

**NORTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Board Minutes**

**Slatington, PA  
June 6, 2005**

**PURPOSE**

The regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors was called to order by the President, Mr. Mathias J. Green, Jr., at 7:40 p.m. on Monday, June 6, 2005 in the gymnasium located in the Slatington Elementary School.

Mr. Green apologized for the board's tardiness in beginning the meeting. They were involved in an executive session and had some personnel issues that they were not able to conclude in time. He also announced that the board would need to take a brief executive session under Item I of the agenda to discuss negotiations.

**ROLL CALL**

Members present: Mr. Franklin D. Beers, Mr. Robert J. Cox, Mr. Bryan C. Dorshimer, Mr. Raymond J. Follweiler, Jr., Mrs. Susan H. Fullas, Mrs. Lauren A. Ganser, Mrs. Lori H. Geronikos, Mr. William H. Hazzard, Mr. Mathias J. Green, Jr. (9)

Members absent: None (0)

Non-members present: Dr. Nicholas P. Sham, Sr., Mrs. Lynne Fedorcha, Mr. Philip Bertolino, Mr. Robert Kern, Dr. Linda Marcincin, Mrs. Karen Nicholas, Mr. John Hrizuk, Mr. David Papay, Mr. Brian Geiger, Ms. Christine Stafford, Attorney Charles Stopp (Solicitor), Mrs. Laurie Newman-Mankos, Ms. Andrea Madochick, and Mrs. Doneta Merkle

**PUBLIC  
COMMENT**

Paul Hoffman – Has a New Business item he would like to comment on. Mr. Green informed him that he would be recognized under the Recognition of Guests portion of the agenda.

**VISITORS**

Approximately 41 visitors attended the meeting, in addition to Joel Kern, reporter for The Times News and Terry Ahner, reporter for The Chronicle.

**SPECIAL  
BOARD  
REPORTS**

Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit – Mr. Bryan C. Dorshimer

Mr. Dorshimer commented on items listed on the CLIU Board Brief that was distributed to all board members. He also announced that the CLIU budget needed to be revised due to an increase of the CLIU's budget for 2004-2005 and 2005-2006. He explained that the CLIU was billing at old rates that caused the CLIU to under bill all the districts in the Intermediate Unit.

Lehigh Career and Technical Institute -- Mrs. Lauren Ganser

Mrs. Ganser reported for Mrs. Geronikos who was not able to attend the meeting. She reported that she attended on the evening of the LCTI awards night and she reported that Northern Lehigh was represented very well having approximately 9 or 10 recipients of awards and scholarships.

Legislative Report -- Mrs. Lori H. Geronikos

Mrs. Geronikos reported on Act 72, sharing with the board that 111 school boards opted in out of the 501 school districts in the state of Pennsylvania.

Committee Reports and/or Meetings

All board members received copies of the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on April 25, 2005, minutes of Finance Committee meeting held on May 23, 2005, and the minutes of Technology/Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting held on May 4 and June 1, 2005.

Federal and Other Programs Update -- Mrs. Lynne B. Fedorcha

Mrs. Fedorcha announced that the district would be having their pre-kindergarten celebration on June 9 beginning at 11:45 a.m. at the Peters Elementary School. There will be a luncheon and a program performed by the children in the Head Start Program.

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

Ag Fair Report – Dr. Sham introduced Dr. Linda Marcincin, principal of Slatington Elementary School, who in turn introduced Tim Weaber, Debra Siglin, and Jim Bauer who gave a presentation on the Ag Fair that was held at Slatington Elementary School.

Dr. Sham reported about his visit to the Cornwall-Lebanon & Elanco School Districts where he observed how full day kindergarten and reading programs were conducted in those districts.

He announced that there was a change in the Act 80 Day in April to coincide with “Take Your Child To Work Day”. April 27 will be an act 80 day (Teacher In-service), and April 28 will be a regular school day.

He distributed a memo from the athletic director and what the proposed budget cuts would do to the athletic budget.

He also announced that he received a letter from the staff at Peters Elementary regarding the air quality problem in the building. He read the letter to the board and he also announced that the report from the environmental company the district employed to study the problem has given the district a “clean bill of health” in every room throughout the building. If the board wanted further action on this situation they should let him know.

