

NORTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
Regular Meeting
Board Minutes

Slatington, PA
March 11, 2019

PURPOSE The regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors was called to order by the President, Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha, at 7:08 p.m. on Monday, March 11, 2019, in the Administration Office Board Room.

ROLL CALL Members present: Mr. Robin T. Distler, Mr. Mathias J. Green, Jr., Mrs. Michelle M. Heckman, Mrs. Gale N. Husack, Mrs. Donna M. Kulp, Mrs. Michele L. Martineau, and Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha (7)

Members absent: Mr. Robert J. Keegan, Jr. (1)

Non-members present: Mrs. Susan Bahnick, Mrs. Jill Chamberlain, Mr. Greg Derr, Mrs. Rhonda Frantz, Mr. John Hrizuk, Mr. Preston Kemery (Sr. Rep), Mr. Paul Leonzi, Mr. Matthew Link, Mr. Eugene Marks, Mrs. Sherri Molitoris, Mr. Scott Pyne, Dr. Tania Stoker, Attorney Keith Strohl (Solicitor's Office), and Mr. Robert Vlasaty.

VISITORS Approximately ten (10) visitors attended the meeting in addition to Terry Ahner, reporter for The Times News, and Channel 13.

VACANT BOARD MEMBER INTERVIEW ROBERT KERN Mr. Fedorcha asked three questions to the candidate: 1) Why are you interested in serving on the school board? Mr. Kern replied that he started his career in 1980 as a wrestling coach for Northern Lehigh and in 1985 was hired full time as a Health and Physical Education teacher. After 18 years, he went into administration and served as Dean of Students, Assistant Principal and Principal of the High School. He also served as Principal of the Nazareth Middle School. He stated that he has four grandchildren in the district and he would like to give back to the community.

Mr. Fedorcha asked 2) What do you feel you can offer our school board? Mr. Kern explained that he has a wealth of experience, thirty-seven (37) years, as an educator and administrator. He has been involved in many aspects of education from teacher to administrator and has been involved with many programs. He took a school in warning to a blue ribbon school in five (5) years' time. He was named National Principal of the Year in 2014. He has spoken across the country on various topics, he is a trainer in various curriculum areas. He is excited about serving in a different capacity in the education realm. He was also involved in building a new middle school.

Mr. Fedorcha asked 3) What do you think is the biggest challenge to public education now? Mr. Kern replied that finances are the biggest challenge for a small district. He has the perspective as a taxpayer and teacher. He believes we need to find additional ways to fund education for our children. He is very student based and makes sure they have every opportunity possible to make them into productive adults and have the opportunity to succeed.

Mrs. Heckman asked 4) Is there anything that you are involved in that would prevent you from attending any board committee meetings, public board meetings, or any other pre-scheduled board business? Mr. Kern answered that he officially retired last April. He is currently Acting Principal at the Palmerton School District which is slated to end May 1, 2019.

VACANT BOARD MEMBER INTERVIEW COLLEEN KNIGHT Mr. Fedorcha asked three questions to the candidate: 1) Why are you interested in serving on the school board? Mrs. Knight replied that she is really interested in getting involved since she has a child that will be joining the district in a few years. She has been part of many successful committees. She saw the ad in the paper for the open seat and felt it was a great opportunity.

Mr. Fedorcha asked 2) What do you feel you can offer our school board? Mrs. Knight replied new ideas since she has a young child. She is a good communicator and listener and has good judgement.

Mr. Fedorcha asked 3) What do you think is the biggest challenge to public education now? Mrs. Knight replied engagement across the board from students so they are ready for the future.

Mrs. Heckman asked 4) Is there anything that you are involved in that would prevent you from

attending any board committee meetings, public board meetings, or any other pre-scheduled board business? Mrs. Knight answered no that any committees she is involved in take place during her work hours.

**ADJOURN
FOR EXEC-
UTIVE
SESSION**

Mrs. Kulp made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Martineau to adjourn the meeting at 7:21 p.m. for a brief Executive Session.

