

NORTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board Minutes

Slatington, PA
November 5, 2001

PURPOSE The regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors was called to order by the President, Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha, at 8:05 p.m. on Monday, November 5, 2001, in the auditorium of the Northern Lehigh Senior High School.

ROLL CALL Members present: Mr. Robert J. Cox, Mr. Bryan C. Dorshimer, Mrs. Lori H. Geronikos, Mrs. Sheryl A. Giles, Mr. Mathias J. Green, Jr., Mr. Jason M. Newhard, Mrs. Lynn C. Sechler, Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha (8)

Members absent: Mrs. Jane J. Escott (1)

Non-members present: Dr. Nicholas P. Sham, Mrs. Lynne B. Fedorcha, Mr. Christopher Iacobelli, Dr. Linda Marcincin, Mrs. Karen Nicholas, Mr. John Hrizuk, Mr. David Papay, Mr. Robert Mack, Mr. Brian Geiger, Mr. Bernard Rockovich, Attorney Edmund Healy, Solicitor, Ms. Pamela Grammes, Mrs. Doneta Merkle

VISITORS Sharon Minnich, reporter for The Times News was in attendance.

SPECIAL BOARD REPORTS Carbon-Lehigh Intermediate Unit -- Mr. Gary Fedorcha
Mr. Fedorcha gave the CLIU report due to the fact that he attended the meeting in Mr. Dorshimer's absence. He reported that the students involved in the Governor's School attended a dinner meeting.

Committee Reports and/or Meetings All board members received a copy of the following committee meeting minutes:

1. Minutes of the Policy/Education Committee meeting held on October 1, 2001.
2. Minutes of the Technology/Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting held on October 3, 2001.
3. Minutes of the Community Relations/Volunteerism Committee meeting held on October 17, 2001.
4. Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on October 22, 2001.

Legislative Report -- Mrs. Lori H. Geronikos
Mrs. Geronikos gave a brief report. She spoke briefly about Cyber Charter Schools.

Superintendent's Report -- Dr. Nicholas P. Sham, Sr.
Dr. Sham's report included the following:

1. He informed the board that flu shots would be offered to all district employees on November 29 at a cost of \$15.00 each. Spouses and board members are also invited to take advantage of this program.
2. Following some discussion as to whether or not the Board wanted to hold a Fall Administration/Board Retreat it was decided that a retreat should be organized for February 2002.
3. Karen Nicholas reported that Peters Elementary kindergarten teacher, Marsha Burnard's literacy program was recognized at the State Reading Conference.
4. Mr. Bryan Dorshimer was recognized by PSBA for 10 years of School Board Service.

Executive Session Mrs. Geronikos requested an executive session at 8:25 p.m. for personnel reasons. The Board reconvened at 8:45 p.m.

An Executive Session was also held immediately following the meeting for legal issues.

PERSONNEL A motion was made by Mr. Newhard, and seconded by Mrs. Sechler, that the Board of Education approve the following personnel items:

- Resignations- Retirements Accept the resignation of Ronald Borger, Chemistry teacher in the senior high school, effective on or about January 24, 2002. This represents the end of the first semester of the 2001-2002 school year. Mr. Borger has decided to retire after 34 years of service.
- Accept the resignation of Marjorie Hennet, school psychologist. Effective November 6, 2001, Ms. Hennet has decided to retire after 33 years of service in education, three of which were with the Northern Lehigh School District.
- Substitutes- Instructional Approve the following substitute teachers for the 2001-2002 school year at the 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:
- Rocatta Tait – Elementary
John Sitaras – All Subject Areas – Emergency Certificate
Derek Bleiler – Elementary K-6
- Non-Instructional Approve the following substitute custodian for the 2001-2002 school year at the substitute rate of \$7.25 per hour:
- Susan Bilheimer
- Unpaid Volunteer Aides Peters Elem. Approve the following individuals as unpaid volunteer aides in the Peters Elementary School for the 2001-2002 school year:
- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Evelyn Barone* | Christine Afflerbach |
| Pamela Umlauf* | Evelyn Barone |
| Tina Williams* | Sharon Boyesen |
| Krystal Miller-Brown* | Katherine Danish |
| Michele Uebele* | Ruth Davies |
| Kathi Buss* | Mary Beth Dellecker |
| Tammy Marsh* | Rita Erschen |
| Dawn Burke* | Mary-Beth Fatzinger |
| Melissa Fliszar | Vera Hoppe |
| Michelle McCarroll | Pam Peters |
| LouAnne Reppert | Robin Schultz |
| Audrey Steigerwalt | Ann Stoss |
| Nancy Wagner | |
- *Pending Verification of Clearances
- Unpaid Volunteer Aides Slatington Elem. Approve the following individuals as unpaid volunteer aides in the Slatington Elementary School for the 2001-2002 school year:
- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| Elizabeth Hough* | Robin Blocker |
| Sarah Moffitt* | Marshelle George |
| Patricia Ingles* | Crystal Horvath |
| Sarah Cook* | |
| Aimee Wood* | |
| Kathy Yelinek* | |
- *Pending Verification of Clearances
- Unpaid Volunteer Swim Coaches **PERSONNEL** Approve Peter Vernon and Angela Velasquez as volunteer swim coaches for the 2001-2002 school year, effective immediately and continuing until the completion of the State Swimming Tournament, or until Ian Vernon, Nicole Valesquez, Katherine Rex, Nicole Matthews are no longer eligible to compete in the 2002 State Tournament. These students will be participating in the District XI (Con't.) Swimming Tournament and must have a coach or district official accompany them. It is understood that there is no cost to the district.