Executive Session The board broke for an Executive Session 8:15 p.m. to discuss negotiations. They reconvened at 8:45 p.m.

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

Appointment KathySue Tschudy\*  
Assignment: Administrative Secretary – Full-time 12 Month Position  
Central Administration Office for the Secretary to the Director of Curriculum and Instruction, replacing Patricia Gilbert.  
Salary: \$29,300.00  
Effective Date: June 15, 2005  
\*60-Day Probationary Period

Administrative Transfer Robert Kern  
From: High School Assistant Principal  
To: Middle School/High School Assistant Principal, replacing David Papay.  
Effective Date: July 1, 2005  
Salary: \$75,264.00

Substitutes Instructional Approve the following substitute teacher for the 2004-2005 school year at the substitute teacher rates 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:

Richard R. Rupnik – All Subject Areas  
Tina Rothenberger – Elementary Education & Special Education  
Robert Naugle -- Mathematics

Resignation/ Retirement Carol Rose, cooks helper in the Peters Elementary School, has submitted her letter of resignation, effective June 30, 2005 at which time she will begin her retirement from the Northern Lehigh School District after 10 years of service.

Resignation Instructional Tammy Fristick, learning support special education teacher in the middle school. On May 11, 2005 she informed the district that her resignation would be effective at the end of the 2004-2005 school year.

**PERSONNEL** (Con't.)

FMLA  
Todd Green Approve the request of Todd Green, custodian at Peters Elementary School, to take a Family Medical Leave of Absence beginning May 13, 2005 and ending on June 24, 2005. He plans to return to work on June 27, 2005.

Co-Curricular Appointments for 2005-2006

Head Boys Basketball Coach – Richard Oertner -- \$6414.28  
 Assistant Boys Basketball Coach – Richard Mantz -- \$4168.66  
 Assistant Boys Basketball Coach – Dennis Rehrig -- \$4168.66  
 Head Girls Basketball Coach – David Redline -- \$6414.28  
 Assistant Girls Basketball Coach – Renee Evans – 4168.66  
 Head Wrestling Coach – Todd Herzog -- \$6414.28  
 Assistant Wrestling Coach – Brent Herzog -- \$4168.66  
 Assistant Wrestling Coach – Glenn Serfass -- \$4168.66  
 Cheerleading Advisor – Lil Borger – One Half Stipend of \$2834.61  
 Cheerleading Advisor – Kathy Neff – One Half Stipend of \$2834.61  
 Senior High Winter Intramural – Winter Track – Bryan Geist -- \$751.32  
 Senior High Winter Intramural – Steve Hluschak – Weightlifting -- \$751.32  
 Senior High Winter Intramural – James Tkach – Weightlifting -- \$751.32  
 Senior High Scholastic Scrimmage – Denise Turoscy -- \$751.32  
 Debate Advisor – Scott DeLong -- \$1286.19  
 Middle School Field Hockey – Elissa Gerstel -- \$2448.00  
 Middle School Girls Basketball – Jason Reinhard -- \$4086.00  
 Academic Challenge Eight – Kristin Helfrich -- \$405.84

Volunteer Coaches for 2005-2006

Approve the following unpaid volunteer coaches for the 2005-2006 school year:

Robert Hughes –Volunteer Boys Basketball Coach  
 Peter Reese – Volunteer Boys Basketball Coach  
 Courtney Wertman – Volunteer Girls Basketball Coach  
 LeAnn Hoch – Volunteer Cheerleading Advisor

ROLL CALL: YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Fullas, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Hazzard,  
 Mr. Green (6)  
 NAY: Mr. Beers, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Ganser (3)

Motion carried.

Mr. Beers made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Hazzard, that the Board of Education remove from the table the co-curricular positions which were tabled at the May 2, 2005 meeting.

ROLL CALL: YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Cox, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Fullas, Mrs. Geronikos,  
 Mr. Hazzard, Mr. Green (7)  
 NAY: Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Ganser (2)

Motion carried.

