

**NORTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Board Minutes**

**Slatington, PA**  
**October 12, 2020**

**PURPOSE** The regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors was called to order virtually, via Google Meet, by the President, Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha, at 7:14 p.m. on Monday, October 12, 2020.

**ROLL CALL** Members present: Mr. Robin T. Distler, Mr. Mathias J. Green, Jr., Mrs. Gale N. Husack, Mr. Robert J. Keegan, Jr., Mrs. Donna M. Kulp, Mrs. Michele L. Martineau, and Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha (7)

Members absent: Mrs. Michelle M. Heckman, Mr. Robert J. Kern, Jr. (2)

Non-members present: Mr. Matthew Link, Dr. Tania Stoker, Mrs. Jill Chamberlain, Mr. Greg Derr, Mrs. Rhonda Frantz, Mr. Bryan Geist, Mr. David Hauser, Ms. Paige Craddock, Mr. Eric Hill, Mrs. Sherri Molioris,  
Mr. Scott Pyne, Mr. James Schnyderite, Atty. Keith Strohl, Mr. Robert Vlasaty, Mr. Aidan Williams

**VISITORS** Approximately one hundred and eighty six visitors viewed the meeting.

**APPROVE MINUTES** Mrs. Martineau made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Distler, that the minutes of the school board meeting held on September 14, 2020, be approved and ordered filed.

Roll call.

YEA: Mr. Distler, Mr. Green, Mrs. Husack, Mr. Keegan, Mrs. Kulp, Mrs. Martineau, and Mr. Fedorcha (7)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: Mrs. Heckman, Mr. Kern (2)

Motion carried.

**SPECIAL BOARD REPORTS**

Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit - Mrs. Husack reported that there wasn't too much at the last meeting. The next meeting will be held next Monday at 6:30 p.m. and as of right now, it will be Zoom. One of the big items talked about was renewing and updating the goals of the organization which had passed. A lot of similar goals from last year to this year. A lot due to the changes of Covid. Some were rolled over from last year due to the shortened year due to Covid. They are on the website if anyone wants to look at them. Two (2) additional updates are in regards to their service presentation. Again, this year, the Children's Foundation and the CLIU rolled out their ESY Bike and Stroller donations to some of our students. A really great event that they do. They support the Carbon and Lehigh areas. There is a presentation that is posted on the website. These are for students who never thought that they could ride a bike or have a stroller that they could go on walks. Please look at the website to see what some of the opportunities that those children now have because of the IU.

Lehigh Career and Technical Institute - Mr. Fedorcha reported that LCTI is functioning much like everyone else on both virtual and hybrid. Things are going well with the programs. There have been a few students who have tested positive for Covid. None of the students were in the buildings for any length of time or any time to infect anyone else at this time. We're very fortunate not to have anything that has really slowed down the educational process. LCTI is going to begin their budgeting process to be able to bring it to other boards.

Legislative Report - No formal report. Mrs. Heckman emailed and commented that the information Mr. Link shared with the board regarding the Governor's new occupancy guidelines was all she would have reported on.

Lehigh Carbon Community College - Mr. Green reported that there was an article in the paper today about how much money a lot of colleges are losing and how far they're behind on the year. While LCCC is certainly down in enrollment, they are not in the same position as a lot of other schools because where they are losing money is on their room and board and cafeteria. LCCC is down about

**SPECIAL  
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(cont.)**

6%, they're not as bad as some of the other colleges and they've been able to adjust their budget sufficiently to make up for that amount.

Committee Reports and/or Meetings

Minutes of the Education/Policy Committee Meeting held on October 5, 2020, were distributed.

Minutes of the Extra and Co-Curricular Committee Meeting held on October 5, 2020, were distributed.

Minutes of the Technology/Buildings & Grounds Committee Meeting held on October 7, 2020, were distributed.

Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on October 7, 2020, were distributed.

