

**NORTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Board Minutes**

**Slatington, PA**  
**February 6, 2006**

**PURPOSE**

The regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors was called to order by the President, Mrs. Lauren A. Ganser, at 7:32 p.m. on Monday, February 6, 2006 in the boardroom of the Slatington Elementary School.

**ROLL CALL**

Members present: Mr. Franklin D. Beers, Mr. Donald H. Dengler, Mr. Bryan C. Dorshimer, Mr. Raymond J. Follweiler, Jr., Mrs. Sheryl A. Giles, Mr. Mathias J. Green, Jr., Mr. Peter A. Ruth, Mr. Gregory S. Williams, Mrs. Lauren A. Ganser (9)

Members absent: None (0)

Non-members present: Dr. Nicholas P. Sham, Mrs. Lynne B. Fedorcha, Mr. Robert Kern, Dr. Linda Marcincin, Mrs. Karen Nicholas, Mr. John Hrizuk, Mr. David Papay, Mr. John Fidelibus, Mr. Brian Geiger, Ms. Christine Stafford, Attorney Charles Stopp (Solicitor), Mr. Jeffrey Bachman, Ms. Laurie Newman-Mankos, Mrs. Andrea Madochick, Mr. Nathan Hunsicker, Mrs. Doneta J. Merkle

**VISITORS**

Approximately five visitors attended the meeting, in addition to Joel Kern, reporter for The Times News

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Donna Kulp – Washington Township – Requested permission to comment on any agenda item.

**SPECIAL BOARD REPORTS**

Legislative Report – Mr. Gregory S. Williams  
Mr. Williams reported on several legislative issues.

Lehigh Carbon Community College – Mr. Mathias J. Green, Jr.  
Mr. Green reported that a dinner would be held on February 8 to discuss the possibility of changing the way the community college is being funded.

Mr. Follweiler made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Beers, that the Board of Education accepts the minutes of the Technology/Buildings & Grounds Committee meeting held on February 1, 2006, and the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on February 1, 2006.

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Ruth, Mr. Williams, Mrs. Ganser (9)  
NAY: None (0)

Student Representative Report -- Nathan Hunsicker gave his report for the month.

Federal and Other Programs Update – Mrs. Lynne B. Fedorcha  
Mrs. Fedorcha distributed a written Director of Curriculum and Instruction Report and reported on its contents. She also did a presentation on “Study Island”.

Superintendent’s Report – Dr. Nicholas P. Sham, Sr.

Dr. Sham introduced Joe Tout who will replace Jim Tkach as head football coach and as a social studies teacher as a TVR in the classroom.

He announced that he conducted the administrative mid-year goals review with all administrators.

He announced that February 6-10, 2006 is National School Counseling Week. He acknowledged the work that our district counselors are doing.

The 2006-2007 CLIU Operating Budget was distributed for review.

**SUPT.'S  
REPORT  
(Con't.)**

Mr. Sham discussed changes that will be taking place in the Earned Income Tax Office. Christiine Stafford, Business Manager, read a press release explaining what would be happening in the EIT office.

Mr. Williams made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Green, that the Board of Education approves to appoint Lori Geronikos to the Northern Lehigh Educational Foundation Board of Directors.

ROLL CALL: YEA: Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Green, Mr. Ruth, Mr. Williams, Mr. Green (5)  
NAY: Mr. Beers, Mr. Dengler, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Giles (4)

Motion carried.

An Executive Session was held in the Superintendent's Office beginning at 7:10 p.m. It was continued after the meeting to discuss personnel issues.

**PERSONNEL** Mr. Follweiler made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Dengler, that the Board of Education approves the following personnel items:

Appointment Jamie Farber\*

Jamie Farber Assignment: Title I Aide (Certified Paraprofessional)  
replacing Nancy Wagner, who resigned.  
Salary: \$10.17 Per Hour/6 ½ Hours Per Day/Approximately  
169 Days Per Year  
Effective Date: January 30, 2006  
\*60-Day Probationary Period

Joseph Tout Joseph Tout Temporary Vacancy Replacement Teacher  
Assignment: Social Studies Teacher in the senior high school, replacing Jim Tkach who  
will retire.  
Salary: \$38,000 (Pro-Rated) (Step 1 Bachelors on the 2005- 2006 NLEA Collective  
Bargaining Agreement Salary Schedule)  
Effective Date: Upon Release From Present Employer  
Termination Date: On or about June 16, 2006

Substitutes Non-Instructional Approve the following substitute aides for the 2005-2006 school year at the rate of  
\$7.25 per hour: Jamie Farber and Christine Lutz

Resignation Accept the resignation of Jodi Wieand from her position of English As A Second Language  
teacher, effective January 19, 2006.

