

**NORTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Board Minutes**

**Slatington, PA  
February 3, 2003**

**PURPOSE** The regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors was called to order by the President, Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha, at 7:35 p.m. on Monday, February 3, 2003 in the boardroom located in the Slatington Elementary School.

**ROLL CALL** Members present: Mr. Robert J. Cox, Mr. Bryan C. Dorshimer, Mrs. Jane J. Escott, Mrs. Lauren A. Ganser, Mrs. Lori H. Geronikos, Mrs. Sheryl A. Giles, Mr. Mathias J. Green, Jr., Mr. Jason M. Newhard, Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha (9)

Members absent: (0)

Non-members present: Dr. Nicholas P. Sham, Sr. , Mrs. Lynne B. Fedorcha, Mr. Philip C. Bertolino, Mr. Christopher Iacobelli, Dr. Linda Marcincin, Mrs. Karen Nicholas, Mr. John Hrizuk, Mr. David Papay, Mr. Brian Geiger, Mr. Bernard Rockovich, Attorney Charles Stopp (Solicitor), Ms. Laurie Newman and Mrs. Doneta J. Merkle

**VISITORS** Approximately 13 visitors attended the meeting in addition to Sharon Minnich, reporter for TheTimes News.

**SPECIAL BOARD REPORTS** Lehigh Career and Technical Institute – Mr. Jason M. Newhard  
Mr. Newhard reported that he attended his first meeting as a voting member as an alternate for Mrs. Giles. He reported that LCTI is moving forward with the construction indicating that on February 18, 2003, at 7:30 p.m., there will be an Act 34 PlanCon hearing.

Carbon-Lehigh Intermediate Unit -- Mr. Bryan C. Dorshimer  
The CLIU Board Brief was distributed to all members. Mr. Dorshimer had nothing further to report.

Committee Reports And/  
Or Meetings The following committee meeting minutes were distributed:  
1. Community Relations Committee meeting held on January 15, 2003.  
2. Policy/Education Committee meeting held on January 22, 2003.  
3. Finance Committee meeting held on January 27, 2003.

Solicitor's Report -- Attorney Charles Stopp  
Attorney Stopp reported that the Act 511 taxes have been changed to allow the exemptions to be increased from \$5,000 to \$10,000.

Federal and Other Programs Update -- Mrs. Lynne B. Fedorcha  
Mrs. Fedorcha reported that our high school received a High Schools That Works Challenge Grant in the amount of \$3000. She reported it is now official that the district received funds from a grant sponsored by Senator Rhodes in the amount of \$28, 292.

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

Dr. Sham's report included the following:

1. Dr. Sham informed the board that he was planning on moving ahead with an architectural building feasibility study on reconfiguration and full-time kindergarten. He also stated that the Pennsylvania Department of Education has informed the district that we will not receive another waiver to conduct Title I services at Peters Elementary School. He announced that on May 6, 2003 there will be a town meeting to field questions and provide answers concerning reconfiguration and full day kindergarten.
2. Mr. Randy Hensinger and Dr. Clyde Hornberger gave an overview of the Joint Purchasing Agreement with Lehigh County Schools which is spearheaded by LCTI.
3. Board members received a Lehigh Carbon Community College School Board Briefing Invitation.
4. He acknowledged student artwork that was displayed on the walls of the board meeting room.
5. Brian Geiger informed the board that sometime in the future the district may be hosting one of PASBO's video conference.
6. The district will be sending a letter to Portnoff Associates indicating that they are not to pursue delinquent taxes on Walker Coach Company which is a (KOZ) property.
- 7.

Executive Session An Executive Session, for personnel issues, was held beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the Superintendent's Office and was continued after the meeting for personnel issues.

