

NORTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
Regular School Board Meeting
Monday, January 5, 2009
Slatington Elementary School
Board Room
7:30 P.M.



- I. A. By notice of the President, Board Members are advised that all financial matters shall be regarded as roll call votes. The minutes should also note that Public Notice was given for this meeting in accordance with Act 84 of 1986.
- B. School Board Meeting shall proceed in accordance with School Board Policy.
- C. Pledge of Allegiance.
- D. Roll Call.
- E. Public Comment -- Restricted to Agenda Items.

II. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PRECEDING MEETINGS

- A. Reorganization school board meeting held on December 2, 2008.
- B. Regular school board meeting held on December 2, 2008.

III. SPECIAL BOARD REPORTS

- A. Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit Mr. Donald H. Dengler
- B. Lehigh Career and Technical Institute Mrs. Lori H. Geronikos
- C. Legislative Report Mr. Gregory S. Williams
- D. Lehigh Carbon Community College Mr. Mathias J. Green, Jr.
- E. Committee Reports and/or Meetings
 - Minutes of the Technology Buildings and Grounds Committee Meeting held on December 3, 2008. **(Attachment #1)**
 - Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on December 3, 2008. **(Attachment #2)**
- F. Student Representatives to the Board Report Mr. Michael Showak
Ms. Taylor Trapp
- G. Solicitor's Report Attorney Charles Stopp
- H. Federal and Other Programs Update Mrs. Lynne B. Fedorcha
- I. Business Manager's Report Mr. Jeremy G. Melber
 - ERIP
 - 2009-2010 LCTI General Fund and Academic Center Budgets
 - 2009-2010 CLIU #21 Operational and Programs Services Budget
- J. Superintendent's Report Mr. Michael W. Michaels
 - Pennsylvania School Board Association - School Board Recognition Month

IV. PERSONNEL

A. Appointment – Non-Instructional**1. Heather Kuntz***

Assignment: PCA for Student #2190093 at Peter Elementary School, replacing Jonell Dye who resigned
Salary: \$10.00 per hour/6 ½ hours per day/5 days per week
(2008-2012 Educational Support Staff Memorandum of Understanding)
Effective: December 9, 2008
***60 day Probationary period ending on or about February 6, 2009**

2. Jennifer Kropf* **

Assignment: PCA for Student #1790200 at Slatington Elementary School, budgeted new position in 2009-2010 school year
Salary: \$10.00 per hour/6 ½ hours per day/5 days per week
(2008-2012 Educational Support Staff Memorandum of Understanding)
Effective: January 6, 2009
***60 day Probationary period ending on or about March 6, 2009.**
****Pending verification of missing personnel file items**

B. Resignation

Accept the resignation of Nicole Reily from her position as 2nd Grade Teachers Aide in the Peters Elementary School effective December 23, 2008. Ms. Reily has accepted a position with a local accounting firm.

C. Substitute-Instructional

Approve the following substitute teacher for the 2008-2009 school year at the 2008-2009 substitute teacher rates as approved on the Supplementary Personnel Salary Schedule:

Michael Sosik* - Elementary
***Pending verification of missing personnel file items**

D. Family Medical Leave of Absence

1. Approve the request of Ellen Kiss, High School Special Education Aide, to take a family medical leave beginning December 14, 2008. Mrs. Kiss is requesting a 12 week family medical leave to be followed by an unpaid leave, if necessary. She is requesting this leave to care for a family member and will return to her position as soon as possible.
2. Approve the request of Tanya Simms, High School Health & Physical Education Teacher, to take a family medical leave beginning on or about March 2, 2009 and continuing until on or about May 4, 2009. She plans to return to her current position upon release from her doctor.

E. Transition High School/Middle School Assistant Principal

Authorize administration to advertise and move forward with the hiring of a Transition High School/Middle School Assistant Principal.

V. CONFERENCES

VI. POLICY

A. Board Policy - Second Reading

1. Approve school board policy 140.1 – Programs – Extracurricular Participation By Charter/Cyber Students, as presented after second reading. **(Attachment #3)**
2. Approve school board policy 249 – Pupils – Bullying/Harassment, as presented after second reading. **(Attachment #4)**
3. Approve school board policy 334 – Administrative Employees – Sick Leave, as presented after second reading. **(Attachment #5)**
4. Approve school board policy 414 – Professional Employees – Physical Examination, as presented after second reading. **(Attachment #6)**
5. Approve school board policy 434 – Professional Employees – Sick Leave, as presented after second reading. **(Attachment #7)**
6. Approve school board policy 534 – Non-Professional Employees – Sick Leave, as presented after second reading. **(Attachment #8)**
7. Approve school board policy 810.1 – Operations – Drug/Alcohol Testing, Covered Drivers, as presented after second reading. **(Attachment #9)**
8. Approve school board policy 810.2 – Operations – Drug/Alcohol Testing, Covered Drivers, as presented after second reading. **(Attachment #10)**

B. Board Governance Standards/Code of Conduct

Approve to reaffirm the school board standards and code of conduct referenced in school board policy #011 – Local Board Procedures – Board Governance Standards/Code of Conduct as recommended by the Pennsylvania School Board Association. **(Attachment #11)**

C. Field Trip

5th Grade – Slatington Elementary School – State Museum & Capital Building, Harrisburg, PA – June 11, 2009 – Funded through PTO and student fundraising efforts

VII. CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION**VIII. OLD BUSINESS****IX. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Approve to accept the 2008-2014 Northern Lehigh School District Strategic Plan, as presented and recommended by administration. The 5 reports are comprised of: **(Distributed to All Board Members at prior Board Meeting)**
 - Professional Development
 - Teacher Induction
 - Education Technology
 - Academic Standards and Assessment
 - Student Services
- B. Resolution for School Board Director Recognition Month – January 2009