Salary Adjustments Acknowledge the following teachers who have completed the requirements per the  
Collective Bargaining Agreement that would entitle them to a salary increase for the  
second semester of the 2005-2006 school year:

Tanya Simms  
From: Step 2B+24 \$38,900  
To: Step 2 Masters \$40,000

Anthony Jordan  
From: Step 4B+24 \$39,600  
To: Step 4 Masters \$41,100

Family Medical Leave Approve the request of employee number 2300 to take a Family Medical Leave of Absence  
beginning on or about April 16, 2006 and continuing for the remainder of the 2005-2006 school year.

Unpaid Volunteer Aide Approve the following unpaid volunteer aide in the Peters Elementary School for the 2005-  
2006 school year: Evelyn Mateo (Pending verification of clearances)

**PERSONNEL****(Con't.)**

Eliminate EIT Collector & Aide Positions Approve to eliminate the positions and associated salary and benefits of Earned Income Tax Collector and part-time office aide for the Earned Income Tax Office effective March 1, 2006. Further, authorize the administration to contract on a per diem (1099 non-employee) basis with the current EIT collector for services required for completion of a final audit and any required closure paperwork which will be conducted between March 1 and June 30.

Joe Tout Football Coach Approve to appoint Joseph Tout as the Northern Lehigh School District Head Football Coach for the 2006-2007 football season. Salary to be determined upon ratification of a new NLEA Collective Bargaining Agreement.

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green,  
Mr. Ruth, Mr. Williams, Mrs. Ganser (9)

NAY: None (0)

**POLICY**

Mrs. Giles made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Beers that the Board of Education approves the following policy items:

Policies For Second Reading Approve to revise school board policy #335 – Administrative Employees – Family and Medical Leaves, as presented after second reading.

Approve to revise school board policy #535 – Classified Employees – Family and Medical Leaves, as presented after second reading.

Amend Motion Mr. Ruth made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Dengler, to separate Item A and B and take them as separate motions:

Vote On Amendment YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green,  
Mr. Ruth, Mr. Williams, Mrs. Ganser (9)  
NAY: None (0)

Vote On Policies YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green,  
Mr. Ruth, Mr. Williams, Mrs. Ganser (9)  
NAY: None (0)

Public Comment Donna Kulp – Washington Township – Questioned what positions the first three individuals held in the district. She wanted to know if there was a set dollar amount for secretaries to go to conferences.

Conferences Kathy Tschudy – Tides of Change – Sponsored by Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit – March and 8, 2006 – Registration: \$200.00 – Funded through the District Staff Development Budget .

Kay Rau – Tides of Change – Sponsored by Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit – half day on March 7 and half day on 8, 2006 – Registration: \$100.00, Travel: \$20.00 – Total Approximate Cost: \$120.00 Funded through the Director of Support Services Budget .

Heather Tift – ACAPA Spring Conference – Sponsored by ACAPA – March 22-24, 2006 – Hershey, PA – Registration: \$170.00, Meals: \$10.00, Lodging: \$246.00 – Total Approximate Cost: \$426.00 – Funding – Business Office.

Suzanne Mengel – Significantly Reduced Playground Discipline Conference – Sponsored by Bureau of Education & Research – Allentown, PA – Registration: \$169.00 – Funding: Safe & Drug Free Schools.

Sandra Vajda – Active Strategies for Strengthening & Enhancing Your Foreign Language Program – Sponsored by Bureau of Education & Research – Allentown, PA – Registration: \$179.00 – Funding – Curriculum & Instruction Budget

**POLICY**

(Con't.)

Robert Kern – Student Discipline Issues In Pennsylvania – Sponsored by Lorman Education Services – March 15, 2006 – Bethlehem, PA – Registration \$259.00 – Funding: Curriculum & Instruction Budget

Vote On  
Conferences

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green,  
Mr. Ruth, Mr. Williams, Mrs. Ganser (9)  
NAY: None (0)

**OLD  
BUSINESS**

Mr. Green asked for clarification on what is considered a uniform with regard to our sports teams, particularly when a team or individual goes to or participates in a district or state final and the board has provided them with part of their equipment. He was asking in particular about what last year's state wrestling team should have gotten. He also expressed some concern that the wrestling team had to use money from their refreshment stand account to purchase part of their new uniforms.

Reimburse  
Wrestling  
Budget

Mr. Green made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Beers that the Board of Education approves to reimburse the wrestling budget for the entire amount of the cost of the uniforms that were given to the team that won States in 2005 with a maximum amount not to exceed \$3000.00 for everything.

Table Motion

Mr. Green made a motion to table the motion, assuming that the board takes action on this item at the next meeting.

Withdraw  
Request to  
Table Motion

Mr. Green withdrew his request to table the motion.

ROLL CALL: YEA: Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Williams, Mr. Beers (5)  
NAY: Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Ruth, Mrs. Ganser (4)  
Motion carried.

**NEW  
BUSINESS**

Mr. Dorshimer made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Green, that the Board of Education approves changes to the Northern Lehigh School District Emergency Operations Plan as presented.

