

NORTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
Regular Meeting
Board Minutes

Slatington, PA
March 13, 2017

PURPOSE The regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors was called to order by the President, Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha, at 7:33 p.m. on Monday, March 13, 2017, in the Administration Office Board Room.

ROLL CALL Members present: Mrs. Debra Bower, Mr. Robin T. Distler, Mr. Mathias J. Green, Jr., Mrs. Gale N. Husack, Mr. Robert J. Keegan, Jr., Mrs. Donna M. Kulp, Mr. Gregory S. Williams and Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha (8)

Members absent: Mr. Edward E. Hartman (1)

Non-members present: Mr. Jeffrey Bachman, Mrs. Susan Bahnick, Mrs. Jill Chamberlain, Ms. Tori Csanadi (Jr. Rep.), Mr. Greg Derr, Mrs. Michele Dotta, Mrs. Rhonda Frantz, Mr. John Hrizuk, Ms. Karlyna Kemery (Sr. Rep.), Mr. Paul Leonzi, Mrs. Sherri Molitoris, Mrs. Karen Nicholas, Mr. Scott Pyne, Mrs. Tanya Simms, Attorney Keith Strohl (Solicitor's Office), and Mr. Robert Vlasaty.

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

BOARD MEMBER RESIGNATION Mr. Keegan made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Distler, that the Board of Education with regret accepts the resignation of Edward E. Hartman from his position as board director and Vice-president.

YEA: Mrs. Bower, Mr. Distler, Mr. Green, Mrs. Husack, Mr. Keegan, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, and Mr. Fedorcha (8)

NAY: None (0)

ELECTION OF VICE PRESIDENT President Gary S. Fedorcha called for nominations for Vice-President of the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors for the term March, 2017-December, 2017

Nominations Mrs. Kulp made a motion, to nominate Mr. Robin T. Distler for Vice-President of the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors for the term of March, 2017 – December, 2017.

For Vice-President

Close Nominations A motion was made by Mr. Williams, with a second by Mrs. Kulp, that the nominations for Vice-President of the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors be closed.

For Vice-President

Vote On Closing Nominations YEA: Mrs. Bower, Mr. Distler, Mr. Green, Mrs. Husack, Mr. Keegan, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams and Mr. Fedorcha (8)

NAY: None (0)

Robin T. Distler Board Vice-President Mr. Robin T. Distler was unanimously declared duly elected Vice-President of the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors for the term March, 2017 – December, 2017.

APPROVE MINUTES Mr. Distler made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Williams, that the minutes of the regular school board meeting held on February 13, 2017 be approved and ordered filed.

YEA: Mrs. Bower, Mr. Distler, Mr. Green, Mrs. Husack, Mr. Keegan, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, and Mr. Fedorcha (8)

NAY: None (0)

SPECIAL BOARD REPORTS

Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit - Mrs. Husack reported that there was no meeting in February.

Legislative Report – Mrs. Bower reported that the governor’s budget was presented on February 7, 2017. The governor is working on pensions and he did implement a hiring freeze. Mrs. Bower reported that the 21st annual edition of Quality Counts was released which is a state’s report card. Pennsylvania finished eighth (8th) among the 50 states. Below is a chart with how Pennsylvania finished versus the national average in each category. Mrs. Bower thanked the teachers and the board of education for helping to make this score possible.

Overall Grade		Quality Counts 2017		Quality Counts 2017		Quality Counts 2017	
Grade	Total Grade	Chance for Success	Total Score	School Finance	Total Score	K-12 Achievement	Total Score
B	80.2	B-	81.4	B	84.5	C	74.6
C	74.2	C+	77.6	C	73.9	C-	71

PA
Nat'l
Avg.

Student Representatives to the Board Report –Ms. Karlyna Kemery and Ms. Tori Csanadi distributed the written student representative report and verbally reported on its contents.

Business Manager’s Report – Mrs. Frantz reported that she recently attended a Lehigh Valley Business Manager’s meeting and Congressman Charlie Dent as well as other state legislators from Pennsylvania were in attendance. Pension reform, charter school reform and tax reform were all discussed. The one item they did agree on, was that tax reform will pass one way or another, but not in its current form.