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania's public school board members, elected by the citizens, have served the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and local communities in representing the public's interest in public education since the passage of the Free School Act in 1834; and

WHEREAS, local school directors represent their communities' beliefs and values when making decisions about the operation of school districts, giving of their time and talent, without compensation, to provide high-quality educational opportunities that prepare children to live as productive members of society; and

WHEREAS, school board members ensure that standards for achievement are met and serve as advocates for the public education of the students and the enhancement of the community, incorporating the community's view of what students should know and be able to do at each grade level; and

WHEREAS, school directors are accessible to their district residents and accountable for the performance of the district's schools, serving as the community's watchdog and ensuring that tax dollars are spent wisely on education; and

WHEREAS, the "Pride & Promise – Public Schools . . . Achieve" public awareness campaign is working to highlight the success and value of public education, as well as promote the effectiveness and commitment of local school boards to providing all Pennsylvania children with an excellent education; and

WHEREAS, the contributions of the men and women who serve on the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors:

Donald H. Dengler
Raymond J. Follweiler, Jr.
Lauren A. Ganser
Lori H. Geronikos
Mathias J. Green, Jr.
Edward E. Hartman
Donna M. Kulp
Gregory S. Williams
Sandi L. Young

should be recognized and appreciated by those who benefit from the workings of our public school system;

NOWHEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Director of the Pennsylvania School Boards Association hereby proclaims the month of January as School Director Recognition Month in this commonwealth; and

FURTHER RESOLVE that this proclamation be communicated to all school districts, school officials and local communities in a planned program which brings visibility and awareness of the role of locally elected school officials to the citizenry of this commonwealth.

NORTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, on June 27, 2006, the Pennsylvania legislature passed Act 1 of Special Session 2006, entitled the "Taxpayer Relief Act" (hereinafter "Act 1");

WHEREAS, Act 1 requires school districts to limit tax increases to the level set by an inflation index unless the tax increase is approved by voters in a referendum or the school district obtains from the Department of Education or a court of common pleas certain referendum exceptions;

WHEREAS, Act 1 does, however, allow a board of school directors to elect to adopt a resolution indicating that it will not raise the rate of any tax for the support of the public schools for the following fiscal year by more than its index, provided this resolution must be adopted no later than 110 days prior to the date of the election immediately preceding the upcoming fiscal year;

WHEREAS, the Northern Lehigh School District index for the 2009-2010 fiscal year is 5.6%;

WHEREAS, the Northern Lehigh School District Board of Directors has made the decision that it shall not raise the rate of any tax for the support of the Northern Lehigh School District for the 2009-2010 fiscal year by more than its index.

AND NOW, on this 5th day of January, 2009, it is hereby **RESOLVED** by the Northern Lehigh School District (hereinafter "District") Board of Directors (hereinafter "Board") the following:

1. The Board certifies that it will not increase any school district tax for the 2009-2010 school year at a rate that exceeds the index as calculated by the Pennsylvania Department of Education.
2. The Board certifies that it will comply with the procedures set forth in Section 687, of the Pennsylvania Public School Code (hereinafter "School Code"), 24 P.S. §6-687, for the adoption of its proposed and final budget.
3. The Board certifies that increasing any tax at a rate less than or equal to the index will be sufficient to balance its final budget of the 2009-2010 fiscal year.
4. The Administration of the District will submit the District's information on a proposed increase in the rate of a tax levied for the support of the District to the Pennsylvania Department of Education on the uniform form prepared by the Pennsylvania Department of Education no later than five days after the Board's adoption of this Resolution.
5. The Administration of the District will send a copy of this Resolution to the Pennsylvania Department of Education no later than five days after the Board's adoption of this Resolution.
6. The Board understands and agrees that by passing this Resolution it is not eligible to seek referendum exceptions under Section 333(f) of Act 1 and is not eligible to

request approval from the voters through a referendum to increase a tax rate by more than the index as established for the 2009-2010 fiscal year.

7. Once this Resolution is passed, the Administration of the District is not required to comply with the preliminary budget requirements set forth in paragraphs (a) and (c) of Section 311 of Act 1. Provided, however:
 - (a) The Board understands and agrees that, upon receipt of the information submitted by the District as set forth in paragraphs 4 and 5 above, the Pennsylvania Department of Education shall compare the District's proposed percentage increase in the rate of the tax with the index.
 - (b) Within ten days of the receipt of this information, the Pennsylvania Department of Education shall inform the District whether its proposed tax rate increase is less than or equal to the index.
 - (c) If the Pennsylvania Department of Education determines that the District's proposed increase in the rate of the District's tax exceeds the index, the District is subject to the preliminary budget requirements as set forth in paragraph (a) and (c) of Section 311 of Act 1.

D. Early Retirement Incentive Plan for 2008-2009

Approve to adopt an Early Retirement Incentive Plan, for all eligible professional employees, on a voluntary basis, for the 2008-2009 school year.

X. FINANCIAL

- A. Approve abatement/exoneration requests of per capita taxes, for the residents that fall within the guidelines, as presented. **(Attachment #12)**
- B. Authorize the business manager to renew the 60 month lease agreement with Xerox Corporation for replacement/upgrade of two (2) existing central duplicating copy machines at a total annual cost not to exceed \$38,569.00. This contract shall be based on PEPPM school pricing and shall include all consumable supplies and maintenance.

XI. LEGAL

XII. CORRESPONDENCE

XIII. INFORMATION

- A. Minutes of the Lehigh Carbon Community College Board of Trustees meeting held on November 6, 2008.
- B. Minutes of the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit 21 Board of Directors meeting held on November 17, 2008.

XIV. RECOGNITION OF GUESTS

XV. ADJOURNMENT