

**NORTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board Minutes**

**Slatington, PA
November 11, 2002**

PURPOSE The regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors was called to order by the President, Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha, at 7:38 p.m. on Monday, November 11, 2002 in the gymnasium 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: None (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. Robert Mack, Mr. Brian Geiger, Mr. Bernard Rockovich, Mr. Jeffrey Bachman, Ms. Laurie Newman, and Mrs. Doneta J. Merkle

VISITORS Approximately 15 visitors attended the meeting, in addition to Sharon Minnich, reporter for TheTimes News.

APPROVE MINUTES A motion was made by Mrs. Geronikos, with a second made by Mrs. Giles, that the minutes of the regular school board meeting held on October 7, 2002 and the regular school board meeting held on October 14, 2002 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 Carbon-Lehigh Intermediate Unit – Mr. Bryan C. Dorshimer
Mr. Dorshimer reported that he had an opportunity to attend the Governor's School function at Parkland High School and shared his experience with the board.

Lehigh Carbon Community College -- Mr. Mathias J. Green, Jr.
Mr. Green informed the board that he has a Grant Activity Summary booklet prepared by the Community College for the 2001-2002 school year. Anyone interested in looking at the booklet should contact Mr. Green.

Legislative Report -- Mrs. Lori H. Geronikos
Mrs. Geronikos gave a brief legislative report.

Federal and Other Programs -- Mrs. Lynne B. Fedorcha
Mrs. Fedorcha distributed a written report and she informed the board that she would summarize some of the regulations dealing with "No Child Left Behind" over the next several months.

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

1. Recognized retiree Glenn Rissmiller.
2. Reminded board members that December's Reorganization Meeting will be held on **Tuesday**, December 3, 2002 beginning at 7:00 p.m. Regular meeting to follow at 7:30 p.m.
3. Laurie Newman – Provided an IDEA update for the board.
4. Individual Administrative Goals For 2002-2003 were distributed.
5. Lehigh Valley Charter High School for the Performing Arts has resurfaced and we will have to vote on the charter in the near future.
6. Brian Geiger gave an update on Metro Electric Retainage Fee.

Executive Session An Executive Work Session was held at 6:00 p.m. preceding the meeting to discuss negotiations and personnel issues. There was another executive session after the meeting to discuss negotiations and 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 items listed under Personnel:

Adjust Effective Date For Carleen Binder Approve to adjust the effective date for the Temporary Vacancy Replacement assignment of Carleen Binder to on or about January 13, 2003. She was previously approved on October 7, 2002 to begin her Temporary Vacancy Replacement kindergarten teacher assignment in the Slatington Elementary School on December 3, 2002. She will be a day-by-day substitute teacher from December 3, 2002 until on or about January 13, 2003. The termination date of this assignment remains the same, on or about June 16, 2003.

Substitutes Instructional Approve the following substitute teacher 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:

George Diehl, Jr. – Health and Physical Education

Appointment Patricia Ingles
Assignment: One-On-One Special Education Aide
Slatington Elementary School – Grade 2
New Position – IDEA Funded
Salary: \$8.64 Per Hour/6 ½ Hours Per Day/5 Days Per Week
Effective Date: November 11, 2002
**She will serve a 60-Day probationary period.*

Employ Translators/ Interpreters Approve to authorize the administration to employ translators/interpreters for Limited English Proficient families residing in the Northern Lehigh School District at the hourly homebound rate.

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 Mr. Green, with a second made by Mr. Dorshimer, that the Board of Education approve the following policy items:

Conferences Approve the request of Janet Bashore to attend an Applebaum Conference in Allentown on January 8, 2003. Expenses for this conference include \$150.00 for registration plus the cost of a substitute for one day and has been approved by the district's Continuing Professional Education Committee.

NLHS Student Activities Statement Approve the Northern Lehigh High School Student Activities Account statement for the month of October 2002.

NL Athletic Fund Financial Report Approve the Northern Lehigh Athletic Fund financial report for July 1, 2002 through October 31, 2002.

NL Sports Account Financial Approve the Northern Lehigh Sports Account financial report for July 1, 2002 through October 31, 2002.

Report

POLICY

(Con't.)

Homebound Instruction Grant homebound instruction for a tenth grade student, Student No. 05-67500, for five hours per week, effective December 9, 2002 and terminating on March 26, 2003.

Agreement Of Sponsorship Approve the Agreement of Sponsorship to Attend Another Pennsylvania Community College for Kate Walden, in accordance with the guidelines established under Policy#912. Beginning in the Fall of 2002 she will be a fulltime student at Northampton County Community College to pursue her course of study in Interior Design.