Federal and Other Programs Update – Mrs. Nicholas reported that Slatington Elementary School now has a 3-D printer which the fifth (5th) grade students utilized as part of their anatomy research project on organs. When asked if this project made them want to go into the medical profession, they replied no, they want to work for a company that utilizes this technology. Ironically, our eighth (8th) grade team had just completed the “What’s so Cool about Manufacturing?” project with ProtoCAM who utilizes 3-D technology to create prototypes for companies around the world. Mr. Bennett has been the advisor of the “What’s so Cool About Manufacturing?” for four years, and each year our team has won a trophy.

Mrs. Nicholas reported that the Middle School is now utilizing a new assessment called STAR. This assessment allows the teachers to develop a more personalized curriculum for the students. Mrs. Nicholas added that additional honors and A/P courses will be offered in Social Studies at the High School next year. The teachers are 100% behind this and wanted the curriculum in advance so they are better prepared. Mrs. Nicholas thanked all of the teachers and administrators for the exciting things happening in the district.

Mr. Fedorcha asked that Mrs. Chamberlain tell her staff and students that we are all very proud of them.

Mr. Fedorcha announced that due to the impending weather and a prior family commitment, Mr. Michaels was not in attendance this evening.

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

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

Family Medical Approve the request of employee #1510 to take a Family Medical Leave beginning on March 27, 2017,

Leave	for her own medical reasons. Employee is requesting to use accumulated sick days. Upon exhaustion of sick days, employee is requesting a family medical leave. Employee plans to return to her current position upon release from her physician.		
<u>PERSONNEL</u> <u>(cont.)</u>	Approve the request of employee #6790 to take a Family Medical Leave of absence for the birth of twins, beginning on or about April 24, 2017. Employee is requesting to use accumulated sick days. Upon exhaustion of sick days, employee is requesting a twelve week family medical leave. Employee plans to return to her current teaching position upon exhaustion of her twelve week medical leave.		
Unpaid Leave	Approve the request of employee #3845 to extend her Unpaid Leave of absence according to Appendix D of the 2016-2017 CBA, from March 31, 2017 until the end of the 2016-2017 school year due to complications and setbacks. Employee plans to return to her current teaching position at the beginning of the 2017-2018 school year.		
Salary Adjustments	Acknowledge the following teacher who has completed the requirements per the Collective Bargaining Agreement that would entitle them to a salary increase for the second half of the 2016-2017 school year:		
	Janelle Scheckler		
	From:	Step 1B+24	
	To:	Step 1M	
Professional Contracts	According to Article II – 1108, subsection (b) of the School Code: “a temporary professional employee, initially employed by a school district on or after June 30, 1996, whose work has been certified by the district superintendent to the secretary of the school district, during the last four (4) months of the third year of such service, as being satisfactory, shall thereafter be a “professional employee” within the meaning of this article.” Therefore, it is recommended to approve “professional employee” status as per the school code for the following teachers who have satisfactorily completed three years of service to the Northern Lehigh School District:		
	Steven Jonkman		
Co-Curricular Resignation	Accept the resignation of Amanda Dietz from her position as Assistant Field Hockey Coach for the 2017-2018 school year.		
Co-Curricular Appointment 2016-2017	Jason Reinhard	Assistant Softball Coach	\$3,081.00
Co-Curricular Volunteers 2016-2017	Lori-Beth Guelcher	Assistant Track & Field Coach	
Substitute Non-Instructional	Approve the following individual as substitute instructional aide for the 2016-2017 school year at the 2016-2017 substitute rate as approved on the Supplemental Personnel Salary Schedule:		
	Christine Tedaldi		
	Approve the following individual as substitute custodian for the 2016-2017 school year at the 2016-2017 substitute rate as approved on the Supplemental Personnel Salary Schedule:		
	Sabrina Clouse		
Appointment Instructional	Thomas Bold*	Temporary Vacancy Replacement	
	Assignment:	Peters Elementary School 1 st Grade Teacher replacing an employee on family medical leave.	
	Salary:	Substitute Teacher Rate Days 1-30; Day 31 and beyond \$46,875.00 prorated (Step 1 Bachelors on the 2016-2017 CBA Salary Schedule)	
	Effective:	On or about April 24, 2017	
	Termination Date	On or about June 8, 2017	

