

NORTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board Minutes

Slatington, PA
May 12, 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, May 12, 2003, in the Slatington Elementary School gymnasium.

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: None (0)

Non-members present: Dr. Nicholas P. Sham, Sr., Mrs. Lynne Fedorcha, Mr. Philip Bertolino, Mr. Christopher Iacobelli, Dr. Linda Marcincin, Mrs. Karen Nicholas, Mr. John Hrizuk, Mr. David Papay, Mr. Brian Geiger, Mrs. Rhonda Frantz, Mr. Ken Jones, Ms. Laurie Newman, Mr. Nicholas Sander, Ms. Amberly Gable, and Mrs. Doneta Merkle

VISITORS Approximately 14 visitors attended the meeting, in addition to Sharon Minnich, reporter for The Times News.

APPROVE MINUTES A motion was made by Mr. Dorshimer, with a second made by Mrs. Ganser, that the minutes of the regular school board meeting held on April 14, 2003 be approved and ordered filed.

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

NAY: None (0)

SPECIAL BOARD REPORTS Committee Reports and/or Meetings
The minutes of the Technology/Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting held on May 7, 2003 were distributed.

Student Representatives To The Board Report
Nicholas Sander and Amberly Gable gave their reports for the month.

Legislative Report – Mrs. Lori H. Geronikos
Mrs. Geronikos shared some information about referendums.

Federal and Other Programs – Mrs. Lynne B. Fedorcha
Mrs. Fedorcha distributed a written Director of Curriculum and Instruction Report and highlighted items in her report.

Superintendent's Report – Dr. Nicholas P. Sham, Sr.
A Full Day Kindergarten Feasibility Study was presented by Barry Brobst of The Architectural Studio.

PUBLIC COMMENT Dawn Mulcahy – Walnutport – Asked the question “What makes Option 2 the better of the options in the feasibility study?”

A discussion was held regarding June board meetings, adoption of the budget, and the printing of tax bills.

RECESS The board recessed for a courtesy break at 9:25 p.m. They reconvened at 9:35 p.m. After the recess it was determined that a third June board meeting will be held on June 16, 2003 at 7:00 p.m. for the adoption of the 2003-2004 budget.

Mr. Dorshimer indicated that he would not be available for that meeting because he will be attending a Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit Board of Directors meeting. He also stated that he would like to make known his vote now that any budget the board decides to pass on June 16 his answer will be "no". After checking other dates during the week, June 16 seemed to be the best night for the third board meeting of the month and Mr. Fedorcha asked if Mr. Dorshimer would reconsider and attend our board meeting.

He informed the board that because of student signups the high school may need a .5 Art teacher at the high school. This additional request for staff was not part of the initial budget requests.

Dr. Sham informed the board that he would recommend allowing the German Exchange Club to travel to Germany this summer. The district will not be responsible for supplying medical coverage for the students. The district carries limited liability insurance on those students who intend to participate in the program, however, it is the parent's responsibility to cover their child's medical needs through their own personal medical insurance. The students are not covered under the district's medical insurance.

An Executive Session was held beginning at 6:30 p.m. for personnel reasons.

PERSONNEL

A motion was made by Mr. Newhard, with a second made by Mrs. Ganser, that the Board of Education approve the following personnel items:

Resignation- Instructional	Accept the resignation of Julia Witmer, half time chemistry teacher in the senior high school, effective May 15, 2003.	
Substitutes- Instructional	Approve the following substitute teacher(s) at the 2002-2003 substitute teacher rates of \$70.00 for 1-10 non-consecutive days, \$80.00 for 11-20 non-consecutive days, \$90.00 for 21+ non-consecutive days:	
	Julie Dickensheets – Chemistry Ashley Wertman – Elementary Kristin Rhoads – Elementary	
Appointment	Julie Dickensheets Assignment:	Temporary Vacancy Replacement Teacher Half Time Chemistry teacher in the senior high school, replacing Julia Witmer who resigned.
	Salary:	\$18,500 (One-half of Step 1M (\$37,000) (pro-rated for the 2002- 2003 school year).
	Effective Date:	May 16, 2003
	Termination Date:	June 23, 2003
	YEA:	Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Newhard, Mr. Fedorcha (9)
	NAY:	None (0)

POLICY

A motion was made by Mrs. Geronikos, with a second made by Mr. Green, that the Board of Education approve the following policy items:

Policy Revisions Second Reading	Approve revisions to school board policy #113 – Special Education, as presented after second reading.
	Approve revisions to school board policy #113.1 – Behavior Management, as presented after second reading.
	Approve revisions to school board policy #113.2 – Discipline of Student With Disabilities, as presented after second reading.
	Approve revisions to school board policies #348.1, 448.1 and 548.1 – Sexual Harassment, as presented after second reading.