Mrs. Geronikos made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Beers, that the Board of Education approve the co-curricular positions for 2005-2006 that were removed from the table.

Head Football Coach – James Tkach -- \$6414.28  
 Assistant Football Coach – Samuel Bonner -- \$4168.66  
 Assistant Football Coach – Steve Hluschak -- \$4168.66  
 Assistant Football Coach – Glenn Serfass -- \$4168.66  
 Assistant Football Coach – Joe Tout -- \$4168.66  
 Assistant Football Coach – Ryan VanNorman -- \$4168.66  
 Half Time Assistant Football Coach – Mike Feifel – (One Half of \$4168.66)

PERSONNEL (Con't.)

Half Time Assistant Football Coach – Chad Henritz – (One Half of \$4168.66)

Head Cross Country Coach – David Oertner -- \$3842.95  
 Assistant Cross Country Coach – Beth Case -- \$2497.45  
 Head Field Hockey Coach – Jessica Schoenberger -- \$3842.95  
 Assistant Field Hockey Coach – Kelly Follweiller -- \$2497.45  
 Head Boys Soccer Coach – Timothy Nickischer -- \$4636.35  
 Assistant Boys Soccer Coach – Cliff Logue -- \$2575.75  
 Majorette/Band Front Director – Crystal Stehly & Lauri Stehly (Shared Stipend of \$1928.24)  
 Senior High Fall Intramural – Tennis – Renee Evans -- \$751.32  
 Senior High Fall Intramural – Weightlifting/Indoor Floor Tennis – Todd Herzog -- \$751.32  
 Senior High Fall Intramural – Basketball – David Redline -- \$751.32  
 Senior Class Play Director – Matthew Wehr -- \$1368.39

Unpaid Volunteer Coaches for 2005-2006

Approve to appoint the following unpaid volunteer coaches for the 2005-2006 school year:

Volunteer Football Coach – Douglas Reynolds  
 Volunteer Boys Soccer Coach – Douglas Keichel  
 Volunteer Boys Soccer Coach – Crystal Kistler

ROLL CALL: YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Cox, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Fullas, Mrs. Geronikos,  
 Mr. Hazzard, Mr. Green (7)  
 NAY: Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Ganser (2)

Motion carried.

**POLICY**

Mrs. Fullas made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Hazzard, that the Board of Education approves the following items listed under Policy:

- Conferences Laurie Newman-Mankos – AYP & Students with IEP's Conference – Sponsored by PATTAN & PDE – June 29, 30, July 1, 2005 – Penn State University. Total Approximate Total Cost -- \$174.00 -- registration \$50.00, travel \$124.00 – General Fund.
- Tina Williams – Peters Elementary Life Skills Aide – Sensory Strategies in the Classroom – Handwriting without Tears: A Multi-Sensory Approach to Handwriting Conference – Sponsored by CLIU 21 – June 30, 2005. Approximate Total Cost: \$100.00 for registration – IDEA Funds.
- Andrea Madochick – Food Services Director – Child Nutrition Program & Law Conference – Sponsored by Penn State University Dept. of Nutritional Sciences & PA Department of Education – State College – June 14 & 15, 2005. Approximate Total Cost -- \$310.00 – travel \$158.00, lodging \$152.00 – Cafeteria Fund
- Thomas Mertus – Special Ed Teacher – New Teacher Conference – Sponsored by Pattan & PA Dept. of Education – State College – June 22, 23, 24, 2005. Approximate Cost -- \$352.00 – registration \$50.00, travel \$124.00, lodging \$178.00 – IDEA Funds (
- Student Representative To The Board Approve Nathan Hunsicker as a Student Representative to the Board for the 2005-2006 school year. Nathan has been elected as the junior representative to the board and will serve from September 2005 through June 2006. Jessica Fidler will serve as a student representative to the board as the senior representative until June 2006.
- Non-Resident Student Approve to permit a Slatington Elementary student, whose parents have moved from the Northern Lehigh School District on May 16, 2005, to remain in attendance for the duration of this school term in accordance with School Board Policy #202.

