President.

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

	Yes	No	Abstain		Yes	No	Abstain
Ms. Armstead	X			Ms. Elweshahy	X		
Dr. Berghammer	X			Ms. Pino	X		
Ms. Carrillo				Ms. Thomas	X		
Ms. Cintron	X			Ms. Ullisse	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.

Dr. Berghammer thanked the Board members for giving her an opportunity to serve. She addressed the Linden families and community and spoke of all the projects and accomplishments during her time on the board.

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. Cintron, to nominate Ms. Thomas for Vice-President.

Ms. 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			Ms. Elweshahy	X		
Dr. Berghammer	X			Ms. Pino	X		
Ms. Carrillo				Ms. Thomas	X		
Ms. Cintron	X			Ms. Ullisse	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					
Ms. Cintron			X		
Mr. De La Cruz			X		
Ms. Elweshahy			X		
Ms. Pino		X	X		
Ms. Thomas	X		X		
Ms. Ullisse			X		

Motions 4-6 carried.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

7. Motion to approve the Order of Business for 2025 as follows:

Linden Board of Education
ORDER OF BUSINESS – 2025

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:

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

Finance Committee:

(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					
Ms. Cintron			X		
Mr. De La Cruz		X	X		
Ms. Elweshahy			X		
Ms. Pino			X		
Ms. Thomas	X		X		
Ms. Ullisse			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 2025 – December 2025

(ACTION MAY BE TAKEN AT ANY MEETING)

Organization Meeting Monday, January 6, 2025 6:00 p.m.			
<u>Work Session</u> Tuesday – 6:00 p.m.		<u>Regular Meeting</u> Thursday – 6:00 p.m.	
Month & Date	Location	Month & Date	Location
January 28, 2025	School No. 1 Gymnasium 728 N Wood Avenue Linden	January 30, 2025	School No. 1 Gymnasium 728 N Wood Avenue Linden
February 25, 2025		February 27, 2025	
March 18, 2025		March 20, 2025	
**April 29, 2025		**April 29, 2025	
May 27, 2025		May 29, 2025	
June 17, 2025		June 17, 2025	
**July 24, 2025		**July 24, 2025	
**August 21, 2025		**August 21, 2025	
September 23, 2025		September 25, 2025	
October 14, 2025		October 16, 2025	
November 18, 2025		November 20, 2025	
*December 16, 2025		*December 16, 2025	

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

Dr. Berghammer said that she thinks we need to know what else is going on outside before we set any dates.

Discussion ensued.

Mr. De La Cruz asked if we could commit to start at time, at 6:00 p.m. as a courtesy to everyone. He also asked if we could move the meetings back to the high school.

Discussion ensued.

Agenda/Organization Meeting
January 6, 2025

MOTION: 8

Roll Call:

Board Members	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Ms. Armstead			X		
Dr. Berghammer			X		
Ms. Carrillo					
Ms. Cintron			X		
Mr. De La Cruz			X		
Ms. Elweshahy			X		
Ms. Pino		X	X		
Ms. Thomas	X		X		
Ms. Ullisse			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.

Agenda/Organization Meeting
January 6, 2025

MOTION: 9

Roll Call:

Board Members	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Ms. Armstead			X		
Dr. Berghammer			X		
Ms. Carrillo					
Ms. Cintron			X		
Mr. De La Cruz			X		
Ms. Elweshahy			X		
Ms. Pino		X	X		
Ms. Thomas	X		X		
Ms. Ullisse			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 .47 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	Maryam Elweshahy
Marlene Berghammer	Antoinette Pino
Sasquia Carrillo	Malaysia Thomas
Lymari Cintron	Kimberly Ullisse
Samuel De La Cruz	

Agenda/Organization Meeting
January 6, 2025

MOTION: 10

Roll Call:

Board Members	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Ms. Armstead		X	X		
Dr. Berghammer			X		
Ms. Carrillo					
Ms. Cintron			X		
Mr. De La Cruz			X		
Ms. Elweshahy			X		
Ms. Pino			X		
Ms. Thomas	X		X		
Ms. Ullisse			X		

Motion 10 carried.