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green,  
Mr. Ruth, Mr. Williams, Mrs. Ganser (9)  
NAY: None (0)

Mr. Ruth reported that he has some information about the technology interns. He wanted to know if the administration is interested in pursuing this concept.

**FINANCIAL**

Mr. Dorshimer made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Williams, that the Board of Education approves the following financial items:

Amend  
Motion

Mr. Ruth made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Williams to separate the financial items on the regular agenda (A-G) from those on the addendum (H-J).

Vote To  
Accept  
Amendment

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green,  
Mr. Ruth, Mr. Williams, Mrs. Ganser (9)  
NAY: None (0)

Items A-G:  
PC Abate-  
ments

Approve abatements/exonerations of per capita taxes, for the residents that fall within the guidelines, as listed presented.

Cash Manage-  
ment Portfolio

Approve the Arthurs Lestrange Cash Management Portfolio for the month of December 2005.

**FINANCIAL****(Con't.)****CENTAX**

Appoint Central Tax Bureau of Pennsylvania, Inc. (CENTAX) as the commissioned Earned Income Tax and Occupational Privilege Tax Collector for the Northern Lehigh School District effective March 1, 2006, pending favorable legal review of the contract terms of agreement.

**2004-2005  
Audits Report**

Accept the 2004-05 audit and management reports for single audit, earned income tax and occupational privilege tax offices. Copies of the audits were distributed at the February 1, 2006 Finance Committee meeting.

**2001-2004  
Audit Reports  
Real Estate  
Tax Refund**

Accept the state audit report as presented for fiscal years ending 2001, 2002, 2003 and 2004 as presented at the February 1, 2006 Finance Committee meeting.

Approve a real estate tax refund in the amount of \$4,816.63 to LSI Tax Services c/o Sovereign Bank, 3100 New York Dr., Suite 100, Pasadena, CA 91107. The refund is due to a duplicate payment of real estate taxes for property located at 6444 Ventura Dr. in Washington Twsp. for the 2005-2006 school tax year.

Approve a real estate tax refund in the amount of \$1,372.60 to First American Tax Department, PO Box 656, Exton, PA 19341-9773. The refund is due to a duplicate payment of real estate taxes for property located at 3925 E. Grant St. in Washington Twsp. for the 2005-2006 school tax year.

**Items  
H-J**

Approve to enter into a five (5) year Service Agreement with PenTeleData for a Point to Point Connection to connectivity between Slatington Elementary School and Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit #21 in the amount \$1100 per month.

**PenTeleData  
Connection  
Slatington El.  
& CLIU****PenTeleData  
Connection To  
Slatington &  
Peters Elem.**

Approve to enter into a five (5) year Service Agreement with PenTeleData for a Point to Point connectivity between Slatington Elementary School and Peters Elementary School in the amount \$867.00 per month.

**Telcove  
Contract**

Approve a five-year (5) contract for local and long-distance telephone service with Telcove of Eastern Pennsylvania G.P. at a monthly recurring cost of \$1351.20 per month, \$0.06 for intrastate calls and \$0.05 for interstate calls. The State of Pennsylvania recently announced a five-year extension of the Commonwealth's telecommunications services contract with TelCove.

**Vote On  
Amended  
Motion**

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Ruth, Mr. Williams, Mrs. Ganser (9)  
NAY: None (0)

**Public  
Comment**

Donna Kulp – Washington Township – Questioned grant money available from CLIU for telecommunications.

**Vote On  
Main Motion**

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Ruth, Mr. Williams, Mrs. Ganser (9)  
NAY: None (0)

**CORRES-  
PONDENCE**

Mrs. Ganser announced that she received correspondence from CLIU 21 about a School Board Conference on March 29 at the Days Inn.

Mr. Ruth wanted to know why the elementary school has to purchase bottled water at lunch.

**INFORM-  
ATION**

Minutes of the Lehigh Carbon Community College Board of Trustees meeting held on January 5, 2006.

Minutes of the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit 21 Board of Directors meeting held on December 19, 2005.

Minutes of the Lehigh Career and Technical Institute Joint Operating Committee meeting held on December 14, 2005 and the LCTI Director's Report for January 2006.

**RECOG-  
NITION OF  
GUESTS**

Donna Kulp – Washington Township – Had a question about the Point of Sale System in the cafeteria. She was wondering how that affected the work process.

Ed Ziegler – Washington Township – He was disappointed in the Earned Income Tax situation. He feels that there should only be one collector for the Washington Township and the Boroughs of Slatington and Walnutport. He also had a problem with selling uniforms at a district sale as opposed to giving them to the kids.

**ADJOURN-  
MENT**

Mr. Beers made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Follweiler, that the regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh School District Board of Education is adjourned at 9:18 p.m.

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Ruth, Mr. Williams, Mrs. Ganser (9)

NAY: None (0)

Respectfully submitted,

Bryan C. Dorshimer  
Secretary

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_ President  
Lauren A. Ganser