

NORTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
Regular Meeting
Board Minutes

Slatington, PA
November 5, 2007

PURPOSE The regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors was called to order by Temporary President, Mrs. Lauren A. Ganser, at 7:34 p.m. on Monday, November 5, 2007 in the Slatington Elementary School gymnasium.

Mr. Dorshimer stated that the Board of Directors was a few minutes late because they were in executive session prior to the meeting to discuss personnel items.

TEMPORARY PRESIDENT Mr. Dorshimer stated that the President and Vice President for the Board of Directors were not in attendance and there needed to be nominations for a temporary president for this evening meeting.

Nominations Mr. Dengler nominated Mrs. Ganser to serve as temporary president.

Close Nominations Mr. Williams made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Green, to close nominations for temporary president.

Vote on Motion YEA: Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams (7)
NAY: None (0)

ROLL CALL Members present: Mr. Donald H. Dengler, Mr. Bryan C. Dorshimer, Mrs. Lauren A. Ganser, Mrs. Sheryl A. Giles, Mr. Mathias J. Green, Jr., Mrs. Donna M. Kulp, Mr. Gregory S. Williams (7)

Members absent: Mr. Raymond J. Follweiler, Jr., Mr. Peter A. Ruth (2)

Non-members present: Mr. Donald Allen, Mr. Greg Derr, Mrs. Lynne B. Fedorcha, Mr. John Hrizuk, Dr. Linda Marcincin, Mrs. Laurie Newman-Mankos, Mrs. Karen Nicholas, Mr. David Papay, Ms. Rachel Parisi (Student Rep.) Ms. Maria Pinnata (7:40), Mrs. Diane Ruff, Dr. Nicholas P. Sham, Sr., Mr. Michael Showak (Student Rep), Attorney Charles Stopp (Solicitor), Mr. Keith Strohl (Solicitor's Office), Mrs. Dawn Wadsworth and Mrs. Sherri Molitoris.

VISITORS Approximately forty-four visitors attended the meeting in addition to Terry Ahner reporter for The Times News and Sara Fulton report for The Morning Call.

APPROVE MINUTES Mr. Dorshimer made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Dengler, that the minutes of the regular school board meetings held on October 1, 2007 and October 8, 2007 be approved and ordered filed.

YEA: Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams (7)
NAY: None (0)

SPECIAL BOARD REPORTS Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit – Mr. Bryan C. Dorshimer talked briefly about the Governor's School Appreciation dinner that was held recently at CLIU #21.

Legislative Report - Mr. Gregory S. Williams reported that the US Supreme Court issued a ruling that parents of students in a private school diagnosed with a learning disability can seek tuition reimbursement from the public school for the private school that the student attended. The school district argued that the public school had a program that would fit the need of the student and therefore they did not need to reimburse for the private school tuition. The parents said that it did not matter whether the school had a program or not and petitioned that they should be entitled to that tuition reimbursement. The Supreme Court issued a ruling on a split 4-4 vote which then upheld the ruling of a lower court. The lower court gave the parents the right to seek reimbursement for that student.

**SPECIAL
BOARD
REPORTS**
(cont.)

The first public briefing for the costing out study that has been ongoing in Harrisburg is scheduled to be held on Wednesday November 14th.

PSBA's Lehigh County Fall Legislative meeting is scheduled for this week and Mr. Williams will report back to the board.

Mrs. Newman-Mankos addressed the Board with information about legislation that is trying to eliminate districts from being allowed to use school based medical access for transportation and administrative costs. She has written a letter to our Senator and Legislators stating districts that are financially strapped like ours really relies on the money we can collect from school based medical access.

Lehigh Carbon Community College - Mr. Mathias J. Green, Jr. reported that the college is currently going through Middle States Assessment. He stated that there are 14 criteria that are normally assessed and LCCC meets or exceeds 8 of the 14 categories.

The college has signed an agreement with Kutztown University, in the area of criminal justice, where Kutztown will accept 90 transfer credits from LCCC. The student can then transfer those 90 credits and attend Kutztown for 1 year and receive a bachelor's degree.

