

NORTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
Regular Meeting
Board Minutes

Slatington, PA
September 5, 2006

- PURPOSE** The regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors was called to order by the President, Mrs. Lauren A. Ganser, at 7:38 p.m. on Tuesday, August 5, 2006 in the boardroom located in the Slatington Elementary School.
- ROLL CALL** Members present: Mr. Franklin D. Beers (7:45) , Mr. Donald H. Dengler, Mr. Bryan C. Dorshimer, Mr. Mathias J. Green, Jr., Mr. Peter A. Ruth, Mr. Gregory S. Williams, Mrs. Lauren A. Ganser (7)
- Members absent: Mr. Raymond J. Follweiler, Jr., Mrs. Sheryl A. Giles, (2)
- Non-members present: Dr. Nicholas P. Sham, Mrs. Lynne B. Fedorcha, Dr. Linda Marcincin, Mrs. Karen Nicholas, Mr. John Hrizuk, Mr. David Papay, Mr. Donald Allen, Mr. Greg Derr, Atty. Charles Stopp (Solicitor), Atty. Keith Strohl (Solicitor's Office), Mr. Jeffrey Bachman, Ms. Laurie Newman-Mankos, Mrs. Andrea Madochick, Ms. Maria Pinnata, Mrs. Dawn Wadsworth, Ms. Rachel Parisi and Mrs. Sherri A. Molitoris
- PUBLIC COMMENT** Carrie Beleno – Washington Township – Reserved her right to comment on the business manager and tax study commission agenda items.
- Mrs. Ganser announced that the board was in an expulsion hearing prior to the start of the board meeting.
- VISITORS** Approximately fourteen visitors attended the meeting.
- APPROVE MINUTES** Mr. Dorshimer made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Dengler, that the minutes of the regular school board meeting held on August 16, 2006 be approved and ordered filed.
- YEA: Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Green, Mr. Ruth, Mr. Williams, Mrs. Ganser (6)
NAY: None (0)
- SPECIAL BOARD REPORTS** Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit - Mr. Bryan C. Dorshimer reported that during the August board meeting they hired and transferred many staff members. He stated that he has a budget book for the CLIU current year budget and that he will bring to the next board meeting for Board members to view. He also stated that the construction of the new building is almost complete and they hope to start moving in shortly.
- Legislative Report - Mr. Gregory S. Williams stated that PDE calculated the base index rate school districts may increase their local school tax by for 2007/2008 school year. That base index number is currently 3.4%. There will be adjustments and exceptions that will change this rate but this will give us a number to start with and calculate an amount we will be allowed to raise local taxes by and anything above that will have to go to referendum.
- The House Education Committee is working on House Bill 2679 which would change school district transportation law. This bill would reduce the distance that school districts can ask students to walk to school from 1 ½ miles to ¾ mile for elementary students and 2 miles to 1½ miles for secondary students.
- Committee Reports and/or Meetings – Mrs. Ganser stated that there will be a Buildings and Grounds meeting on Wednesday September 7 at 6:15 and then a Finance Committee Meeting immediately following the Buildings and Grounds Meeting.
- Student Representatives to the Board Report – Mrs. Ganser welcomed new Junior Representative to the board Ms. Rachael Parisi. Attorney Stopp administered the Oath of Honorary Office. She reported that the first day of school went very well. She mentioned

that Student Council will be sworn in on Friday and that there is a home football game Friday night.

Solicitor's Report - Attorney Charles Stopp reported on the issue of the House Bill #2679 and that this is a reoccurring issue concerning transporting of students.

Keith Strohl reported on the Real Estate Transfer Tax resolution that is on the agenda to be voted on this evening. Act 40 of 2005 passed recently and amended certain provisions on the Local Real Estate Transfer section of our Pennsylvania code. The resolution the board will be voting on will put our resolution in line with the new section of the Pennsylvania Code.

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

Dr. Sham welcomed Rachel Parisi.

Rough Draft of the 2006-2007 District Goals were distributed to all board members and explained by Dr. Sham.