Education Report/Organization Meeting
January 6, 2025

The Education Committee, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and the Assistant Superintendents, present the following motions to the Linden Board of Education for approval:

- Grant permission for the following *Use of Facilities and School Activities* on the dates/times listed:

#	School/Bldg.	Requested By	Date	Time/Location	Event	Expenses
1.	School No. 1	Liz-Morell, Petra	1/8/25	5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Gymnasium	New Principal Meet & Greet	None

- Amend Board action on past Education Reports, as listed:

#	Date	Item#	Action
1.	11/21/24	18/7	Amend to read 18 students and cost \$45,000.00 instead of 15 students and cost \$60,000.00.
2.	12/12/24	10/5	Amend to read registration cost \$150.00 instead of \$125.00.

- Approve *Training for District Staff*, as listed.

#	Name	Workshop	Date(s)	Location	Cost
1.	Massa, Allison	BSCS Biology Professional Learning Leader Academy	1/13/25 1/14/25 1/15/25 1/16/25 1/17/25	Springfield, MA	Registration \$1,500.00 Other Expenses \$1,050.00 11-000-223-580-PD-000-60

4. Approve the Superintendent's determination and actions taken for all reported incidents of Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying as discussed at the November 21, 2024, regular meeting as listed:

#	Case	HIB	Action
1.	LHS-121	No	Services provided, parent conference.
2.	LHS-120	No - Inconclusive	Services provided.
3.	SMS-286	No - Inconclusive	Services provided, parent conference.
4.	SMS-285	No - Inconclusive	Services provided, mediation.
5.	MMS-494	No	Services provided.
6.	MMS-493	Yes	Services provided, mediation.
7.	MMS-492	No - Inconclusive	Services provided.
8.	MMS-491	No - Inconclusive	Services provided, mediation.
9.	Sch No. 10-72	No	Services provided, parent conference.
10.	Sch No. 10-71	No - Inconclusive	Services provided, parent conference.
11.	Sch No. 6-121	No	Services provided.

5. Approve the payment of \$5,500.00 to ETAPS and \$1,000.00 to Nettie Nana and Friends to present at the Women's Wellness Wins Empowering Our R.O.A.R. professional development on March 22, 2025 Acct. #20-270-200-300-00-000-55-Title-II.

6. Proclaim the month of January 2025 as School Board Recognition Month to be highlighted in the Linden Public Schools as outlined in the following resolution:

SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION MONTH

WHEREAS, the New Jersey School Boards Association has declared January 2025 to be School Board Recognition Month, a time when all residents can acknowledge the contributions made by our local school board members; and

WHEREAS, the Linden Board of Education is one of 580 local school boards in New Jersey, which sets policies and oversees operations for public school districts; and

WHEREAS, the Linden Board of education embraces the goal of high-quality education for all New Jersey public school students; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's local school boards help determine the educational goals for approximately 1.4 million children in pre-kindergarten through 12th grade; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's 5,000 local schoolboard members, who received no remuneration for their services, act as advocates for public school students as they work with administrators, teachers, parents for the betterment of public education; and

WHEREAS, School boards strive to provide the resources necessary to meet the needs of all students, including those with special needs; and

WHEREAS, Board of education provide accountability to the public; they communicate the needs of the school district to the public; and they convey to school administrators the public's expectations for the schools; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey can take pride in its schools, which rank among the nation's best in key achievement indicators such as the National Assessment of Educational Progress scores, and the preparation for college through advanced placement offerings and SAT assessments;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Linden Board of Education, does here by recognize the services of local school board members throughout New Jersey as we join communities statewide in observing January, 2025 as SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION MONTH; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Linden Board of Education urges all New Jersey Citizens to work with their local boards of education and public school staff towards the advancement of our children's education.