Committee Reports and/or Meetings

Minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting held on October 10, 2007 were distributed. Minutes of the Community Relations Committee Meeting held on October 10, 2007 were distributed.

Student Representatives to the Board Report

Ms. Rachael Parisi and Mr. Michael Showak distributed their written student representative report and verbally reported on its contents.

Federal and Other Programs Update - Mrs. Lynne B. Fedorcha distributed her written report and verbally reported on its contents which included EAP Grant tutoring update for the 2006-2007 school year and that 82% of the students that attended the tutoring program increased their reading performance level on the PSSA's, Title I Parent Meeting held on October 17th and the Professional Development scheduled for November 2nd in-service day. She also distributed minutes from the Head Start Collaboration Team meeting, Safe Schools Committee meeting and Wellness Advisory Council meeting.

Mrs. Bowser and Mrs. Raber obtained the King Arthur Flour grant. Mrs. Fedorcha explained about the assembly that was held at the middle school for this grant. Each student received whole wheat, flour, yeast, a recipe and instructions on how to organize a baking project. Each student was invited to bake two loaves of bread, one for their family and one for the Northern Lehigh Food Bank. Earlier today there were more than 120 loaves of bread donated to the Northern Lehigh Food Bank.

Mrs. Fedorcha invited Board Members to attend a Science! It's Elementary conference which is being held on November 13th from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at the Holiday Inn in Harrisburg.

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

Dr. Sham introduced Abby Bloss, high school math teacher who briefly talked about Student Council. Miss Bloss then turned things over to the officers of student council who briefly talked about activities they have completed already this year and many upcoming events. The officers of student council handed out gifts to all board members.

Dr. Sham introduced Mrs. Sheila Lanshe, high school guidance counselor, who talked briefly about Governor's School and then introduced high school senior, Michael Pappas, who attended Governor's School this past summer. Mr. Pappas talked about his experience at Governor's School and the global entrepreneurship program.

Dr. Sham distributed to all board members a letter received from a parent about student dress at the high school. He advised the board that the policy committee address this issue

SPECIAL BOARD REPORTS (cont.)

along with high school administration. He also distributed a copy of the letter to our solicitor for his review.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Dr. Sham introduced Mr. Stephen Drake, high school technology teacher, who read a prepared statement from the Education Association. The letter was in support and appreciation of Dr. Sham and all of his accomplishments and good things that he has done in his 19 years of service to the Northern Lehigh School District. He stated that Dr. Sham has shown himself to be responsible and accountable for the delivery of our educational programs as stated in the Board Governing Standards Code of Conduct. His strong leadership has helped raise PSSA scores, establish all day kindergarten and thus provide equitable educational opportunities for our children. It is apparent that Dr. Sham loves this district and community and feels personally invested in its future. We are committed to supporting the board that works together in the spirit of harmony with respect and cooperation. As stated in section 2 of the Boards Code of Conduct we firmly believe that the future welfare of this community depends on the quality of education we provide to public schools.

behalf of the board is

On a personal note, Mr. Drake stated that he has been here for a long time. He has been here through 5 superintendents and 8 principals. When he first started here people were moving out of the district because of the schools. He stated that people are now moving in because of the schools. He realizes that it has taken a lot of work on many people but ultimately Dr. Sham is responsible for this change. He feels making a terrible mistake in allowing Dr. Sham to leave.

Dr. Sham stated that after 39 years in education the people who mean the most to him, he thanks them from the bottom of his heart.

Mrs. Ganser stated that there was an executive session held prior to tonight's meeting in the superintendent's office to discuss personnel issues.

PERSONNEL

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

Licensed Health Room Attendant Agreement

Approve the Licensed Health Room Attendant Agreement as presented for the 2007-2008 school year.

Reclassify Dawn Tulio

Approve to reclassify Mrs. Dawn Tulio from a Nurse Support Staff employee to a Licensed Health Room Attendant.

Remove Classification Nurse Support Staff

Approve to remove the classification of Nurse Support Staff employee from the Educational Support Staff Memorandum of Understanding.

Rescind Appt Cynthia Paul

Rescind the appointment of Cynthia Paul as a Temporary Vacancy Replacement Title I Teacher as approved at the October 8, 2007 regular school board meeting.

Appointments-Instructional

Jane Wessner Assignment:

Temporary Vacancy Replacement Title I Reading Teacher, replacing Kristie Borger who was granted a leave of absence

Salary:

\$39,000 prorated (Step 1 Bachelors on the 2007-2008 CBA Salary Schedule)

Effective:

October 26, 2007

Termination Date:

On or About January 31, 2008

PERSONNEL**(cont.)**

Non-Instructional	Kim Williams* **		
	Assignment:	Peters Elementary Health Room Attendant, replacing Janelle Reiser who resigned	
	Salary:	\$16.50 Per Hour/6½ Hours Per Day/ 5 Days Per Week (2007-2008 Licensed Health Room Attendant Agreement)	
	Effective:	November 20, 2007	
		*60 day probationary period ending on or about March 3, 2008	
		**Pending Verification of Clearances	
	Meldy Santos		
	Assignment:	Personal Care Assistant for student #1290051 at Slatington Elementary School, funded by Medical Access	
	Salary:	\$9.88/Per Hour/6½ Hours Per Day/ 5 Days Per Week (2005-2008 Educational Support Staff Memorandum of Understanding)	
	Effective:	November 5, 2007	
		*60 day probationary period ending on or about February 13, 2008	
		**Pending Verification of Clearances	
	Julianna Christman*		
	Assignment:	Middle School Afternoon Shift Custodian, replacing John Parry who is retiring	
	Salary:	\$8.25 per Hour/8 Hours Per Day/5 Days Per Week (2005-2009 ESPA Collective Bargaining Agreement)	
	Effective:	November 6, 2007	
		*60 day probationary period ending on or about January 4, 2008	
Unpaid Leave of Absence	Approve the unpaid leave of absence for Sheila German, High School Cook's Helper, from October 3, 2007 through October 11, 2007. She was on a family vacation to Disney World.		
	Approve the request of employee #550, high school cafeteria monitor, to extend her unpaid leave of absence for the remainder of the 2007-2008 school year due to health reasons. Her original plan was to return to her current position on or about January 28, 2008 but is now anticipating returning to her position at the beginning of the 2008-2009 school year.		
Resignation Maria Pinnata	Accept the resignation of Maria Pinnata from her position as School Psychologist effective December 17, 2007 or as soon as a replacement can be found.		
Co-Curricular Appointments 2007-2008	Hassan Mouahhid	Assistant Girls Soccer Coach	\$2,627.52
Co-Curricular Volunteers 2007-2008	Jenna Andrews	MS/HS Dance Team Advisor	
	Patrice Arnold	MS/HS Dance Team Advisor	
	Dianna Hoch	MS/HS Dance Team Advisor	
	LeAnn Hoch	MS/HS Dance Team Advisor	
	Justin Maurer	All School Musical and Fall Play	
	Shirley Snyder	Interact Club Advisor	
Unpaid Volunteers	Approve the following unpaid volunteer aides in the Peters Elementary School and/or Slatington Elementary School for the 2007-2008 school year: Katharine Bardelli, Robin Blocker, Lisa Bomgardner, Tracy Delans, Lori-Beth Guelcher, Beth Holm, April Krempasky*, Judy Lagrotteria, Donna Lobach-Berger, Shelly Long, Alicia Quigley, Dana Schaeffer, Jacqueline Schuck*, Jennifer Shelly, JoAnne Sipos, Felicia Thomas, Charles Uhler, Billie Jo Witczak, Star Ybanez, Kathy Yelinek, Veena Barnett, Mary-Beth Fatzinger and Rachel Hillegas		
	*Pending Verification of Clearances		

PERSONNEL**(cont.)**

Substitute Instructional Approve the following substitute teachers for the 2007-2008 school year at the 2007-2008 substitute teacher rates as approved on the Supplementary Personnel Salary Schedule:

Melissa Montanari - Elementary

Non-Instructional Cafeteria Approve the following substitute cafeteria worker for the 2007-2008 school year at the 2007-2008 substitute cafeteria worker rate as approved on the Supplementary Personnel Salary Schedule:

Melissa Costenbader*

*Pending Verification of FBI Clearance

Aide/Secretary Approve the following substitute teacher aides for the 2007-2008 school year at the 2007-2008 substitute teacher aide rate as approved on the Supplementary Personnel Salary Schedule:

Melissa Costenbader*

Ashlynn Rumble

*Pending Verification of FBI Clearance

PUBLIC COMMENT

Susan Firth – Slatington Borough asked what the licensing process is for the health room attendants.

Dr. Sham stated that currently we have two certified school nurses employed under the NLEA contract. These nurses are in the two buildings with the highest population of students. In the other buildings we now have LPN's (Licensed Practical Nurses). We have hired LPN's because they are allowed to administer medications and they have knowledge of first aide for the safety of the children.

YEA: Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams (7)

NAY: None (0)

Mr. Dorshimer asked when a job is posted for someone who is out on leave that job is only temporary correct?

Dr. Sham stated yes.

Mr. Dorshimer asked if a secretary within the district would like to bid on that job, can they?

Dr. Sham stated yes.

Mr. Dorshimer asked if that job does not become permanent does the temporary person go back to their job?

Dr. Sham stated that they would be able to go back to their original position.

Mr. Dorshimer asked if this has been conveyed to all secretaries.

Dr. Sham said that he only had one person who asked that question directly of him and his response was yes that they could. No one else has asked him that question.

CONFERENCES

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

Approve the attached list of teachers to attend the Science Its Elementary Training Sessions. The list contains training session dates of October 23-25, October 30 – November 1, November 6-8 and November 27-29. Associated costs for these trainings include over night lodging accommodations, meals and travel expenses which is directly funded by the Science:

It's Elementary Grant. Substitute teacher costs are to be reimbursed to the district from the Science Its Elementary Grant.

**CONFER-
ENCES**
(cont.)

Aileen Yadush – Governor’s Institute for Innovation in Education – December 16-19, 2007 – Penn Stater Conference Center State College, PA – Lodging: \$374.34 (3 nights), Meals: \$20.00, Travel: \$76.95 – Total Approximate Cost: \$471.29 – Funding: Project 720 Grant

Michael Anderson – Governor’s Institute for Innovation in Education – December 16-19, 2007 – Penn Stater Conference Center State College, PA – Lodging: \$374.34 (3 nights), Meals: \$20.00 – Total Approximate Cost: \$394.34 – Funding: Project 720 Grant

Douglas Reynolds – Governor’s Institute for Innovation in Education – December 16-19, 2007 – Penn Stater Conference Center State College, PA – Lodging: \$374.34 (3 nights), Meals: \$20.00 – Total Approximate Cost: \$394.34 – Funding: Project 720 Grant

Jonathan DeFrain – Governor’s Institute for Innovation in Education – December 16-19, 2007 – Penn Stater Conference Center State College, PA – Lodging: \$249.56 (2 nights), Meals: \$20.00, Travel: \$47.70 – Total Approximate Cost: \$317.26 – Funding: Project 720

Grant

Renee Evans – Governor’s Institute for Innovation in Education – December 16-19, 2007 – Penn Stater Conference Center State College, PA – Lodging: \$249.56 (2 nights), Meals: \$20.00 – Total Approximate Cost: \$269.56 – Funding: Project 720 Grant

YEA: Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams (7)

NAY: None (0)

POLICY

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

Board
Policy
First
Reading

Approve school board policy #209 – Pupils – Health Examinations/Screenings, as presented after first reading.

Approve school board policy #236 – Pupils – Student Assistance Program, as presented after first reading.

Approve school board policy #800 – Operations – Records Management, as presented after first reading.

Board
Policy
Second
Reading

Approve school board policy #806 – Operations – Child/Student Abuse, as amended after second reading.

Approve school board policy #302 – Administrative Employees – Employment of Superintendent/Assistant Superintendent, as presented after second reading.

Approve school board policy #303 – Administrative – Employment of Administrators, as presented after second reading.

Approve school board policy #404 – Professional Employees – Employment of Professional Employees, as presented after second reading.