YEA: Mr. Distler, Mr. Green, Mrs. Heckman, Mrs. Husack, Mrs. Kulp, Mrs. Martineau, and Mr. Fedorcha (7)
NAY: None (0)

Executive session lasted approximately five minutes. The meeting reconvened at 7:26 p.m.

**RECONVENE
REGULAR
MEETING**

Mr. Distler made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Husack to reconvene the regular meeting.

YEA: Mr. Distler, Mr. Green, Mrs. Heckman, Mrs. Husack, Mrs. Kulp, Mrs. Martineau, and Mr. Fedorcha (7)
NAY: None (0)

**VACANT
BOARD
MEMBER
SEAT**

Mr. Fedorcha opened the floor for nominations for the open board seat.

Nomination

Mrs. Martineau made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Distler, to nominate Mr. Robert Kern, Jr., for the open board seat.

YEA: Mr. Distler, Mr. Green, Mrs. Heckman, Mrs. Husack, Mrs. Kulp, Mrs. Martineau, and Mr. Fedorcha (7)
NAY: None (0)
Motion carried.

R. Kern

By unanimous vote, appoint Mr. Robert Kern, Jr., for the open board seat.

Mr. Fedorcha thanked Mrs. Knight and invited her to attend any of the committee meetings and any other ad hoc committee meetings open to the public.

**APPROVE
MINUTES**

Mr. Distler made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Heckman, that the minutes of the regular school board meeting held on February 11, 2019, be approved and ordered filed.

YEA: Mr. Distler, Mr. Green, Mrs. Heckman, Mrs. Husack, Mrs. Kulp, Mrs. Martineau, and Mr. Fedorcha (7)
NAY: None (0)

**SPECIAL
BOARD
REPORTS**

Nominee for
CLIU Board
Represent-
ative
2019-2022

Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit – Mrs. Husack reported that there was no meeting in February and the next meeting is next Monday beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Mr. Distler made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Heckman, that Mrs. Gale Husack be appointed CLIU Board Representative for the term July, 2019 – June, 2022.

YEA: Mr. Distler, Mr. Green, Mrs. Heckman, Mrs. Husack, Mrs. Kulp, Mrs. Martineau, and Mr. Fedorcha (7)
NAY: None (0)

Lehigh Career and Technical Institute – Mr. Fedorcha reported that LCTI will be hosting a ground-breaking ceremony for the new welding lab on Thursday, March 14, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. Mr. Fedorcha encouraged people to attend and take a tour of the facility.

**SPECIAL
BOARD
REPORTS
(cont.)**

Legislative Report – Mrs. Heckman reported that House bill 59 has been referred to the Judiciary committee. This bill amends the Public Employee Pension Forfeiture Act for public officials or employees who plead guilty, no contest, or are convicted of any job-related felony offenses. Under this bill, any offense classified as a felony or punishable by a term of imprisonment exceeding five (5) years will be subject to these provisions.

Committee Reports and/or Meetings

Minutes of the Education/Policy Committee Meeting held on March 6, 2019, were distributed.

Minutes of the Extra & Co-Curricular Committee Meeting held on March 6, 2019 were distributed.

Student Representatives to the Board Report – Mr. Kemery verbally reported on the contents of the student representative report. Mr. Green commended the boys' basketball team for finishing strong.

Solicitor's Report – Attorney Strohl reported on a case dealing with how districts identify minority students for special education, discipline them, or place them in restrictive settings. Districts found to have significantly disproportionality in one or more of these areas must set aside 15 percent of their federal special education funding to spend on remedies.

Business Manager's Report – Mrs. Frantz reported that she and Mrs. Molitoris attended the PASBO Conference last week and the information will be shared with the board via Mr. Link's weekly update. Mrs. Frantz thanked the board for allowing her and Mrs. Molitoris to attend the conference.

Assistant to the Superintendent Report - Dr. Stoker reported that we recently had an evaluation done on our High School's Schoolwide Positive Behavior Support program. Dr. Stoker turned over her report to Mr. Vlasaty who explained to the board the results of the evaluation.

