

# NORTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

## Board Minutes

Slatington, PA  
March 4, 2002

**PURPOSE** The regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh School District Board of School Directors was called to order by the President, Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha, at 7:45 p.m. on Monday, March 4, 2002 in the cafeteria of the Peters Elementary School.

**ROLL CALL** Members present: Mr. Bryan C. Dorshimer, Mrs. Jane J. Escott, Mrs. Lauren A. Ganser, Mrs. Lori H. Geronikos, Mrs. Sheryl A. Giles, Mr. Mathias J. Green, Jr., Mr. Jason M. Newhard, Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha (8)

Members absent: Mr. Robert J. Cox (arrived at 8:44 p.m.) (1)

Non-members present: Dr. Nicholas P. Sham, Sr., Mr. Christopher Iacobelli, Dr. Linda Marcincin, Mrs. Karen Nicholas, Mr. John Hrizuk, Mr. David Papay, Mr. Robert Mack, Mr. Brian Geiger, Mr. Bernard Rockovich, Atty. Neil Ettinger (Solicitor), Mr. Jeffrey Bachman, Ms. Laurie Newman, and Doneta Merkle

**VISITORS** Approximately thirteen visitors attended the meeting, in addition to Elizabeth Bartolai, reporter for the Morning Call.

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

Committee Reports and/or Meetings All board members received copies minutes of the Policy/Education Committee meeting held on February 19, 2002, the Technology/Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting held on February 6, 2002, and the Finance Committee meeting held on February 25, 2002.

Legislative Report -- Mrs. Lori H. Geronikos  
Mrs. Geronikos reported on recent legislative actions.

Superintendent's Report -- Dr. Nicholas P. Sham, Sr.  
Dr. Sham's report included the following:

1. Sue Gower's Grade 6 students explained their responsibilities with the worm bin. Accompanying them was Mrs. Gower's student teacher, Mrs. Susan Hubler from Kutztown University.
2. Sharon Karpiszin and several Peters Elementary students demonstrated the TV News Broadcast that is conducted each morning at Peters Elementary School.
3. Sandy Hopkins and several Grade 2 Students did some poetry readings for the board and visitors attending the meeting.
4. Donna Maruschak and several of her Tech Team students did an iBook demonstration.

Dr. Sham announced that the Technology/Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting would be changed from April 3 to April 4 because of the CLIU School Board Conference. Dr. Sham also announced that the Policy/Education Committee meeting scheduled for March 18 will be held on March 20.

Information that was requested by the board with regard to the middle school costs for personnel and curriculum and instruction was distributed to all board members. Dr. Sham informed the board that a decision with regard to these costs needs to be made at the next board meeting so the administration can proceed with scheduling and planning for a middle school concept.

Executive Session An Executive Session for personnel issues was held prior to, and immediately following, the meeting.

**PERSONNEL** A motion was made by Mr. Dorshimer, with a second made by Mrs. Geronikos, that the Board of

Education approve the following personnel items:

Salary Adjustment Acknowledge the following teacher who has completed the requirements per the Collective Bargaining Agreement that would entitle her to a salary increase for the second half of the 2001-2002 school year:

Janet McKelvey  
 From: 3B \$35,400  
 To: 3B+24 \$36,000

Resignation Accept the resignation of Marsha O'Brian, special education aide in the senior high school, effective February 8, 2002.

YEA: Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green,  
 Mr. Newhard, Mr. Fedorcha (8)

NAY: None (0)

Agreement With Food Services Director A motion was made by Mr. Dorshimer, with a second made by Mrs. Geronikos, that the Board of Education approve to enter into a three-year agreement between the Northern Lehigh School District and the district's Food Services Director, Mr. Paul Horner, commencing on October 1, 2001 and ending on October 1, 2004.

ROLL CALL: YEA: Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mr. Green, Mr. Newhard, Mr. Cox, Mr. Fedorcha (6)  
 NAY: Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles (3)

Motion carried.

