

**NORTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Board Minutes**

**Slatington, PA**  
**January 2, 2007**

**PURPOSE** The regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors was called to order by the President, Mr. Peter A. Ruth, at 7:33 p.m. on Tuesday, January 2, 2007 in the boardroom of the Slatington Elementary School.

**ROLL CALL** Members present: Mr. Donald H. Dengler, Mr. Bryan C. Dorshimer, Mrs. Lauren A. Ganser, Mr. Mathias J. Green, Jr., Mr. Gregory S. Williams, Mr. Peter A. Ruth (6)

Members absent: Mr. Franklin D. Beers, Mr. Raymond J. Follweiler, Jr., Mrs. Sheryl A. Giles (3)

Non-members present: Mr. Donald Allen, Mrs. Lisa Blank, Mrs. Jill Chamberlain, Mr. Greg Derr, Mrs. Lynne B. Fedorcha, Mr. John Hrizuk, Dr. Linda Marcincin, Mrs. Laurie Newman-Mankos, Mrs. Karen Nicholas, Mr. David Papay, Ms. Maria Pinnata, Dr. Nicholas P. Sham, Attny. Charles Stopp, Attny. Keith Strohl (Solicitor's Office), Mrs. Dawn Wadsworth, Mrs. Aileen Yadush and Mrs. Sherri Molitoris.

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

Mr. Ruth stated that the board was in executive session prior to the meeting for negotiations and personnel issues.

**SPECIAL BOARD REPORTS**

Legislative Report - Mr. Gregory S. Williams addressed the board concerning Act I and reminded the board that they have until March 13, 2007 to official approve a resolution. He stated that the law requires that prior to March 13, 2007 you must hold one public hearing and we must also advertise for 3 consecutive weeks the boards intention to adopt the question and post for the primary election in May. PSBA recommends that advertising begin this month.

Solicitor's Report - Attorney Charles Stopp forwarded a case onto Dr. Sham that he may wish to share with appropriate administration. He stated that In this post Columbine world there have been a number of cases concerning school security and in this particular case circumstantial evidence was enough to support a severe penalty of expulsion of a 6<sup>th</sup> grade student.

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

The LCTI General Fund Budget and CLIU General Operations Budget were distributed for review and possible approval at the next board meeting.

Reminded board and administration of the closed board retreat being held on Wednesday January 3, 2007 in the board room at Slatington Elementary School.

Dr. Sham recognized that January is School Board Recognition Month. He distributed certificates and information from the Pennsylvania School Boards Association.

Dr. Sham reported that we have received some preliminary results back from the environmental testing out at Peters Elementary. As a result of that, they have recommended some clean up of a few areas in the building. There is no problem but we will be going through an in-house clean up process which they have recommended. After the clean up, they will be back to retest.

He reported that he has been receiving phone calls from parents questioning a possible work stoppage and what will happen if there is one. He stated that a set of guidelines had been developed and is being refined. There will be a letter going out to all parents in the district informing them, should a work stoppage occur, what to expect and how the school district will operate.

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

Substitutes – Approve the following individuals as substitute secretaries/aides for the 2006-2007  
Non- school year at the 2006-2007 substitute rate of \$7.25 per hour.  
Instructional

Rachel Hillegas \*

Veena Barnett \*\*

***\*Pending verification of health physical.***

***\*\*Pending verification of clearances.***

Unpaid Approve the following unpaid volunteer aide in Peters Elementary School for the 2006-  
Volunteers 2007 school year:

Angela Anderson

YEA: Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Ganser, Mr. Green, Mr. Williams,  
Mr. Ruth (6)

NAY: None (0)

## **CONFER- ENCES**

**POLICY** Mrs. Ganser made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Dorshimer, that the Board of Education approves the following policy items:

Board Approve revisions to existing school board policy #006 – Local Board Procedures:  
Policies - Meetings, as presented after first reading.  
Second  
Reading

Board Approve to reaffirm the school board standards and code of conduct referenced in school  
Governance board policy #011 – Local Board Procedures – Board Governance standards/Code of  
Standards/ Conduct as recommended by the Pennsylvania School Board Association.  
Code of  
Conduct

Homebound It is recommended that the Board of Education grant homebound instruction for a 9<sup>th</sup>  
Instruction Student, Student No.1090006, for five hours per week, effective December 19,  
2006 and continuing until March 2007.

