

**NORTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board Minutes**

**Slatington, PA
December 2, 2003**

PURPOSE The regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh School District Board of School Directors was called to order by the President, Mr. Mathias J. Green, Jr., at 7:45 p.m. on Tuesday, December 2, 2003, in the gymnasium located in the Slatington Elementary School.

ROLL CALL Members present: Mr. Franklin D. Beers, Mr. Robert J. Cox, Mr. Bryan C. Dorshimer, Mr. Raymond J. Follweiler, Jr., Mrs. Lauren A. Ganser, Mrs. Lori H. Geronikos, Mr. Mathias J. Green, Jr., Ms. Angelique M. Papay (8)

Members absent: Mrs. Sheryl A. Giles (1) (Arrived at 8:00 p.m.)

Non-members present: Dr. Nicholas P. Sham, Mrs. Lynne B. Fedorcha, Mr. Philip Bertolino, Dr. Linda Marcincin, Mrs. Karen Nicholas, Mr. John Hrizuk, Mr. David Papay, Mr. Robert Mack, Mr. Brian Geiger, Ms. Christine Stafford, Atty. Charles Stopp (Solicitor), Ms. Laurie Newman, Ms. Amberly Gable, Ms. Ashley Kunkle, and Mrs. Doneta J. Merkle

VISITORS Approximately 25 visitors attended the meeting, in addition to Sharon Minnich, reporter for The Times News and Terry Ahner, reporter for the Chronicle newspapers.

SPECIAL BOARD REPORTS Carbon-Lehigh Intermediate Unit – Mr. Bryan C. Dorshimer
Mr. Dorshimer highlighted items listed in the CLIU Board Brief that was distributed to all board members.

Lehigh Carbon Community College – Mr. Mathias J. Green, Jr.
Mr. Green reported that the Community College will most likely have the same budgetary problems and concerns as school districts have.

Committee Reports and/or Meetings

All board members received copies of the following committee meeting minutes: Minutes of the Technology/Buildings & Grounds Committee meeting held on November 5, 2003 and minutes of the Policy/Education Committee meeting held on November 17, 2003.

A motion was made by Mr. Follweiler, with a second made by Mr. Beers, that the Board of Education approve the school board committee member list, as presented, for 2004.

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos,
Mr. Green, Ms. Papay (8)

NAY: None (0)

A motion was made by Mr. Cox, with a second made by Mrs. Ganser, that the Board of Education approve the school board committee meeting calendar, mirroring the 2003 committee meeting calendar setup, as presented, for 2004.

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos,
Mr. Green, Ms. Papay (8)

NAY: None (0)

Student Representatives Report – Ms. Amberly Gable and Ms. Ashley Kunkle distributed a written student representative report for the month and verbally reported on its contents.

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

Dr. Sham reported on the following topics:

Dr. Sham offered personal congratulations to Mr. Jim Tkach and the 2003 Bulldog Football Team for winning the Eastern District Championship. He wished them luck in their quest for the PIAA Class AA championship game in Hershey.

He presented Mr. Robert J. Cox with an Honor Roll of School Board Service Recognition certificate from the Executive Board of the Pennsylvania School Boards Association for 10 years of service.

He read a request from a high school student seeking a donation from the school board to help defray the costs so he can represent our school and community in a delegation of Pennsylvanians at the National Young Leaders Conference in Washington, DC. There was concern from some board members with regard to setting precedence for future requests of this nature. After some discussion, there was no interest on the part of the board to make a donation at this time.

Dr. Sham reported that the secondary language arts department informed him that they will be using distance learning with an author in the middle school in January 2004.

Stephen Geiger, a high school senior, gave a final PowerPoint presentation of his Eagle Project, which was to the clean up and repair damages to the district's Nature Trail.

Executive Session – There was an Executive Session, for personnel and legal issues, held after the board meeting.

PERSONNEL

A motion was made by Mr. Dorshimer, which was seconded by Mrs. Ganser, that the Board of Education approve the following personnel items:

Resignation Accept the resignation of Bonita Treadway, elementary school nurse, effective November 28, 2003.

Appointment
Non-Instructional Lisa Martinez
Assignment: Study Hall Monitor in the senior high school, replacing Brenda Cermak, who resigned.
Salary: \$8.90 Per Hour/6 ½ Hours Per Day/5 Days Per Week
Effective Date: December 10, 2003

Substitutes
Non-Instructional Approve the following substitute aide for the 2003-2004 school year at the substitute rate of \$7.25 per hour:
Christine Bult

Approve the following substitute cafeteria worker for the 2003-2004 school year at the substitute rate of \$7.25 per hour: Christine Bult

Unpaid
Volunteer
Aides Approve the following individuals as unpaid volunteer aides in the Slatington Elementary School for the 2003-2004 school year:

Jennifer Hugo*
Natalie Kistler*
Lori Henritz*
Christine Lutz*
Robin Blocker
Jamie Farber
Crystal Horvath
Kathy Yelinek

Approve the following individual as an unpaid volunteer aide in the Peters Elementary School for the 2003-2004 school year: Terri Caldwell*

PERSONNEL
(Con't.)