Dr. Sham asked for volunteers to be members of a committee to review the feasibility study and make a recommendation on the renovations of Slatington Elementary/Middle School to the entire Northern Lehigh School District Board of Education. Interested persons should contact Mrs. Molitoris to be placed on the committee. He is hoping to have a recommendation from this committee by this December.

He mentioned that on the addendum is a motion for the approval of an interim High School Principal.

Mrs. Dawn Wadsworth and Ms. Maria Pinnata, school psychologists and members of Act 93 group, were introduced and will now be a part of our regular monthly board meetings.

He thanked the entire school district staff for the wonderful job they did on the first day of school.

Mrs. Lynne Sechler talked about the Education Foundation and how they came into existence from the strategic plan of the school district. She talked about the donations received and funds raised to date for the building of the new science lab. The Education Foundation contracted with Architectural Studios to produce the drawings for the new lab. Mr. Bob Cox presented the board with the architectural drawings of the new facility and he further explained the drawings and some of the features that have been developed for the new Science Lab at the High School.

Dr. Sham read a letter from Classroom Arts Project (CAP) which honored only 3 teachers out of 100 with the CAP Citation of Merit. We are pleased to announce that our art teacher Mrs. Mary Ann Mattiola was a recipient. She will be nominated to the US Department of Education as a potential national model for her ability to integrate the arts into academic areas.

Executive Sessions

"Following some of the interviews held in July and August, brief executive sessions were held in the Northern Lehigh Central Office pertaining to the Act 93 negotiations and other time sensitive personnel issues. Also on August 30, an executive session was held in order to discuss pertinent personnel vacancies and to update the board on the status of teacher negotiations. Due to the nature of these issues it was imperative to hold such meetings to insure efficient operating procedures for the district. All of these meetings were within the guidelines required and set forth by PSBA to warrant calling an executive session." My sincere appreciation to the Board Members, staff and Dr. Sham who have been able to participate in these sessions. Your time and dedication truly shows that you care.

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

Nomination for Appointment - Professional	Cindy Frey Assignment: Salary: Effective Date:	Temporary Professional Employee Title I Reading Teacher replacing Tammy Brown who has resigned. \$38,500* (Step 1 Bachelors + 24 on the 2005-2006 CBA Salary Schedule) Upon Release from Current School District
	Christina Carmody Assignment: Salary: Effective Date:	Temporary Professional Employee 2 nd Grade replacing Laurie Nissen-Mott who resigned. \$38,000* (Step 1 Bachelors on the 2005-2006 CBA Salary Schedule) August 31, 2006
	Deanna Quay Assignment: Salary: Effective Date:	Temporary Professional Employee High School Chemistry Teacher replacing Lisa Schael who resigned. \$41,700* (Step 3 Doctorate on the 2005-2006 CBA Salary Schedule) August 23, 2006

**Last year's salaries will apply until a new Collective Bargaining Agreement is approved.*

Non- Professional	Dawne Beidleman Assignment: Salary: Effective:	High School Special Education Aide replacing Kathleen Leadbetter who resigned. \$9.59 Per Hour/6 ½ Hrs. Per Day/5 Days Per Week (2006-2007 ESSA Agreement) September 6, 2006
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Resignations - Laurie Nissen-Mott Accept the resignation of Laurie Nissen-Mott from her position as Second Grade Teacher at Peters Elementary School effective 60 days from August 16, 2006 or as soon as a replacement can be found.

SADD - Eric Schmidt Accept the resignation of Eric Schmidt as High School SADD Advisor for the 2006-2007 school year.

James Fenstermaker Accept the resignation of James Fenstermaker from his position as High School Special Education Aide effective June 26, 2006.

Crystal Garrity Accept the resignation of Crystal Garrity from her position as cook's helper at Slatington Elementary School effective August 7, 2006.

Co-Curricular Appointments 2006-2007	Assistant Boys Soccer Coach <i>*Last year's rates will apply until a new Collective Bargaining Agreement is approved.</i>	Mike Lehtonen \$2,575.75*
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FMLA Employee #215 Approve the request of employee #215, district clerical employee, to take a 12-week Family Medical Leave of Absence, effective August 9, 2006 and continuing for approximately 8 weeks with an anticipated return date of October 4, 2006.