Dr. Stoker reported that the new Comprehensive Plan begins on July 1, 2019. One of the major focuses across the district is Schoolwide Positive Behavior Support. Each of our buildings addresses it a little different due to the age groups. Three of our four buildings have gone through an evaluation which will help shape how we move forward with the program.

Ms. Martineau asked if the only place we fell short was staff articulation. Mr. Vlasaty answered, yes, and he will take a look at his approach and delivery and he will work with the new protocols and address it at the next faculty meeting.

Superintendent's Report - Mr. Link announced that we will be hosting the CLIU Reading Olympics on May 2, 2019, from 3:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. at the Middle School. As of today, we have thirteen teams participating from surrounding districts, and each team will consist of approximately 10-15 students. Mr. Link commended Mr. Shawn Green for his hard work in bringing this to fruition.

Mr. Link announced that Mr. James Schnyderite is completing an internship, and part of that internship is that he gets exposed to different opportunities outside of his traditional teaching role. Mr. Schnyderite and Kyle Kromer attended a PSBA sectional meeting last week. Mr. Schnyderite shared the highlights of the meeting. One of the main topics was Advocacy. Advocacy day is April 29, 2019, in Harrisburg. The purpose of advocacy is that even one or two people can make a difference when it comes to public education. Another topic addressed was the Safe2Say Something program. Updated statistics were shared. The state is receiving approximately 1,100 tips per week and of those tips, approximately 1% of those tips were knowingly false and 99% were deemed legitimate. The importance of students remaining anonymous is paramount. Lastly, a representative from PA Emergency management shared, that as a school district, we should not wait for an emergency to open up the book. He recommended that districts make sure they review their plans. Another push was to have tabletop exercises to be prepared for any situation as it brings in outside stakeholders. Mrs. Heckman announced that she attended Advocacy Day last year. She explained that it was an incredible opportunity to get face to face time with local and state representatives. Mrs. Heckman stated that she is planning to attend again this year.

Mr. Link encouraged everyone to view the new art collection on the back wall that was done by Slatington Elementary students.

**SPECIAL
BOARD
REPORTS
(cont.)**

Mr. Link reported that we received a donation of various items embroidered with the Northern Lehigh logo from Lehigh Valley Apparel. These items included t-shirts, sweatshirts, jackets, gym bags, bookbags, and winter hats that valued at approximately \$400.00. We are very appreciative of the generosity of Barbara and Yalcin and their donations will go directly to students in need in the Northern Lehigh School District. This donation truly embodies the Northern Lehigh Community spirit.

Mr. Fedorcha reported that an executive session was held prior to tonight's meeting to discuss personnel issues.

PERSONNEL

Mr. Fedorcha asked for a motion to approve personnel items with the effective date of March 12, 2019 inserted in Letter "B." Mrs. Kulp made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Green, that the Board of Education approves the following personnel items:

Resignation/ Retirement P. Leonzi	With regret, accept the retirement resignation of Paul Leonzi from his position as Principal of Peters Elementary School, effective June 30, 2019. Mr. Leonzi will be retiring from the Northern Lehigh School District after 35 years of service. He requests that all applicable benefits to which he is entitled be granted upon the implementation of his retirement.		
Administrative Transfer Non- Instructional S. Haas	Stephen Haas From: To: Salary: Effective:	Computer Technician Technology Systems Coordinator \$60,000 (prorated for the 2018-2019 school year) March 12, 2019	
Appointment Instructional	Kayla Turner Assignment: Salary: Effective: Termination Date:	Temporary Vacancy Replacement First Grade Teacher at Peters Elementary School replacing a teacher who is on a family medical leave of absence Substitute Teacher Rate Days 1-30; Day 31 and beyond \$48,750 prorated (Step 1 Bachelors on the 2018-2019 CBA Salary Schedule On or about February 27, 2019 End of the 2018-2019 school year	
Appointment Non-Instructional	Julie Niebell Assignment: Salary: Effective: *60 Working Day Probationary Period	Middle School Cook's Helper \$12.00 Per Hour; 3 Hours per day; 5 Days per Week/up to 180 Student Days per year plus additional cleaning days as needed (2017-2021 Educational Support Personnel CBA) March 12, 2019	
District Wide Permanent Substitute A. Miller	Approve the following individual as District Wide permanent substitute teacher for the 2018-2019 school year. She will be paid a daily per diem rate of \$120 and will receive district health benefits according to the Affordable Care Act regulations with co-payment amounts equivalent to that of district personnel. Aubrey Miller		
Co-Curricular Resignation 2018-2019	Accept the resignation of Katie Cappuccino from her position as Assistant Track & Field Coach - Shared Stipend - \$1,603.00, for the 2018-2019 school year that was originally approved at the January 14, 2019 school board meeting.		
Co-Curricular Appointments 2018-2019	Motion to renew the appointment of the following Co-Curricular position for the 2018-2019 school year:		
	Dylan Hofmann	MS Spring Intramurals - Weightlifting	\$ 888.00
Co-Curricular Appointment 2018-2019	Rajeev Gupta	Asst. Track & Field Coach – Shared Stipend	\$1,603.00