**POLICY** (Con't.)

- Board Policy Second Reading Approve new school board policy #116 – Programs – Tutoring, as presented after second reading.

Approve new school board policy #210.1 – Pupils – Possession/Use of Asthma Inhalers, as presented after second reading.

Approve revisions to school board policy #803 – Operations – School Calendar, as presented after second reading.

Approve revisions to school board policy #217.1 – Pupils – Early Graduation, as presented after second reading.

Approve revisions to school board policy #804 – Operations – School Day, as presented after second reading.

Lions Club  
Car Show

Approve the recommendation of the Technology/Buildings and Grounds Committee to permit the Slatington Lions Club to use campus grounds to host their Annual 2005 Car Show, which will be held on Sunday, September 3, 2005 (rain date September 4). It is understood that they will be billed for custodial services for using the grounds. It is the responsibility of the Lions Club to provide sufficient security for the event. It is also the responsibility of the Lions Club to make any necessary repairs to the area used.

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Fullas, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Hazzard, Mr. Green (9)

NAY: None (0)

**CURRICU-  
LUM AND  
INSTRUCT-  
ION**

Mr. Cox made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Ganser, that the Board of Education approves the following items listed under Curriculum and Instruction:

Title I, Title VI, Title II & Drug-Free Schools & Communities Act – 2005-2006

Approve to authorize proper officials to execute contracts for Title I, Title VI, Title II, and Drug-Free Schools and communities Acts for the 2005-2006 school year.

CLIU Driver  
Education  
Program For  
2005-2006

Approve to authorize proper officials to ratify a contractual agreement between the Northern Lehigh School District and the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit #21 to continue the Driver Education Program in our district, effective July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006.

Summer  
Reading  
Camp

Approve to authorize the administration to employ eight elementary teachers at a stipend of \$1510.50 per teacher (approximate total \$12,084) and one Title I aide at a stipend of \$10.02 per hour, to conduct a Title I Summer Reading Camp for Title I eligible K-4 students based on teacher recommendation. The Reading Camp will be conducted in the Peters Elementary School from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Monday through Friday from July 18 through August 5, 2005. Expenses for this program will be paid for through Title I funds.

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Fullas, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Hazzard, Mr. Green (9)

NAY: None (0)

**OLD  
BUSINESS**

Mrs. Geronikos made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Fullas, that the Board of Education approves to authorize the administration to implement a full day kindergarten program at the Peters Elementary School, effective with the 2005-2006 school year. The maximum net cost for this program is budgeted to be \$204,500.00 and would be funded with \$181,793 of Accountability Block Grant funding and \$22,707.00 in local funding for a one time start up cost.

Mr. Green requested permission to reserve the right to bring this item back during budget discussions if there was a need to do so.

**PUBLIC  
COMMENT**

April Krempasky – Washington Township – Informed the board that she has been speaking with many parents in the district about full day kindergarten and she stated that 9 out of 10 parents support full day kindergarten and she thinks it is the best thing that could happen to Northern Lehigh School District. She encouraged the board to move ahead with full day kindergarten.

Janet Peck – Washington Township – At the Act 72 meeting Mr. Green made a statement that there are a lot of things cut from our curriculum and he would hesitate purchasing a home in our district. If she had to do it all again, and if there is money to better our curriculum and we don't use it, she would hesitate to move into a district that cannot provide better basic education for our children. She thinks all day kindergarten is necessary. Dr. Sham gave enough research to show that it is necessary. She hopes that all of the board votes in favor of full day kindergarten.

ROLL CALL: YEA: Mr. Cox, Mrs. Fullas, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Hazzard (4)  
NAY: Mr. Beers, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mr. Green (5)  
Motion defeated.