Salary Adjustments Acknowledge the following teachers who have completed the requirements per the Collective Bargaining Agreement that would entitle them to a salary increase for the 2006-2007 school year:

Kristin Skinker
From: Step 3B
To: Step 3B + 24*

Michael Lehtonen
From: Step 4B
To: Step 4B + 24*

** This salary adjustment represents a lateral move from Bachelors to Bachelors + 24 on the 2005-2006 Collective Bargaining pay schedule. They will not move to the next step until a new Collective Bargaining Agreement is approved.*

Child Rearing Leave of Absence - Empl. #5015 Approve the request of employee #5015 to take a childrearing leave of absence. Beginning on or about October 13, 2006 she will use her six weeks of sick days and is requesting an unpaid leave for the remainder of the first semester of the 2006-2007 school year. She plans on returning to her teaching position on January 24, 2007.

Interim High School Principal Authorize the administration to contract with Constance Mazza as interim high school principal at a per diem rate of \$308.00 per day beginning on September 12, 2006 and for a period of approximately 23 days or until appropriate full time administration is in place.

Salary Adjustments Acknowledge the following teacher who has completed the requirements per the Collective Bargaining Agreement that would entitle her to a salary increase for the 2006-2007 school year:

Diane Saeger
From: Step 3B + 24
To: Step 3M

** This salary adjustment represents a lateral move from Bachelors + 24 to Masters on the 2005-2006 Collective Bargaining pay schedule. She will not move to the next step until a new Collective Bargaining Agreement is approved.*

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Green, Mr. Ruth, Mr. Williams, Mrs. Ganser (7)

NAY: None (0)

Substitute Teacher Caller - Kay Rau Mr. Green made a motion that was seconded by Mrs. Williams that the Board of Education approve to employ Kay Rau as an independent contractor for the purpose of calling substitutes for the 2006-2007 school year at a stipend of \$7,500.00. It is also recommended to authorize the superintendent to execute an agreement between the Northern Lehigh School District and Mrs. Rau.

Mr. Dorshimer questioned if in the contract there are specific hours listed that the staff may contract sub caller to report off.

Dr. Sham told him that the information is outlined in the guidelines given to the teachers and staff on procedures for calling off.

Mr. Dorshimer asked if it is in the job description.

Dr. Sham said it is listed in the guidelines given to the staff instructing them on procedures when calling off. He also said that it can be added to the job description.

Mr. Dorshimer said that he would like those hours listed in the job description.

Dr. Sham advised the board members that he would get them a copy of the sub callers job description.

Mr. Ruth questioned since this is an independent contracted position and this person is an employee of the school district, will they receive a separate check and will they be issued a 1099 at the end of the year and that this is not part of the regular employees salary.

Dr. Sham stated that he is not a business manager and he could not answer that question.

Mrs. Rehrig from the audience said that in the past the sub caller was an independent contractor but was paid through our payroll system and they were not given a 1099 at the end of the school year.

Mrs. Molitoris stated that prior to the business manager's departure she had a conversation with her and was told that the sub callers position should be a 1099 contracted position.

Dr. Sham said that he would look into this and contact the prior business manager and see if the position should be a 1099 contracted position and if it should be then we will make it that and issue a 1099 at the end of the year.

Mr. Dorshimer asked the solicitor what is the school district liability if something goes awry when the person we are voting on is also a school district employee.

Attorney Stopp informed the board that the IRS has rules of what classifies someone as an independent contractor. He stated that sometimes those rules are blurred when the independent contractor is also an employee. It is easier if you have a service, not employee related. Suggested that the school district should develop a contract that isolates the variables and establishes the legal relationship as an independent contractor and not an employee.

Dr. Sham instructed Attorney Stopp to develop a contract for this position.

Attorney Stopp said that as an independent contractor, and the rules the IRS has, the money earned is not subject to withholdings, but from a worker comp stand point, if the person is deemed to be in that fuzzy area and an injury occurs and an employee status is found to exist, the individual could be eligible for workers comp. He went on to say that it is possible to be an employee and an independent contractor for the school district. The lines will have to be drawn between hours and times associated for the independent contractor that does not overlap with regular work day schedule.

