

NORTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
Regular Meeting
Board Minutes

Slatington, PA
January 11, 2016

PURPOSE The regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors was called to order by the President, Mr. Edward E. Hartman, at 7:36 p.m. on Monday, January 11, 2016, in the Administration Office Board Room.

ROLL CALL Members present: Mr. Robin T. Distler, Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha, Mr. Mathias J. Green, Jr., Mrs. Natalie J. Green, Mrs. Gale Husack, Mr. Robert J. Keegan, Jr., Mrs. Donna M. Kulp, Mr. Gregory S. Williams and Mr. Edward E. Hartman (9)

Members absent: (0)

Non-members present: Mr. Jeffrey Bachman, Mrs. Susan Bahnick, Mrs. Jill Chamberlain, Mr. Greg Derr, Mrs. Michele Dotta, Mrs. Rhonda Frantz, Mr. John Hrizuk, Mr. Paul Leonzi, Mr. Michael Michaels, Mrs. Sherri Molitoris, Mrs. Karen Nicholas, Mrs. Tanya Simms, Attorney Charles Stopp (District Solicitor), and Mr. Robert Vlasaty.

VISITORS Approximately six visitors attended the meeting, in addition to Terry Ahner, reporter for The Times News.

APPROVE MINUTES Mr. Distler made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Fedorcha, that the minutes of the reorganization and regular school board meeting held on December 7, 2015 be approved and ordered filed.

YEA: Mr. Distler, Mr. Fedorcha, Mr. Green, Mrs. Green, Mrs. Husack, Mr. Keegan, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, and Mr. Hartman (9)

NAY: None (0)

SPECIAL BOARD REPORTS Lehigh Career and Technical Institute - Mr. Fedorcha announced that the budget was approved and it will be distributed to districts soon.

Legislative Report – Mr. Williams stated that with regard to the budget, there is good news and bad news. Good news is we received some money; bad news is that it takes the pressure off them to get anything done.

Lehigh Carbon Community College – Mr. Green reported that LCCC has passed their budget as well. There is no aggregate increase to the districts and Northern Lehigh's share will decrease by \$12,000.00. He also reported that a contract was approved with their professional staff. Mr. Green stated that LCCC was voted one of the top two-year colleges in the state of Pennsylvania.

Business Manager's Report - Mrs. Frantz reported that at the board seats is the single audit which will be on the agenda next month for approval.

Mrs. Molitoris reported that the CLIU #21 budget is at the board seats and will be on the agenda next month for approval. Mrs. Molitoris reported that as required, the reports were filed prior to the due date for the post issuance compliance procedures,

Federal and Other Programs Update – Mrs. Karen A. Nicholas reported that in December, President Obama enacted into law the Every Child Achieves Act 2015 which replaces the No Child Left Behind law. This new law requires that there are two tests in Reading and Math per child per year in grades 3-8 and once in high school as well as Science tests given three times between grades 3 and 12. The states can choose what they want to use to test in the high school level. Several states have used the SAT and ACT to satisfy this requirement for high school. The state will have control over the standards. At this time, we have no idea what the assessment or standards will be.

Superintendent's Report - Mr. Michaels announced that January is School Board Recognition month. Mr. Michaels thanked the board members for their service to the district and for volunteering their time and making contributions behind the scenes. They do an outstanding job for our students and without them we would not be successful.

**SPECIAL
BOARD
REPORTS
cont.)**

Mr. Michaels stated that both he and Mr. Hartman will be questioning the IU regarding Bulldog Academy as it relates to the equipment since we are now responsible to collect the equipment which was not part of the original agreement.

Mr. Michaels asked Mrs. Bahnick to introduce her intern, Mr. Kurt Buckner, from Cedar Crest College.

Mr. Michaels announced that he was in contact with Senator Scavello about school budgeting. Mr. Michaels stated that even though we have received some funds, it is important that we keep the pressure on and we are navigating uncharted waters with having to do two budgets at the same time. The board of education and the business office have done a great job at keeping our schools open without having to go out for a loan which would hurt the taxpayers.

