

**NORTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Wednesday, November 3, 2021
Immediately Following Technology/Buildings & Grounds Meeting
Board Room**

Committee Members			Meeting Dates		
	Donna Kulp - Chairperson	X	Susan Bahnick	Jan-6	June-9
X	Robin Distler -Co-Chairperson		Jennifer Butz	Feb-3	Aug-4
X	Mathias Green	X	Tim Weaber	March-3	Sept-8
X	Robert Kern		Eric Hill	April-7	Oct-6
	Matt Link			May-5	Nov-3
X	Rhonda Frantz – Liaison				
X	Sherri Molitoris - Liaison				

Also in Attendance: Gary Fedorcha, Stephen Haas, Nichole Fink, Tania Stoker, James Schnyderite, Scott Pyne,

MINUTES

- Cafeteria (Mrs. Bahnick) Anonymous donor paid for the additional turkeys needed for the Thanksgiving dinner. Participation numbers continue to increase.
- ESSER Grants Update
 - ESSER 1 - \$329,372 depleted
 - ESSER 2 - \$1,458,824
 - Spent Ending October 31 - \$371,854.08
 - Encumbered October 31 - \$341,583.32
 - Additional Anticipated Spending - \$745,386.60 (includes \$702,786.55 MS Kitchen Upgrades)
 - ESSER 3 - \$2,950,778
 - Spent Ending October 31 - \$431,267.22
 - Encumbered October 31 - \$2,121,465.18
 - Unencumbered October 31 - \$398,045.60,
- Transfer of Trustee - A board motion will be on the next board agenda to approve the Business Administrator as the trustee for the benefit consortium for Northern Lehigh
- Transfer of Representative to the TCC - A board motion will be on the next board agenda to approval Sherri Molitoris as the representative to the TCC
- Highmark Class Action Lawsuit - A class action lawsuit was filed against Capital Blue Cross/Highmark Blue Shield. Plaintiffs allege that Settling Defendants violated antitrust laws by entering into an agreement not to compete with each other and to limit competition among themselves in selling health insurance and administrative services for health insurance. Settling Defendants deny all allegations of wrongdoing and assert that their conduct results in lower healthcare costs and greater access to care for their

customers. The Court has not decided who is right or wrong. Instead, Plaintiffs and Settling Defendants have agreed to a Settlement to avoid the risk and cost of further litigation. If approved by the Court, the Settlement will establish a \$2.67 billion Settlement Fund. Settling Defendants will also agree to make changes in the way they do business that Plaintiffs believe will increase the opportunities for competition in the market for health insurance. The period of time in question is 2008-2020. Northern Lehigh was with Highmark during this time and therefore has a claim for which we could receive some compensation. It is unclear at this time how much we would be eligible to receive..This is a nationwide action and also includes individuals as well as companies/corporations. All necessary paperwork has been filed to open Northern Lehigh's claim.

- End of Year (EOY) Audit-The final journal entries and paperwork has been received from Gorman and Associates. No findings or corrective action were mentioned.
 - Fund Balance Allocations will be on Monday night's agenda for approval.
- Act I Index- Northern Lehigh's adjusted Act 1 Index for 2021-2022 is set at 4.6. This will be the maximum amount we can raise taxes for the next fiscal year.
- Smore Newsletter (Mr. Pyne) \$596 newsletter application. Benefit would provide a nice platform to get information out to families improving family engagement. It also provides automatic translation services in all languages. Building budgets move to board agenda
- Spanish Textbooks - \$6878.50 - Curriculum Budget Adopted new spanish curriculum and expand into the Middle School. Current text in the High School is 30 years old and antiquated. Also comes with an online license for 5 years.
- Smart Music - \$3304.67 - ESSER Funding - Allows student's instrumental music to play music and get immediate feedback. Possibly expand to secondary level.
- Heggerty Phonemic Awareness Videos - \$79.98/year - ESSER Funding - Used K through 2. Would work as a class supplement and also supply support in the classroom and while students are out of the classroom and require additional support. Move to board agenda
- Fifty Nifty Activity Books - \$849.49 - ESSER Funding Would supply Tier 2 intervention for literacy learning. Research based strategies for all types of instruction. Move to board agenda
- Zearn - \$2500 - ESSER Funding - Uses a station based framework for use in the classroom and at home as necessary. Would make learning more engaging. Would also like to transfer cost for earlier purchase of Zern for Slatington elem to ESSER funding. Move to board agenda.

Reminder: No committee meetings in December.
Next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, January 5, 2022.