7. Proclaim the month of January 2025 as Muslim Heritage Month to be highlighted in the Linden Public Schools as outlined in the following resolution:

MUSLIM HERITAGE MONTH

WHEREAS, Governor Phil Murphy has designated the month of January as Muslim Heritage Month in New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, this designation aims to promote awareness and appreciation of the many contributions of the state's Muslim community

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the City of Linden is committed to recognizing the rich history, cultures and shared principals of Muslim Americans and maintains a commitment to fostering a strong and inclusive community that celebrates diversity; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the City of Linden, in keeping with the state recognition, proclaims the month of January as Muslim Heritage Month in all schools in the district, to be fully celebrated with appropriate activities, ceremonies and events.

Dr. Berghammer asked about item #6.

Mr. Walker explained item #6.

MOTIONS: 1-7

Roll Call:

Board Members	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Ms. Armstead			X		
Dr. Berghammer			X		
Ms. Carrillo					
Ms. Cintron			X		
Mr. De La Cruz			X		
Ms. Elweshahy			X		
Ms. Pino		X	X		
Ms. Thomas	X		X		
Ms. Ullisse			X		

Motions 1-7 carried.

Personnel Report/Organization Meeting
January 6, 2025

The Personnel Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, presents the following motions to the Linden Board of Education for approval. All appointments and reappointments are contingent upon and may be modified based on student participation and the district's receipt of sufficient State School Aid and other revenue funding.

1. Amend Board action on past Personnel Reports, as listed:

#	Date	Item#	Action
1.	12/12/24	3/6	Amend the name for Gonzalez, Jennifer to read: Marquez Rivas, Jennifer, Teacher of Spanish, LHS, and change the start date to read: 3/3/25 instead of 1/2/25.
2.	12/12/24	3/1	Amend the start date for Blackmore, Brian to read 1/6/25 instead of 1/2/25.
3.	12/12/24	3/4	Amend the start date for Dowling, Thomas to read 1/6/25 instead of 1/2/25.

2. Accept the resignation of the following staff:

#	Name	Position	Location	Effective Date
1.	Cespedes, Natalya	Teacher of Theatre	MMS/SMS	2/14/25
2.	Spears, Breanna	Paraprofessional	School No. 2	1/17/25

3. Appoint the following staff for the 2024-2025 school year as listed:

#	*Name	Effective Date	Degree	Credited Exp./ Step	Assigned Subj. Area	Bldg. /Dept.	Budget	Total Annual Salary Rate
CERTIFIED								
1.	**Harrison, Danielle	2/1/25	BA	1	Teacher of Sp. Ed./LLD-K	School No. 1	Budget/R	\$60,012
NON-CERTIFIED								
2.	Boyd, Navaeh	1/21/25			Part-time School Aide	School No. 6		\$28.01
3.	Dos Santos, Viviane	1/21/25			Part-time School Aide	School No. 10		\$28.01

*Pending New Hire Requirements **Pending NJDOE Certification

Personnel Report/Organization Meeting
January 6, 2025

4. Approve the following leave of absence.

Employee ID#	Location	From	Through	Reason
7542 ^{1,2}	SMS	12/12/24	1/7/25	Medical

5. Approve the following Change of Degree for the 2024-2025 school year, effective 1/1/25 as per negotiated contract as listed:

#	Name	Location	Degree	Salary 2024-2025 Current	Salary 2024-2025
1.	Burt-Moque, Linda	School No. 10	MA+30	\$72,835.00	\$75,889.00
2.	Williams, Merzedez	School No. 2	MA+30	\$72,835.00	\$75,889.00

6. Reimburse the following employee for tuition costs in accordance with this contract:

#	Name	Location	Fall 2024 Reimbursement for Educational Expenses
1.	Nowak, Elizabeth	Administration Building	\$8,134.20

7. Appoint the following staff as Professional Development Presenters on 1/8/25; to be paid at the contractual rate of \$30/hr. and/or \$33/hr. Acct. #11-120-100-101-00-001-00.