Mr. Michaels commended Mr. Jeff Bachman and Mr. Greg Derr. Last Tuesday night there was an issue on Diamond Street after hours where the Eastern Comfort Assisted Living Center had a propane leak. Mr. Bachman and Mr. Derr were prepared to evacuate the residents and bring them to the Middle School. The leak was found and they did not evacuate, but Mr. Michaels thanked Mr. Bachman and Mr. Derr for their quick thinking and for being valuable members of the community.

Mr. Michaels added that as Mrs. Nicholas reported, we are in a state of flux regarding the new assessments and testing requirements. Senator Scavello stated that he is not in favor of the high stakes testing and one test is not a measure of what a student is worth.

Mr. Hartman reported that an executive session was held prior to tonight's meeting to discuss personnel issues.

PERSONNEL

Mr. Fedorcha made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Kulp, that the Board of Education approves the following personnel items:

Appointment Instructional	Ryan Stillwell Assignment:	Temporary Professional Employee Life Skills Support Teacher Grades 3-7 replacing Theresa Lobach who retired.
	Salary:	\$46,200.00 prorated (Step 1 Bachelors on the 2015- 2016 CBA Salary Schedule)
	Effective:	January 12, 2016

Salary Adjustments Acknowledge the following teacher who has completed the requirements per the Collective Bargaining Agreement that would entitle them to a salary increase for the 2015-2016 school year:

Michelle Hock	
From:	Step 1B
To:	Step 1B+24

Game Workers 2015-2016 Motion to appointment the following person as a Game Worker for the 2015-2016 school year. Game Workers consist of ticket sellers and takers, game announcers, scoreboard operators, timers, field judges, scorekeepers. Rate of pay is consistent with the rates approved on the 2015-2016 Supplementary Personnel Salary Schedule
Christopher Baumann*
***Pending Verification of Missing Personnel File Items**

Substitute-Instructional Approve the following substitute teacher for the 2015-2016 school year at the 2015-2016 substitute teacher rates as approved at the October 12, 2015 board meeting.

Lori King – Elementary K-6

Unpaid Volunteers Approve the following unpaid volunteer aide in the Peters and Slatington Elementary Schools for the 2015-2016 school year:

Joanne Perich

YEA: Mr. Distler, Mr. Fedorcha, Mr. Green, Mrs. Green, Mrs. Husack, Mr. Keegan, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, and Mr. Hartman (9)

NAY: None (0)

CONFERENCE

Mr. Williams made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Keegan, that the Board of Education approves the following conferences:

Michele Dotta – PDE Conference 2016 Making a Difference: Educational Practices that Work! – February 10-12, 2016 – Hershey Lodge & Convention Center – Hershey, PA – Registration: \$120.00; Lodging: \$152.22; Meals: \$57.00, Travel: \$88.00 – Total Approximate Cost: \$417.22 – Funding: Special Education Budget

Shawn Green – Pennsylvania School Librarians Association 43rd Annual Conference – May 12-14, 2016 – Hershey Lodge & Convention Center – Hershey, PA – Registration: \$175.00; Lodging: \$344.00 - Total Approximate Cost: \$519.00 – Funding: Slatington Elementary Library Budget

Bryan Geist – 49th Pennsylvania State Athletic Directors Association Conference – March 15-18, 2016 – Hershey Lodge, Hershey, PA – Registration: \$225.00, Lodging: \$580.56 – Total Approximate Cost: \$805.56 – Funding: Athletic Department Budget

Karen Nicholas – PA Excellence in eLearning Forum – April 6-8, 2016 – Kalahari Resorts & Conventions – Pocono Manor, PA – Meals: \$50.00, Travel: \$43.70 – Total Approximate Cost: \$93.70 – Funding: Curriculum & Instruction Budget

YEA: Mr. Distler, Mr. Fedorcha, Mr. Green, Mrs. Green, Mrs. Husack, Mr. Keegan, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, and Mr. Hartman (9)

NAY: None (0)

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution
for School
Board Director
Recognition
Month -
January 2016

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

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 public education in the forefront of our educational systems; and

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

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

Robin T. Distler
Gary S. Fedorcha
Mathias J. Green, Jr.
Natalie J. Green
Edward E. Hartman
Gale N. Husack
Robert J. Keegan, Jr.
Donna M. Kulp
Gregory S. Williams

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

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the Pennsylvania School Boards Association hereby proclaims the month of January as School Director Recognition Month in this commonwealth; and

FURTHER RESOLVE that this proclamation be communicated to all school districts, school officials and local communities in a planned program which brings visibility and awareness of the role of locally elected school officials to the citizenry of this commonwealth.