Mr. Ruth asked if we received any outside applications for this position.

Dr. Sham said that he explained this to the entire board that there were other applications.

Mr. Ruth said he was curious why we didn't use any other tax payer that would like to have had the position.

Dr. Sham said that he also explained that to the entire board during an executive session and that his recommendation was because this person has an association with the school district, has knowledge of the school schedules, knowledge of people in the district and because of these reasons she would be the best logical choice for this position. He received agreement from the board during executive session to place this name on the agenda.

Mrs. Ganser called for a vote.

Roll Call:

YEA: Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Green, Mr. Williams, Mrs. Ganser (5)

NAY: Mr. Beers, Mr. Ruth (2)

Motion Carried.

Contracted Service - Chris Stafford Mr. Dengler made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Green to authorize the administration to contract with Christine Stafford for additional business manager services beyond September 17, 2006 at a per diem rate of \$298.00.

Mr. Williams questioned when we contracted with Mr. Geiger it was at an hourly rate and why this is at a per diem rate when she has another job and the possibility of her coming in for an entire work day would be unlikely.

Dr. Sham said his assumption is that this is at a per diem rate which would break down to so much per hour. He said it is his assumption but that he has not defined that with her. He went on to say that we do not have a business manager and that tonight we have had questions that have come up that he could not answer. We are going to need her in the time period that we do not have a business manager.

Mr. Williams stated that he understands that the need is there for her and that he is not bulking about the dollar amount but the wording of the motion as per day versus per hour.

Dr. Sham said that they can approve this with an addendum that the dollar amount translates into an hourly rate for an 8 hour day. He said that this is not what he has agreed to but what the prior business manager said she wanted. He said that they could also table this and do nothing with it until the next board meeting and hope nothing comes up in the interim.

Amended Motion Mr. Green made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Williams, that the Board of Education approve to contract with Christine Stafford for additional business manager services beyond September 17, 2006 at a rate of \$37.25 per hour.

Mr. Dorshimer stated that this district has been through this before when we lost a business manager and had to go several months without one. He has faith in the people that are in the business office right now. They kept us going before and they will keep us going again and he thinks this is just a mute effort.

Dr. Sham said that he thinks Mr. Dorshimer is wrong. The complexity of the job has changed dramatically and if you decide to vote no that they should be prepared that if things fall through the cracks that they are not going to hold him responsible. If there are things that happen because we do not have a business manager and something goes awry, you are not going to hold the superintendent responsible when you have the opportunity to get professional help and professional advise if they are willing to give it.

Mrs. Ganser asked how we would monitor this, how would she get in and out of the building, and is this only on an as needed basis.

Dr. Sham said she would complete a time sheet , access to the building will have to be taken care of, and it is only on an as needed basis.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Donne Kulp – Washington Twsp – She takes issues with the statement from Dr. Sham that he can not be held accountable for the operations of the school district. Her understanding is that ultimately the superintendent is responsible for anything that happens in the school district. To hear that coming from him is a very irresponsible statement.

Dr. Sham said he will take issue with what she just said. When he said he would not be responsible, there is a difference between legally and ethically. Legally he may be responsible for everything in the district. Ethically without a business manager you can't expect him to have the knowledge needed to be able to handle all the financial aspects of the district.

**PUBLIC
COMMENT**

Donna Kulp – Washington Twsp – She said that he is ultimately responsible for the district.

Dr. Sham said absolutely, but so is the Board of Education in the decisions they make.

Mr. Ruth stated to Dr. Sham that actually the treasurer of the board is responsible.

**PUBLIC
COMMENT**

Carrie Beleno – Washington Twsp – Said that the board needs to give Christine Stafford what she needs. You are not in a position to bicker with cents and are we in jeopardy with the state for not having a business manager and not having a tax commission formed and all the implications associated with this. It will not, Mr. Dorshimer, run on its own.

Mr. Dorshimer said it did for several months before.

**PUBLIC
COMMENT**

Carrie Beleno – Washington Twsp said this board, community and schools are not what they were before and you need to take a good hard look at that.

