

NORTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
Regular Meeting
Board Minutes

Slatington, PA
March 14, 2011

PURPOSE The regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors was called to order by the President, Mr. Edward E. Hartman, at 7:35 p.m. on Monday, March 14, 2011 in the Middle School Auditorium.

ROLL CALL Members present: Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha, Mr. Raymond J. Follweiler, Jr., Mrs. Lauren A. Ganser, Mrs. Lori H. Geronikos, Mr. Mathias J. Green, Jr., Mrs. Donna M. Kulp, Mr. Gregory S. Williams, Mr. Edward E. Hartman (8)

Members absent: Mrs. Natalie J. Green (1)

Non-members present: Mr. Donald Allen, Mr. Jeffrey Bachman, Mrs. Susan Bahnick, Mrs. Jill Chamberlain, Mr. Greg Derr, Ms. Heather Heiney (Student Rep.), Mr. John Hrizuk, Dr. Linda Marcincin, Mr. Jeremy Melber, Mr. Michael Michaels, Mr. Eugene Marks, Mr. Justin Molitoris (Student Rep.), Mrs. Karen Nicholas, Mr. Paul Rearden, Ms. Heather Rehrig, Attorney Charles Stopp (Solicitor), Attorney Keith Strohl (Solicitor's Office), Mary Kay Williamson, Mrs. Aileen Yadush and Mrs. Sherri Molitoris.

VISITORS Approximately five visitors attended the meeting, in addition to Terry Ahner, reporter for The Times News.

APPROVE MINUTES Mrs. Ganser made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Fedorcha that the minutes of the regular school board meeting held on February 14, 2011 be approved and ordered filed.

YEA: Mr. Fedorcha, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Green, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, Mr. Hartman (8)

NAY: None (0)

SPECIAL BOARD REPORTS Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit – Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha reported the minutes from the meeting are attached to the agenda and Board Briefs are at your seat. He reminded all Board members that the CLIU Board Retreat will be held on March 30, 2011 at the Holiday Inn in Fogelsville.

Lehigh Career and Technical Institute – Mrs. Lori H. Geronikos reported the budget for the 2011-2012 year is at their seats. She stated there is an increase to Northern Lehigh School District but that they have made cuts to the budget. The budget will be on the April board agenda for approval.

Legislative Report – Mr. Gregory S. Williams reported Governor Corbett's budget completely eliminated funding for the following programs; Accountability Block Grant, Reimbursement for Charter Schools given to local school districts, Science It's Elementary and Dual Enrollment name a few. Not only is he taking an axe to the total educational subsidy but also a lot of smaller programs that have been created for specific purposes, which are being eliminated for funding at the state level as well. The Voucher Bill did pass the Senate Education Committee by a vote of 8-2. Two amendments that were approved to the bill were to prohibit the athletic recruiting of opportunity scholarships by either school districts or participating non-public school districts and an amendment that would require participating non-public schools to put into writing their policies regarding such matters as academics, extracurricular activities, admissions, tuition, religious studies and discipline so that they would be made available to parents, upon request, if they are seeking to enroll their students.

Mrs. Geronikos informed the Board that Tim Allwein, one of PSBA's chief lobbyists on legislative issues at the state level has passed away.

Lehigh Carbon Community College – Mr. Mathias J. Green, Jr. reported that the college is also feeling the effects from Governor Corbett's budget cuts and that they are taking a look internally to see what they can do to stay on board as well.

**SPECIAL
BOARD
REPORTS
(cont.)**

Committee Reports and/or Meetings

Minutes of the Policy/Education Committee Meeting held on March 7, 2011 were distributed.

Minutes of the Technology/Buildings and Grounds Committee Meeting held on March 9, 2011 were distributed.

Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on March 9, 2011 were distributed.

