

**NORTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board Minutes**

**November 7, 2005
Slatington, PA**

PURPOSE The regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors was called to order by the President, Mr. Mathias J. Green, Jr., at 7:31 p.m. on Monday, November 7, 2005, in the boardroom located at the Slatington Elementary School.

ROLL CALL Members present: Mr. Franklin D. Beers, Mr. Bryan C. Dorshimer,
Mr. Raymond J. Follweiler, Jr., Mrs. Susan H. Fullas,
Mrs. Lauren A. Ganser, Mrs. Lori H. Geronikos, Mr. Mathias J. Green, Jr. (7)

Members absent: Mr. Robert J. Cox, Mr. William H. Hazzard (2)

Non-members present: Dr. Nicholas P. Sham, Mr. Philip Bertolino, Mr. Robert Kern, Mrs. Karen Nicholas, Mr. John Hrizuk, Mr. David Papay, Mr. John Fidelibus, Mr. Brian Geiger, Ms. Christine Stafford, Attorney Charles Stopp (Solicitor), Keith Strohl (from Solicitors Office), Mr. Jeffrey Bachman, Mrs. Laurie Newman-Mankos, Mrs. Andrea Madochick, Ms. Jessica Fidler, Mr. Nathan Hunsicker, and Mrs. Doneta Merkle

VISITORS Approximately 9 visitors attended the meeting, in addition to Joel Kern, reporter for The Times News and Terry Ahner, reporter for The Chronicle newspapers.

PUBLIC COMMENT Donna Kulp – Washington Township – reserved the right to comment on all agenda items.

SPECIAL BOARD REPORTS Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit – Mr. Bryan C. Dorshimer
Mr. Dorshimer reported on the Governor's School recognition dinner. He also reported from the CLIU Board Brief. Our district sent two students, Andrea Eberhart and Jessica Fidler, to the Governor's School.

Mr. Dorshimer informed Mrs. Fullas that he did vote in the affirmative for the support staff contract at the CLIU. Mrs. Fullas wanted to know why he could vote for that 4 year contract with increases ranging from 3.5% to 3.9% but was not able to vote for the district contract with 2.5% increase. Mr. Dorshimer said that the CLIU increase was an average of all the districts throughout both Lehigh and Carbon County.

Lehigh Career and Technical Institute – Mrs. Lori H. Geronikos
Mrs. Geronikos reported that there was going to be an open house at LCTI and everyone is invited. LCTI's building program is moving along nicely.

Legislative Report – Mrs. Lori H. Geronikos
Mrs. Geronikos reported that vouchers once again have been defeated in the House and Senate. On the State level, she reported on new tax reform; announced that there will be a county legislative meeting on December 9 at Parkland High School; discussed the fact that home schooled students can now participate in extra curricular activities; informed everyone that in the future districts may be required to have a school nurse in every building. She read a letter from Tom Gentzel, Director of PSBA, regarding tax relief and trying to understand what is happening in Harrisburg.

Executive

Committee Reports and/or Meetings

All board members received a copy of the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on October 24, 2005 and the minutes of the Technology/Buildings & Grounds Committee meeting held on November 2, 2005.

For the record, Mr. Green announced that he was at the October 24 Finance Committee meeting.

Student Representatives Report – Jessica Fidler and Nathan Hunsicker gave their report for the month of November.

SPECIAL

**BOARD
REPORTS**
(Con't.)

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

Dr. Sham announced that a high school student, James Guth, passed away over the weekend. A moment of silence was conducted for Jim and his family.

Dr. Sham introduced Mike Anderson, high school guidance counselor who introduced Andrea Eberhart and Jessica Fidler who reported on their experiences with the Governor's School of Excellence.

He announced that an Arbitration Hearing has been scheduled for June 6, 2006 at 10:00 a.m. in the Boardroom.

The Individual Administrative Goals for 2005-2006 were distributed for review. They have been developed based on the district goals. They will be on the next agenda for approval.

He brought a playoff finance issue to the board's attention. Chris Stafford informed the board that there are athletic post-season expenses that were not included in the 2005—2006 budget. She is seeking permission to reallocate funds to cover any post season expenses that may occur.

Dr. Sham informed the board of a problem he was alerted to. When the wrestlers won the State championship last year, the singlets were given to the team members. That has been past practice of our board. Along with the singlets, the warm up tops were also given. They were not part of the singlet uniforms and they also need to be replaced. There is no money in the athletic budget for the warm up tops. They will cost at a maximum \$1000. The warm up tops were in very bad condition with broken zippers and holes and really should have been replaced. Dr. Sham asked permission to take \$1300 from the concession stand account designated for wrestling to purchase those warm up tops. He asked that the board address this under New Business on the agenda.