Dr. Sham told Mrs. Beleno that currently we are not in jeopardy of not meeting or following PDE guidelines for financial operations of the district. Is there a possibility that we might miss a deadline that there may be some aspect of the financial operations that could slip through the cracks because the people here do not have the expertise to be able to do that. Could it happen. Yes it could. Should it happen. We are going to try our best, and we have great folks here that operate in the system, and they have pledged to me as they did in the past, that they are going to do their best.

Mr. Williams told her that later on in the agenda they will be appointing the tax study commission.

Mrs. Ganser said that the advertisement for the business manager position will be ending shortly and we are going to be expedient in trying to fill that position in a timely manner. She reiterated what Mr. Dorshimer said in that they have the utmost confidence in the staff that is there. She said that Dr. Sham has told them that the staff is ready and willing to jump in and help and that there are quality people that have learned a lot of things and that they are ready to go the extra mile to help.

Mrs. Ganser called for a vote on the amended motion to authorize the administration to contract Christine Stafford for additional business manager services beyond September 17th at an hourly rate of \$37.25 per hour.

Roll Call:

YEA: Mr. Green, Mr. Williams (2)

NAY: Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Ruth, Mr. Beers, Mrs. Ganser (5)

Motion Defeated.

Dr. Sham informed the board that the Annual Financial Report of the district is due to the Pennsylvania Department of Education and there is nobody within our staff that is able to do the AFR. Christine is the only person who will be able to do the AFR.

Mr. Ruth asked when the AFR is due by.

Dr. Sham said the AFR is due by October and if we do not submit that report on time, there is a penalty fee of \$300.00 per day for every day that the report is not filed.

Mr. Ruth asked why we are allowing her to be on vacation if we need her here so badly.

Dr. Sham informed him that we do not have all the information needed for the AFR yet. We are waiting.

Mrs. Rehrig said that PDE has not released the AFR yet and therefore can not be completed.

Mr. Ruth said that if the applications end of Friday we can have interviews next week.

Dr. Sham said that if you look at what has happened up to this point in trying to hire a business manager that has the educational financial knowledge, not being an accountant. They need to have knowledge of school finance and they have to be able to do an AFR.

Mr. Ruth asked when Christine Stafford was hired did she do it right away and what kind of school district experience did she have.

Vote-Original Motion

Mrs. Ganser called for a vote on the original motion.

Roll Call:

YEA: Mr. Green, Mr. Williams (2)

NAY: Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Ruth, Mr. Beers, Mr. Dengler, Mrs. Ganser (5)

Motion Defeated.

CONFERENCE

POLICY

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

Second Reading

Approve revisions to existing school board policy #323 – Tobacco Use, as presented after second reading.

Approve revisions to existing school board policy #423 – Tobacco Use, as presented after second reading.

Approve revisions to existing school board policy #523 – Tobacco Use, as presented after second reading.

Approve revisions to existing school board policy #127 – Assessment of Educational Program, as presented after second reading.

Approve revisions to existing school board policy #130 – Homework, as presented after second reading.

Realty Transfer Tax Resolution

WHEREAS, Northern Lehigh School District, Lehigh and Northampton Counties, Pennsylvania ("School District"), has previously enacted a realty transfer tax and other tax related provisions pursuant to Article XI-D of the Tax Reform Code of 1971; and

WHEREAS, School District seeks, due to the recent passage of Act 40 of 2005 to update any previous resolutions relating to the realty transfer tax under the Tax Reform Code of 1971 by enacting a new resolution. The passage of this Resolution is primarily to assure all provisions are consistent with the Commonwealth's realty transfer tax, in order to allow the Department of Revenue to take any and all enforcement or collection measures allowed under the new provisions of Act 40 of 2005.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Northern Lehigh School District, Lehigh and Northampton Counties, Pennsylvania, that:

SECTION 1: Northern Lehigh School District adopts the provisions of Article XI-D of the Tax Reform Code of 1971 and imposes a realty transfer tax as authorized under that Article subject to the rate limitations therein. The tax imposed under this Section shall be at the rate of one percent.