Student Representatives to the Board Report

Mr. Justin Molitoris and Ms. Heather Heiney distributed their written student representative report and verbally reported on its contents.

presentation
explained

Federal and Other Programs Update – Mrs. Karen A. Nicholas presented a PowerPoint on the district's current PVAAS data. Dr. Marcincin, Mrs. Chamberlain and Mrs. Yadush the data related to their individual buildings.

increase
through
budget and the
and by the school
budget will be
which is a loss of
Governor's budget has
the EAP Tutoring Grant in
\$18,733.00, and Charter
we were looking at just over a 1.2
looking at a 1.54 million dollar
the Retirement Incentive and the
and financial plans. Next month
a balanced budget with

Business Manager's Report – Mr. Jeremy G. Melber stated there is an addendum tonight for the approval and submission of PlanCon H project financing for the renovations project at Slatington Elementary School. Once PlanCon H is approved, and filed, the district can begin to file for reimbursement for payments that have already been made on the project. The LCTI budget is before you. The budget does ask for a 4.02% increase in the operating budget which is an of \$39,363.00 to Northern Lehigh. The district has been waiting for two phases to come before a proposed budget can be presented. The first phase was the Governor's second phase is the Retirement Incentive Plan. The first phase did come through board meeting in April the second phase will be completed and a preliminary presented. The Governor's budget has cut the basic education levels by 8.57% basic education subsidy in the amount of \$618,637.00 to the district. The also cut our districts Accountability Block Grant in the amount \$348,000, the amount of \$52,755.00, the Dual Enrollment Grant in the amount of School Reimbursement in the amount of \$35,000.00. Originally million dollar deficit but with these additional cuts the district is now deficit. We are expecting to save a significant amount of money in administrative team is also putting together some other operational the board will receive a rough draft of the preliminary budget that will reflect a 0% tax increase.

Superintendent's Report – Mr. Michael W. Michaels

Mr. Michaels reported that the CLIU 2011 School Board Conference is being held on March 30, 2011 at the Holiday Inn Conference Center in Fogelsville. Two of our board members will be receiving awards. If any board member is interested in attending contact Sherri Molitoris by March 16, 2011.

Mr. Michaels said administration projected that the district would lose anywhere from 10-12% in state funding. In actuality, the district could lose 12-15% in funding. These cuts will affect a lot of programs. There are a lot of programs that are being cut by the Governor but he has said that he really wants those programs to continue to happen which puts school districts in a tough position. The budget is bad but we must remember that this was forced upon us. The district must come up with plans that will make our teachers and students successful even though many of our funding areas have been cut. The district's goal is a 0% increase and he feels we can reach that goal but he does feel terrible for the students at Northern Lehigh and the Commonwealth for these cuts.

Mr. Michaels stated that he and two other superintendents' had a meeting with Representative Julie Harhart and Representative Joe Brennan. The meeting was very spirited and they were

able to express to a Republican and a Democratic Representative how the budget is effecting education in PA. The question was asked if there is a chance that some of these things will change and the answer was yes but to a very small degree.

SPECIAL
testing **BOARD**
REPORTS
(cont.)

Mr. Michaels thanked Mrs. Nicholas for the PVAAS presentation. He stated that the PSSA is a high stakes testing that is a PreK-12 issue. Mr. Rearden, Peters Elementary Principal, who did not have an opportunity to speak, his faculty is challenged the same way the other building principal's faculty are challenged. We directly equate how our students are doing as how they were doing at Peters Elementary as well. Every teacher K-12 no matter what they teach is held accountable for the PSSA tests. That is how our school district is graded.

Mr. Hartman reported that an executive session was held prior to tonight's meeting to discuss personnel issues.

PERSONNEL

Mr. Fedorcha made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Green, that the Board of Education approves the following personnel items:

Family
Medical
Leave
teaching

Approve the request of employee #6822 to take a Family Medical Leave for maternity beginning on or about May 13, 2011. The employee will be using accumulated sick days and personal days in conjunction with the Family Medical Leave. Employee plans to return to current position upon release from their attending physician on or about June 13, 2011.

Inclusion
2010-2011
Retirement
Incentive
Plan

Approve the inclusion of Suzanne Tobing, 6th grade teacher, in the Northern Lehigh School District's 2010-2011 Retirement Incentive Plan adopted by the Board of Education on January 10, 2011.