### POLICY

A motion was made by Mrs. Geronikos, with a second made by Mrs. Giles, that the Board of Education approve the following items listed under Policy:

Conferences Approve the request of Elizabeth Vasquez, Sandra Hopkins, and Janet Hofelich, to attend an Otter Creek Institute conference in Allentown on April 1, 2002. Expenses include \$135.00 each for registration for a total of \$405.00 and will be paid for through IDEA funds.

Approve the request of Dawn Wadsworth to attend a conference sponsored by Delaware Valley Partners in Healthcare Assoc. and Foundations Behavioral Health in Horsham, PA on April 18, 2002. Expenses include \$75.00 for registration, \$10.00 for meals, \$24.00 for travel for a total cost of \$109.00 and will be paid for through IDEA funds.

Approve the request of Dawn Wadsworth to attend the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Penn Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) Conference in State College on April 5, 2002. Expenses include \$90.00 for registration, \$45.00 for meals, \$108.00 for travel, \$80.00 for lodging, \$25.00 membership dues for a total cost of \$348.00 and will be paid for through IDEA funds.

Approve the request of Dawn Wadsworth to attend the Association of School Psychologist 2002 Spring Conference from March 21-23, 2002 in Harrisburg, PA. Approximate expenses include \$260.00 for registration, \$100.00 for meals, \$45.00 for travel, \$180.00 for lodging for a total cost of \$585.00.

Approve the request of Glenn Rissmiller to attend the 35<sup>th</sup> Annual PA State Athletic Director's Association conference in Hershey, PA on March 20, 21, 22, 2002. Expenses include \$215.00 for registration, \$90.00 for meals, \$28.00 for travel, \$225.00 for lodging for a total cost of \$578.00 plus the cost of a substitute for one day. Expenses for this conference have been included in the 2001-2002 athletic budget.

### POLICY (Con't.)

Approve the request of Robert Kern and Chris Iacobelli, to attend a Comprehensive School Violence Prevention Planning conference sponsored by The Pennsylvania Educational Research Association on

March 19, 2002 Berks IU 14 in Reading, PA. Expenses include \$70.00 each for registration, \$36.00 each for travel, for a total cost of \$212.00.

Approve the request of Lynn Haab, Catherine Farole, and Beth Case, to attend a Bureau of Education and Research conference in King of Prussia, PA on March 12, 2002. Expenses include \$175.00 each for registration, \$45.00 for travel, \$3.80 miscellaneous expenses for a total cost of \$573.80 and will be paid for through IDEA funds.

Approve the request of Ellen Yenser and Sandra Michalik, to attend an Appelbaum Training Institute conference in Allentown on March 15, 2002. Expenses include \$145.00 each for registration, \$6.00 for travel for a total cost of \$296.00 and will be paid for through IDEA funds.

Approve the request of Larry Parry, to attend a one-day seminar in Allentown on April 29, 2002 entitled "The "New" Physical Education". Expenses include \$135.00 for registration, \$7.20 for mileage for a total cost of \$142.20 plus the cost of a substitute teacher and has been approved by the district's Continuing Professional Education Committee.

Approve the request of Sharon Hunsicker and Kris Ahner, to attend an Institute for Educational Development conference in Allentown on April 29, 2002. Expenses for this conference include \$179.00 each for registration, \$15.00 for travel for a total of \$373.00 plus the cost of two substitute teachers and will be paid for through IDEA funds.

Approve the request of Paul Leonzi, Ellen Yenser, Nadeen Boykin, Kathy Walter, Rebecca Rhodes, to attend a Lehigh University Middle Level Partnership conference on April 19, 2002 at Lehigh University. Robert Kern, Dean of Students will also be attending the conference as a complimentary registration. Approximate expenses include \$100.00 each for registration, \$28.00 for travel for a total cost of \$528.00 and has been approved by the district's Continuing Professional Education Committee.

Homebound Instruction Grant homebound instruction to a first grade student, Student No. 13-39500, for five hours per week, effective February 27, 2002 and ending on March 27, 2002.