PERSONNEL**(cont)**

Substitute Non-Instructional Custodian Motion to approve the appointment of the following individual as substitute custodian for the 2018-2019 school year at the 2018-2019 substitute rate as approved on the Supplemental Personnel Salary Schedule:

Francis Cross*

*Pending Verification of Missing Personnel File Items

YEA: Mr. Distler, Mr. Green, Mrs. Heckman, Mrs. Husack, Mrs. Kulp, Mrs. Martineau, and Mr. Fedorcha (7)

NAY: None (0)

On behalf of the board, Mr. Fedorcha thanked Mr. Leonzi for his years of service to the district and wished him well. Mr. Leonzi will be missed.

Mr. Link thanked Mr. Leonzi and stated that he enjoyed working with him for the last year. He served the staff, students and community well over the years.

Mr. Link also recognized and congratulated Mr. Stephen Haas on his new position.

POLICY

Mrs. Husack made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Martineau, that the Board of Education approves the following policy items:

Board Policy First Reading Approve school board policy #810 – Operations – Transportation, as presented after first reading.

Board Policy Waive Second Reading Approve to waive the second reading of the following policy involving current extenuating circumstances of nonresident students:
Approve school board policy #202 – Pupils – Attendance of Nonresident Students, as presented.

Board Policy Second Reading Approve school board policy #210.1 – Pupils – Possession/Administration of Asthma Inhalers/ Epinephrine Auto-Injectors, as presented after second reading.
Approve school board policy #808 – Operations – Food Services, as presented after second reading.

Homebound Instruction It is recommended that the Board of Education grant homebound instruction for a 3rd grade student, Student No. 2890008 for five hours per week, effective August 27, 2018 and continuing until approximately April 30, 2019.

NL Computer Program Club Initial Application Approve the initial club/activity application for the High School Computer Programming Club. This club will advance students' knowledge and understanding in computer programming. Students will work on small projects and work collaboratively to learn programming and possibly enter competitions. The club will meet once a week from 2:15 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. This club will adhere to the guidelines within Policy #122.

Field Trip NHS National Honor Society - High School – New York City, NY – May 31, 2019 – This trip is fully funded by the High School National Honor Society students.

Non-Resident Student Approve the request of a parent of a junior at the High School and a sixth grade student at Slatington Elementary, who are moving out of the district, to allow their students to finish the 2018-2019 school year in Northern Lehigh School District's Bulldog Academy in accordance with student policy #202.

YEA: Mr. Distler, Mr. Green, Mrs. Heckman, Mrs. Husack, Mrs. Kulp, Mrs. Martineau, and Mr. Fedorcha (7)

NAY: None (0)

**CURRIC-
ULUM AND
INSTRUC-
TION**

Mrs. Martineau made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Green, that the Board of Education approves the following curriculum and instruction item:

CLIU #21 Notice of Adoption of Policies, Procedures & Use of Funds
 Approve to adopt the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit's Notice of Adoption of Policies, Procedures and Use of Funds by School District for submission with the 2019-2020 IDEA B, Section 611 project application, as presented.