**FINANCIAL**

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

PC Abate- ments	Approve abatement of per capita taxes, for the residents that fall within the guidelines, as presented.
Construction Account 2004 AAA Bills	Approve payment of bills from the Construction Account 2004 AAA Financing, as presented.
Cash Manage- ment Portfolio for April 2005	Approve the Arthurs Lestrangle Cash Management Portfolio for the month of April 2005.
NLMS Student Activities Fund Statement	Approve the Northern Lehigh Middle School Student Activities Fund Statement for the month of April 2005.
Transfer Funds	Authorize the transfer of \$100,000 from the General Fund 2004-05 undesignated fund balance to the Capital Reserve Fund to be invested for purposes of future long range maintenance needs per the district plan.
Sewing Machine Maintenance Agreement	Approve a maintenance agreement for the 2005-2006 school year with Allentown Sewing Machine Outlet. The agreement covers sewing machines located as follows:  Middle School – 12 machines at \$25.00 per machine plus parts = \$300.00 Senior High School – 16 Machines at \$25.00 per machine plus parts =\$400.00

**FINANCIAL** (Con't.)

Bonds For Secretary & Treasurer For 2005-2006	Approve to renew the following expiring bonds for the 2005-2006 fiscal year through HRH Palley Simon Associates:  1. A \$50,000 Board Secretary Bond for the term of July 1, 2005 to July 1, 2006 at an annual premium of \$175.00.
--	---

2. A \$50,000 Board Treasurer Bond for the period July 1, 2005 to July 1, 2006 at an annual premium cost of \$269.00.

Insurance Award insurance coverage for the 2005-2006 school year to the following companies:  
Coverage For  
2005-2006

1. Commercial Package and Automobile (Vehicle Liability, General Liability, Property Insurance and Boiler and Machinery) Graphic Arts (UTICA) National Insurance Company -- \$52,598. The premium is an increase of \$4315 over last year's rate.
2. Commercial Umbrella Liability Insurance – Crum & Forster Insurance Company -- \$13,566. The renewal is with the same company as last year and the premium is the same as 2004-2005.
3. School Leaders Errors and Omissions Liability -- \$13,927 AIG-National Union, a decrease of \$503.
4. Worker's Compensation Coverage – PSBA Insurance Trust/Old Republic – estimated premium of \$64,387, a decrease in rate, final cost based on payroll.

Depositories Authorize the following financial institutions to act as approved depositories for school  
For Schools district funds and or temporary investments. The Northern Lehigh School Board further authorizes the following financial institutions to transfer funds on deposit to any other bank for the credit of the Northern Lehigh School District. The Board further authorizes the Business Manager and/or Superintendent to enter into agreements, supplements or amendments to agreements to implement the foregoing operations for the 2005-2006 school year:

M & T Bank	Neff's National Bank
Harleysville National Bank	Commerce Bank of Pennsylvania
Susquehanna-Patriot Bank	
Pennsylvania Local Government Investment Trust (PLGITP)	
Prudential-Bache Government Securities Trust	
Wachovia National Bank	

Appoint Tax Appoint Mr. Ronald Klevenhagen as Earned Income Tax Collector, Delinquent Earned  
Collector Income Tax Collector, Emergency & Municipal Service Tax Collector (formerly Earned Income Tax Collector), and Real Estate and Per Capita Tax Collector for the 2005-2006 school year. It is further recommended that proper officials be authorized to secure, on behalf of the above named individual, a \$250,000 bond for the fiscal year July 1, 2005 through June 20, 2006.

Appoint Insurance Appoint Hilb, Rogal and Hamilton Company (HRH) Palley Simon Associates as the district  
Broker insurance broker for Property, Casualty, Liability and Workers' Compensation insurance for the 2005-2006 school year.

Pay Bills For Approve to grant permission to the business office to pay construction, insurance, and  
Month Of utility bills that are scheduled for payment during the month of July as required by contract.  
July There is no scheduled board meeting in July.

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

Delinquent Approve the appointment of Statewide Tax Recovery as the delinquent per capita tax  
Tax Collector collector and delinquent earned income tax collector for the district for the 2005-2006 school year.

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Fullas, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Hazzard, Mr. Green (9)

NAY: None (0)

Nomination of Treasurer Mrs. Fullas made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Ganser, to reappoint Mr. Robert J. Cox as Treasurer of the Northern Lehigh School District Board of Education for the 2005-2006 fiscal year effective July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006, as required by Section 404 of the Pennsylvania School Code of 1949, as amended. There is no stipend attached to this position.

