

NORTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
Regular Meeting
Board Minutes

Slatington, PA
April 19, 2006

- PURPOSE** The regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors was called to order by the President, Mrs. Lauren A. Ganser, at 7:31 p.m. on Wednesday, April 19, 2006 in the boardroom located in the Slatington Elementary School.
- ROLL CALL** Members present: Mr. Franklin D. Beers, Mr. Donald H. Dengler, Mr. Bryan C. Dorshimer, Mrs. Sheryl A. Giles, Mr. Mathias J. Green, Jr., Mr. Peter A. Ruth, Mr. Gregory S. Williams, Mrs. Lauren A. Ganser (8)
- Members absent: Mr. Raymond J. Follweiler, Jr. (1)
- Non-members present: Dr. Nicholas P. Sham, Mrs. Lynne Fedorcha, Mr. Philip Bertolino, Mr. Robert Kern, Dr. Linda Marcincin, Mr. John Hrizuk, Mr. David Papay, Mr. Brian Geiger, Ms. Christine Stafford, Ms. Laurie Newman-Mankos, Mrs. Andrea Madochick, Mr. Nathan Hunsicker, Mrs. Doneta J. Merkle
- VISITORS** Approximately four visitors attended the meeting, in addition to Joel Kern, reporter for The Times News
- PUBLIC COMMENT** Donna Kulp – Washington Township – Asked permission to reserve the right to comment on any agenda item.
- Mrs. Ganser announced that the board would be discussing the budget before the meeting was adjourned for the evening.
- APPROVE MINUTES** Mr. Dorshimer made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Beers, that the minutes of the regular school board meeting held on March 6, 2006 and the regular school board meeting held on March 15, 2006 be approved and ordered filed.
- YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Ruth, Mr. Williams, Mrs. Ganser (8)
- NAY: None (0)
- SPECIAL BOARD REPORTS** Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit – Mr. Bryan C. Dorshimer
Mr. Dorshimer reported from the CLIU Board Brief which was distributed to all board members. He announced that Mr. Robert Keegan was appointed to the position of Executive Director at the CLIU.
- Legislative Report – Mr. Gregory S. Williams
Mr. Williams announced again that each board member is invited to attend a Legislative Breakfast on April 28 at Troxell Elementary School. He also announced that there will be a special Community Relations Committee meeting on May 11 at 6:30 p.m. in the boardroom. It will be a legislative discussion meeting. He also reported on HB 39, the newest version of Act 72.
- Lehigh Carbon Community College – Mr. Mathias J. Green, Jr.
Mr. Green announced that trustee-at-large ballots for the LCCC Board of Trustees have been distributed for everyone to cast their vote. Completed ballots should be given to Mrs. Merkle by the end of the meeting.
- Committee Reports and/or Meetings Board members received minutes of the following committee meetings:
1. Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on April 5, 2006.
 2. Minutes of the Technology/Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting held on April 5, 2006
 3. Minutes of the Policy/Education Committee meeting held on April 3, 2006.
- For the record, Mr. Ruth, Mr. Geiger, and Mrs. Ganser were in attendance at the April 5 Technology/Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting. They were not given credit for attending.

**SPECIAL
BOARD
REPORTS**
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Student Representatives to the Board Report – Nathan Hunsicker distributed his report and reviewed it with the board.

Federal and Other Programs – Mrs. Lynne B. Fedorcha

Mrs. Fedorcha introduced Marlena Schnyder, an eight grade student in the middle school, who was a regional winner in the Middle School Computer Fair 2006. She did PowerPoint presentation on an editorial journalism entitled Kentucky Fried Cruelty.

will participate at the state level during the week of April 24.

Mrs. Fedorcha distributed a written Director of Curriculum & Instruction Report and reviewed its contents for the board.

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

Dr. Sham introduced Dr. Marcincin who introduced Ms. Marlene Simock, advisor to the Slatington Elementary Sixth Sense Team who took 2nd place in this year's competition. Ms. Simock introduced members of the team who were in attendance.

Dr. Sham introduced Mr. Bertolio who gave an explanation and report to the board about the Career Linking Academy.

Dr. Sham distributed a legal opinion regarding an employee contract matter that Mr. Ruth questioned. He directed the board members to look at the conclusion on the last page of the opinion.

Dr. Sham apologized to the public for the error on Messenger regarding the May 11th date for the special Community Relations Committee Meeting.

Dr. Sham reminded everyone that the May 1 board meeting will be held in the Senior High School Auditorium.

Dr. Sham announced that there will be a special Finance Committee meeting held on April 26 at 6:30 p.m. in the boardroom. The May 3 Finance Committee meeting has been cancelled.

Dr. Sham mentioned to the board that Mrs. Ellen Dietrich, former secretary in the district, passed away. Mrs. Dietrich was the secretary who attended the school board meetings and recorded the minutes of the meeting for many years. Donations to a memorial fund in Mrs. Dietrich's honor will be taken until April 24.

Executive Session was held at 6:30 before the meeting for personnel issues and continued after the meeting for personnel issues.

PERSONNEL Mr. Dorshimer made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Williams, that the Board of Education approves the following items listed under Personnel:

Administrative Transfer Paula Seiler
From: Nurse's Aide
Slatington Elementary School
To: Library Aide
Slatington Elementary School
6 ½ Hours Per Day/5 Days Per Week
Effective Date: April 18, 2006

Resignation Retirement Doneta Merkle Accept the official resignation of Doneta Merkle, Confidential Secretary in the Central Administration Office, to become effective at the end of the working day on August 11, 2006 at which time she will initiate her retirement from the Northern Lehigh School District after 31 years of service. She requests that all applicable benefits to which she is entitled be granted upon the implementation of her retirement.

PERSONNEL

(Con't.)

Childrearing Leave Theresa Kokinda Approve the request of Theresa Kokinda, mathematics teacher in the middle school, to take a childrearing leave of absence. Beginning on or about May 26, 2006 she will use her sick days to cover her absence for the remainder of the 2005-2006 school year. She is requesting an unpaid childrearing leave of absence for the 2006-2007 school year and plans to return to her teaching position for the 2007-2008 school year.

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Ruth, Mr. Williams, Mrs. Ganser (8)

NAY: None (0)

Table Appointment-Bookkeeper II Mr. Dorshimer made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Dengler that the Board of Education approves to table the following appointment to replace the Bookkeeper II position in the Central Office until the budget comes to fruition and it can be determined that it can be funded, at which time it could be brought up for approval. Otherwise it could be a position that might be on the cut list.

Lori Henritzky
Assignment: Bookkeeper II, replacing Sherri Molitoris
Salary: \$30,252(Pro-Rated) (Level 1 on the 2005-2006 Clerical Salary and Benefit Agreement)
Effective Date: May 23, 2006

ROLL CALL: YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Ruth, Mr. Williams, Mrs. Ganser (7)

NAY: Mr. Green (1)

Motion carried.

Remove Co-Curricular Appointments From The Table Mr. Williams made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Green, that the Board of Education approves to remove from the table the Co-Curricular Appointments for 2006-2007 that were tabled at the April 3, 2006 school board meeting:

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Ruth, Mr. Williams, Mrs. Ganser (8)

NAY: None (0)

Discussion ensued as to why these appointments need to be made at this time because they are appointments for next year.

Public Comment Donna Kulp – Washington Township – Asked if it was a definite yes that the Board could change the number of coaches after they've approved them. Is there anything in writing to back that statement? Dr. Sham read the wording from the contract to confirm that this could be done.

Co-Curricular Appointments school 2006-2007 School Year Mr. Williams made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Green, that the Board of Education approves the following Co-Curricular Appointments for the 2006-2007 year:

Assistant Football Coach – Sam Bonner -- \$4168.66*
Assistant Football Coach – Mike Feifel -- \$4168.66*
Assistant Football Coach – Chad Henritzky -- \$4168.66*
Assistant Football Coach – Steve Hluschak -- \$4168.66*
Assistant Football Coach – Doug Reynolds -- \$4168.66*
Assistant Football Coach – Dan Blazosky (Halftime) -- One half of \$4168.66*
Assistant Football Coach – Mark Hoffman (Halftime) --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 Follweiler -- \$2497.45*
 Middle School Field Hockey Coach – Elissa Fry -- \$2448.00*
 *Last year's rates will apply until a new Collective Bargaining Agreement is approved.

PERSONNEL YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Ruth,
 (Con't.) Mr. Williams, Mrs. Ganser (8)
 NAY: None (0)

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

Board Policy 2nd Reading Approve revisions to school board policy #006 – Meetings – Local Board Procedures, as amended after second reading.

Approve revisions to school board policy #205 – Pupils – Post Secondary Students, as presented after second reading.

1st Reading Approve revisions to school board policy #204 – Pupils – Attendance, as presented after first reading.

Approve revisions to school board policy #913 – Community – Relations With Special Interest Groups, as presented after first reading.

Field Trips Fifth Grade Students and Teachers, State Museum of Pennsylvania and Capitol, June 1, 2006 – PTO Sponsored
 Sixth Grade Students and Teachers, Penn's Landing Philadelphia with ferry boat transportation to Camden Aquarium, May 2006 – PTO and Market Day Sponsored
 YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Ruth,
 Mr. Williams, Mrs. Ganser (8)
 NAY: None (0)

NEW BUSINESS Mr. Green made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Beers, that the Board of Education approves Mr. Jason Newhard as a volunteer to be our temporary licensed operator of the Peters Elementary Water System until district personnel are certified by the DEP to operate the system. Compensation for this position will be zero (0).

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Ruth,
 Mr. Williams, Mrs. Ganser (8)
 NAY: None (0)

Mr. Dorshimer would like to see a policy developed to limit the access recruiters have to our high school students. He was informed that the district already has a policy.

Mr. Green asked for clarification on the uniform policy that was under discussion. He was informed that as a result of discussion at the Policy Committee meeting it was the consensus of the Committee to do nothing at this point in time.

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

General Fund Bills Approve payment of General Fund bills as presented for the month of April 2006.

Reports Reports (Info Only) All board members received the January and February 2006 Revenue and Expenditure for the Cafeteria, General, and Capital Reserve Funds.

NLMS Student Activity Statement Approve the Northern Lehigh Middle School Student Activities Account Fund Statement for the month of March 2006.

FINANCIAL
(Con't.)

NLHS Student Scholarship Statement Approve the Northern Lehigh High School Student Scholarship Fund Statement for the month of March 2006.

NL Sports Account Financial Report Approve the Northern Lehigh Sports Accounts Financial Report for month ended February 28, 2006.

NL Refreshment Stand Financial Report Approve the Northern Lehigh Refreshment Stand Financial Report for month ended February 28, 2006.

Budgetary Transfers Approve budgetary transfer for the 2005-2006 fiscal year.

LCTI JOC Resolution Bond Series Approve to adopt a Resolution of the Joint Board of Lehigh Career and Technical Institute for the refunding of the Lehigh Career and Technical Institute's Revenue Bond Series of 2001 & 2004 2001 and Series of 2004.

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Ruth, Mr. Williams, Mrs. Ganser (8)

NAY: None (0)

CORRESPONDENCE

Mrs. Ganser announced that she received correspondence from the Auditor General's Audit report for fiscal years ending June 30, 2004, 2003, 2002 and 2001. She also received an anonymous letter addressed to the board.

INFORMATION

Minutes of the Lehigh Carbon Community College Board of Trustees meeting held on March 2, 2006.

RECESS

Mrs. Ganser called for a recess at 9:15 p.m. The board reconvened at 9:30 p.m.

BUDGET DISCUSSION

Dr. Sham addressed the fact that the board asked the administration to get the millage down to 2 mills and keep full day kindergarten, transportation and sports. He told them that was an impossible task. It could not be done and he explained to them why. He distributed a cut list with some suggestions to think about and some ways of approaching the budget if they are willing to look at it. He stated that with Act 72 looming on the horizon there are some serious concerns that the administration has with the district and its future and the impact it could have on our students for next year and thereafter. Discussion ensued working through the distributed cut list showing a millage increase of 4.192430 mills. He cautioned the board not to go below the 3.36 mill Index.

After the discussion, the recommendation is to have the administration develop a prioritized cut list showing whatever it takes to get down to the 3.36 mill Index.

**ADJOURN-
MENT**

Mr. Beers made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Giles, that the regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors is adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Ruth,
Mr. Williams, Mrs. Ganser (8)

NAY: None (0)

Respectfully submitted,

Bryan C. Dorshimer
Secretary

ATTEST: _____ President
Lauren A. Ganser