**PERSONNEL** A motion was made by Mrs. Giles, with a second made by Mrs. Escott, that the Board of Education approve the following personnel items:

Appointments Non-Instructional Darryl M. Keiser\*  
 Assignment: Custodian – 3:00 p.m. – 11:30 p.m.  
 Slatington Elementary School, replacing Lee Mack, who was released during his probationary period.  
 Salary: \$8.25 Per Hour /8 Hours Per Day/5 Days Per Week\*\*  
 Effective Date: January 27, 2003  
 \* He will serve a 60-day probationary period.  
 \*\* After successfully completing the probationary period his salary will be increased to \$8.85 Per Hour/8 Hours Per Day/5 Days Per Week in accordance with Northern Lehigh School District Policy #528.

Patricia Ingles\*  
 Assignment: One-on-One Special Education Aide  
 Slatington Elementary School – Grade 3  
 New Position – IDEA Funded  
 Salary: \$8.64 Per Hour/6 ½ Hours Per Day/5 Days Per Week  
 Effective Date: January 28, 2003  
 \*She will serve a 60-day probationary period.

Substitutes Instructional Approve to employ the following substitute teacher(s) for the 2002-2003 school year at the substitute teacher rates of \$70.00 for 1-10 non-consecutive days; \$80.00 for 11-20 non-consecutive days; and \$90.00 for 21+ non-consecutive days:

Beverly Overholt – Elementary K-6  
 Grace J. Yong – All Subject Areas – Emergency Certified

Leave Without Pay Approve the request of Dawn Mayer to take a one-day leave of absence, without pay, on April 16, 2003. She plans to use this day in conjunction with two personal days and two compensatory days. Her request will not be considered a precedent for future requests per correspondence received from the Northern Lehigh Education Association.

ROLL CALL: YEA: Mr. Cox, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Newhard, Mr. Fedorcha (8)  
 NAY: Mr. Dorshimer (1)

Motion carried.

Salary Adjustments A motion was made by Mr. Newhard, with a second made by Mr. Cox, that the Board of Education acknowledge the following teachers who have completed the requirements per the Collective Bargaining Agreement that would entitle them to a salary increase for the second half of the 2002-2003 school year:

Kori Dibilio  
 From: 5B+24 \$37,000.00\*  
 To: 5M \$38,200.00\*

Kristie Croll  
 From: 2B \$35,300.00\*  
 To: 2B+24 \$35,800.00\*

\*2001-2002 salary to be adjusted when a new Collective Bargaining Agreement is ratified.

YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Newhard(8)  
 NAY: None (0)

ABSTAIN: Mr. Fedorcha (1) Conflict of Interest

**POLICY**

A motion was made by Mr. Cox, with a second made by Mrs. Geronikos, that the Board of Education approve the following items listed under Policy:

Board Policies Approve revisions to school board policies as follows:

1. 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading
  - a. Approve revisions to existing school board policy #202: Pupils – Attendance of Non-resident Students, as presented after 2<sup>nd</sup> reading.
  - b. Approve to replace our existing policy and adopt a new school board policy #114: Programs – Gifted Education, as presented after 2<sup>nd</sup> reading.
2. 1<sup>st</sup> Reading
  - a. Approve revisions to existing school board policy #006: Local Board Procedures – Meetings, as presented after 1<sup>st</sup> reading.
  - b. Approve revisions to existing school board policy #801: Operations – Public Records, as presented after 1<sup>st</sup> reading.
  - c. Approve revisions to existing school board policy #210: Pupils – Use of Medications, as presented after 1<sup>st</sup> reading.
  - d. Approve to replace existing school board policy #807: Operations – Opening Exercises with new school board policy #807: Operations – Opening Exercises/Flag Displays, as presented after 1<sup>st</sup> reading.
  - e. Approve to adopt new school board policy #822: Operations – Automated External Defibrillator, as presented after 1<sup>st</sup> reading.

Conferences

Approve the request of John Hrizuk and Jeffrey Bachman to attend the Annual PA Educational Technology Conference on February 9, 10 and 11, 2003 in Hershey, PA. Expenses for this conference include \$160.00 each for registration, \$40.00 each for meals, \$30.00 for travel for a total cost of \$430.00 and was included in the 2002-2003 budget.