CLIU Special Education Services Agreement 2019-2020
 Approve to authorize the Superintendent to execute an agreement between the Northern Lehigh Lehigh School District and the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit #21 to provide special education services for the 2019-2020 school year.

2019-2020 School Calendar
 Approve the 2019-2020 Northern Lehigh School District Calendar, as presented.

OLSDH Official Local School District Holidays
 Approve the resolution to identify Official Local School District Holidays (OLSDH) in accordance with PA School Code Section 1502.

YEA: Mr. Distler, Mr. Green, Mrs. Heckman, Mrs. Husack, Mrs. Kulp, Mrs. Martineau, and Mr. Fedorcha (7)
 NAY: None (0)

**NEW
BUSINESS**

Mr. Distler made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Martineau, that the Board of Education approves the following New Business Item:

MOU Administrative Support Staff
 Approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Northern Lehigh School District and the Administrative Support Staff to include the position of Technology Systems Coordinator into this agreement and to further set the appropriate salary for a new employee in this classification.

YEA: Mr. Distler, Mr. Green, Mrs. Heckman, Mrs. Husack, Mrs. Kulp, Mrs. Martineau, and Mr. Fedorcha (7)
 NAY: None (0)

FINANCIAL

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

Financial Reports
 Approve the Following Financial Reports:
 General Fund Account month of February, 2019
 Capital Construction Fund month of February, 2019
 Cafeteria Fund month of February, 2019

List of Bills
 Approve the Following List of Bills:
 General Fund months of February & March, 2019
 Cafeteria Fund month of March, 2019

Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce
 Approve to allow administration to apply for membership in the Greater Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce at a fee of \$400.00 per year, to be paid from the Superintendent's budget.

Summer Help 2019
 Approve to allow administration to advertise and hire six (6) summer workers and one (1) supervisor. The rate for summer workers will not exceed \$10.00 per hour and the rate for the supervisor will not exceed \$15.00 per hour.

FINANCIAL

(cont)

PEPPM Mini-Bid E-rate

Motion to approve the awarding of the PEPPM Mini-Bid proposal from IntegraOne for \$320,729.76, to replace/upgrade our existing network infrastructure, district-wide, contingent upon receiving E-Rate funding. The additional cost over the E-Rate funding will be paid from the 2019-2020 Assigned Technology Fund Balance.

YEA: Mr. Distler, Mr. Green, Mrs. Heckman, Mrs. Husack, Mrs. Kulp, Mrs. Martineau, and Mr. Fedorcha (7)

NAY: None (0)

INFORMATION

Minutes of the Lehigh Carbon Community College Board of Trustees meeting held on January 3, 2019, were distributed.

Minutes of the Lehigh Career & Technical Institute Joint Operating Committee held on January 23, 2019, were distributed.

Mrs. Angela Williams, Slatington Borough, reported on the success of the NLYAA Fifth and Sixth Grade Girls' Basketball travel team. Mrs. Williams named the team members: Sixth Grade – Kaitlyn Barthold, Dakota Barthold, Jackie Richards, Nicole Zarayko, Fifth Grade: Adrianna Danyluk, Jayleigh Morales-Gillmeyer, Fiona Jones, Natalie Moffit, Ella Tosh, Leah Wentz and Arianna Williams. The girls were coached by Shannon Jones. With eleven wins and two losses, they went to the championship playoffs on February 23 and 24, 2019. They lost the final game by two points. They are ranked #2 out of 14 teams. The High School and Middle School girls' coaches came to watch the girls play in their final games. She added that we need to hear more about the Elementary sports teams.

Mr. Fedorcha stated that on behalf of the board, they are very proud of the girls for representing Northern Lehigh. Mrs. Williams stated that there is a Facebook page for NLYAA girls' basketball, if anyone is interested.

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Distler made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Martineau, that the regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh School District Board of School Directors is adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

YEA: Mr. Distler, Mr. Green, Mrs. Heckman, Mrs. Husack, Mrs. Kulp, Mrs. Martineau, and Mr. Fedorcha (7)

NAY: None (0)

Respectfully submitted,

Gale N. Husack
Secretary

ATTEST: _____ President
Gary S. Fedorcha