

**NORTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board Minutes**

**Slatington, PA
January 3, 2005**

PURPOSE The regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors was called to order by the President, Mr. Mathias J. Green, Jr. at 7:35 p.m. on Monday, January 3, 2005 in the boardroom of the Slatington Elementary School.

ROLL CALL Members present: Mr. Franklin D. Beers, Mr. Robert J. Cox, Mr. Bryan C. Dorshimer, Mr. Raymond J. Follweiler, Jr., Mrs. Susan H. Fullas, Mrs. Lauren A. Ganser, Mrs. Lori H. Geronikos, Mr. William H. Hazzard, Mr. Mathias J. Green, Jr. (9)

Members absent: None (0)

Non-members present: Dr. Nicholas P. Sham, Mrs. Lynne B. Fedorcha, Dr. Linda Marcincin, Mrs. Karen Nicholas, Mr. John Hrizuk, Mr. David Papay, Mr. Robert Mack, Mr. Brian Geiger, Ms. Christine Stafford, Attorney Charles Stopp (Solicitor), Mr. Jeffrey Bachman, Ms. Laurie Newman-Mankos, Ms. Ashley Kunkle, Ms. Jessica Fidler and Mrs. Doneta J. Merkle

VISITORS Approximately four visitors attended the meeting, in addition to Sharon Minnich, reporter for The Times News and Terry Ahner, reporter for The Chronicle.

SPECIAL BOARD REPORTS Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit – Mr. Bryan C. Dorshimer
Mr. Dorshimer reviewed the articles listed on the CLIU Board Brief which was distributed to all board members.

Committee Reports and/or Meetings

Mr. Green reported that the Act 72 committee met on December 22, 2004 at the CLIU. Another meeting is scheduled for January 11, 2005. He announced that the meeting dealt with some of the basics of Act 72. The second meeting will have direct facts and figures as to how it will affect Northern Lehigh School District and our residents and community. If the board is interested in a third meeting it will be a public presentation in Northern Lehigh School District to the community.

Mrs. Fullas made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Beers, that the Board of Education approves to adopt the school board committee meeting calendar and school board committee member list for 2005 as presented.

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Fullas, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Hazzard, Mr. Green (9)

NAY: None (0)

Mr. Green also appointed several ad hoc committees as follows:

Northern Lehigh Educational Support Staff – Mrs. Susan Fullas – Chairperson, Mrs. Lori Geronikos, Mrs. Lauren Ganser

Northern Lehigh Clerical Group – Mr. Mathias Green – Chairperson, Mr. William Hazzard, Mr. Raymond Follweiler

Northern Lehigh Educational Support Staff (Aides) – Mr. Robert Cox – Chairperson, Mr. Bryan Dorshimer, Mr. Franklin Beers

He also reminded the board that there is an on-going committee appointed to meet with the Northern Lehigh Education Association and those individuals are Mr. Bryan Dorshimer and Mrs. Lori Geronikos.

He also announced that an ad hoc committee needs to be appointed to hear a grievance that is coming before the board. He appointed "whoever on the board can make that hearing" as the official committee to hear that grievance. He asked that Dr. Sham corresponds with the board and also inform the Association that the board does intend to hear the grievance. A mutually agreed upon date should be established.

All board members received a copy of the minutes of the Policy/Education/Staffing Committee meeting held on November 15, 2004.

Student Representatives To The Board Report -- Ms. Ashley Kunkle and Ms. Jessica Fidler distributed a written report and reported on its contents to the board.

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

Dr. Sham recognized announced that January is School Board Recognition Month. He publicly acknowledged the time and service they give to the district. He presented them with a certificate of appreciation from the Pennsylvania School Boards Association.

Dr. Sham informed the board that Attorney Eugene Mayberry donated \$500.00 to the district to cover the initial costs of the transportation to make sure that the debate team could go to the debate competitions because transportation for those competitions had been cut from the budget. A thank you note will be sent to Attorney Mayberry from the board and administration.

An Executive Session was held 7:00 p.m. in the Superintendent's Office to discuss legal and personnel issues.

PERSONNEL

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

Substitutes Approve the following substitute teacher for the 2004-2005 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:

Nicholas Mitchell – Elementary

Rescind Compensated Professional Leave Request Approve to rescind the request granted to Linda Thompson on October 4, 2004 to take a compensated professional leave of absence for professional development for the second semester of the 2004-2005.

Extension of Unpaid Leave Approve the request of Tracy Ettinger, Peters Elementary second grade teacher, to be granted an extension of her unpaid leave of absence for child rearing to include the second semester of the 2004-2005 school year. She plans to return to her teaching position for the 2005-2006 school year.

Extension of Child Rearing Leave Approve the request of Laurie Ramsey, Slatington Elementary fifth grade teacher, to be granted an extension of her child rearing leave of absence and change her date of return from early February 2005 to March 21, 2005.

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Fullas, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Hazzard, Mr. Green (9)

NAY: None (0)

PERSONNEL

(Con't.)