Approve revisions to school board policy #613 – Cooperative Purchasing, as presented after second reading.

POLICY
(Con't.)

Approve revisions to school board policy #606 – Tax Collection, as presented after second reading.

Revisions To
Existing Policy
& New Board
Policy – First
Reading

Approve revisions to school board policy #904 – Public Attendance At School Events, as presented, after first reading.

Approve revisions to school board policy #222, 323, 423,523 – Tobacco Use, as presented, after first reading.

Approve revisions to school board policy #218.1 – Weapons, as presented, after first reading.

Approve revisions to school board policy #216.1 – Supplemental Discipline Records, as presented, after first reading.

Approve revisions to school board policy #105.1 – Curriculum Review By Parents and Students, as presented, after first reading.

Approve revisions to school board policy #227 – Drugs/Alcohol, as presented, after first reading.

Approve new school board policy #250 – Student Recruitment, as presented, after first reading.

Field Trip

Approve the following field trip in accordance with school board policy #121—Field Trips: Peters Elementary Grade 5 Students -- Philadelphia Zoo – June 4, 2003

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

NAY: None (0)

NEW
BUSINESS
Reconfigure
Elementary
Schools &
Implement
Full Day
Kindergarten

A motion was made by Mr. Cox, with a second made by Mrs. Escott, that the Board of Education approve to authorize the administration to proceed with the planning and implementation of reconfiguring the elementary schools into a K-3 and 4-6 structure.

Amend
Motion

A motion was made by Mr. Cox, with a second made by Mr. Green, to amend the previous motion and separate the reconfiguration of the elementary schools from the recommendation of full day kindergarten and approve to authorize the administration to proceed with the planning of full day kindergarten for the 2004-2005 school year with implementation based on adequate state funding.

Vote On
Amendment

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.

Vote On
Main
Motion

ROLL CALL: YEA: Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Newhard, Mr. Cox, Mr. Fedorcha (5)

NAY: Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green (4)

Motion carried.

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

Treasurer's Report Approve the report of the Treasurer, Mr. Cox, for the month of April 2003.

Reports (InfoOnly) All board members received the April 2003 Revenue and Expenditure Reports for the Cafeteria, General, and Capital Reserve Funds.

General Fund Bills Approve payment of General Fund bills for the month of April 2003.

NLMS Student Activities Acct. Statement Approve the Northern Lehigh Middle School Student Activities Account Statement for the month of April 2003.

Athletic Fund Financial Report Approve the Northern Lehigh Athletic Fund financial report for April 2003.

Sports Account Financial Report Approve the Northern Lehigh Sports Account financial report for April 2003.

Approve Change Orders Approve change orders for the repairs done by Hollenbach Construction, Inc., Change Orders G-11 in the amount of \$3,172.00, G-12 in the amount of \$6,565.00, G-13 in the amount of \$4,482.00, and G-14 in the amount of \$5,479.00 totaling \$19,698.00. This request is pending approval of Pennsylvania Department of Education PLANCON I.

Award Bids For Fuel Approve the awarding of bids for diesel fuel, unleaded gasoline, #2 grade fuel oil with a contract period from July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2004.

DIESEL FUEL - Awarded to – Altemos Atlantic Fuel Oil Co. @

- a fluctuating base price of \$1.0055 per gallon (normal blend)
- a fluctuating base price of \$1.0355 per gallon (70%/30% blend)

UNLEADED GASOLINE – Awarded to Altemos Atlantic Fuel Oil Co. at a fluctuating base price of .9975 cents per gallon.

#2 GRADE FUEL OIL – TRANSPORT DELIVERY OF 6,800 OR MORE GALLONS

Awarded to Altemos Atlantic Fuel Oil Co. at a firm base price of .8850 cents per gallon.

#2 GRADE FUEL OIL – TANKWAGON DELIVERY OF LESS THAN 6800 GALLONS

Awarded to Altemos Atlantic Fuel Oil Co. at a firm base price of .8950 cents per gallon.

Construction Account Bill Approve payment of a bill from DeFrain Electric, Inc. as listed on the revised Construction Account Payment Approval form dated May 5, 2003.

Award Bids Approve the awarding of bids for general supplies, art supplies, physical education supplies, and industrial arts supplies.

YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos,
Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Newhard, Mr. Fedorcha (9)
NAY: None (0)

FINANCIAL
(Con't.)

Election of Treasurer- Robert J. Cox A motion was made by Mrs. Geronikos, with a second made by Mr. Green, that the Board of Education elect Mr. Robert J. Cox as Treasurer for the 2003-2004 fiscal year, as required by Section 404 of the Pennsylvania School Code of 1949, as amended. There is no stipend attached to this position.

YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos,
Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Newhard, Mr. Fedorcha (9)
NAY: None (0)

Lehigh Career and Technical Institute 2003-2004 Budget A motion was made by Mr. Cox, with a second made by Mrs. Geronikos, that the Board of Education approve the Lehigh Career and Technical Institute has approved a budget for the 2003-2004 school year totaling \$13,754,240.64, an increase of \$458,460.64 or 3.45% over the 2002-2003 amounts. Northern Lehigh School District's share of the 2003-2004 budget is \$674,447.07, an increase of \$40,935.50 or 6.46% more than the previous year.

YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos,
Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Newhard, Mr. Fedorcha (9)
NAY: None (0)

Refurbish Peters Elem. Roof A motion was made by Mr. Cox, with a second made by Mr. Dorshimer, that the Board of Education approve the following items listed under Financial:

Approve to employ Weatherproofing Technology, Inc. (TREMCO) to refurbish the roof of the Peters Elementary School at an estimated cost of restoration not to exceed \$75,000. The project calls for an infrared survey to identify any wet insulation, power wash the roof, repair loose laps, make general repairs, install new strainers where missing, and apply restoration coating and seam reinforcement. This project can be completed using the Pennsylvania Joint Purchasing Council contract to purchase the roof. This would allow us to get the work accomplished before school begins in late August. Funding for this project would come from the Capital Reserve Account.

Base Bids For Bleacher Renovations Approve the base bid for the Bulldog Stadium bleacher renovations, as presented, to include the alternates G-1, G-2, G-3, G-4, and G-5.

YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos,
Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Newhard, Mr. Fedorcha (9)
NAY: None (0)

ADOPTION
OF
NORTHERN
LEHIGH
SCHOOL
DISTRICT
2003-2004
TENTATIVE

A motion was made by Mr. Cox, with a second made by Mrs. Geronikos, that the Board of Education adopt the tentative general fund budget of the Northern Lehigh School District for the 2003-2004 school year in the amount of \$21,523,030.00. This is an increase of \$1,377,815.00 or 6.84 % over last year's figures.

The tentative budget is adopted with a 5.56 mill increase for Lehigh County and a 5.06 mill increase for Northampton County.

BUDGET

1. A \$5.00 Resident Per Capita Tax, taxable on 18 year olds and over based on Section 679 of the school code of 1949. No change from 2002-2003.
2. Taxes under Act 511 with no changes from 2002-2003:
 - a. A 1% Earned Income Tax shared equally with coterminous municipalities.
 - b. A Realty Transfer Tax shared equally with the coterminous municipalities.
 - c. A \$10.00 Resident Per Capita Tax, taxable on 18 year olds and over.
 - d. A \$10.00 Occupational Privilege Tax.

FINANCIAL

(Con't.)

**AMEND
MOTION**

A motion was made by Mr. Green, with a second made by Mrs. Ganser, that the Board of Education amend the motion that the tentative budget have a 0 mill increase for Lehigh County and a 0 mill increase for Northampton County, and keep the tax rates the same as they were last year.

**VOTE ON
AMENDMENT**

ROLL CALL: YEA: Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Dorshimer (4)
NAY: Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Newhard, Mr. Cox, Mr. Fedorcha (5)
Motion defeated.

**VOTE ON
MAIN
MOTION**

ROLL CALL: YEA: Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Cox, Mrs. Escott, Mr. Fedorcha (4)
NAY: Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Newhard, Mr. Dorshimer (5)
Motion defeated.

A motion was made by Mrs. Geronikos that the Board of Education adopt a 2003-2004 tentative budget with a 5-mill increase. Mrs. Geronikos withdrew her motion.

5.56 Mill Increase and 5.06 Mill Increase For Lehigh And Northampton Counties Respectively

A motion was made by Mrs. Giles, who was on the prevailing side of the previously defeated main motion, with a second made by Mr. Green, also on the prevailing side, that the Board of Education adopt the tentative general fund budget of the Northern Lehigh School District for the 2003-2004 school year with a 5.56 mill increase for Lehigh County and a 5.06 mill increase for Northampton County as listed in the original main motion.

ROLL CALL: YEA: Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Cox, Mrs. Escott, Mr. Fedorcha (5)
NAY: Mr. Green, Mr. Newhard, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Ganser (4)
Motion carried.

**ADJOURN-
MENT**

A motion was made by Mr. Newhard, with a second made by Mrs. Escott, that the regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors be adjourned at 10:35 p.m.

YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Newhard, Mr. Fedorcha (9)
NAY: None (0)

Respectfully submitted,

Jane J. Escott
Secretary

ATTEST: _____ President
Gary S. Fedorcha