- Laurie Newman
Act 93 Member
- Approve the recommendation of the Superintendent to remove Laurie Newman, Special Education Coordinator, from the NLEA Collective Bargaining Unit and reclassify her as an Act 93 Administrator, effective November 6, 2001. Laurie will remain a 10-month employee and maintain her present salary with two additional weeks of summer employment at an added stipend of \$5000. It is further recommended that, upon completion of her K-12 Special Education Supervisory Certification, Ms. Newman would become the Director of Special Education with a salary adjustment beyond the annual Act 93 increase at a rate to be determined by the Board of Education.
- Administrative
Transfer
- Babette Guss
From: Middle School Reading 7/Language & Communication Skills Teacher
To: Senior High School English Teacher – Replacing Cathy Groller, who resigned.
Salary: \$37,500 (Step 5B+24)
Effective Date: When an appropriate replacement has been found for Nadeen Boykin.
- Change of
Status
- Nadeen Boykin
From: Half Time Temporary Professional Employee in the Middle School
To: Full Time Temporary Professional Employee, teaching Reading/Language & Communication Skills in the middle school, replacing Babette Guss, who was administratively transferred to the senior high school.
Salary: \$35,400 pro-rated (Step 3B)
Effective Date: When an appropriate replacement has been found.
- YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Newhard,
Mrs. Sechler, Mr. Fedorcha (8)
NAY: None (0)
- POLICY**
- Motion was made by Mrs. Sechler, with a second made by Mrs. Giles, that the Board of Education approve the following items listed under Policy:
- Amend Main
Motion
- Motion was made by Mr. Green, with a second made by Mr. Dorshimer, that Policy #006 be removed from the main motion and sent back to the Policy/Education Committee to clarify Section 14 – Committee Meetings particularly the area which addresses voting during committee meetings.
- Vote On
Amendment
- ROLL CALL: YEA: Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Green, Mr. Cox (3)
NAY: Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Newhard, Mrs. Sechler, Mr. Fedorcha (5)
Motion failed.
- Board Policies
First Reading
- Approve revisions to Policy # 202 – Attendance of Nonresident Students, as presented after first reading.
Approve revisions to Policy # 204 – Attendance, as presented after first reading.
Approve revisions to Policy # 217 – Graduation, as presented after first reading.
- Second
Reading
- Approve revisions to Policy #006 -- Local Board Procedures as presented, after second reading.
Approve revisions to Policy #108 – Adoption of Textbooks, as presented, after second reading.
- Conferences
- Approve the request of Chris Iacobelli to attend a conference at Lehigh University in Bethlehem, PA on November 30, 2001. Expenses include \$110.00 for registration, \$10.00 for meals, \$40.00 for travel for a total cost of \$160.00.

POLICY
(Con't.)

Approve the request of Karen Nicholas to attend a conference at Lehigh University in Bethlehem, PA on November 30, 2001. Expenses include \$110.00 for registration.

Approve the request of Susan Mendes to attend the "PA Alliance for Environmental Education" conference in Harrisburg, PA on November 3, 2001. Expenses include \$113.00 for registration and have been approved by the district's Continuing Professional Education Committee.

Approve the request of Beth Case to attend a Bureau of Education & Research conference at King of Prussia, PA on December 13, 2001. Expenses for the conference include \$175.00 for registration, \$27.00 for travel, for a total cost of \$202.00 plus the cost of a substitute for one day and will be paid through IDEA funds.

Approve the request of Catherine Farole to attend a Bureau of Education & Research conference at King of Prussia, PA on December 13, 2001. Expenses for the conference, entitled "Current, Best Ideas for Making Inclusion Work (Grades 6-12)", include \$175.00 for registration, plus the cost of a substitute for one day and will be paid through IDEA funds.

- NLMS Student Act. Fund Statement Approve the Northern Lehigh Middle School Student Activities Fund statement for the month of September 2001.
- Homebound Instruction Grant homebound instruction for a 9th grade student, Student No. 05-30275, for five hours per week, effective October 22, 2001 and ending on or about November 30, 2001.
- Attendance Of Nonresident Student In accordance with School Board Policy #202, approve the request of a 12th grade student attending Northern Lehigh High School, whose living arrangements have been changed, to remain in attendance for the remainder of the 2001-2002 school year.
- NLSD Emergency Plan Revised Approve to authorize proper officials to sign a resolution to promulgate a revised Northern Lehigh School District Emergency Plan for all emergencies and disasters occurring within the school district. This plan, initially adopted on June 2, 1997, is designed to comply with all applicable Federal and State regulations and provides the policies and procedures to be followed in dealing with emergency conditions. This plan supersedes all previously developed emergency plans of the Northern Lehigh School District and meets the two-year compliance rule.
- Vote On Main Motion ROLL CALL: YEA: Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Newhard, Mrs. Sechler, Mr. Fedorcha (5)
NAY: Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Green, Mr. Cox (3)
Motion carried.