* Pending Verification of Missing Personnel File Items

PERSONNEL
(cont.)Appointment
Non-Instructional

Jennifer Jones* Licensed Health Room Attendant
 Assignment: District Wide LPN
 Salary: \$21.28 Per Hour/5 ¼ Hours Per Day/5 Days Per Week
 during the school year
 Effective: March 14, 2017

* Pending Verification of Missing Personnel File Items
 *60 Day Probationary period ending May 12, 2017

YEA: Mrs. Bower, Mr. Distler, Mr. Green, Mrs. Husack, Mr. Keegan, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, and
 Mr. Fedorcha (8)
 NAY: None (0)

POLICY

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

Board Policy
Second
Reading

Approve school board policy #103 – Programs – Nondiscrimination in School and Classroom Practices, as presented after second reading.

Approve school board policy #248 – Pupils – Unlawful Harassment, as presented after second reading.

Approve school board policy #251 – Pupils - Homeless Students, as presented after second reading.

Approve school board policy #255 – Pupils – Educational Stability for Children in Foster Care, as presented after second reading.

Approve school board policy #348 – Employees – Unlawful Harassment, as presented after second reading.

School Lunch
Prices
2017-2018

Approve the recommendation of the administration that, effective August 28, 2017, school breakfast and lunch prices be increased as follows:

Elementary Schools – Breakfast from \$1.35 to \$1.45
 Lunch from \$2.45 to \$2.55

Middle School & High School – Breakfast from \$1.85 to \$1.95
 Lunch from \$2.70 to \$2.80

Le-Nor-Co
Membership
Agreement

Approve to authorize the agreement to become a member of the Le-Nor-Co Purchasing Cooperative for joint purchasing of materials, supplies, equipment, and any other products or services related to the operation of the food service department. There is no fee associated with membership.

YEA: Mrs. Bower, Mr. Distler, Mr. Green, Mrs. Husack, Mr. Keegan, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, and
 Mr. Fedorcha (8)

NAY: None (0)

CONFERENCE

Mr. Distler made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Williams, that the Board of Education approves the following conference:

Michele Dotta – PA Association of Pupil Services Administrators: Avoiding the Potholes on the Road to Resiliency – April 20-21, 2017 – Eden Resort – Lancaster, PA – Registration: \$295.00; Meals: \$32.00, Travel: \$78.00 – Total Approximate Cost: \$405.00 – Funding: Special Education Budget.

Krystle-Dawn Tiedeman – Pennsylvania School Librarians Association – Immersion Experience in Leadership – June 19-21, 2017 - Chambersburg, PA – Travel: \$140.17 - Total Approximate Cost: \$140.17 – Funding: High School Library Budget.

CONFERENCE
(cont.)

Krystle-Dawn Tiedeman – Pennsylvania School Librarians Association – Key Communicators Network – July 11-12, 2017 – Hershey, PA – Travel: \$79.39 - Total Approximate Cost: \$79.39 – Funding: High School Library Budget

YEA: Mrs. Bower, Mr. Distler, Mr. Green, Mrs. Husack, Mr. Keegan, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, and Mr. Fedorcha (8)

NAY: None (0)

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

Mr. Williams made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Husack, that the Board of Education approves the following curriculum and instruction items:

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 2017-2018 IDEA B, Section 611 project application, as presented.

CLIU Special
Education
Services
Agreement
2017-2018

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 2017-2018 school year.

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.

2017-2018
School
Calendar

Approve the 2017-2018 Northern Lehigh School District Calendar as presented.

Dual Enrollment
Agreement
2017-2020

Approve administration to enter into a partnership agreement with Lehigh Carbon Community College in order to provide our students with greater options to earn concurrent high school/college credit. The term of the Dual Enrollment Partnership Proposal between Northern Lehigh School District and Lehigh Carbon Community College will be from August 19, 2017 – June 30, 2020.

YEA: Mrs. Bower, Mr. Distler, Mr. Green, Mrs. Husack, Mr. Keegan, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, and Mr. Fedorcha (8)

NAY: None (0)

NEW BUSINESS

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

NLEA
Collective
Bargaining
Agreement
2017-2020

Approve the new Collective Bargaining Agreement, as recommended by the School Board Negotiations Committee, between the Northern Lehigh School District and the Northern Lehigh Education Association.

Mr. Fedorcha stated that it is wonderful that we have a contract agreement in March. Mr. Fedorcha thanked the teachers and the negotiating committee on a job well done. Mr. Williams thanked Mr. Weaber and Mrs. Chruscial and the Board of Education for working collaboratively on the contract. Mr. Williams stated that he is proud of the relationship that has been developed with the teachers, as it was not that way when he joined the board twelve years ago. Mrs. Kulp echoed those sentiments and she is very proud of the relationship the board has with the teachers.

YEA: Mrs. Bower, Mr. Distler, Mr. Green, Mrs. Husack, Mr. Keegan, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, and Mr. Fedorcha (8)
 NAY: None (0)

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Fedorcha read Mr. Michaels' letter of retirement resignation. With regrets, Mr. Distler made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Keegan, that the Board of Education, approves the following New Business Item:

Retirement Resignation M. Michaels

With regret, accept the retirement resignation of Michael W. Michaels from his position as Superintendent of Northern Lehigh School District, effective June 30, 2017. Mr. Michaels will retire on June 30, 2017 after 9 years of service at Northern Lehigh School District. He requests that all applicable benefits to which he is entitled be granted upon the implementation of his retirement.

YEA: Mrs. Bower, Mr. Distler, Mr. Green, Mrs. Husack, Mr. Keegan, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, and Mr. Fedorcha (8)
 NAY: None (0)

FINANCIAL

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

Financial Reports

Approve the following financial reports:
 General Fund Account months of January & February, 2017
 NLMS Student Activities Account months of January & February, 2017
 NLHS Student Activities and Scholarship Account months of January & February, 2017

List of Bills

Approve the Following List of Bills:
 General Fund months of February & March, 2017
 Cafeteria Fund months of February & March, 2017
 Refreshment Stand month of February, 2017

Berks County IU Tax Service 2017-2019

Authorize administration to renew an agreement through June 30, 2019 with Berks County Intermediate Unit for tax bill services related to the 2017 and 2018 tax years.

Exterior Door HS Bids

Authorize administration to solicit bids to replace eight sets of exterior doors at the High School to be completed during the summer of 2017. This project is part of the 2017-2018 general fund budget.

Hilltop Sales John Deere Zero Turn Mower

Authorize administration to purchase a John Deere zero turn mower from Hilltop Sales and Service for \$11,114.24. Hilltop Sales and Service is a member of the Pennsylvania State Contract Pricing – CoStars. This project will be paid from the 2016-2017 Long Range Equipment budget.

Simplex PE Fire Alarm Upgrade

Authorize administration to purchase equipment from Simplex to upgrade the fire alarm system at Peters Elementary School at a cost of \$22,980.00. This project is part of the 2017-2018 general fund budget and will be completed during the summer of 2017.

Tax Collector Compensation 2018-2021

Approve the attached resolution establishing the compensation for the Northern Lehigh School District elected qualified tax collectors for the next four-year term of office commencing January, 2018 through December, 2021.

YEA: Mrs. Bower, Mr. Distler, Mr. Green, Mrs. Husack, Mr. Keegan, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, and Mr. Fedorcha (8)
 NAY: None (0)

CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Williams announced that a letter was received from State Representative Zachary Mako's office regarding an open house on April 7th in his Northampton Office and April 12th in his Slatington Office.

INFOR-

Minutes of the Lehigh Carbon Community College Board of Trustees meetings held on February 2,

MATION

2017 were distributed.

Minutes of the Lehigh Career & Technical Institute Joint Operating Committee meeting held on January 25, 2017, were distributed.

**ADJOURN-
MENT**

Mr. Distler made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Williams, that the regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh School District Board of School Directors is adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

YEA: Mrs. Bower, Mr. Distler, Mr. Green, Mrs. Husack, Mr. Keegan, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, and Mr. Fedorcha (8)

NAY: None (0)

Respectfully submitted,

Gregory S. Williams
Secretary

ATTEST: _____ President
Gary S. Fedorcha