Close Nominations Mr. Follweiler made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Beers, to close the nominations for Treasurer of the Northern Lehigh School District Board of Education.

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Fullas, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Hazzard, Mr. Green (9)

NAY: None (0)

Robert J. Cox Treasurer Mr. Cox was unanimously elected Treasurer of the Northern Lehigh Board of Education for the 2005-2006 fiscal year effective July 1, 2005 through June 20, 2006.

Nomination of Secretary Mr. Follweiler made a motion to approve to appoint Mr. Bryan C. Dorshimer as Secretary of the Northern Lehigh School District Board of Education for a four (4) year term, effective July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2009, as required by Section 404 of the Pennsylvania School Code of 1949, as amended. There is no stipend attached to this position.

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Fullas, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Hazzard, Mr. Green (9)

NAY: None (0)

Close Nominations Mrs. Ganser made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Beers, to close the nominations for Secretary of the Northern Lehigh School District Board of Education.

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Fullas, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Hazzard, Mr. Green (9)

NAY: None (0)

Bryan C. Dorshimer Secretary Mr. Dorshimer was unanimously elected Secretary of the Northern Lehigh Board of Education for a four (4) year term, effective July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2009.

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

PlanCon Part J Approve submission of Part J "Project Accounting Based on Final Costs" to PDE for Northern Lehigh Middle School (Project #2741) and Northern Lehigh High School (Project #2622). The PlanCon document has been audited by Hutchinson, Gorman and Freeh CPA and submission of same will establish a permanent reimbursement rate for these projects.

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

Award Fuel period Bids Approve the awarding of bids for diesel fuel and unleaded gasoline, with a contract from July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006:

**DIESEL FUEL** – Awarded to – Farm & Home Oil Co. @

- a firm price of \$1.9577 per gallon (normal blend)
- a firm price of \$2.0027 per gallon (70%/30% blend)

**UNLEADED GASOLINE** – Awarded to – Farm & Home Oil Co. at a firm price of \$1.89198 per gallon.



YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Gullas, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Hazzard, Mr. Green (9)  
NAY: None (0)

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Mr. Dorshimer received legal correspondence from Steckel & Stopp and he requested that all board members receive a copy of the correspondence.

**INFORMATION**

All board members received a copy of the minutes of the Lehigh Carbon Community College Board of Trustees meeting held on May 5, 2005, the minutes of the Slatington Parks and Recreation Commission meeting dated April 18, 2005, and the minutes of the Lehigh Career & Technical Institute Joint Operating Committee meeting held on April 27, 2005 and the LCTI Director's report for May 2005.

**RECOGNITION OF GUESTS**

Paul Hoffman – Slatington Borough – Addressed the possibility of implementing a life skills class. Next year his son will be attending the life skills class at Slatington Elementary as a sixth grade student. He asked that the board consider, not only for his son, but other students in the class, that they continue to conduct a life skills program in the district through high school so that the children can graduate from the district they live in.

**RECESS**

Mr. Green called for a courtesy break at 9:40 p.m. The board reconvened at 9:50 p.m.

**BUDGET DISCUSSION**

Business Manager, Christine Stafford, distributed new budget sheets and began discussion.

Mr. Green – Asked for an explanation of the PDE grants that Ms. Stafford addressed.

Mrs. Fullas – Wanted to know how many mills are reflected in the new information given to the board.

Ms. Stafford -- Using the scenario of the administration's recommendation, or the suggestions made by the board, the millage rate would drop from a blended rate of 5.08 to 4.71. The 4.71 does not include the shortfall from the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit.

Mr. Dorshimer – If the board approved a \$23,878,000.00 budget are we allowed to increase the budget?

Ms. Stafford – Yes we can, for compelling, unexpected, or extraordinary expenses according to a legal opinion received.

Mr. Beers – How many mills would it take to make full day kindergarten possible?

Ms. Stafford – Full day kindergarten would be funded through the Accountability Block Grant. The only cost would be a first time startup cost of \$29,000 -- \$22,000 of that would come from local funds as a one-time expense.