Approve school board policy #405 – Professional Employees – Employment of Substitute Professional Employees, as presented after second reading.

Approve school board policy #406 – Professional Employees – Employment of Summer School Staff, as presented after second reading.

Approve school board policy #504 – Non-Professional Employees – Employment of Classified Employees, as presented after second reading.

Approve school board policy #505 – Non-Professional Employees – Employment of Substitute and Short-Term Employees, as amended after second reading.

POLICY
(cont.)

Approve school board policy #818 – Operations – Contracted Services, as presented after second reading.

Approve the RTI Policy as presented after second reading.

Use of
Facilities
Pappas Lawn
Care
Basketball
Tournament

Approve the request of Pappas Lawn Care and Construction to use Peters Elementary School Multipurpose Room to host a basketball tournament, which will be held on Sunday, November 18, 2007 starting at 9 a.m. This tournament will be a graduation project for high school senior, Michael Pappas. It is understood that they will be billed a rental fee for the use of the building and for custodial/maintenance service fees. It is the responsibility of Pappas Lawn Care and Construction to provide sufficient security for the event.

Homebound
Instruction

It is recommended that the Board of Education grant homebound instruction for a 10th grade student, Student No. 1005750, for five hours per week, effective November 1, 2007 and continuing until approximately December 1, 2007.

Mr. Dorshimer asked to pull item C, Use of Facilities Pappas Lawn Care Basketball Tournament, and vote on it separately.

Amended
Motion

Mrs. Giles and Mr. Williams amended their motion to vote on items A, B & D only.

Vote on
Amended
Motion

YEA: Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mrs. Kulp,
Mr. Williams (7)
NAY: None (0)

Motion Use
of Facilities
Pappas Lawn
Care
Basketball
Tournament

Mr. Green made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Williams that the Board of Education approve the request of Pappas Lawn Care and Construction to use Peters Elementary School Multipurpose Room to host a basketball tournament, which will be held on Sunday, November 18, 2007 starting at 9 a.m. This tournament will be a graduation project for high school senior, Michael Pappas. It is understood that they will be billed a rental fee for the use of the building and for custodial/maintenance service fees. It is the responsibility of Pappas Lawn Care and Construction to provide sufficient security for the event.

Mr. Dorshimer stated that if the Board wishes to allow events to happen on a Sunday prior to the noon start time as outlined in the policy, maybe the Policy Committee should look at revising this policy so that the start time on a Sunday is not an issue anymore.

YEA: Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mrs. Kulp,
Mr. Williams (7)
NAY: None (0)

**CURRIC-
ULUM AND
INSTRUC-
TION**

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

Agreement
CLIU Special
Education
Services
2007-2008

Approve to authorize proper officials to execute an agreement between the Northern Lehigh School District and the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit #21 to provide special education services for the 2007-2008 school year.

YEA: Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mrs. Kulp,
Mr. Williams (7)
NAY: None (0)

Mr. Dorshimer requested to receive documentation on costs for special education services for the past three years.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Dorshimer made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Giles, that the Board of Education approve the following new business item:

Emergency Operations Plan

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

YEA: Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams (7)
NAY: None (0)

FINANCIAL

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

Cash Mngt Portfolio

Approve the Arthurs Lestrage Cash Management Portfolio for the months of September 2007.

Per Capita Abatements/ Exonerations

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

YEA: Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams (7)
NAY: None (0)

CORRESPONDENCE

Board members received a letter from a parent about student dress in the high school.

INFORMATION

Minutes of the Lehigh Career & Technical Institute Joint Operating Committee meeting held on September 26, 2007 and the LCTI Director's Report for October 2007.

Minutes of the Lehigh Carbon Community College Board of Trustees meeting held on October 4, 2007.

Minutes of the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit 21 Board of Directors meeting held on September 17, 2007.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Williams made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Dorshimer, that the regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh School District Board of School Directors is adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

YEA: Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams (7)
NAY: None (0)

Respectfully submitted,

Bryan C. Dorshimer
Secretary

ATTEST: _____ Temporary President
Lauren A. Ganser