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
INSTRUCT-
ION**

A motion was made by Mr. Newhard, with a second made by Mrs. Ganser, that the Board of Education approve the recommendation of the Community Relations Committee to have the Northern Lehigh School District assume the responsibility from the Northern Lehigh Future Focus to offer a GED Program for 2002-2003. Future Focus will fund this program during the current year. Classes are scheduled to begin on November 7, 2002 and will be held in the Slatington Elementary School on a Tuesday and Thursday evening from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. for 14 weeks, with an additional week of simulated testing. Dr. Linda Marcincin will assume the supervision of this program and will work with Future Focus during this current school year. It is further recommended that an approximate amount of \$4000.00 be included in the district's 2003-2004 budget to continue this program during the 2003-2004 school year.

ROLL CALL: YEA: Mr. Cox, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Newhard, Mr. Fedorcha (6)

NAY: Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Ganser, Mr. Green (3)

Motion carried.

**NEW
BUSINESS**

Secretarial/ Clerical Salary & Benefit Agreement A motion was made by Mrs. Ganser, with a second made by Mrs. Geronikos, that the Board of Education approve the Salary and Benefits Agreement between the Northern Lehigh Secretarial/Clerical Staff and the Northern Lehigh School Board, retroactive to July 1, 2002 for three years, 2002-2003, 2003-2004, and 2004-2005. (Note: This agreement reflects a 3% salary increase plus years of service increments where applicable for each of these years).

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

NAY: None (0)

ABSTAIN: Mr. Dorshimer (1) Conflict of Interest

Salary & Benefits Agreement Doneta Merkle A motion was made by Mrs. Geronikos, with a second made by Mrs. Giles, that the Board of Education approve a 3% salary increase and all the benefits of the Northern Lehigh Clerical Salary and Benefit Agreement to Mrs. Doneta J. Merkle for the length of the agreement, retroactive to July 1, 2002.

Amend Motion A motion was made by Mr. Green, with a second made by Mr. Dorshimer, that the Board of Education amend the motion and instead of a 3% increase give Mrs. Merkle the average increase per year as established in the secretarial agreement. (Note: The average increases are 2002-2003 = 3.361%, 2003-2004 = 3.349%, 2004-2005 = 3.572%).

Vote On Amendment 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.

POLICY

(Con't.)

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

Board Stipend For Mrs. Doneta Merkle A motion was made by Mrs. Escott, with a second made by Mrs. Geronikos, that the Board of Education approve the same salary increases as in the previous motion for Mrs. Doneta Merkle for 2002-2003, 2003-2004, 2004-2005 for her stipend as board secretary, retroactive to July 1, 2002.

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

FINANCIAL

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

General Fund Bills Approve payment of General Fund bills for the month of October 2002, as presented.

Reports (Info Only) All board members received the October 2002 Revenue and Expenditure Reports for the Cafeteria, General, and Capital Reserve Funds.

Refund Borough Of Walnutport For Over Billing Approve a \$724.45 refund to Walnutport Borough for an over billing on the 2000-2001 Earned Income Tax Office Billing. This over billing arose due to salary from real estate collection being included in the EIT salary category, and bonding insurance not covering EIT collection.

Writ of Execution For Law Offices Approve the issuance of a writ of execution for accounts that could not be resolved by Portnoff Law Associates. The writ of execution enables Portnoff Law Associates to bring the property to eventual sheriff sale. This is the most powerful and final measure to effectuate Portnoff payment. Prior to the writ of execution, 5 notices by regular mail and one certified letter have been sent. Furthermore, a sheriff has served the taxpayers and this also has not resulted in payment or agreement to make partial payments.

Baseball Scoreboard Approve the purchase and placement of a baseball score board at the high school baseball field. The Northern Lehigh Baseball Parents will purchase the sign and pay for the installation costs.

Change Orders For Middle School Roof Approve change orders for the repairs done by Hollenbach Construction, Inc. for damages from a leak in the roof at the middle school in accordance with change order G-10 in the amount of \$1,568.00 and change order R-1 in the amount of (\$1,568.00). This request is pending approval of Pennsylvania Department of Education PLANCON I.

Metro Electrical 10% Retainage Approve the recommendation of the Technology/Buildings and Grounds Committee to continue holding 10% retainage from Metro Electrical Installations.

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

**INFORM-
ATION**

All board members received a copy of the minutes of the Lehigh Carbon Community College Board of Trustees meeting held on October 3, 2002.

**ADJOURN-
MENT**

A motion was made by Mrs. Ganser, with a second made by Mr. Dorshimer, that the regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors be adjourned at 8:42 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