Mr. Follweiler asked if the singlets were only to be given to the seniors, like it was for the football team. A memo has been sent to all coaches informing them that they should not give away any athletic equipment without it being authorized by the board. Dr. Sham suggested that the district adopts a policy addressing this issue.

**EXECUTIVE
SESSION**

An Executive Session of the whole board was held at 7:00 p.m. to discuss contractual items. It was continued immediately following the regular meeting to discuss a labor issue.

PERSONNEL

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

Appointment- Instructional	Allison Garbe Assignment: Salary: Effective Date: Termination Date:	Temporary Vacancy Replacement Teacher Physical Education teacher in the elementary schools. \$38,000 (Pro-Rated) (Step 1 Bachelors on the 2005- 2006NLEA Collective Bargaining Agreement Salary Schedule) October 19, 2005 Upon Return of the Regular Fulltime Employee
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Resignation/ Retirement	Accept the resignation of Judith Costa from her position as special education teacher in the Slatington Elementary School, to become effective January 2, 2006 at which time she will initiate her formal retirement from public school service after 23 years of service in education, 16 ½ of which were in the Northern Lehigh School District.
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Substitutes Instructional	Approve the following substitute teacher for the 2005-2006 school year at the 2005-2006 substitute teacher rates of \$80.00 for 1-10 non-consecutive days; \$90.00 for 11-20 non-consecutive days; and \$105.00 for 21+ non-consecutive days: Diane Moser – All Subject Areas Brenda Pascoe – All Subject Areas Lori Middaugh – Elementary Jo Leigh Sponsler – Music K-12
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PERSONNEL
(Con't.)

Non-Instructional Approve the following substitute secretary/aide for the 2005-2006 school year at the 2005-2006 substitute rate of \$7.25 per hour: Christine Sigley – Secretary, Sheila Steier – Aide
Melissa Fritchman – Instructional Aide

Approve the following substitute cafeteria worker for the 2005-2006 school year at the 2005-2006 substitute rate of \$7.25 per hour: Christine Sigley, Sheila Steier, Melissa Fritchman

Resignations Co-Curricular Accept the resignation of Crystal Kistler from her shared stipend position as Assistant Girls' Varsity Soccer Coach for the 2005-2006 season, effective October 11, 2005.

Accept the resignation of Jamie Machik from her shared stipend position as Assistant Girls' Varsity Soccer Coach for the 2005-2006 season, effective October 10, 2005.

Rescind Motion Approve to rescind the motion on the September 12, 2005 board meeting appointing Gabe Edwards as a volunteer instructional assistant for the marching band for the 2005 marching season. He has failed to submit his clearances and he has never volunteered his services.

Unpaid Volunteers Approve the following unpaid volunteer aides in the Peters Elementary School for the 2005-2006 school year: Lynne McGeehan*, Sheila Steier*, Shannon Czarnecki*, Geraldine Steckel*, Lori Bevans, Jamie Farber, Michele Roth, Tina Rothenberger (*Indicates New Volunteers Pending Verification of Clearances)

Approve the following unpaid volunteer for the Slatington Elementary School for the 2005-2006 school year: Maria Beltz

Approve Cheryl Mill as the volunteer Step Team Advisor for the Slatington Elementary School for the 2005-2006 school year.

Interact Club Volunteer Advisor Approve Shirley Snyder as a volunteer advisor for the Interact Club for the 2005-2006 school year: Pending Verification of Clearances

Bigs & Littles Adult Aide for May salary Approve to appoint Charles Uhler as an Adult Aide for the Bigs & Littles After-School Program at Peters Elementary at a salary of \$9.17 per hour (2002-2005 Educational Support Staff Schedule) one hour for three Wednesday afternoons a month, beginning October 19, 2005 and ending on 7, 2006 (excluding the month of January). Total compensation shall not exceed \$250.00. His will be funded through the Northern Lehigh Educational Foundation.

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Fullas, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Green (7)

NAY: None (0)

POLICY

Board Policy 2nd Reading

Mrs. Geronikos made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Ganser, that the Board of Education approves to replace school board policy #220 – Pupils – Student Expression, with new PSBA policy #220 – Pupils – Student Expression/Distribution and Posting of Materials, as presented after second reading.

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Fullas, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Green (7)

NAY: None (0)

CURRIC- ULUM AND

Mr. Follweiler made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Beers, that the Board of Education accepts the recommendation of the administration to approve the course proposal between the

**INSTRUC-
TION**

Northern Lehigh School District and the Lehigh Carbon Community College for four (4) dual enrollment classes to be added to the high school program of studies effective the for 2006-2007 academic year.