#	Name
1.	Glass, Nicole
2.	Lepore, Kellianne

8. Appoint the following Part-time Attendance Officers as Part-time Attendance Officer substitutes for the 2024-2025 school year; to be paid at \$47.59/hr. not to exceed 10 hours per week. Acct. #11-000-252-100-02-001-00.

#	Name
1.	Marcino, Matthew
2.	Penn, John

9. Appoint the following Part-time Technology Technician as a full-time Technology Technician for January 2025 through March 2025; to be paid at the rate of \$19.50/hr. not to exceed 40 hours per week. Acct. #11-000-252-100-02-001-00.

#	Name
1.	Rivera, Josua

10. Authorize the collection/donation of sick days to Employee #15-24/25 from staff members for the 2024-2025 school year. Name of the staff member and number of days will be submitted to the Superintendent of Schools.
11. Authorize the collection/donation of sick days to Employee #16-24/25 from staff members for the 2024-2025 school year. Name of the staff member and number of days will be submitted to the Superintendent of Schools.
12. Authorize the collection/donation of sick days to Employee #18-24/25 from staff members for the 2024-2025 school year. Name of the staff member and number of days will be submitted to the Superintendent of Schools.
13. Motion to terminate Employee #17-24/25 for cause. Effective 12/12/24.
14. Approve the following new job descriptions.

#	Title
1.	21 st Century Program Instructional Support
2.	21 st Century Program Substitute Teacher
3.	21 st Century Program Teacher

15. Approve the following revised job description.

#	Title
1.	Multilingual Learners Data and Testing Specialist (12 Month)

16. Appoint the following Substitute Teachers for the 2024-2025 school year at the rate of \$200/day

#	Name
1.	Carre, Nicholas
2.	Dumesle, Rose

Personnel Report/Organization Meeting
January 6, 2025

16. Continued:

#	Name
3.	Estrada, Skyla Sarai
4.	Fatima, Areej
5.	Findeis, Kayla
6.	Gogna, Vikas
7.	Herrera, Vanessa
8.	Nest Guevara, Ashlyn
9.	Noh, Jehseung
10.	Scott, Michael

MOTIONS: 1-16

Roll Call:

Board Members	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Ms. Armstead			X		
Dr. Berghammer			X		
Ms. Carrillo					
Ms. Cintron			X		
Mr. De La Cruz			X		
Ms. Elweshahy			X		
Ms. Pino		X	X		
Ms. Thomas	X		X		
Ms. Ullisse			X		

Motions 1-16 carried.

The Finance Committee, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, present the following motions to the Linden Board of Education for approval:

1. Authorize the Board Secretary to draw warrants in the amounts specified in favor of the persons named: (as per list submitted in the files and bookkeeping journal – copy of which will become a part of these original minutes). (See attachment).
2. WHEREAS, Envirocon, LLC. of Hackettstown, NJ was awarded the bid for the partial HVAC Improvement Project at School No. 9, and
WHEREAS Envirocon, LLC. has submitted the following change order proposal which has been approved by the architect:

CHANGE ORDER Number	Description	Amount
001	Cap and seal up to 5 Exhaust Fans at School No. 9	\$4,380.00
	TOTAL Change	\$4,380.00

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approves this change order (which will be deducted from district’s allowance built into this contract)

3. Approve the following contract for the 2024-2025 school year:

Vendor	Service	Amount
Millennium Communications Group, Inc. 11 Melanie Lane Suite 13 East Hanover, NJ 07936	District owned fiber optic cables moving from old pole to new poles.	\$4,005.58 11-190-100-500-00-000-20

Personnel Report/Organization Meeting
January 6, 2025

MOTIONS: 1-3

Roll Call:

Board Members	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Ms. Armstead			X		
Dr. Berghammer			X		
Ms. Carrillo					
Ms. Cintron			X		
Mr. De La Cruz			X		
Ms. Elweshahy			X		
Ms. Pino		X	X		
Ms. Thomas	X		X		
Ms. Ullisse			X		

Motions 1-3 carried.