Mr. Dorshimer made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Ganser, that the Board of Education approves the following additional personnel items.

Substitutes Approve the following substitute teachers for the 2004-2005 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:

Kimberly Bensinger – Health and Physical Education
Melissa Gasser -- Elementary

Unpaid Volunteers Approve the following unpaid volunteer aides at the Slatington Elementary School for the 2004-2005 school year: ***Pending Verification of Clearances**

Kim Arnold*
Evelyn Barone
Sharon Boyesen
Lisa Cayne
Mary-Beth Fatzinger
Colleen Heller
Crystal Prickler*
Nancy Vignola*

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Fullas, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Hazzard, Mr. Green (9)

NAY: None (0)

POLICY

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

Conferences Approve the request of Brian Geiger to attend a Pennsylvania School Business Officials 50th Anniversary Conference from March 8-11, 2005 in Valley Forge, PA. Expenses for this conference include \$220.00 for registration, \$47.00 for travel, \$50.00 for meals for a total cost of \$317.00 and will be paid for through the 2004-2005 Director of Support Services budget.

Approve the request of Christine Stafford to attend a Pennsylvania School Business Officials 50th Anniversary Conference from March 8-11, 2005 in Valley Forge, PA. Expenses for this conference include \$220.00 for registration, \$47.00 for travel, \$50.00 for meals for a total cost of \$317.00 and will be paid for through the 2004-2005 general fund.

New Board Policy 1st Reading Approve to adopt new school board policy #249 – Pupils – Bullying/Harassment, as presented after first reading.

Approve to adopt new school board policy #904.2 – Community – Civility/Orderly Conduct, as presented after first reading.

Approve to adopt new school board policy #141 – Programs – Identification Badge, as presented after first reading.

Revisions To Existing Policy 1st Reading Approve revisions to existing school board policy #429 – Professional Employees – Substitute/Temporary Vacancy Replacement compensation, as presented after first reading.

Approve revisions to existing school board policy #705 – Property – Safety, as presented after first reading.

POLICY

(Con't.)

Approve revisions to existing school board policy #807 – Operations – Opening Exercises/Flag Displays, as presented after first reading.

Approve revisions to existing school board policy #907 – Community – School Visitors, as presented after first reading.

Agreement of Sponsorship

Approve the Agreement of Sponsorship To Attend Another Pennsylvania Community College for Katie L. Konek, in accordance with the guidelines established under Policy #912. Beginning in the Summer of 2005 she will be a fulltime student at Northampton Community College to pursue her course of study in Nuclear Medicine.

ROLL CALL: YEA: Mr. Hazzard, Mrs.Geronikos, Mrs. Fullas, Mr. Cox, Mr. Beers,
Mr. Green (6)
NAY: Mrs. Ganser, Mr. Follweiler, Mr. Dorshimer (3)

Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Information Only

Resolution for School Director Recognition Month – January 2005

WHEREAS, the role of locally elected school officials has served the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and local communities in meeting the needs of public education since the passage of the Free School Act in 1834; and

WHEREAS, these local boards have discharged their responsibilities to public education in a manner which has placed education in the forefront of our educational systems; and

WHEREAS, locally elected officials have distinguished themselves and their communities in this nonpaid, volunteer public service commitment; and

WHEREAS, the contributions of these men and women who serve on the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors :

Franklin D. Beers
Robert J. Cox
Bryan C. Dorshimer
Raymond J. Follweiler, Jr.
Susan H. Fullas
Lauren A. Ganser
Lori H. Geronikos
Mathias J. Green, Jr.
William H. Hazzard

should be recognized and appreciated by those who benefit from the workings of our public school system;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Board of the Pennsylvania School Boards Association hereby proclaims the month of January as School Director Recognition Month in this Commonwealth; and the citizens, students, teachers, and administrators of the Northern Lehigh School District seek to honor said

**INFORM-
ATION**

Notification has been received from the PA Department of Education of their approval of PlanCon Part K: Project Refinancing – Issuance of General Obligation Bonds, Series A of 2004 to Advance Refund General Obligation Bonds, Series A of 2001. A copy of this document and appended materials will be entered into the official minutes of this meeting. (See Attached)

All Board Members received the minutes of the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit Board of Directors meeting held on November 15, 2004.

INFORMATION

(Con't.)

Before adjourning, Mrs. Geronikos announced that she received correspondence from the Leadership Institute and the Institute for Community Leadership in Education about a seminar for emerging community leaders who want to increase their knowledge about important state-wide and local education policies. She announced the dates the sessions would be held. This is being sponsored by the Lehigh Valley Business and Education Partnership in cooperation with Colonial IU 20 and Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit 21.

She also commented on the excellent music events that were held in all the district buildings for the holiday season.

**ADJOURN-
MENT**

Mr. Beers made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Follweiler, that the regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh School District Board of School Directors be adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Fullas, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Hazzard, Mr. Green (9)

NAY: None (0)

Respectfully submitted,

Bryan C. Dorshimer
Secretary

ATTEST: _____ (President)
Mathias J. Green, Jr.