SECTION 2: The tax imposed under Section 1 and all applicable interest and penalties shall be administered, collected and enforced under the Act of December 31, 1965 (P.L. 1257, No. 511, as amended, known as "The Local Tax Enabling Act"; provided, that if the correct amount of the tax is not paid by the last date prescribed for timely payment, [Political Subdivision], pursuant to Section 1102-D of the Tax Reform Code of 1971 (71 P.S. 8102-D), authorizes and directs the Department of Revenue of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to determine, collect and enforce the tax, interest and penalties.

SECTION 3: Any tax imposed under Section 1 that is not paid by the date the tax is due shall bear interest as prescribed for interest on delinquent municipal claims under the Act of May 16, 1923 (P.L. 207, No. 153) (53 P.S. 7101, et seq.), as amended, known as "The Municipal Claims and Tax Liens Act". The interest rate shall be the lesser of the interest rate imposed upon delinquent Commonwealth taxes as provided in Section 806 of the Act of April 9, 1929 (P.L. 343, No. 176) (72 P.S. 806), as amended, known as "The Financial Code", or the maximum interest rate permitted under the Municipal Claims and Tax Liens Act for tax claims.

SECTION 4: As of the effective date of this Resolution, all prior Resolutions or part thereof inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION 5: The provisions of this resolution shall become effective on the 5th day following enactment.

RECOMMENDATION ... That the Board of Education adopts the above Resolution.

Non-Resident Students

Approve the request of parents of three students, one in high school, one in middle school and one at Peters Elementary School, who are moving into the district on or before September 27, 2006, to enroll in the Northern Lehigh School District to begin the 2006-2007 school year in accordance with school board policy #202.

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Green, Mr. Ruth, Mr. Williams, Mrs. Ganser (7)

NAY: None (0)

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

Mr. Dorshimer made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Dengler, that the Board of Education approves the following Curriculum and Instruction items:

Special Education Agreement with NWLSD

Approve to authorize proper officials to enter into an agreement for one Northwestern Lehigh School District special education student to attend the Northern Lehigh School District in accordance with the promises and covenants contained in the agreement. This agreement is effective September 5, 2006 through June 30, 2007.

Induction Program

Approve the following teachers as helping teachers in the Northern Lehigh School District Induction Program for the 2006-2007 school year:

Helping Teacher	Inductee	Stipend
Bryan Geist	Abby Bloss	\$750.00*
Linda Brown	Jamie Hillegass	\$750.00*
David Carroll	Megan Wentz	\$750.00*
Debra Sanek	Sheryl Hegedus	\$750.00*
Christine Leslie	Deanna Quay	\$750.00*

Diane McMullen Christina Carmody \$750.00*
**Last year's stipend will apply until a new Collective Bargaining Agreement is approved.*

Induction Program Approve the following teacher as a helping teacher in the Northern Lehigh School District Induction Program for the 2006-2007 school year:

Helping Teacher	Inductee	Stipend
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Debra Sanek	Cindy Frey	\$750.00*
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**Last year's rates will apply until a new Collective Bargaining Agreement is approved.*

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Green, Mr. Ruth, Mr. Williams,
Mrs. Ganser (7)

NAY: None (0)

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

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

Summary Offense Authorizatiion Approve to designate and authorize the following administrators to sign summary offense notices for district students for the 2006-2007 school year:

Mrs. Karen Nicholas – Peters Elementary Principal
 Dr. Linda Marcincin – Slatington Elementary Principal
 Mr. David Papay – Middle School Principal
 Mrs. Aileen Yadush – High School Principal
 Mr. Donald Allen – High School/Middle School Assistant Principal
 Mrs. Jill Chamberlain – High School Assistant Principal

Agreement LV Drug & Alcohol Unit Approve to authorize the superintendent to execute a letter of agreement for the 2006-2007 academic year with the Lehigh Valley Drug & Alcohol Intake Unit. The Student Assistance Teams in our school district will use these services.

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Green, Mr. Ruth, Mr. Williams,
Mrs. Ganser (7)

NAY: None (0)

FINANCIAL

Mr. Dorshimer made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Beers, that the Board of Education_ approves the following Financial items:

Cash Management Portfolio Approve the Arthurs Lestrage Cash Management Portfolio for the month of July 2006.

