

**NORTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board Minutes**

**Slatington, PA
December 11, 2000**

PURPOSE The regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors was called to order by the President, Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha, at 8:00 p.m. on Monday, December 11, 2000, in the boardroom of the Slatington Elementary School.

ROLL CALL Members present: Mr. Robert J. Cox, Mr. Bryan C. Dorshimer, Mrs. Jane J. Escott, Mrs. Lori H. Geronikos, Mrs. Sheryl A. Giles, Mr. Mathias J. Green, Jr., Mr. Jason M. Newhard, Mrs. Lynn C. Sechler, Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha (9)

Members absent: None (0)

Non-members present: Dr. Kenneth G. Koberlein, Dr. Nicholas P. Sham, Mr. Christopher Iacobelli, Dr. Linda Marcincin, Mrs. Karen Nicholas, Mr. John Hrizuk, Mr. David Papay, Mr. Brian Geiger, Ms. Pamela Grammes, Ms. Lisa Vaughan, Mrs. Doneta Merkle

VISITORS Approximately 20 visitors attended the meeting, in addition to Sharon Minnich, reporter for The Times News.

APPROVE MINUTES Motion made by Mrs. Geronikos, with a second made by Mr. Newhard, that the minutes of the regular school board meetings held on November 6 and November 13, 2000 be approved and ordered filed.

YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green
Mr. Newhard, Mrs. Sechler, Mr. Fedorcha (9)

NAY: None (0)

SPECIAL BOARD REPORTS

Committee Reports and/or Meetings

Minutes of the Technology/Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting held on December 6, 2000 were distributed to all board members.

Student Rep. Report

Ms. Lisa Vaughan and Ms. Pamela Grammes gave their student representative report for the month of December 2000.

Legislative Report -- Mrs. Lori H. Geronikos

Mrs. Geronikos reported that the Governor signed House Bill 1416, which is now Act 93 of 2000. This new law provides full civil immunity for school employees and officials in instances of emergency care.

She received a letter from Senator James Rhoades who will be moving forward with his efforts towards a more equitable funding formula for our system of funding public schools.

Federal and Other Programs Update -- Dr. Nicholas P. Sham

Dr. Sham's report included the following:

1. The steering committee for the middle school transition is almost complete—this committee will be comprised of teachers, administrators and community/business people, clergy, etc.
2. He highlighted several items listed in his Assistant Superintendent Report for the month with regard to curriculum.

Superintendent's Report -- Dr. Kenneth G. Koberlein

Dr. Koberlein's report included the following:

1. Mrs. Kutney and several of her second grade students presented a Saxon Phonics demonstration.
2. Mr. Art George and a group of coaches addressed the board to discuss a soccer program at the

high school level for Northern Lehigh. They asked the board to please read the document distributed to each of them and to also investigate and adhere to strict deadlines in terms of application to be able to gain entrance into the Colonial League and PIAA. The group will be available at any time to answer questions and to perform any additional research that may be needed to help ensure a soccer program in Northern Lehigh School District.

**SPECIAL
BOARD
REPORTS**
(Con't.)

3. He distributed information about the state tax equalization process that we are completing in our business office.
4. He remind Board Members to bring their School Board Policy Manual along to the January meeting for updating.
5. A Technology/Buildings And Grounds Committee report was given by Mr. Cox.
6. He announced that two Northern Lehigh School District students, Tamara Smith (Health Occupations) and Gregory Hoffman (Cabinetmaking) will be inducted in the Lehigh Career and Technical Institute Vocational-Technical Honor Society.

Marching Band Proclamation Motion made by Mrs. Sechler, with a second made by Mrs. Geronikos, that the Board of Education adopt a Proclamation honoring the Northern Lehigh High School Marching Band. (see attached)

YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green
Mr. Newhard, Mrs. Sechler, Mr. Fedorcha (9)

NAY: None (0)

Executive Work Session An Executive Work Session was held before and will be continued after the meeting for personnel issues.

PERSONNEL Motion made by Mrs. Sechler, with a second made by Mrs. Geronikos, that the Board of Education approve the following personnel items:

Consultive Services - K. McCann Approve to contract with Kathleen McCann for consultative services, effective December 16, 2000, at a fee of \$40.00 per hour, not to exceed 20 hours.

Act 48 Planning Committee Members Approve Edith Moore and Paul Leonzi to be members representing Education Specialists of the Professional Education Planning Committee for Northern Lehigh School District.

Unpaid Volunteer Swim Coach Approve Scott Bartholomew as an unpaid volunteer swim coach for the 2000-2001 school year, effective immediately and continuing until the completion of the State Swimming Tournament, or until Ian Vernon, Eric Vernon, Amanda Schneck, and Megan Schaeffer are no longer eligible to compete in the 2001 State Tournament. These students will be participating in the District XI Swimming Tournament and must have a coach or district official accompany them. It is understood that there is no cost to the district.

YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green
Mr. Newhard, Mrs. Sechler, Mr. Fedorcha (9)

NAY: None (0)

Resignation - Dr. Kenneth G. Koberlein Motion made by Mrs. Sechler, with a second made by Mrs. Geronikos, that the Board of Education regretfully accepts the resignation of Superintendent, Kenneth G. Koberlein, effective January 11, 2001.

YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green
Mr. Newhard, Mrs. Sechler, Mr. Fedorcha (9)

NAY: None (0)

Appoint Dr. Nicholas P. Motion made by Mr. Dorshimer, with a second made by Mr. Cox, that the Board of Education appoint Dr. Nicholas P. Sham as acting superintendent, effective January 12, 2001, and increase Dr.

Sham Acting Superintendent Sham's annual salary by \$5000, prorated for his term of his services as acting superintendent.

PERSONNEL
(Con't.)

YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green
Mr. Newhard, Mrs. Sechler, Mr. Fedorcha (9)
NAY: None (0)

POLICY

Motion made by Mrs. Sechler, with a second made by Mrs. Escott, that the Board of Education approve the following items listed under Policy:

Conferences

Approve the request of Janet McKelvey to attend a Bureau of Education & Research conference entitled "Helping Your Struggling Students Be More Successful Readers" in Allentown on January 24, 2001. Expenses include \$169.00 for registration plus the cost of a substitute for one day and has been approved by the district professional education committee.

Approve the request of Ann Bernard to attend the 2001 Pennsylvania School Counselors' Association Annual Conference held in Lancaster, PA from April 26-28, 2001. Expenses for this conference include \$230.00 for registration.

Homebound Instruction

Grant homebound instruction to a first grade student, Student No. 12-37000, for five hours per week beginning on December 5, 2000 and ending on or about February 5, 2001.

YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green
Mr. Newhard, Mrs. Sechler, Mr. Fedorcha (9)
NAY: None (0)

**CURRIC-
ULUM AND
INSTRUC-
TION**

Motion made by Mrs. Sechler, with a second made by Mrs. Escott, that the Board of Education approve curriculum changes at the senior high school and middle school as presented for the 2001-2002 school year.

YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green
Mr. Newhard, Mrs. Sechler, Mr. Fedorcha (9)
NAY: None (0)

**OLD
BUSINESS**

Motion made by Mr. Newhard, with a second made by Mrs. Giles that the Board of Education approve to remove from the table an act upon approving the School Board Committee Meeting Calendar for 2001.

Remove From Table School Board Committee Meeting Calendar

YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green
Mr. Newhard, Mrs. Sechler, Mr. Fedorcha (9)
NAY: None (0)

Approve 2001 Committee Meeting Calendar

Motion made by Mr. Newhard, with a second made by Mrs. Sechler, that the Board of Education approve the School Board Committee Meeting Calendar, as presented and corrected, for 2001.

ROLL CALL: YEA: Mr. Cox, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Newhard,
Mrs. Sechler, Mr. Fedorcha (7)
NAY: Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Green (2)

Motion carried.

- FINANCIAL** Motion made by Mr. Cox, with a second made by Mr. Dorshimer, that the Board of Education approve the following financial items:
- Treasurer's Report Approve the (unaudited) report of the Treasurer, Mr. Cox, for the month of November 2000.
- Reports (Info Only) All board members received the November 2000 Expenditure Reports for the Cafeteria, General, and Capital Reserve funds.
- Pay Bills Approve payment of General Fund bills, as presented.
- Refund of Per Capita Taxes Approve the refund of the following 2000-2001 per capita taxes. The taxes were paid in duplicate.
- Dolores & Tom Rowlands \$19.60
230 Main St., Slatington, PA 18080
- CTC Assoc. Professional Services Approve to contract with CTC Associates for professional services at the middle school as proposed at a cost not to exceed \$7600.00.
- Purchase Skidloader Approve to purchase a skidloader from Lincoln Supply of Somerset, PA at the state bid price not to exceed \$30,000. (Capital Budget Funds to be used.)
- YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green
Mr. Newhard, Mrs. Sechler, Mr. Fedorcha (9)
- NAY: None (0)
- LEGAL** Motion made by Mrs. Sechler, with a second made by Mrs. Escott, that the Board of Education approve a settlement agreement to provide transportation reimbursement, speech therapy, and occupational therapy for a Northern Lehigh School District special education student attending a non-public school.
- Settlement Agreement To Provide Transportation Reimbursement YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green
Mr. Newhard, Mrs. Sechler, Mr. Fedorcha (9)
- NAY: None (0)
- INFORMATION** All board members received a copy of the minutes of the Lehigh Carbon Community College Board of Trustees meeting held on November 2, 2000.
- RECOGNITION OF GUESTS** Rod Snyder – Washington Township – Asked what the board just voted on under Legal.
- ADJOURNMENT** Motion made by Mr. Dorshimer, with a second made by Mr. Newhard, that the regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors be adjourned at 9:20 p.m.
- YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green
Mr. Newhard, Mrs. Sechler, Mr. Fedorcha (9)
- NAY: None (0)

Respectfully submitted,

Lori H. Geronikos
Secretary

ATTEST: _____ President
Gary S. Fedorcha