Approve the inclusion of Denise Papay, Kindergarten teacher, in the Northern Lehigh School District's 2010-2011 Retirement Incentive Plan adopted by the Board of Education on January 10, 2011.

Resignations/
Retirement
the

Accept the retirement resignation of Suzanne Tobing from her position as 6th grade teacher, provided that the Board of Education approves her inclusion in the 2010-2011 Retirement Incentive Plan, effective August 15, 2011. At this time she will begin her retirement from Northern Lehigh School District after 35 years of service.

the

Accept the retirement resignation of Denise Papay from her position as Kindergarten teacher, provided that the Board of Education approves her inclusion in the 2010-2011 Retirement Incentive Plan, effective June 30, 2011. At this time she will begin her retirement from Northern Lehigh School District after 21 years of service.

Game
Workers
2010-2011

Approve the following person as a Game Worker for the 2010-2011 school year. Game Workers consist of ticket sellers and takers, game announcers, scoreboard operators, timers, field judges, scorekeepers. Rate of pay is consistent with the rates approved on the 2010-2011 Supplementary Personnel Salary Schedule.

Patricia Jones

Substitute
Instructional

Approve the following substitute teachers for the 2010-2011 school year at the 2010-2011 substitute teacher rates as approved on the Supplementary Personnel Salary Schedule:

Laura Tatusko* - English
Shawn Borger* – Emergency Permit Nurse
***Pending Verification of Missing Documents**

YEA: Mr. Fedorcha, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Green, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, Mr. Hartman (8)

NAY: None (0)

CONFER-
ENCES

Mr. Follweiler made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Geronikos, that the Board of Education approves the following conference items:

Susan Bahnick – Child Nutrition Directors Retreat – April 3 & 4, 2011 – State College, PA –
Registration: \$125.00, Lodging: \$65.00, Travel: \$171.36 – Total Approximate Cost: \$361.35 –
Funding: Cafeteria Budget

CONFERENCE
(cont.)

YEA: Mr. Fedorcha, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Green, Mrs. Kulp,
Mr. Williams, Mr. Hartman (8)

NAY: None (0)

POLICY

Mr. Williams made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Fedorcha, that the Board of Education approves the following policy item:

Homebound
Instruction

It is recommended that the Board of Education grant homebound instruction for an 8th grade student, Student No. 1547800, for five hours per week, effective March 9, 2011 and continuing until April 9, 2011.

YEA: Mr. Fedorcha, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Green, Mrs. Kulp,
Mr. Williams, Mr. Hartman (8)

NAY: None (0)

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

Mrs. Ganser made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Geronikos, that the Board of Education approves the following curriculum and instruction items:

2011-2012
District
Calendar

Approve the 2011-2012 Northern Lehigh School District Calendar as presented.

CLIU
2011-2012
Facilities
Plan
Committee
Report

Approve the following resolution to adopt the 2011-2012 Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit Facilities Plan Committee Report that was unanimously adopted by the CLIU Facilities Plan Committee on January 28, 2011.

to

RESOLVED: It is recommended that the Northern Lehigh School District Board of Directors approve the 2011-2012 Facilities Plan Committee Report as unanimously adopted by the CLIU Facilities Plan Committee on January 28, 2011. In addition, the Board reaffirms its commitment the original construct of the Facilities Planning, approved November 1, 1989, which consists of a series of prioritized inquiries to be considered in determining future locations of the CLIU and school district special education classes.

YEA: Mr. Fedorcha, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Green, Mrs. Kulp,
Mr. Williams, Mr. Hartman (8)

NAY: None (0)

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Green stated that on the board minutes from last month it stated that he was absent and then down a little on the page it states that he had arrived at 7:32PM. He wanted to state that he was in attendance for the meeting and if people only look at the top of the page and do not read down to the bottom they will not realize that Mr. Green had attended the meeting.