Chris Stafford distributed an information sheet that dealt with the Budgeted -vs- Estimated Costs for the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit 21 that showed a \$257,580 shortfall for the 2004-2005 school year and \$409,724 for the 2005-2006 school year. These shortfalls were due to miscalculations on the part of the CLIU and did not represent the IU projections that were given to the district as of March 31, 2005. The \$400,000 (\$9724 can be absorbed in the budget without increasing the millage through use of IDEA funds) needed to be added to the budget is not included in the 4.71 millage rate. It would require an additional 1.97 mills.

Mr. Follweiler – Wanted to know what the total millage rate would be with the additional 1.97?

Ms. Stafford – Told him that would be 6.8 mills. That would be a blended rate.

Mr. Beers – How many mills would the budget be increased for full day kindergarten?  
He asked if there could be another vote on full day kindergarten.

Revote On Full Day Kindergarten Mr. Beers made a motion that the Board of Education takes another vote on putting full day kindergarten back in the budget and pay for it out of the accountability grant and increase the budget by \$22,707.00.

Mr. Cox asked if he could second the motion being on the other side. Attorney Stopp informed the board that the motion needs to be made by someone on the prevailing side of the vote.

4.71 Mill Increase Mr. Green made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Beers, to adopt a final budget and take \$400,00 out of fund balance for the 2005-2006 Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit shortfall costs and take an additional \$25,000 (a one time start up cost for full day kindergarten) out of fund balance and implement full day kindergarten in the 2005-2006 school year and keep the mileage rate at 4.71 mills.

Ms. Stafford – Asked if Mr. Green meant fund balance and not capital reserve?

Mr. Green – Mr. Green informed her he meant fund balance.

Mr. Dorshimer – Asked if there was a \$25,000 recurring cost for full day kindergarten. Ms. Stafford informed him that it was \$2,500.

2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment Mr. Green made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Ganser, to amend the previous motion to include the statement that if the district does not get the Accountability Block Grant full day kindergarten will not be implemented for the 2005-2006 school year.

Mr. Cox asked “if a permanent vote on this motion would adopt a budget? I’d like to make comment before the budget is passed. This could be considered an amendment to the motion, maybe even a way to get some more money. I trust Attorney Stopp emphatically, but there are questions on this extraordinary added expense with the IU funding. At the time of our preliminary budget Mr. Dorshimer knew we were going to take a hit. He might not have known how much, maybe he did have a ballpark idea, but Mr. Dorshimer sat there totally quiet, possibly worried about his own skin in the primaries, letting us pass a preliminary budget without saying a word on this. All it would have taken was ‘hey guys there’s something going on at the IU, there’s possibly going to be some extra funds – not a single word was breathed on this topic. I know a lot of us would probably have thought differently, it’s only preliminary, maybe we ought to hold back on this a little bit. How many of us would have voted differently to keep us out of what could be a predicament if somebody challenged our reading on the preliminary budget. It could possibly put programs in jeopardy. Personally, I can’t trust Mr. Dorshimer as an “Ambassador to the IU” after this. I just can’t trust him to come back from there and protect our interest.”

Mr. Cox made a motion to remove Mr. Dorshimer from the Intermediate Unit Board and place Susan Fullas on as the Intermediate Unit Board member for the remainder of her term.

Mr. Green asked that Mr. Cox defer his motion until after the board has voted on the motion that is currently on the floor to adopt a budget.

Mr. Dorshimer – “But I should be able to retaliate.”

Mr. Green went back to the motion that is on the floor to adopt a budget and asked for public comment on the budget.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Bryan Geist – Head Track Coach – Addressed his concerns about liability in losing a track coach as part of the budget cuts for the 2005-2006 school year. He also expressed concerns about cutting money from the athletic budget.

Jim Tkach – Head Football Coach -- Addressed the issue of cutting a football coach. Stressed the importance of athletics and academics.

Frank Schaffer – He is proud of the athletic programs in our district.

Ms. Stafford informed the board that the last mileage rate that the board agreed to was 5.08 blended, not 4.71. The board has not taken action to lower the mileage rate to 4.71. The board asked the administration to come back with what it would look like if the administration took out full day kindergarten. If full day kindergarten were in it would be as the original motion was given to the board by Mrs. Geronikos under the preliminary budget at 5.2 mills.

