### NORTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board Minutes Special Board Meeting Slatington, PA August 30, 2004

#### **PURPOSE**

A special meeting of the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors, for the purpose possibly interviewing and appointing an applicant for an open Board seat, hearing certain reports from district architects and financial advisors, considering future financing options and other general business was called to order by the President, Mr. Mathias J. Green, Jr., at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, August 30, 2004 in the auditorium located in the Northern Lehigh Middle 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. William H. Hazzard, Mr. Mathias J. Green, Jr. (8)

Members absent: None (0)

Non-members present: Dr. Nicholas P. Sham, Sr., Mrs. Lynn Fedorcha, Mr. Robert Kern, Dr. Linda Marcincin, Mrs. Karen Nicholas, Mr. John Hrizuk, Mr. David Papay, Mr. Brian Geiger, Ms. Christine Stafford, Ms. Laurie Newman, Mrs. Doneta Merkle

Public Comment Donna Kulp – Requested permission to speak on any agenda item. Carol McCoy – Requested permission to comment on Item III A.

# NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Green solicited the wishes of the board as to how they wanted to conduct the appointment of a new school board member.

Mr. Cox suggested that they follow the same procedure as before, i.e., ask each candidate to tell the board a little about themselves and indicate why they want to be on the board and what is their most pressing issue. Mr. Cox asked that each candidate leave the room until they are called for their interview. The resumes for each candidate were distributed to all board members.

Gregory Williams – his most pressing issue is the public's opinion of the board. The largest thing that the board needs to deal with is trying to convey from the board and from the administration to the general public what the school needs to have done and why it needs to have things done. There is a large part of the community that wants to have the taxes remain the same or go down, of if they go up hopefully they will not go up by much. It is the board's job to get the community behind them. For as long as he has lived in the community anytime he generally talks about the school district the general reaction he received was not positive. Not saying that the school isn't doing good things for the children. That has never been anything that he's heard. He's always heard about the district's good reputation. When you talk about financial matters and administrative matters and some public perception in that regard, that is where there are some things that can be improved and he feels that he can help that. He would like to see an improvement to the district's web site. That is a good place for people to access information to see what is going on in the district. He would love to see some type of information page or some type of forum set up where administrators, board members, etc. can go on with members of the public and get some feedback.

Donna Kulp – has been attending meetings for the last year and a half. She has been in various positions at Lehigh Valley Hospital that she feels would benefit the board. She has worked on budgets and has experience with grant writing. She thinks the children are our future. And she

# NEW BUSINESS (Con't.)

would like to insure that they are provided the best and most appropriate education that the district can responsibly provide. She would like to see our community come together by utilizing all of our resources and insure that everyone is taken care of the best that we can. She'd look for alternative funding. She thinks that is how the district can reduce the burden on the taxpayers in the district. She would use Northwestern as a model. She feels that they work together as a community. The teachers, the parents, the board are all on the same page.

Susan Fullas – is a former board member for 13 years from 1986 to 1991. During that time she served on numerous negotiations committees, the policy committee, she was board president for two years and board secretary for numerous years. She also served on the CLIU board for approximately six years. She resides in Washington Township for 29 years. She has a son who is 24 years old and is a product of Northern Lehigh School District of which she is very proud. She said her civic duty is calling her once again and she would be willing to fill in for the term vacated by Ms. Papay.

Carol McCoy – she would like to be on the board to help out with the decisions that are being made. Obviously there are a lot of things going on financially, i.e., the feasibility study and she would like to be a part of that. She has the time. She is currently a stay at home mom. She left the workforce willingly two years ago after working managing IT equipment. She is familiar with groups and working with people and she just wants to be able to help out. She has two children in the district, one in the middle school and one in the elementary school.

Nominate Susan Fullas Mr. Cox nominated Susan Fullas to fill the open board seat vacated by Ms. Angelique Papay. Mrs. Geronikos seconded his motion.

Nominate Donna Kulp Mrs. Ganser nominated Donna Kulp to fill the open board seat vacated by Ms. Angelique Papay.

Nominate Carol McCoy Mr. Beers nominated Carol McCoy to fill the open board seat vacated by Ms. Angelique Papay.

Nominate Gregory Williams Mr. Hazzard nominated Gregory Williams to fill the open board seat vacated by Ms. Angelique Papay.