YEA: Mr. Distler, Mr. Fedorcha, Mr. Green, Mrs. Green, Mrs. Husack, Mr. Keegan, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, and Mr. Hartman (9)

NAY: None (0)

**NEW
BUSINESS**

Mr. Keegan made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Fedorcha, that the Board of Education approves the following New Business item:

Advertise for School Police Officer Authorize administration to advertise for a School Police Officer position.

YEA: Mr. Distler, Mr. Fedorcha, Mr. Green, Mrs. Green, Mrs. Husack, Mr. Keegan, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, and Mr. Hartman (9)

NAY: None (0)

FINANCIAL

Mr. Green asked for clarification on which funds were being used to pay for the projects. Mrs. Molitoris explained that Weatherproofing Technologies would like to start the project before July 1, 2016 in order to ensure completion before the start of school. The auditors have suggested that we transfer the money from the general fund to the capital reserve account in order to avoid an audit citation if we would happen to over expend our budget. Mrs. Molitoris added that if we do not over expend our budget, it would mean less money is put back into fund balance at the end of the 2015/2016 budget. Mr. Michaels added that this will allow us to start the project before July 1st. He added that next month we will be asking to do the same for the stadium track project so it may begin before July 1st as well.

Mr. Green asked for further clarification of the fund balance commitments. Mr. Michaels and Mr. Hartman suggested that he meet with Mrs. Molitoris and Mrs. Frantz for further explanation.

Mr. Distler made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Kulp, that the Board of Education approves the following financial items:

Financial Reports Approve the following financial reports:
General Fund Account month of December, 2015
NLMS Student Activities Account months of November & December, 2015
NLHS Student Activities and Scholarship Account months of November & December, 2015

List of Bills Approve the Following List of Bills:
General Fund months of December & January
Cafeteria Fund months of December & January
Refreshment Stand month of December

PenTeleData Agreement Five Years Approve entering into a five (5) year Service Agreement with PenTeleData for One (1) Gigabit Point to Point connectivity between Slatington Elementary School and Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit#21 in the amount of \$1,300.00 per month.

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

Transfer to Capital Reserve for Peters Roof Authorize administration to transfer \$490,000.00 from the general fund to the capital reserve account to cover the cost of the Peters Elementary roofing project.

Agreement Weather-Proofing Technologies Roof Peters Authorize Administration to enter into a contract with Weatherproofing Technologies to replace sections A, B, C, D and lower gym roof at Peters Elementary. The project is through the Keystone Purchasing Network at a cost of \$489,870.55 and is to be paid from the capital reserve account.

Athletic Trainer Agreement St. Luke's University Health Approve the Athletic Training/Sports Medicine Services Agreement between St. Luke's University Health Network and the Northern Lehigh School District, as presented.

Network

YEA: Mr. Distler, Mr. Fedorcha, Mr. Green, Mrs. Green, Mrs. Husack, Mr. Keegan, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, and Mr. Hartman (9)
NAY: None (0)

**CORR-
ESPON-
DENCE**

The Board of Education received a letter from Carbon Lehigh IU #21 stating that ballots for election of members to the IU Board of Directors will be mailed in March or April.

**INFOR-
MATION**

Minutes of the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit 21 Board of Directors meetings held on November 16, 2015 were distributed.

Minutes of the Lehigh Carbon Community College Board of Trustees meeting held on November 5, 2015 were distributed.

Minutes of the Lehigh Career & Technical Institute Joint Operating Committee meeting held on October 28, 2015, were distributed.

Mr. Michaels asked Mrs. Dotta to introduce, Mr. Ryan Stillwell. Mr. Stillwell is the new Life Skills Teacher.

**ADJOURN-
MENT**

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

YEA: Mr. Distler, Mr. Fedorcha, Mr. Green, Mrs. Green, Mrs. Husack, Mr. Keegan, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, and Mr. Hartman (9)
NAY: None (0)

Respectfully submitted,

Gregory S. Williams
Secretary

ATTEST: _____ President
Edward E. Hartman