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

LCTI of Operating Budget Revision Approve the Lehigh Career and Technical Institute 2006-2007 Operating Budget after receipt additional State and Federal Revenues and Expenditures. This action will not affect revenues collected from the local school districts but only to accurately reflect receipt of unanticipated revenues.

NLMS Activities Fund Statement Approve the Northern Lehigh High School Activities Account Fund Statement for the month of July 2006.

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

Mr. Williams stated that the original goal was to have a committee of five members for the tax study commission with one of these members being a current board member but a board member being on the committee is not a requirement. In actuality they received seven applications. He figured that this board pushes community involvement and when you have seven people who took the time and want to spend time on this commission we need to consider appointing them to this commission. It doesn't do anything for education funding but how that funding is coming whether it be an increase in income taxes to lower property tax. PSBA is encouraging all board members to attend the meetings. Arthurs Lestrangle will be doing a presentation at the first meeting. The commission board will have to appoint among themselves a president, vice president and a secretary. The secretary does not have to be on the commission. His recommendation would be to appoint all seven applications to the tax study commission and plan on having one board member act as the secretary for the commission. He also stated that school district personnel and administration are also encouraged to attend these meetings. They are not allowed to be a voting member. Mr. Williams has volunteered to be the secretary for the tax commissions.

Mrs. Ganser stated that if we appoint all seven people that a board member can not be a member of the commission because the number of members has to be either 5, 7, or 9. She asked if perhaps they want to take one of the applicants and replace them with a board member. She also was wondering if all the applicants were diverse or any similarities that possibly one could be eliminated.

Mr. Williams said that it would be hard to eliminate just one and that is why he is recommending all applicants to be appointed. He stated that nothing is stopping any board member from attending, they just will not be able to vote. This commission will do the study and make a recommendation to the entire board. The board then will have final power. He is hoping that the board will take that study into much consideration. The board does actually have final say.

Mrs. Ganser asked if again Mr. Williams was willing to be the liaison for the board.

Mr. Williams said that he would be more than willing to be the liaison or secretary for the commission.

Mr. Green asked if that can technically be done. Can we appoint a board member that is not on the commission as the secretary of the commission.

Mr. Williams said that the commission would have to choose their own secretary.

Mr. Green said you can volunteer but that we can not force the commission to take you as the secretary for the commission.

Mrs. Ganser asked all board members if they feel comfortable with not having a board member on the commission.

Mr. Ruth asked if all the members have been contacted and if they are willing to serve on the commission.

Mr. Williams said that they have not been contacted because we do not have phone numbers, only addresses. He figured that if they took the time to complete the survey, they must want to serve on the commission.

2006 Tax Study Commission Mr. Williams made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Green, that the following tax study commission motion should be approved:

Resolved, by the Board of School Directors of the Northern Lehigh School District, that the following individuals are appointed to the 2006 Tax Study Commission:

Mr. Martin Everhart	Mr. William Lakatas Jr.
Ms. Donna Kulp	Mr. Ryan VanNorman
Ms. Kris Burek	Ms. Carrie Beleno
Mr. Andrew Barnett	

The appointment shall become effective September 14, 2006, and the Commission shall make a final recommendation to the school board on or before December 13, 2006.

Dr. Sham wanted to express his concerns that he is not sure if there is anyone that can provide Arthurs Lestrangle with the financial data they need and if there is any information they do not currently have but will need. Chris would have been the one to do that.

Mr. Williams stated that he believes Chris has forwarded them with the information that they would need and that currently we are waiting to hear back from Arthurs Lestrangle on a date for the first meeting.

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

LEGAL

CORR- ESPON- DENCE

INFOR- MATION

All board members received copies of the Lehigh Career and Technical Institute Joint Operating Committee meeting held on June 28, 2006 and the LCTI Director's Report for August 2006.

All board members received copies of the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit 21 Board of Directors meetings held on July 17, 2006.

RECOG- NITION OF GUESTS

ADJOURN- MENT

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 9:14 p.m.

Sincerely,

Bryan C. Dorshimer
Secretary

ATTEST: _____ President
Lauren A. Ganser