Vote On

ROLL CALL: YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Geronikos,

Susan Fullas

Mr. Hazzard, Mr. Green (6) NAY: Mr. Beers, Mrs. Ganser (2)

Susan H. Fullas Elected

By the procedure that had been adopted, Mrs. Susan H. Fullas was nominated for appointment and duly to elected to fill the open board seat vacated by Ms. Angelique Papay.

Oath Of

President Green administered the Oath of Office to Mrs. Susan H. Fullas.

Office

I, Susan Fullas, do solemnly swear to obey, defend and protect the Constitution of the United States and the Constitute of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and serve the duties of my office with fidelity.

Governor To Out

District

Dr. Sham informed the board that Governor Rendell will be visiting our district at the Peters Rendell Elementary School to observe the Head Start Program. This is the first Head Start Program that Visit is a collaboratively developed Head Start Program. The reason we have had the ability to put this program in place is that it comes as a result of Head Start putting together a competitive grant that was approved through the Pennsylvania Department of Education and through part of our Accountability Grant. It is the first time that this type of a program has been put together.

# NEW BUSINESS

(Con't.)

As a result of that and because of the emphasis that has been put on early intervention, Governor Rendell's office called Community Services for Children and informed them that the Governor would like to make a visit on September 27 to the Northern Lehigh School District because of the emphasis we placed on our program. The Northern Lehigh Educational Foundation was one of the main organizations that played a role in getting this Head Start Program off the ground.

Feasibility Study Mr. Barry Brobst, of the Architectural Studio, gave a presentation of the feasibility study that the administration asked him to prepare. This study was to look into the future for Presentation possibly the next five, ten, fifteen years and try to determine what the district might need in order to be able to maintain and provide the best educational programs for our students. The request for this study came from the Technology/Buildings and Grounds Committee. The administration was told to not only look at immediate things, but to look into the future as well.

Dr. Sham reiterated that this feasibility study is not a recommendation to go out and borrow money or begin a building project at this time. It is only a recommendation which allows the board to, if they choose at any time, or be faced with at any time, the need to do any of these projects they can do it and it will certainly be cheaper for the community and the public than any other kind of funding that can be done.

Financial Discussion Parameters Resolution Mr. Les Bear of Arthurs LeStrange and Company talked about several things relative to Barry Brobts' presentation. His intent was to talk about a parameters resolution regarding the presentation that he has presented. He stated that it is not a recommendation to enter into purchase contract to levy the debt and sell the bonds and have debt service to be paid within six months. If the board were to entertain the suggested projects over the next five years, the presentation tonight is that a parameters resolution allows the board to enter into an agreement of "not to exceed" in borrowing an amount of money, and that amount is \$24 million. If the board should decide not to do anything with the facilities they have not incurred any costs. There is no expense to the district for this resolution other than the cost of advertising in the newspaper.

## **FINANCIAL**

Mrs. Geronikos made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Hazzard, that the Board of Education adopt a resolution presented by financial advisor, Arthurs Lestrange & Company, and Bond Counsel Rhoads & Sinon LLP to incur future non-electoral debt not to exceed \$24,000,000.

ROLL CALL: YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser,

Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Hazzard, Mrs. Fullas, Mr. Green (8)

NAY: Mr. Beers (1)

Motion carried.

NOTE: Mr. Cox was not present at the table when the vote was called. He returned to the board table after the motion was approved and he indicated that he voted yes on the financial resolution.

#### PERSONNEL

Mrs. Geronikos made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Ganser that the Board of Education approves the following items listed under Personnel:

Resignations Instructional Christine Monfredi Accept the resignation of Christine (Koder) Monfredi from her position as 4<sup>th</sup> grade learning support special education teacher in the Slatington Elementary School, effective August 10, 2004.

Sandra Michalik Accept the resignation of Sandra Michalik from her position as special Education teacher in the senior high school, effective August 12, 2004.

### **PERSONNEL**

(Con't.)

Non- Accept the resignation of Patricia Ingles, from her position as one-on-one special

Instructional Patricia Ingles education aide in the senior high school, effective August 10, 2004.

Co-Curricular

Accept the resignation of Sandra Michalik, from her position as Freshman Class Advisor and Sandra Michalik SADD Advisor for the 2004-2005 school year, effective August 12, 2004.

Appointments Instructional Christina Dieter Temporary Professional Employee

Assignment: Special Education Learning Support Teacher in the Senior High

School, replacing Kristie Croll, who was administratively transferred to

Slatington Elementary as a Title I Teacher.