Approve the request of Tara Balliet and Marlene Simock to attend a Bureau of Education and Research Conference in Bethlehem, PA on March 4, 2003. Expenses for this conference include \$165.00 each for registration, \$15.00 each for meals, \$18.00 for travel for a total cost of \$378.00 plus the cost of two substitute teachers for one day and has been approved by the district's Continuing Professional Development Committee.

Approve the request of Glenn Rissmiller to attend the 36<sup>th</sup> Annual PA State Athletic Director's Association Conference in Hershey, PA on March 19, 20, 21, and 22, 2003. Expenses for this conference include \$240.00 for registration, \$90.00 for meals, \$48.00 for travel, \$130.00 for lodging for a total cost of \$508.00 and will be paid for out of the Athletic Budget.

Approve the request of Deborah Geiger and Carleen Binder to attend a Bureau of Education and Research conference in Allentown on March 31, 2003. Expenses for this conference includes \$155.00 each for registration, \$7.20 for mileage for a total cost of \$317.20 plus the cost of two substitute teachers for one day.

YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Newhard, Mr. Fedorcha (9)

NAY: None (0)

**CURRIC-  
ULUM  
AND  
INSTRUC-  
TION**

A motion was made by Mrs. Geronikos, with a second made by Mrs. Giles, that the Board of Education approve the following items listed under Curriculum and Instruction:

Induction Program Approve to appoint Linda Brown as the helping teacher in the Northern Lehigh School District Induction Program for Janet Ginder, at a stipend of \$750.00 to be paid upon completion of the mentoring process.

Approve New Textbooks Approve to adopt new science textbooks as listed below for the 2002-2003 school year. Money to purchase these textbooks has been included in the 2002-2003 district budget. (Sample texts were available for perusal before and after the meeting.)

<i>Title</i>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Publisher</b>	<b>Copyright</b>	<b>Qty.</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Buckle Down on Biology</b>	<i>A focused review of national biology standards in an easy-to-use instruction/example/practice format, designed for students in grades 9-12</i>	Buckledown Publishing Co.	2002	3 pks of 10	217.76
<b>Fundamentals of Anatomy and Physiology</b>	<i>Provides a uniform depth of coverage for all body systems with emphasis on essential fundamental concepts, applications, and terminology without excessive detail. (The textbook it replaces is no longer available for purchase.)</i>	Pearson Education	2003	30	2107.66
<b>Biology: An Everyday Experience</b>	<i>Easily read text with exciting visuals and supplemental materials, uses everyday analogies and controlled vocabulary, scope and sequenced to cover all essential biology concepts, includes up-to-date genetics section required in standards; accommodates students with slightly lower reading levels</i>	Glencoe/ McGraw Hill	2003	65	4142.16
<b>Holt Science Skill Workshop: Reading in Content Area</b>	<i>Provides activities and exercises that target reading skills specific to the comprehension of science texts...encourages analyzing text structures, recognizing patterns, and organizing information to construct meaning</i>	Holt, Rinehart, Winston	2002	30	843.81

YEA: Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Newhard, Mr. Cox, Mr. Fedorcha (9)

NAY: None (0)

**NEW BUSINESS**

A motion was made by Mr. Dorshimer, with a second made by Mrs. Ganser, that the Board of Education approve the following items listed under New Business:

LV Charter High School

Resolution Regarding The Lehigh Valley Charter High School for the Performing Arts

For the Performing Arts

Approve a Resolution to deny the application of The Lehigh Valley Charter High School for the Performing Arts as presented. (Resolution Attached)

Public  
Outreach  
Campaign

Resolution For Support of the Statewide Public Outreach Campaign

**WHEREAS**, the Pennsylvania School Boards Association has initiated a Public Outreach Campaign to appropriately recognize the achievements of public schools throughout the Commonwealth, and

**WHEREAS**, the campaign is designed to recognize the accomplishments of students and graduates, and the dedicated leadership of teachers, administrators, support staff, and school directors, and

**WHEREAS**, Northern Lehigh School District is proud of the achievements of its staff and students, and of the school entities within its boundaries;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that Northern Lehigh School District supports the statewide Public Outreach Campaign and will conduct its own outreach efforts locally designed to:

- Increase public awareness of the value of public schools,
- Instill a sense of pride for all involved in public education, and
- Strengthen the competitive position of public schools in today’s marketplace of education alternatives, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Northern Lehigh School District will solicit support in the campaign of business, civic, community and government organizations interested in promoting to the wider community the accomplishments and value of their local public schools.