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Fullas, Mrs. Ganser,
Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Green (7)
NAY: None (0)

**NEW
BUSINESS**

Mr. Dorshimer made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Ganser, that the Board of Education denies the Northern Lehigh Education Association Grievance that was heard on October 18, 2005.

NLEA
Act 80
Grievance
Decision

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Fullas, Mrs. Ganser,
Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Green (7)
NAY: None (0)

Reallocate
Concession
Stand
Funds

Mr. Dorshimer made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Beers, that the Board of Education authorizes the administration to reallocate the money from the concession stand wrestling balance to purchase the wrestling warm ups.

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Fullas, Mrs. Ganser,
Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Green (7)
NAY: None (0)

FINANCIAL

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

PC Abate-
ments

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

Cash Manage-
ment Portfolio

Approve the Arthurs Lestrangle Cash Management Portfolio for the month of May and September 2005.

Exonerate
R. Klevenha-
gen From
Collection of
KOZ Tax Bill

Approve to exonerate Ronald Klevenhagen, tax collector for Slatington Borough, from collection of school real estate property tax bill #1006. This property is approved as a KOZ property and the tax bill was issued in error.

Real Estate
Tax Refund

Approve a real estate tax refund in the amount of \$547.60 to Arthur H. & Betty Jean Keiser, 360 S. Walnut St, Slatington PA 18080. The refund is due to revising the interim assessed value of parcel #556232114782 1 in the borough of Slatington for 2 months of the 2004-2005 school tax year.

NLMS Student
Activities Acct.
Fund State-
ment

Approve the Northern Lehigh Middle School Student Activities Account Fund Statement for the month of September 2005.

NLHS Student
Activities Acct.
Fund State-
ment

Approve the Northern Lehigh High School Student Activities Account Fund Statement for the month of October 2005.

FINANCIAL
(Con't.)

- Establish NL Scholarship Fund Authorize appropriate district officials to establish a "Northern Lehigh Scholarship Fund" bank account through approved depository Wachovia Bank.
- Authorize Transfer of Co-mingled Funds Further authorize same officials to transfer to this new checking account any balances for the Ann Bernard, Melissa Chilcoat, Robert Hahn, Bernard Hoffman, Donald Jones, Allen & Sophia Kester, Tommy Papay, Slatington Lions Club, Edward Tkach, William Stone and Northern Lehigh High School Scholarship, which are currently co-mingled with the Northern Lehigh High School Student Activity checking account.
- Purchase Tractor Approve the purchase of a CASE DX33 Tractor, a Soft Cab Enclosure, a LX114 Loader w/Quick Coupler and 60" Bucket, a B5X Front Mounted Blower w/chute rotation and defection kits (Hydro Controlled), a 715655036 Ballast Box, and turf tires from Eckroth Equipment Company of Orefield, PA under the PA State Contract Number 242001 at a cost of \$23,494.68. Funds for this purchase are to come from the 2005-2006 Budget (2600 Accounts).
- Purchase Nitrate Removal System Approve the purchase of a Nitrate Removal System from Ros-Kem Corp. of Aston, PA for the Peters Elementary School at a cost of \$12,315.00. Funds for this purchase are to come from the 2005-2006 Budget.
- Reallocate Funds For Post-Season Athletic Expenses Authorize the administration to reallocate funds within the 2005-06 general fund budget for athletic post-season playoff expenses anticipated for various sport teams. These expenses were cut from the athletic director budget in May of 2005 pending team success during the regular playing season.
- YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Fullas, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Green (7)
NAY: None (0)

INFORMATION

All board members received a copy of the minutes of the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit 21 Board of Directors meeting held on September 19, 2005, minutes of the Washington Township Board of Supervisors meeting held on September 13, 2005, minutes of the Lehigh Career & Technical Institute Joint Operating Committee meeting held on September 28, 2005 and the LCTI Director's Report for October 2005, and minutes of the Lehigh Carbon Community College Board of Trustees meeting held on October 6, 2005.

RECOGNITION OF GUESTS

Robin Schmall – Borough of Slatington – Addressed the board with a bus concern. She complained about an incident with a bus driver who has been using a cell phone and knitting while she is driving the children.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Beers made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Dorshimer, that the regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors is adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Fullas, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Green (7)
NAY: None (0)

Respectfully submitted,

Bryan C. Dorshimer
Secretary

ATTEST: _____ President
Mathias J. Green, Jr.