Vote On 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment  
 ROLL CALL: YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Hazzard, Mr. Green (8)  
 NAY: Mrs. Fullas (1)

Amend Motion To 5.08 Mill Increase  
 Mr. Green made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Fullas to amend the original motion to increase the mileage to a 5.08 blended mill increase by increasing the 4.71 mills in the original motion, take 1.97 from the fund balance to arrive at the blended 5.08 millage rate.

Board Discussion  
 Mr. Dorshimer – Asked Attorney Stopp a legal question as to how the board can vote on a blended rate versus what the Lehigh County mileage is and what the Northampton County mileage is. Chris Stafford gave the individual millage rates to Mr. Dorshimer.

Vote On 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment  
 ROLL CALL: YEA: Mrs. Fullas, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Hazzard, Mr. Green, Mr. Beers (6)  
 NAY: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler (3)  
 Motion carried.

Vote On Main Motion With Amendments Included  
 ROLL CALL: YEA: Mr. Hazzard, Mr. Beers, Mr. Cox, Mrs. Fullas, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Green (7)  
 NAY: Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler (2)  
 Motion carried.

**ADOPTION OF 2005-2006 NORTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET**

It is recommended that the Board of Education adopt a budget for the Northern Lehigh School District for the 2005-2006 school year in the amount of \$24,365,956.

1. A 56.82 mill (or \$5.68 per \$100 of assessed valuation) tax on Real Estate for Lehigh County and a 51.47 mill (or \$ 5.15 per \$100 of assessed valuation) tax on Real Estate for Northampton County. An increase of 5.22 and 4.47 mills over 2004-2005.
2. A \$5.00 Resident Per Capita Tax, taxable on 18 year olds and over based on Section 679 of the School Code of 1949. No change from 2004-2005.
3. Taxes under Act 511 with no changes from 2004-2005:
  - a. A 1% Earned Income Tax shared equally with coterminous municipalities.

- b. A Realty Transfer Tax shared equally with the coterminous municipalities.
- c. A \$10.00 Per Capita Tax (\$5.00 under Act 511 and \$5.00 under Section 679 of the School Code of 1949), taxable on residents age 18 and over.
- d. A \$10.00 Emergency and Municipal Service Tax (formerly Occupation Privilege Tax).

Remove Mr. Dorshimer From CLIU Board  
 Mr. Cox made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Geronikos, to remove Mr. Dorshimer from the Intermediate Unit Board and place Susan Fullas on as the Intermediate Unit Board member for the remainder of her term.

Comment  
 Mr. Dorshimer addressed the fact that Mr. Cox stated that he did not forward information to the board. He stated that our preliminary budget was passed the first Monday in May. At the CLIU meeting where he was finally told that there were some discrepancies he stated that he was told that it was already passed or it was already given to the superintendent at that time. He stated he didn't know the full ramifications of anything until the third Monday in May which made it impossible to make any movement on our preliminary budget. He stated "I don't know where you are coming from stating this unless the Shack up there is giving you some kind of information".

Mr. Cox commented that he understands from the CLIU that it had been known two months ago that something was going to happen. All we would have had to hear was that something is going to happen.

Mr. Dorshimer stated that at that time the information was given in Executive Session at the IU and all board members asked if they could go back to our board and discuss this and we were told no.

Vote On Motion  
 ROLL CALL: YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Cox, Mrs. Fullas, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Hazzard (5)  
 NAY: Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler Mrs. Ganser, Mr. Green (4)  
 Motion carried.

Mr. Dorshimer announced that he is resigning from his position as Secretary of the Board until the election. Mr. Green asked him if he wanted to rethink until next month what he just said. Mr. Dorshimer agreed to this. Mr. Green stated that there would be no action on this.

#### **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 School Directors be adjourned at 10:45 p.m.

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Fullas, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Hazzard, Mr. Green (9)  
 NAY: None (0)

Respectfully submitted,

Bryan C. Dorshimer  
 Secretary

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_ President  
Mathias J. Green, Jr.