

**NORTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board Minutes**

**Slatington, PA
February 19, 2001**

PURPOSE The meeting of the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors, which was rescheduled from February 5, 2001 due to inclement weather, was called to order by the President, Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha, at 8:10 p.m. on Monday, February 19, 2001 in the board room located in the Slatington Elementary School.

ROLL CALL Members present: Mr. Robert J. Cox, Mr. Bryan C. Dorshimer, Mrs. Jane J. Escott, 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 (9)

Members absent: None (0)

Non-members present: Dr. Nicholas P. Sham, Mr. Christopher Iacobelli, Mr. John Hrizuk, Mr. Robert Mack, Mr. Brian Geiger, Ms. Pamela Grammes, Ms. Lisa Vaughan, Mrs. Doneta J. Merkle

VISITORS In addition to Sharon Minnich, reporter for The Times News, Dan Schantz and Douglas Keichel attended the meeting.

APPROVE MINUTES Motion made by Mrs. Sechler, with a second made by Mr. Dorshimer, that the minutes of the regular school board meeting held on January 8, 2001 and the regular school board meeting held on January 15, 2001 be approved and ordered filed.

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

SPECIAL BOARD REPORTS The Board finalized the 2001 School Board Committee List and ad hoc committees. Mrs. Giles was appointed the liaison for the Borough of Slatington for one year.

Committee Reports and/or Meetings Mr. Dorshimer reminded all board members to attend the Finance Committee meeting scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on February 26, 2001.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION At the request of the Superintendent, a motion was made by Mrs. Sechler, with a second made by Mrs. Geronikos, that the Board of Education, at 8:15 p.m., retire to an executive session. This executive session is a carry-over of the executive session that was held prior to the meeting for personnel issues.

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

Come Out Of Executive Session Motion by made Mrs. Geronikos, with a second made by Mr. Newhard, that, at 8:35 p.m., the Board of Education come out of executive session.

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

Student Rep. Report Ms. Lisa Vaughan and Ms. Pamela Grammes gave their report for the month of February.

**SPECIAL
BOARD
REPORTS
(Con't.)**

Legislative Report – Mrs. Lori H. Geronikos

Mrs. Geronikos reported on the revisions being made to Chapter 14 regulations dealing with special education that are being promulgated by the State Board of Education and were approved by the House Education Committee.

PlanCon D & E Motion made by Mr. Dorshimer, with a second made by Mr. Cox, that the Board of Approval Education approve the submission of PlanCon D & E to the Pennsylvania Department of Middle School Education for the additions and alterations of the Northern Lehigh Middle School. Project Included with the submission of these documents is a letter informing the Department of Education of the board's intent to add the cafeteria expansion to the middle school as an alternate.

YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Newhard, Mrs. Sechler, Mr. Fedorcha (9)

NAY: None (0)

A public information meeting on the proposed additions and renovations to the middle school will be held on March 12, 2001, beginning at 6:30 p.m. before the regular school board meeting,

The 2001 Goal Areas Progress Report and Action Plans were distributed and discussed briefly.

Information from PSBA Insurance Trust was distributed to board members.

Dr. Sham reminded board members that there is a CLIU 2001 School Board Conference on April 4. A Technology/Buildings and Grounds meeting is also scheduled for that evening. It was suggested that the committee reschedule their meeting for another date.

A Tasco Telescope was donated to our middle school.

Dr. Sham informed the board that the district received the Digital Grass Roots grant in the sum of approximately \$20,000.

Executive Work Session An Executive Work Session was held prior to the meeting from 7:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. for personnel issues. A brief Executive Work Session was held after the meeting for personnel issues.

PERSONNEL

Motion made by Mrs. Sechler, with a second by Mr. Newhard that the Board of Education approve the following personnel items:

Substitutes -- Non-Instructional Employ the following substitute instructional aides for the 2000-2001 school year at the substitute rate of \$6.25 per hour:

Pamela Peters
Crystal Benninger

Employ the following substitute secretary for the 2000-2001 school year at the substitute rate of \$6.25 per hour: Crystal Benninger

Employ the following substitute cafeteria worker for the 2000-2001 school year at the substitute rate of \$6.25 per hour: Crystal Benninger

Employ the following substitute custodian for the 2000-2001 school year at the substitute rate of \$6.25 per hour: Dennis Kiss

PERSONNEL**(Con't.)**

Continue Employment-Tamra Yesik Approve to continue employment of Tamra Yesik as a Temporary Support Staff aide in the Central Administration Business Office, reducing her employment from five days a week to three days a week effective March 1, 2001 and continuing March 31, 2001 and then on an as need bases.

YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green,
Mr. Newhard, Mrs. Sechler, Mr. Fedorcha (9)

NAY: None (0)

POLICY

Motion made by Mr. Dorshimer, with a second made by Mr. Cox, that the Board of Education approve the following items listed under Policy:

Conferences Approve the request of Laurie Newman to attend a Staff Development for Educators one-day seminar entitled "Strategies to Help Below-Grade-Level Students Meet School Success" on April 27, 2001 in Allentown, PA. Expenses include \$159.00 for registration and has been approved by the district Continuing Professional Education Committee.

Homebound Instruction Grant homebound instruction for a 7th grade student, Student No.06-63550, for five hours per week, effective February 12, 2001 and ending on or about March 26, 2001.

NLSHS Student Activities Account Approve the Northern Lehigh High School Student Activities Account Statement for the month of January 2001.

NLJHS Student Activities Account Approve the Northern Lehigh Junior High School Student Activities Account Statement for the month of January 2001.

Board Policy #333 & #433-2nd Reading Approve revisions to existing school board policy #333 and #433 – Professional Development, as presented after first reading

LCCC Budget Distribution (Info Only) The 2001-2002 Lehigh Carbon Community College Budget was distributed.

Open An Account Approve the request of the senior high school to open a "Edward Tkach Electronics Scholarship" account in compliance with the Student Activity Fund Policy.

YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green,
Mr. Newhard, Mrs. Sechler, Mr. Fedorcha (9)

NAY: None (0)

Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit Operational and Program Services Budget for 2001-02 Motion made by Mr. Dorshimer, with a second made by Mrs. Escott, that the Board of Education approve the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit 2001-2002 Operational and Program Services Budget in the amount of \$1,467,331.00, a 1.19% increase over last year. Northern Lehigh's share will be \$19,659.00, no increase over last year's budget. It is further recommended that proper officials be authorized to execute the CLIU #21 2001-2002 Budget Resolution

YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green,
Mr. Newhard, Mrs. Sechler, Mr. Fedorcha (9)

NAY: None (0)

**OLD
BUSINESS**

Motion made by Mr. Cox, with a second made by Mr. Green, that the Board of Education adopting a resolution pertaining to the Keystone Opportunity Expansion Zone tax abatement project as indicated by the Lehigh Valley Economic Development Corporation.

A copy of the signed resolution and specific pertinent information identifying the parcels involved is attached to these minutes. The district also requests that certified BOCA Code inspectors, certified in the appropriate discipline, do the code compliance with respect to these properties.

ROLL CALL: YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles,
Mr. Newhard, Mr. Green, Mrs. Sechler, Mr. Fedorcha (9)

NAY: None (0)

Motion carried.

FINANCIAL

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

Treasurer's
Report For
December 2000

Approve the report of the Treasurer, Mr. Cox, for the month of December 2000.

Treasurer's
Report For
January 2001

Approve the report of the Treasurer, Mr. Cox, for the month of January 2001.

Reports
(Info Only)

All Board members received the January 2001 Revenue and Expenditure Reports for the Cafeteria, General, and Capital Reserve Funds.

General
Fund Bills

Approve payment of General Fund bills for the month of January 2001, as presented.

Technology
Fund Bills

Approve payment of Technology Account bills, as presented.

Construction
Account Bills

Approve payment of Construction Account bills, as presented.

Audit Report
Fiscal Year
Ending
June 30, 2000

Approve the Auditor's Report for Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2000.

Budgetary
Transfers

Approve budgetary transfers to cover purchases for the 2000-2001 school year as presented.

YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green,
Mr. Newhard, Mrs. Sechler, Mr. Fedorcha (9)

NAY: None (0)

**INFORM-
ATION**

All Board members received a copy of the minutes of the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit Board of Directors meeting held on January 18, 2001.

**RECOG-
NITION OF
GUESTS**

Mr. Dan Schantz – Slatington – Congratulated the board on their unanimous choice of Dr. Sham for Superintendent of Schools, stating "Dr. Sham has done a lot for this district".

Douglas Keichel – Slatington – Representing Northern Lehigh Youth Athletic Association. Asked if the board had any questions for him regarding the soccer program.

**ADJOURN-
MENT**

Motion made by Mr. Dorshimer, with a second made by Mr. Cox, that the regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh Board of Education be adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green,
Mr. Newhard, Mrs. Sechler, Mr. Fedorcha (9)

NAY: None (0)

Respectfully submitted,

Lori H. Geronikos
Secretary

ATTEST: _____ (President)
Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha