

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

**Slatington, PA**  
**October 12, 2009**

**PURPOSE** The regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors was called to order by the President, Mr. Edward E. Hartman, at 7:35 p.m. on Monday, October 12, 2009 in the JOC boardroom located at Lehigh Career and Technical Institute.

Moment of silence for the recent loss of a student at the high school.

**ROLL CALL** Members present: Mr. Donald H. Dengler, Mr. Raymond J. Follweiler, Jr., Mrs. Lauren A. Ganser, Mrs. Lori H. Geronikos, Mr. Mathias J. Green, Jr., Mrs. Donna M. Kulp, Mr. Gregory S. Williams, Mrs. Sandi L. Young, Mr. Edward E. Hartman (9)

Members absent: None (0)

Non-members present: Mr. Jeffrey Bachman, Mrs. Jill Chamberlain, Mr. Greg Derr, Mr. John Hrizuk, Dr. Linda Marcincin, Mr. Jeremy Melber, Mr. Michael W. Michaels, Mr. Eugene Marks, Mrs. Karen Nicholas, Ms. Heather Rehrig, Atty. Charles Stopp (Solicitor), Ms. Taylor Trapp (Student Rep.), Mrs. Aileen Yadush and Mrs. Sherri Molitoris.

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

**APPROVE MINUTES** Mr. Dengler made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Ganser, that the minutes of the regular school board meeting held on September 14, 2009 be approved and ordered filed.

YEA: Mr. Dengler, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Green, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, Mrs. Young, Mr. Hartman (9)

NAY: None (0)

**SPECIAL BOARD REPORTS** Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit – Mr. Donald H. Dengler reported that CLIU Executive Director, Robert Keegan has given notice of his retirement. The position is currently posted but they have not started the interview process.

Lehigh Career and Technical Institute – Mrs. Lori H. Geronikos reported that a Northern Lehigh student, Bryan Puskas, was named to the National Honor Society at LCTI. LCTI approved their goals for this school year. She further stated that LCTI will be opening a campus in California for advanced training for various companies for adult education. The talk of turning LCTI into a four year college is currently on hold due to the economy.

Mr. Hartman thanked LCTI allowing us to hold our board meeting at their facility and the wonderful meal that was also provided.

Legislative Report – Mr. Gregory S. Williams said that stated that the State Budget has been approved. The budget includes a \$300 million dollar increase for total education spending. A big part of that money is coming out of federal stimulus money and is only for this year and next year. Special Education, Accountability Block Grant, Pre-K Counts, Head Start Assistance and Science It's Elementary are all in the budget but the amounts are the same as the prior years budget. There is a provision that allows school districts the option to reopen their budgets based on the final state budget.

Lehigh Carbon Community College – Mr. Mathias J. Green, Jr. stated the passing of the state budget looks like everything will be fine with the college but on the other hand it looks like there is question whether there will actually be money available because it is predicated upon table games being instituted and how much revenue they are going to collect. It is up in the air but they are optimistic that the money will be there. He further stated that LCCC is currently working on next years budget and preliminary numbers indicate 3.5% increase.

**SPECIAL BOARD REPORTS (cont.)**

Committee Reports and/or Meetings

Minutes of the Policy/Education Committee Meeting held on October 5, 2009 was distributed.

Minutes of the Finance Committee meetings held on October 7, 2009 was distributed.

Student Representatives to the Board Report

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Ms. Taylor Trapp distributed the written student representative report and verbally reported on contents.

Federal and Other Programs Update – Mrs. Karen A. Nicholas stated that administration and teachers will be going to CLIU#21 on October 16<sup>th</sup> to review and analyze the districts AYP data. They will problem solve and look at what they need to approve upon. There will also be a 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup> grade teacher going to Troxell building in later October to work on problem solving, looking at data and analyzing math curriculum. They will bring the information back to their buildings, have data analysis meetings and administration will report back to the Board on how things are going in the future. She further stated that today was a school wide professional development day held at the middle school. All staff members attended as well as preschool directors in the area. Bill McBride, a national speaker, presented “Girls Will Be Girls and Boys Will Be Boys”. It was well received by all who attended. Many staff members asked if he could be invited back in the future for another professional development day.

Mr. Williams commented on AYP. He further stated that if administration is in need of something to help increase our AYP scores, don't be afraid to ask for it.

Business Manager's Report – Mr. Jeremy G. Melber stated on the board agenda for approval include the list of bills and financial reports. He received preliminary numbers last week on basic education and it does appear that we will receive more than what we budgeted. The budget also included an increase to IDEA funds. Mr. Melber, Mr. Michaels and Mrs. Nicholas met last week to discuss the ARRA IDEA funds. They have decided to revise this budget and use the full amount \$447,000.00 over the next two years to offset CLIU special education costs. PlanCon A is also on the agenda for approval this evening. At the finance committee meeting last evening there was discussion concerning bond financing for this project. He explained the debt structure if the district would incur a \$20,000,000.00 bond for the renovation project and the millage rate impact on the district budget.

Superintendent's Report – Mr. Michael W. Michaels

Mrs. Chamberlain addressed the Board concerning the new breakfast program at the middle school.

Mr. Derr introduced representatives from D'Huy Engineering and KCBA Architects. They are here to answer any questions anyone may have about PlanCon A.

Mr. Michaels stated that a major goal administratively this year will be in depth at PSSA testing.

Mr. Hartman stated that the board was in executive session prior to tonight's regular school board meeting to discuss legal matters and negotiations.

**PERSONNEL**

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

Appointments Non-Instructional

Patricia Ingles Assignment:

High School Special Education Aide replacing Dawn Wehr who resigned

Salary:

\$11.05/Per Hour/6 ½ Hours Per Day/180 Student Days plus additional 20 Hrs or Staff Development according to language in Memorandum of Understanding (2008-2012 Educational Support Staff Memorandum of Understanding)

Effective: September 21, 2009

**PERSONNEL**  
**(cont.)**

Harold Kline  
Assignment: Second Shift Maintenance Position replacing Earl Snyder who retired  
Salary: \$9.00/Hr./ Tuesday thru Saturday 2:30 PM – 11:00 PM  
Effective: October 12, 2009

Co-Curricular Appointments 2009-2010	Candice Saville	Freshman Class Advisor	\$606.83
	Angela Shoemaker	Freshman Class Advisor	\$606.83

Co-Curricular Volunteers 2009-2010  
Richard Roberts III\* Assistant Boys Basketball Coach  
**\*Pending Verification of Missing Documents**

Salary Adjustments year: Acknowledge the following teacher who has completed the requirements per the Collective Bargaining Agreement that would entitle her to a salary increase for the 2009-2010 school year:

Camille Vernarr  
From: Step 5B+24  
To: Step 5M

Family Medical Leave  
Approve the request of Beverly Rupert, High School Second Shift Custodian, to take a 12 week Family Medical Leave beginning on September 21, 2009 for medical reasons. She will be using her accumulated sick days and other paid leave in conjunction with the FMLA leave. After her FMLA leave has expired she is requesting an unpaid leave of absence until she is released from her doctor to return to work. Anticipated release date is December 1, 2009.

Unpaid Volunteers  
Approve the following unpaid volunteer aides in the Peters Elementary School for the 2009-2010 school year: Robin Blocker, Lori-Beth Guelcher, Shelly Long, JoAnne Sipos, and Kathy Yelinek.

Game Workers 2009-2010  
Approve the following list of people as Game Workers for the 2009-2010 school year. Game Workers consist of ticket sellers and takers, game announcers, scoreboard operators, timers, field judges, scorekeepers. Rate of pay is consistent with the rates approved on the 2009-2010 Supplementary Personnel Salary Schedule.

Terry Bowman	Elizabeth Case
Kelly Follweiler	Stephen Haas
Kathleen Reese	Eric Schmidt
Jessica Schoenberger	Robert Sutjak
Amy Zeiser	

Substitute Instructional  
Approve the following substitute teachers for the 2009-2010 school year at the 2009-2010 substitute teacher rates as approved on the Supplementary Personnel Salary Schedule:

Amberly Gable – Secondary English  
Peggy Gallagher – Elementary  
Jeff Jacobucci – All Subjects  
Karen Kassis - Elementary  
Kristen Kentner\* - Elementary  
Ashley Kunkle\* – Elementary & ESL  
Joseph Nester – Secondary Social Studies and Special Education  
Laura Pandel\* - Secondary Social Studies  
Donald Rehrig\* – Secondary Mathematics  
Richard Snell – Secondary English  
Daniel Shea – CLIU Guest Teacher  
**\*Pending Verification of Missing Documents**

Non- Approve the following individuals as substitute secretaries/aides for the 2009-2010 school year

Instructional at the 2009-2010 substitute rate as approved on the Supplementary Personnel Salary Schedule:

Peggy Balliet\*  
Amberly Gable  
Heather Hughes\*  
Sally Kasztejna

**PERSONNEL**  
**(cont.)**

**\*Pending Verification of Missing Documents**

Approve the following individuals as substitute cafeteria workers for the 2009-2010 school year at the 2009-2010 substitute rate as approved on the Supplementary Personnel Salary Schedule:

Peggy Balliet\*

**\*Pending Verification of Missing Documents**

Appointments Mary Kay Williamson

Administrative Assignment: Director of Special Education replacing Laurie Newman-Mankos who resigned  
Salary: \$83,000/12 month position/pro-rated for the 2009-2010 school year  
Effective: Mutually Agreed Upon Start Date

YEA: Mr. Dengler, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Green, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, Mrs. Young, Mr. Hartman (9)

NAY: None (0)

**POLICY**

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

Board Policy Approve changes to school board policy #539 – Classified Employees – Uncompensated Leave, First Reading as presented after first reading.

Germany Exchange Program Mrs. Lana Schmidt, high school German teacher, has submitted a request for the continuation of the Student Exchange Program between interested students from the Northern Lehigh School District and the Eduard Spranger Gymnasium in Landau, Germany. German students will be arriving at Northern Lehigh School District on tentatively on October 1, 2010 and stay until 14, 2010. Expected expenses to the district will be substitute coverage for the hosting teacher as deemed necessary and bus expenses for day trips as budgeted. Northern Lehigh students will travel to Germany in June 2011 at a time that will coincide with the school year in the Rheinland-Platinate, preferably during the summer months. Trip participants will be responsible for all expenses; however, they do request liability insurance coverage for the entire group, as has been granted since their first exchange trip in 1984. Additional monies needed for this program will be raised through student fundraising efforts.

Homebound Instruction continuing It is recommended that the Board of Education grant homebound instruction for an 11<sup>th</sup> grade student, Student No. 1109160, for five hours per week, effective October 7, 2009 and for approximately 3 months.

Field Trip Biology I Class – High School Classes – Philadelphia Zoo, Pennsylvania – October 28, 2009 – Funded by Students and High School Budget

South East Team – Middle School – Ellis Island, New York – May 5, 2010 – Funded by PTO and Student Fundraising Efforts

West Team – Middle School – Medieval Times, Lyndhurst, NJ – June 3, 2010 – Funded by PTO and Student Fundraising Efforts

YEA: Mr. Dengler, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Green, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, Mrs. Young, Mr. Hartman (9)

NAY: None (0)

**NEW BUSINESS**

Mrs. Ganser made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Dengler, that the Board of Education approves the following new business item:

Emergency Operations Plan

Approve changes to the Northern Lehigh School Distinct Emergency Operations Plan as presented.

YEA: Mr. Dengler, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Green, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, Mrs. Young, Mr. Hartman (9)

NAY: None (0)

Date Change December Board Mtg

Mr. Follweiler made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Ganser, that the Board of Education change the date of the December Reorganization and Regular School Board Meeting originally scheduled for December 14, 2009 to December 7, 2009 and advertise this change in the local newspaper.

YEA: Mr. Dengler, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Green, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, Mrs. Young, Mr. Hartman (9)

NAY: None (0)

Date Change December Policy Mtg

Mr. Williams made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Green, that the Board of Education change the date of the Policy/Education Committee Meeting originally scheduled for December 7, 2009 to December 14, 2009 and advertise this change in the local newspaper.

YEA: Mr. Dengler, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Green, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, Mrs. Young, Mr. Hartman (9)

NAY: None (0)

**FINANCIAL**

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

List of Bills

Approve the Following List of Bills:  
General Fund month of September  
Cafeteria Fund month of September  
Athletic Fund month of September  
Refreshment Stand Fund month of September

Financial Reports

Approve the Following Financial Reports:  
NLMS Student Activities Account month of September  
NLHS Student Activities for the months of August and September  
NLHS Scholarship Account for the months of July, August and September

Per Capita Abatements/ Exonerations

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

Cell Phone Athletic Director

Authorize administration to continue the cell phone service contract with Verizon Wireless for the Athletic Director at a cost of \$49.19 per month (no increase over last year). The cell phone is to be used exclusively for Athletic Director business.

Agreement AssetWorks Inventory System

Authorize administration to enter into an agreement with AssetWorks, Inc. as the districts inventory management system. Cost for this system is \$1,300.00 per year and Inventory will automatically renew yearly.

District Wide

Approve the District Wide Facility Study as presented by KCBA.

Facility Study

PlanCon A Submission SE Project Approve the submission of PlanCon A and General Educational Specifications to the Pennsylvania Department of Education for the additions and alternation to Slatington Elementary School.

**FINANCIAL (cont.)**

Mr. Green addressed KCBA concerning their feasibility study and student enrollment projection numbers, plan options involving modular units and grade reconfiguration, and reimbursement amounts. He also asked if we are approving the feasibility study are we approving a specific plan option.

KCBA stated that if you approve PlanCon A you are approving option 4 in the feasibility study.

school Mrs. Geronikos asked if Mr. Michaels feels that keeping the grade configuration of the buildings as they currently are is the most educationally sound decision to make.

Mr. Michaels stated that he feels very strongly about the present grade structure.

YEA: Mr. Dengler, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Green, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, Mrs. Young, Mr. Hartman (9)  
NAY: None (0)

**LEGAL**

Mr. Dengler made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Follweiler, that the Board of Education approves the following legal item:

School Board Solicitor 2010 SY Approve to appoint the law firm of Steckel & Stopp as solicitors for the Northern Lehigh School District for 2010 at a retainer fee of \$1,750.00. There is no increase over last year's fee.

YEA: Mr. Dengler, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Green, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, Mrs. Young, Mr. Hartman (9)  
NAY: None (0)

**INFORMATION**

Minutes of the Lehigh Career & Technical Institute Joint Operating Committee meeting held on August 26, 2009 and the LCTI Director's Report for September 2009 were distributed.

17, Minutes of the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit 21 Board of Directors meeting held on August 2009 was distributed.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Follweiler made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Ganser, that the regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh School District Board of School Directors is adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

YEA: Mr. Dengler, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Green, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, Mrs. Young, Mr. Hartman (9)  
NAY: None (0)

Respectfully submitted,

Gregory S. Williams  
Secretary

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_ President

Edward E. Hartman