YEA: Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Ganser, Mr. Green, Mr. Williams,  
Mr. Ruth (6)

NAY: None (0)

## **CURRIC- ULUM AND INSTRUC- TION**

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Dorshimer made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Ganser that the Board of Education approve the following New Business Item:

Resolution for School Director Recognition Month - January 2007

**WHEREAS**, the role of locally elected school officials has served the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and local communities in meeting the needs of public education since the passage of the Free School Act in 1834; and

**WHEREAS**, these local boards have discharged their responsibilities to public education in a manner which has placed public education in the forefront of our educational systems; and

**WHEREAS**, locally elected officials have distinguished themselves and their communities in this non-paid, volunteer public service commitment; and

**WHEREAS**, the contributions of these men and women who serve on the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors:

- Franklin D. Beers
- Donald H. Dengler
- Bryan C. Dorshimer
- Raymond J. Follweiler, Jr.
- Lauren A. Ganser
- Sheryl A. Giles
- Mathias J. Green, Jr.
- Peter A. Ruth
- Gregory S. Williams

Should be recognized and appreciated by those who benefit from the workings of our public school system;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Executive Board of the Pennsylvania School Boards Association hereby proclaims the month of January as School Director Recognition Month in this commonwealth; and the citizens, students, teachers and administrators of the Northern Lehigh School District seek to honor said directors for their dedication and selfless time commitment to the workings of the district,

**FURTHER RESOLVE** that this proclamation be communicated to all school districts, school officials and local communities in a planned program which brings visibility and awareness of the role of locally elected school officials to the citizenry of this commonwealth and be entered in to the minutes of this meeting of January 2, 2007.

YEA: Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Ganser, Mr. Green, Mr. Williams, Mr. Ruth (6)

NAY: None (0)

ERIP - of 2006-2007

Mr. Green made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Williams that the Board Education approve to adopt an Early Retirement Incentive Plan, for all eligible professional employees, on a voluntary basis, for the 2006-2007 school year.

ROLL CALL:

YEA: None (0)

NAY: Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Ganser, Mr. Green, Mr. Williams, Mr. Ruth (6)

Motion Defeated.

Advertise Public Hearing the Mr. Williams made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Green to authorize administration to advertise for three weeks the district's intention to hold a public hearing on February 12, 2007 at 6:30 p.m. in the Slatington Elementary School Boardroom to discuss local Tax Study Commissions recommended question.

YEA: Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Ganser, Mr. Green, Mr. Williams, Mr. Ruth (6)

NAY: None (0)

**FINANCIAL**  
Board

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

Abatement/ Exonerations Per Capita Approve abatement/exoneration requests of per capita taxes, for the residents that fall within the guidelines, as presented.

Cash November Management Portfolio Approve the Arthurs Lestrage Cash Management Portfolio for the month of November Management2006.

YEA: Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Ganser, Mr. Green, Mr. Williams, Mr. Ruth (6)

NAY: None (0)

**LEGAL**

**CORR-  
ESPON-  
DENCE**

Mr. Dorshimer received notification on the election of the members of the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit Board. On Dec 18<sup>th</sup> action was taken by the CLIU Board of Directors to elect the CLIU board members by a mail ballot. There will be no convention planned for April 2007 and this action is in accordance with Act 30. The ballots will be mailed out in April.

**INFOR-  
MATION**

Minutes of the Washington Township Board of Supervisors meeting held on November 14, 2006 were distributed.

Minutes of the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit 21 Board of Directors meeting held on November 20, 2006 were distributed.

**RECOG-  
NITION OF  
GUESTS**

Chip Klocek – Washington Township asked should the board decide to change the referendum question does the board have to re-advertise so the public has an official document of what they will actually be voting on?

Mrs. Blank said that the final adopted referendum question must be advertised for 3 consecutive weeks.

talk  
definitive school  
there

Susan Firth – Slatington Borough stated, I have a high school student and there is a lot of amongst the students about the teachers and whether they are going on strike and I don't know what we can do at this time to alleviate the students concerns since there is no decision. This is distracting the students from their studies. I would like to applaud the board for the stand they are taking and I feel what the teachers are asking is ridiculous. I appreciate that the school board is looking out for the tax payer. I am concerned about the students being distracted during their school day. Teachers not going in until they get paid. I wish I could do that at my job. I can't walk in the minute I start getting paid. I have to be early enough that I am prepared to work at the time I start getting paid. I don't think that it is unreasonable to expect the teachers to do that also. There is a lot of issues. The kids that walked out a few weeks ago are doing exactly what they see the teachers doing. The teachers don't like the circumstances they are in they are going to pick up their marbles and go home. The students didn't like that they were not allowed to have their iPods or cell phones any more so they did the same thing. It was wrong that they did it in the way they did but they are following the example. I think that teachers need to realize that. I think there are

a lot of unreasonable demands that the teachers have and I want to thank you again for standing firm and looking out for us.

Mr. Ruth stated that we are still in negotiations at this time.

Mr. Dorshimer stated that somewhere in the neighbor hood of 65 lots are coming to the district just in subdivisions that were announced in the Washington Township Borough Meeting Minutes which was his reason for the push at the last meeting for a better study for the district because it will more than likely pay for itself.

**ADJOURN-  
MENT**

Mrs. Ganser made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Williams, that the regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors is adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Sincerely,

Bryan C. Dorshimer  
Secretary

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_ President  
Peter A. Ruth