Salary: \$37,000 (Step 1 Bachelors on the 2004-2005 CBA Salary Schedule)

Effective Date: August 25, 2004

Michael Hammond Temporary Professional Employee

Assignment: Special Education Emotional Support Teacher in the Senior

High School, replacing Sandra Michalik, who resigned.

Salary: \$37,000 (Step 1 Bachelors on the 2004-2005 CBA Salary Schedule)

Effective Date: August 25, 2004

Vonda Lorson Temporary Professional Employee

Assignment: Business/Computer/Information Technology Teacher in the

Senior High School, replacing Steven Zong, who resigned.

Salary: \$37,000 (Step 1 Bachelors on the 2004-2005 CBA Salary Schedule)

Effective Date: August 25, 2004

Sarah White\* Temporary Vacancy Replacement

Assignment: Special Education Learning Support Teacher in the Middle School,

replacing Tammy Fristick who was granted an extension of her leave for

the first semester of the 2004-2005 school year.

Salary: \$37,000 (Step 1 Bachelors on the 2004-2005 CBA Salary Schedule)

Effective Date: September 1, 2004

Termination Date: On or about January 25, 2005

\*Pending Verification of Clearances

Denise Plotsko\* Temporary Vacancy Replacement

Assignment: Grade 5 elementary teacher, in the Slatington Elementary School, replacing

Laurie Ramsey who was granted a child rearing leave.

Salary: \$37,000 (Step 1 Bachelors on the 2004-2005 CBA Salary Schedule)

Effective Date: On or about October 7, 2004
Termination Date: On or about January 25, 2005

\*Benefits Waived: Former Northern Lehigh School District employees who retired under provisions of an ERI granting health insurance benefits paid in full or in part and who are contracted to return to service under the emergency provisions of Act 63 of 2004 shall not be entitled to any paid benefits during the period of time they return to service. Benefits shall include health, dental, life, long term disability, vision reimbursement, and employer paid retirement contributions. The returning retiree shall continue to be entitled to any unexpired benefits provided under the provision of the ERI in effect when they retired.

Non- Linda Nails\*

Instructional Assignment: Instructional Aide in the Slatington

Elementary School, replacing Andrea Thomson, who was administratively transferred to Special Education Aide in the Slatington Elementary School. She will work 6 ½ Hours Per Day/5

Days Per Week

-5-

**PERSONNEL** 

(Con't.) Salary: \$9.17 Per Hour (Step 0 on the 2004-2005 Educational

Support Staff Hourly Rate Schedule)

Effective Date: September 7, 2004

\*60-Day Probationary Period

Administrative Nicole Quinter

Transfer From: Temporary Vacancy Replacement Special Education

Instructional Teacher in the middle school, who was replacing Tammy Fristick.

To: Temporary Professional Employee

Special Education Learning Support Teacher in the

Slatington Elementary School, replacing Christine (Koder) Monfredi,

who resigned.

Salary: \$37,000 (Step 1 Bachelors on the 2004-2005 CBA Salary Schedule)

Effective Date: August 25, 2004

Non- Andrea Thomson

Instructional From: Instructional Aide in the Slatington Elementary School.

To: Special Education Learning Support Classroom Aide in

the Slatington Elementary School, replacing Marilyn Sulzer, who resigned.

Salary: \$9.45 Per Hour -- Step 3 on the 2004-2005 Educational Support

Staff Hourly Rate Schedule)

Effective Date: September 7, 2004

Veronica Gabovitz

From: Lunchroom Aide in the Senior High School

To: Cafeteria/Hall Monitor in the Middle School, replacing

Kim Wagner, who was administratively transferred to

Special Education Aide in the middle school.

Salary: \$9.45 Per Hour -- Step 1 on the 2004-2005 Educational Support

Staff Hourly Rate Schedule)

Effective Date: September 7, 2004

Substitutes Approve the following substitute teacher for the 2004-2005 school year at the substitute teacher rates Instructional of \$70.00 for 1-10 non-consecutive days; \$80.00 for 11-20 non-consecutive days; and \$90.00 for 21+

non-consecutive days: James Labosky - Elementary K-6

Non- Approve the following substitute aide/secretary for the 2004-2005 school year at the 2004-2005

Instructional substitute rate of \$7.25 per hour: Kimberly Kurtz – Instructional Aide/Secretary

Approve the following substitute cafeteria worker for the 2004-2005 school year at the 2004-

2005 substitute rate of \$7.25 per hour: Kimberly Kurtz

Approve the following substitute custodians for the 2004-2005 school year at the

2004-2005 substitute rate of \$7.25 per hour:

Wendy Green Frank Zamadics

Employ Approve to employ Maria Pinnata as a School Psychologist for the Northern Lehigh School District at

Maria Pinnata

a salary of \$42,000.00, effective as soon as a start date can be determined. Ms. Pinnata will work 191 days per year with an additional stipend to be determined by the budget process for added summer duties paid on a per diem basis. She will be a member of the Act 93 Administrative Group.