Buildings, Grounds and Security Report/Organization Meeting
January 6, 2025

The Buildings, Grounds and Security Committee, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, present the following motions to the Linden Board of Education for approval:

1. Amend Board action on past Buildings Grounds and Security Reports, as listed:

#	Date	Item	Action
1.	10/17/2024	1.4	Amend date for School No. 5 to read 12/19/24 instead of 11/25/24.

2. Use of facilities at no charge as requested by Sharita Morgan, President, Linden High School PTA:

#	Activity/Location	Day and Time	Date
1.	PTA Meeting Learning Commons	Wednesday 7:00 p.m.- 9:00 p.m.	January 15, 2025

MOTIONS: 1-2

Roll Call:

Board Members	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Ms. Armstead			X		
Dr. Berghammer			X		
Ms. Carrillo					
Ms. Cintron			X		
Mr. De La Cruz		X	X		
Ms. Elweshahy			X		
Ms. Pino			X		
Ms. Thomas	X		X		
Ms. Ullisse			X		

Motions 1-2 carried.

Planning & Policy Report/Organization Meeting
January 6, 2025

The Planning & Policy Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Assistant Superintendents, presents the following motion to the Linden Board of Education for approval.

1. Second Reading:

Policy Number	Title
5511	Student Dress and Grooming
6470.01	Electronic Funds Transfer and Claimant Certification

MOTION: 1

Roll Call:

Board Members	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Ms. Armstead			X		
Dr. Berghammer			X		
Ms. Carrillo					
Ms. Cintron			X		
Mr. De La Cruz			X		
Ms. Elweshahy			X		
Ms. Pino		X	X		
Ms. Thomas	X		X		
Ms. Ullisse			X		

Motion 1 carried.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Members of the public desiring to make a public comment may come forward at this time. For those watching online, if you wish to make a comment or ask a question, please utilize the raise your hand feature on the online meeting platform.

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.

Mayor Armstead
Linden, NJ

Mayor Armstead congratulated and thanked the Board members. He spoke about the school system and city. He appreciates all their hard work.

Mr. B. Robinson
Rahway Education System

Mr. Robinson congratulated everyone and wished the Board members the best as they move forward.

Mrs. Lakhia Cater-Blocker – LHS, LEA Vice President
35 East Elizabeth Avenue

Mrs. Carter-Blocker congratulated everyone and looks forward to working with the Board.

Ms. Cintron's sister addressed the Board and talked about the change in the city since Mr. Armstead has taken leadership of Linden. She spoke about growing up in Linden and her children.

BOARD COMMENTS:

Ms. Pino thanked Mayor Armstead and appreciated everything he does. She also thanked all the Linden residents who voted for her. She said, "children come first". She thanked her family and fellow Board members.

Ms. Cintron thanked everyone and her family. She also thanked Mayor Armstead and her fellow Board members. She said they work tirelessly and this is a selfless position, but they know when they sign up for this position what it is and they do it all for the children.

Ms. Armstead congratulated her fellow board members and looks forward to experiencing another three years together.

Mr. De La Cruz welcomed back his fellow board members and congratulated them.

Ms. Elweshahy congratulated the Board members on their re-elect.

Ms. Thomas congratulated the re-elected Board members and looks forward to their journey in 2025.

Ms. Ullisse congratulated the re-elected Board members. She is grateful for being on this team.

Dr. Berghammer thanked the parents and people of Linden.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to discuss, Ms. Thomas made a motion to adjourn at 7:09 p.m., seconded by Mr. De La Cruz.

MOTION:

Roll Call:

Board Members	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Ms. Armstead			X		
Dr. Berghammer			X		
Ms. Carrillo					
Ms. Cintron			X		
Mr. De La Cruz		X	X		
Ms. Elweshahy			X		
Ms. Pino			X		
Ms. Thomas	X		X		
Ms. Ullisse			X		

Motion carried.

John A. Serapiglia, Jr.
Business Administrator/Board Secretary