Approve the following individual as an unpaid volunteer dance team advisor in the Senior High School for the 2003-2004 school year: Connie Kistler *Indicates New Volunteers Pending Verification of Clearances

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos,
Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Ms. Papay (9)

NAY: None (0)

POLICY

A motion was made by Mrs. Geronikos, with a second made by Mr. Cox, that the Board of Education approve the following policy items:

Conferences

Approve the request of Lynne Fedorcha, to attend a PA Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development conference in Hershey, PA on November 23 and 24, 2003. Expenses for this conference include \$165.00 for registration, \$48.00 for travel, \$111.18 for lodging for a total cost of \$324.18 and will be paid for through Title IIA funds.

Approve the request of David Humenik to attend the 82nd Annual National Council of Teachers of Mathematics conference from April 21-24, 2004. Expenses for this conference include \$160.00 for registration, \$60.00 for travel, \$50.00 for meals, \$320.00 for lodging for a total cost of \$590.00 plus the cost of a substitute teacher for two days and will be paid for through Title IIA funds.

Approve the request of Elissa Gerstel to attend a Bureau of Education and Research conference on January 13, 2004. Expenses for this conference include \$169.00 for registration, \$15.00 for meals, for a total cost of \$184.00 plus the cost of a substitute teacher for one day and will be funded through Title IIA funds.

Approve the request of Kathy Walter, to attend a conference sponsored by Staff Development Resources on December 11, 2003. Expenses for this conference include \$155.00 for registration plus the cost of a substitute teacher for one day and will be funded through Title IIA funds.

Approve the request of Patricia Jones to attend a Bureau of Education & Resource conference on January 14, 2004. Expenses for this conference include \$169.00 for registration plus the cost of a substitute teacher for one day and will be funded through Curriculum and Instruction funds.

Approve the request of Michelle Raber to attend a Bureau of Education & Resource conference on January 14, 2004. Expenses for this conference include \$169.00 for registration, 42.00 for travel for a total cost of \$211.00 plus the cost of a substitute teacher for one day and will be funded through Curriculum and Instruction funds.

Approve the Northern Lehigh Middle School Student Activities Account Fund Statement for the month of October 2003, as presented.

Board Policy

Approve revisions to existing school board policy #235 – Student Rights/Responsibilities, as presented after second reading.

Approve revisions to existing policy #707 – Use of School Facilities and Equipment, as presented after second reading.

Approve to adopt new school board policy #912.1 – Research Involving District Students, Faculty, and Staff, as presented after second reading.

Approve to adopt new school board policy #918 – Title I Parent Involvement, as presented after second reading.

Homebound Instruction

Grant homebound instruction for the following students:

An 11th grade student, Student No.05-66600, for five hours per week, effective November 10, 2003 and terminating on December 15, 2003.

POLICY

A 9th grade student, Student No.07-02800, for five hours per week, effective November 18, 2003 and

(Con't.) terminating on or about March 6, 2004.

Approve the Northern Lehigh High School Student Activities Fund Statement, as presented, for the month of October 2003.

ROLL CALL: YEA: Mr. Cox, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green (5)
NAY: Mr. Beers, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Ms. Papay (4)

**CURRICU-
LUM AND
INSTRUC-
TION**

A motion was made by Mr. Cox, with a second made by Mrs. Geronikos, that the Board of Education approve the following items listed under Curriculum and Instruction:

Approve the following teacher as a helping teacher in the Northern Lehigh School District Induction Program for the 2003-2004 school year:

Induction
Program

Helping Teacher	Inductee	Stipend
Marlene Simock	Elissa Gerstel	\$750.00

Behavioral
Health Assoc.
Agreement

Approve to authorize proper officials to enter into an agreement with Behavioral Health Associates, Inc. and Northern Lehigh School District for the purpose of furnishing educational services for the 2003-2004 school year.

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Ms. Papay (9)
NAY: None (0)

**OLD
BUSINESS**

A motion was made by Ms. Papay, with a second made by Mrs. Ganser, that the Board of Education revisit the request of the high school student seeking a donation from the board to defray the costs of attending the Pennsylvanians at the National Young Leaders Conference in Washington, DC and allocate a \$200 donation to support his request.