#### PERSONNEL

(Con't.) ROLL CALL: YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos,

Mr. Hazzard, Mrs. Fullas, Mr. Beers, Mr. Green (8)

NAY: Mr. Dorshimer (1)

Motion carried.

**POLICY** Mr. Cox made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Beers that the Board of Education approves

the following items listed under Policy:

Conferences Approve the request of Deborah Geiger to attend a CLIU conference on August 27, 2004. Expenses for

this conference include \$150.00 for registration and will be funded through Title I funds.

Approve the request of Susan Heil to attend a CLIU conference on August 27, 2004. Expenses for

this conference include \$150.00 for regis tration and will be funded through Title I funds.

ROLL CALL: YEA: Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Hazzard,

Mrs. Fullas, Mr. Beers, Mr. Cox (7)

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

Motion carried.

CURRICU-LUM AND INSTRUC-TION Mr. Dorshimer made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Follweiler that the Board of Education approves the following teachers as helping teachers in the Northern Lehigh School District Induction Program for the 2004-2005 school year:

Helping Teacher	Inductee	Stipend
Jim Yadush	Jonathan DeFrain	\$750.00
Bryan Geist	Dylan Sapir	\$750.00
Erv Prutzman	Douglas Reynolds	\$750.00
Sharon Hunsicker	Gail Barilla	\$750.00
Nina Green	Nicole Quintor	\$750.00
Elizabeth Vasquez	Thomas Mertus	\$750.00
Kristie Ahner	Christina Dieter	\$750.00

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos,

Mr. Hazzard, Mrs. Fullas, Mr. Green (9)

NAY: None (0)

INFORM-

The Technology/Buildings & Grounds Committee meeting scheduled for Wednesday,

**ATION** September 1, 2004 has been rescheduled for Wednesday, September 8, 2004 at 6:30 p.m. in the

Slatington Elementary School Boardroom.

RECOG-NITION OF GUESTS David Edwards – "I want to ask youse a question. Do any of youse people know what the Constitution is? Do youse? I guess youse don't because youse just violated everybody's rights that pay taxes. Youse are a bunch of "jackasses", all of youse, every last one of youse. Youse wouldn't know what was good for the public if youse fell off a tree. Especially you Green, I know you all my life and you Dorshimer, all my life." "Who do you have working in the district?" Mr. Dorshimer responded, "that's my wife". Mr. Edwards stated, "that's right you shouldn't even be here." Mr. Green asked Mr. Edwards to address his questions to him as President of the Board. Mr. Edwards responded "I don't

even want to talk to you." "As for you Mr. Sham, you and that potato chip man, and you (looking at Mr. Green), straight at you, I'm telling you that right now." Mr. Green asked "should I take that as a threat". Mr. Edwards responded "it's a promise, it's a promise". Mr. Green stated "OK, I think your time is up Mr. Edwards". Mr. Edwards responded "my time's up, why don't you throw me out if you think you can." Mr. Green stated "if you're just going to sit there and threaten your time is up". "I'm not threatening no one, I'm promising, I'm coming straight at you". Mr. Green asked if

there was anyone else who would like to address the board. Mr. Edwards interrupted by stating "how does that woman get to vote when she don't even know what is going on". Mr. Green asked once again if anyone else wanted to address the board. He didn't see anyone raise their hand (Mr. Edwards uttered "jack ass" once again) and Mr. Green asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. Ganser requested a short executive session after the meeting regarding negotiations.

## ADJOURN-MENT

A motion was made by Mr. Follweiler, which was seconded by Mr. Beers, that the special meeting of the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors be adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos,

Mr. Hazzard, Mrs. Fullas, Mr. Green (9)

NAY: None (0)

Respectfully submitted,

Bryan C. Dorshimer Secretary

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_ (President)

Mathias J. Green, Jr.