NLHS Student Activity Acct. Fund Statement Approve the Northern Lehigh High School Student Activities Account Fund Statement for the month of January 2002.

NLMS Student Activity Acct. Fund Statement Approve the Northern Lehigh Middle School Student Activities Account Fund Statement for the month of January 2002.

Board Policy- 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading Policy #815 Approve revisions to school board policy #815 -- Acceptable Use of Internet, etc. as presented after second reading to bring this policy in line with requirements of CIPA (Children's Internet Protection Act).

YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Newhard, Mr. Fedorcha (9)

NAY: None (0)

**CURRICULUM** A motion was made by Mr. Dorshimer, with a second made by Mr. Newhard, that the Board of Education  
**AND** approve the following Resolution to adopt the 2002-2003 Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit Facilities Plan  
**INSTRUCTION** Committee report that was unanimously adopted by the CLIU Facilities Plan Committee on February 6, 2002.

CLIU 2002-2003 **RESOLVED:** It is recommended that the Northern Lehigh School District Board of Directors approve the 2002-2003 Facilities Plan Committee Report as unanimously adopted by the CLIU Facilities Plan Committee on February 6, 2002. In addition, the Board reaffirms its commitment to the original construct of the Facilities Planning, approved November 1, 1989, which consists of a series of prioritized inquiries to be considered in determining the future location of the CLIU and school district special education classes.

YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Newhard, Mr. Fedorcha (9)

NAY: None (0)

**NEW  
BUSINESS**

A motion was made by Mr. Cox, with a second made by Mrs. Geronikos, that the Board of Education approve to appoint Mathias J. Green, Jr. as the Lehigh Carbon Community College trustee to represent the Northern Lehigh School District for a new term to begin July 1, 2002 and continue through June 30, 2008.

Appoint Matt  
Green As  
Trustee To  
LCCC

YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Newhard, Mr. Fedorcha (9)

NAY: None (0)

**FINANCIAL**

A motion was made by Mr. Green, with a second made by Mrs. Geronikos, 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.

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

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

Portfolio Summary Approve the Arthurs Lestrage Cash Management Portfolio for the month of January 2002.

XO Contract Approve a one-year renewal to our long-distance phone contract with XO Communications. The rate decrease is from .08 cents to .065 cents per minute.

Refund of Real Estate Taxes Approve a \$1,044.01 real estate tax refund to Washington Mutual Mortgage for property #J2SW1A517A1033, located a 213 South Canal Street, Walnutport, PA. The tax was paid twice in error due to a stop payment order check being subsequently cashed.

Budgetary Transfers Approve the budgetary transfers as presented. (See Attached)

LCCC Budget Distribution The Lehigh Carbon Community College 2002-03 Capital & Operating Budget was distributed.

(Info Only) YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Newhard, Mr. Fedorcha (9)

NAY: None (0)

**INFORM-  
ATION**

All board members received a copy of the minutes of the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit Board of Directors meeting held on January 17, 2002 and the minutes of the Washington Township Board of Supervisors meeting held on January 8, 2002.

Mr. Green called attention to several items in the Lehigh Carbon Community College Budget that was distributed.

Donation Of  
Wurlitzer  
Organ

The district has received a donation of a Wurlitzer Organ from the estate of Anna Roberts. The organ has been placed in the music department of the senior high school and is being processed according to School Board Policy #702.

All board members received a copy of the 2001-2002 Northern Lehigh School District Salary Schedule.

A Memorandum from Lehigh Carbon Community College requesting names of candidates for an at-large seat on the Board of Trustees of Lehigh Carbon Community College was distributed to all board members.

**ADJOURN-  
MENT**

A motion was made by Mr. Newhard, with a second made by Mrs. Geronikos, that the regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh School District Board of School Directors be adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green,  
Mr. Newhard, Mr. Fedorcha (9)

NAY: None (0)

Respectfully submitted,

Jane J. Escott  
Secretary

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_ (President)  
Gary S. Fedorcha