FINANCIAL Motion was made by Mrs. Sechler, with a second made by Mr. Cox, that the Board of Education approve the following financial items:

- PC Abatements Consider abatement of per capita taxes for the residents that fall within the guidelines as presented.
- Construction Bills Approve payment of bills from the Construction Account, as presented.
- Extended Construction Bills Approve payment of bills from the Extended Construction Account, as presented.

FINANCIAL
(Con't.)

- Portfolio Summary Approve the Arthurs Lestrage Cash Management Portfolio for the month of September 2001.

- Award Bid For Heating/Cooling Unit At Slatington Elem. Accept and approve the recommendation of the Director of Support Services to award the bid for the removal and replacement of the Slatington Elementary library roof-top heating/cooling unit to the lowest responsible bidder, Elliot-Lewis of Philadelphia, PA with a base bid of \$7,359.00.
- Refund Per Capita Tax Approve a \$20 refund to Frederick and Nancy Gledhill of Slatington for duplicate payment on their 2001-2002 School Per Capita Tax.
- Refund Real Estate Tax Approve a \$1486.21 refund to Cendant Mortgage of Exton, PA for duplicate payment on real estate tax bill #00795. The mortgage company and the property owners both incorrectly paid the 2001-2002 property tax bill.
- Approve a \$38.02 refund to Jeffery and Alfred Seier due to a reduction in the assessed value of their property. The assessed value on their property located at 6659 Walnut Street, Slatington, PA was reduced from \$2,750 to \$750.
- Approve an \$18.89 refund to Henry and Pauline Smith due to a building being razed on May 1, 2001. The assessed value on the property located at 4729 Mountain Road, Slatington, PA. was reduced from \$13,150 to \$12,700.
- Approve a \$1,005.50 refund to David A. Moyer for duplicate payment on property located at 4111 West Grant Street, Slatedale, PA. The mortgage company and the property owner both incorrectly paid the real estate tax bill.
- Approve Submission Of PlanCon K Approve the submission of PLANCON Part K for Northern Lehigh School District's General Obligation Bonds, Series AA and AAA of 2001. PLANCON K is a required form for bond re-financing, and will enable PDE to reassign the 1995 Bond's reimbursement percentage to the series AAA of 2001 bond.
- Amend 2001-2002 General Fund Budget Approve to amend the 2001-2002 General Fund Budget to include the following revenues and expenses related to additional federal and state grants:

Federal Funds:

Additional Revenues

Title I	\$67,297.00
Title VI	\$ 367.00
CSRI	\$23,392.00
Total Increases	\$91,056.00

Additional Title Expenses

10-1490-120-440 Title I Salaries	\$74,760.00
10-1490-200-440 Title I Benefits	\$14,933.00
Total Increases	\$89,693.00

State Funds:

Additional Revenues

Students Achieving Standards Grant	\$73,440.00
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FINANCIAL
(Con't.)

Additional Expenses

10-2845-610-340 Computer Supplies	\$57,241.00
10-2845-750-340 Computer Equipment	\$16,199.00
Total Increases	\$73,440.00

Additional General Fund Expenses enabled through Title I Waiver

10-2260-320	Middle School Transition	\$8,870.00
10-1100-240	Teacher Tuition Reimb.	\$2,726.00
10-2260-240	Supt. Office Tuition Reimb.	\$6,543.00
Total		\$18,139.00

YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Newhard,
Mrs. Sechler, Mr. Fedorcha (8)

NAY: None (0)

LEGAL

Motion was made by Mr. Green, with a second made by Mrs. Sechler, that the Board of Education approve, in accordance with School Board Policy #233: Pupils: Suspension and Expulsion, the Agreement and Memorandum of Understanding regarding removal of a tenth grade student from the attendance rolls and all school-related activities for one calendar year, effective November 1, 2001 and ending on November 1, 2002.

YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Newhard,
Mrs. Sechler, Mr. Fedorcha (8)

NAY: None (0)

CORRESPONDENCE

Mrs. Geronikos informed the board that they received correspondence from Senator Charles Dent regarding the district's stance regarding Cyber Charter Schools.

INFORMATION

All Board members received a copy of the minutes of the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit Board of Directors meeting held on September 17, 2001.

All Board members received a copy of the minutes of the Lehigh Carbon Community College Board of Trustees meeting held on October 4, 2001.

All Board members received a copy of the minutes of the Washington Township Board of Supervisors meeting held on September 11, 2001.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Newhard, and was seconded by Mrs. Sechler, that the regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors be adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Newhard,
Mrs. Sechler, Mr. Fedorcha (8)

NAY: None (0)

Respectfully submitted,

Lori H. Geronikos
Secretary

ATTEST: _____ President

Gary S. Fedorcha