Mr. Williams stated that when he did roll call Mr. Green was not there. As soon as Mr. Green arrived, Mr. Williams stated to Mrs. Molitoris to reflect the minutes that Mr. Green had arrived at 7:32PM. Mr. Williams stated that he handled it this way because this is how it had been done in the past.

Mr. Green made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Williams, that the Board of Education approves the following new business item:

Audit
years Response

Approve the audit response to the Auditor General's Performance Audit Report for the fiscal ending June 30, 2007 and 2008.

YEA: Mr. Fedorcha, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Green, Mrs. Kulp,
Mr. Williams, Mr. Hartman (8)

NAY: None (0)

FINANCIAL

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

Financial Reports

Approve the Following Financial Reports:
 General Fund February 2011
 NLMS Student Activities Account month of February 2011
 NLHS Student Activities and Scholarship Acct for the month of February 2011

List of Bills

Approve the Following List of Bills:
 General Fund month of February & March
 Cafeteria Fund month of February
 Athletic Fund month of February
 Refreshment Stand month of February
 Construction Fund month of February

OAA Agreement 2011-2016

Approve to authorize proper officials to execute an agreement between the Northern Lehigh School District and OAA Orthopedic Specialists of Allentown for the purpose of providing the services of a qualified athletic trainer for the 2011-2012, 2012-2013, 2013-2014, 2014-2015, 2015-2016 school years. Costs for said services would be \$28,800 for 2011-2012 (0% increase), \$29,090 for 2012-2013 (1% increase), 29,380 for 2013-2014 (1% increase), 29,970 for 2014-2015 (2% increase), and 30,570 for 2015-2106 (2% increase). In addition Addendum B is a rider for Athletic Trainer Services for Middle School Sports at a fixed cost of \$1,800 per year over the duration of the contract.

PowerSchool Agreement 2010-2015

Authorize administration to enter into an agreement with Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit #21 to continue serving the district's student information system needs with Pearson (formerly Apple) PowerSchool. The effective date of this agreement is July 1, 2010 and will be in effect for 5 years and thereafter will automatically renew for successive one year terms. First year usage fee is \$26,137.50 and is based on 2,050 students at a cost of \$12.75 annually per student. Usage fees are subject to increase based on current prices with the guarantee that the usage fee will increase more than 5% from the previous year.

not

Level 3 Level Communications 2011-2014

Approve a three-year (3) contract renewal for local and long-distance telephone service with 3 Communications at a monthly recurring cost of \$1,103.62 per month, \$0.0266 per minute for intrastate calls and \$0.0170 per minute for interstate calls.

Renewal Verizon Wireless

Approve the renewal of our cellular phone service with Verizon Wireless for the two (2) phones used by our maintenance department for \$61.13 per month. This is a month to month agreement.

PlanCon H

Approve the submission of PlanCon Part H: Project Financing to the Pennsylvania Department of Education for the additions and alterations to Slatington Elementary School.

YEA: Mr. Fedorcha, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Green, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, Mr. Hartman (8)

NAY: None (0)

**INFOR-
MATION**

3,

PlanCon Part G, Project Accounting Based on Bids has been reviewed and approved by PDE.

Minutes of the Lehigh Carbon Community College Board of Trustees meeting held on February 2011 were distributed.

Minutes of the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit 21 Board of Directors meeting held on January 17, 2011 were distributed.

Mr. Fedorcha stated that on March 31st at 2:30 PM the NL Rotary and NLHS Interact Club will be testing speeches. Students will be competing against each other and then the winners will be moving on to district and state finals. There is a scholarship that comes with it. There are only 3 districts in the entire Lehigh County participating in this program. He thanked Mr. Sanders for working with this endeavor.

**ADJOURN-
MENT**

Mr. Follweiler made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Fedorcha, that the regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh School District Board of School Directors is adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

YEA: Mr. Fedorcha, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Green, Mrs. Kulp,
Mr. Williams, Mr. Hartman (8)

NAY: None (0)

Respectfully submitted,

Gregory S. Williams
Secretary

ATTEST: _____ President
Edward E. Hartman