ROLL CALL: YEA: Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Giles, Ms. Papay, Mr. Beers (4)
NAY: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Green (5)

Motion defeated.

Set Up Fund
Box

A motion was made by Mrs. Ganser, with a second made by Ms. Papay, that the Board of Education approve to have the administration set up a fund box in all of the buildings to encourage the students, faculty, and staff members to help this student.

YEA: None (0)
NAY: Mr. Beers, Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Ms. Papay (9)
Motion defeated.

Pass A
Basket At
Meeting

Linda Faust, a member of the audience, suggested that the board pass a basket to seek donations from the people in attendance at the meeting. A total of \$40.00 was collected and was later presented to the student.

Mrs. Giles expressed some concerns regarding her feelings and her vote for officers at the reorganization meeting.

NEW

A motion was made by Mr. Cox, with a second made by Mrs. Ganser, that the Board of Education approve the

BUSINESS

Additional Individual Administrative Goals inclusion of one additional and one revised individual administrative goal to be included with the 2003-2004 Northern Lehigh School District Individual Administrative Goals.

Additional Individual Administrative Goals

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Ms. Papay (9)

NAY: None (0)

Mr. Green announced that the Board would once again discuss reconfiguration of the elementary schools at the December 8 school board meeting. A large portion of that meeting will be devoted to reconfiguration and updating all financial and student information to date. Mr. Green announced he will honor questions regarding reconfiguration during the Recognition of Guests portion of the meeting.

Mr. Cox stated that the board has already given direction to the administration to proceed with reconfiguring the elementary schools and unless there is a motion to move in a different direction, reconfiguration should be a "dead" issue.

Formally Revisit Reconfiguration Of Elementary Schools

A motion was made by Mrs. Ganser, with a second made by Mr. Beers, that the Board of Education should hold a structured meeting to revisit the reconfiguration of our elementary schools one more time for new board members and members of the community who have concerns.

Public Comment On The Motion

Kathryn Pradel – Slatington – Feels that reconfiguration should be looked at again and stated several reasons she thought it should be.

ROLL CALL: YEA: Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Ms. Papay
Mr. Beers, Mr. Green (7)

NAY: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer (2)

Motion carried.

Mr. Green distributed an Administrative Evaluation for the Superintendent to all board members and all Act 93 administrators. He asked that they complete the evaluations and return them at the next board meeting. An envelope will be provided at the board table to place the completed evaluations inside.

FINANCIAL

A motion was made by Mr. Dorshimer, with a second made by Mr. Follweiler, that the Board of Education approve the following financial items:

PC Abatements Approve abatement of per capita taxes, as presented, for the residents that fall within the guidelines.

Construction Bills Approve payment of bills from the Construction Account, as presented.

Extended Construction Bills Approve payment of bills from the Extended Construction Account, as presented.

Cash Management Portfolio Approve the Arthurs Lestrange Cash Management Portfolio for the month of October 2003.

FINANCIAL

(Con't.)

Real Estate Tax Refund Approve the following 2003-04 real estate tax refund due to duplicate payment:
Home Settlement Services (mortgage company) o.b.o. owners Michael & Cheryl Jucknik for parcel #555170447994 in the amount of \$3,982.57.

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos,
 Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Ms. Papay (9)
 NAY: None (0)

LEGAL

Appoint Solicitor For 2003-2004 A motion was made by Mr. Cox, with a second made by Mr. Follweiler, that the Board of Education approve to appoint the law firm of Steckel & Stopp as solicitors for the Northern Lehigh School District for 2004 at a retainer fee of \$1750.00.

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos,
 Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Ms. Papay (9)
 NAY: None (0)

INFORMATION

All board members received copies of the minutes of the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit Board of Directors meeting held on October 20, 2003 and the minutes of the Washington Township Board of Supervisors meeting held on October 14, 2003.

RECOGNITION OF GUESTS

Donna Kulp – Slatington – Presented the Board with a document containing information that has been gather and questions she would like answered.

Terri Caldwell – Slatington – Expressed concerns with classroom design of the Slatington Elementary building. Are there any physical improvements planned?

Greg Williams – Asked that the board get together as a whole, no matter what the decision would be, and come to a conclusion with regard to reconfiguration. He asked that all board members put their minds together and agree on a decision.

Kathryn Pradel – Slatington – Addressed transportation issues.

Barbara Kremposky – Slatington – Will YCare be offered at both schools? How will transportation be handled?

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Follweiler, with a second made by Mr. Beers, that the regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors be adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos,
 Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Ms. Papay (9)
 NAY: None (0)

Respectfully submitted

Bryan C. Dorshimer
 Secretary

ATTEST: _____ President

Mathias J. Green, Jr.