Adopted this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of February, 2003 and signed by Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha, Board President and Dr. Nicholas P. Sham, Sr., Superintendent.

YEA: Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Newhard, Mr. Cox, Mr. Fedorcha (9)

NAY: None (0)

Ratify  
2002-2006  
NLEA  
Collective  
Bargaining  
Agreement

A motion was made by Mr. Cox, with a second made by Mrs. Geronikos, that the Board of Education approve to ratify, as presented, a four-year Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Northern Lehigh School District and the Northern Lehigh Education Association, effective September 1, 2002 through August 31, 2006.

ROLL CALL: YEA: Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Newhard, Mr. Cox, Mr. Fedorcha (8)

NAY: Mr. Dorshimer (1)

Motion carried.

FINANCIAL

A motion was made by Mr. Green, with a second made by Mr. Dorshimer, that the Board of Education approve the following items listed under financial:

PC  
Abatements

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

Construction  
Account Bills

Approve payment of bills from the Construction Account, as presented.

Extended

Approve payment of bills from the Extended Construction Account, as presented.

Construction  
Account Bills

Cash Manage-  
ment Portfolio

Approve the Arthurs Lestrange Cash Management Portfolio for the month of December 2002.

NLHS Student  
Activities Acct.  
Fund Statement

Approve the Northern Lehigh High School Student Activities Account Fund Statement for the month of December 2002.

Library Furn-  
iture For  
Middle School

Approve the purchase of Library Furniture for the Middle School from General Contractor, Hollenbach Construction, Inc., in the amount of \$11,445.00. Funds for this purchase shall be paid for from the Furniture and Equipment Fund of the Middle School Construction Project.

Sale of Milling  
Machine

Approve the sale of the Powermatic/Burke Metal Milling Machine through "Industrial Recovery Services", on-line auctioneers. The school district has received \$425 for this piece of equipment as discussed at Finance Committee meetings.

Purchase Four  
Toll-free  
Telephones

Approve the purchase of 4 telephones, one for each building lobby, for \$4,179.00. These toll-free-phones will replace the payphones previously located in the buildings as discussed at Finance Committee meetings.

Budgetary  
Transfers

Approve general fund budgetary transfers and the addition of the \$6,000 Department of Community & Economic Development Grant, and the \$5,000 Pennsylvania Department of Education "School Wide Effective Behavior Mini Grant" to the general fund as presented.

Open An  
Account

Approve the request of the Northern Lehigh High School to open an, "After Graduation Party Account" in accordance with the Northern Lehigh School District Student Activities Fund. The monies were previously accounted for in the SADD Account.

Distribute  
CLIU Budget  
(Info Only)

The Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit 2003-2004 Operational and Program Services Budget was distributed.

YEA: Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green,  
Mr. Newhard, Mr. Cox, Mr. Fedorcha (9)

NAY: None (0)

**INFORM-  
ATION**

All board members received a copy of the minutes of the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit Board of Directors meeting held on December 16, 2002 and minutes of the Washington Township Board of Supervisors meeting held on December 10, 2002.

**RECOG-  
NITION  
OF  
GUESTS**

Michelle Raber – Middle School Teacher – read a thank you letter from George Dilliard who was a guest speaker in one of her health classes.

Mr. Green questioned the amount of unexpended bond money the district presently has, specifically asking if any of the money was encumbered. This question came as a result of an information sheet distributed to all board members at the meeting.

**ADJOURN-  
MENT**

A motion was made by Mr. Newhard, with a second made by Mrs. Geronikos, that the regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors be adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

YEA: Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green,  
Mr. Newhard, Mr. Cox, Mr. Fedorcha (9)

NAY: None (0)

Respectfully submitted,

Jane J. Escott  
Secretary

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_ President  
Gary S. Fedorcha