Student Representatives to the Board Report

Ms. Paige Craddock reported that Guidance has done an amazing job with putting up the college visits. Right now there is LCCC, Shippensburg, and Moravian that are involved and hopefully more to come soon. Financial Aid Bash/Completion Night is October 19th for parents to log into for any of the students that are college bound. The Homecoming Ceremony was broadcasted on Channel 13 on September 26th. The band started off the ceremony with the National Anthem and the court walked down the 50-yard line as their names were announced. The court consisted of Kristen Guelcher escorted by Charles Wilk, Breanna Hoppes escorted by Joseph Abidelli, Emily Hunsicker escorted by Ryan Hammond, Natalie Keller escorted by Grant Olewine, Alexia Mankos escorted by Caleb Hankee, Ashley Torrens escorted by Evan Zambo, and Julie Wanamaker escorted by Brenden Smay, and Joey Abidelli and Julie Wanamaker were crowned King and Queen by the previous King and Queen, Dale Wanamaker and Madison Amorim. Choir practices start on Monday and the fall play auditions started October 8th. Both choir and theater are run by Mr. Hamm.

Aidan Williams reported that student council will be holding a blood drive this Friday. Due to Covid, there will be a couple of restrictions. It is open to outsiders this year however they are limiting the number of students that will be allowed to be involved, in fact, they may be completely cutting off students altogether. If anyone is able, please donate blood. It's really needed right now. Fall sports started this past month with limited capacity. Games have been well attended with everyone keeping socially distanced and being safe. Currently, varsity football's record is 1-0-2 and their next game is October 23. Girls' varsity soccer current record is 3-3-2 and this Tuesday is their last game which is also their Senior Night. If they tie or win the game, they will be able to go on to Districts. Boys' varsity soccer is 0-0-8 and their last game will be this Tuesday. Girls' varsity field hockey is 7-0-1 and their next game is today.

Solicitor's Report – Atty. Strohl reported on the attendance guidelines being changed. There's some court activity in regards to the restrictions that have come down from the Governor's office and the Board may have heard about it. There was a case, County of Butler vs. Wolf that was decided in the western district of Pennsylvania that had struck down Governor Wolf's prior guidelines that has capped outside gatherings to 250 people. There were some other restrictions that were also overridden in the business closures and some other things. After that court decision the middle of last month, the Governor's office then filed a motion to stay the action until the appeal could be heard at a court of appeals for the third district. The district court of the western district denied the stay but then the Governor's office asked the third circuit court of appeals to enact a stay. So, they have stayed the district court's order which now allows the Governor's restrictions to stay in place. After that happened, the Governor issued new guidelines but the appeal at the third district is still in play. If the Governor's office is not successful in overturning the decision from the western district, then this new guideline may be overturned as well but they could argue that the prior order from the western district is moot because the Governor has issued new guidelines. There's a lot in play here as far as what might come down. We'll keep our eye on it. There's also other federal districts that are fighting the constitutionality of certain restrictions in place in their states as well. If any of those get heard by the Supreme Court, then the Supreme Court decision would overrule anything that comes down from the third district. Right now, what we do know is the Governor's guidelines are still in play but a lot can change. We are keeping our ear to the ground. He's sure PSBA will provide updates as well.

**SPECIAL  
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(cont.)**

Assistant Superintendent - Dr. Stoker reported that we continue to collect educational information and data and adjust our approach within delivery modes to best educate students during this pandemic. On the agenda tonight you will see motions for two platforms Screencastify and EdPuzzle, both for approval for three-year licenses. Teachers can use Screencastify to create videos, narrate slideshows and provide students with a deeper understanding of a topic. EdPuzzle can be used to embed questions like a quiz, notes, audio tracks, or comments on a video. We've used similar products or the free versions for the past several months but some are running out of space or don't have the additional tools needed to engage students. The cost for the licenses for both of these platforms would be free to the District as the cost would come from the ESSER's grant. We ask for your approval on these agenda items this evening so teachers can continue to be creative in engaging students in the hybrid and virtual environments.

Business Manager's Report - No report.

Superintendent's Report – Mr. Link began by thanking the elementary PTO for the painting at Peters on the macadam area of the playground. They painted a flat obstacle course for the children to engage in. Additionally, they donated a picnic table for the staff to enjoy lunch while socially distancing. We appreciate their support as always and their generosity. Mr. Link also thanked the Northern Lehigh Team Sales of 68 gaiters to student athletes in the district at a value of \$434.52. We always appreciate their support as well.

Mr. Link shared his screen to walk through proposed goals for the current school year knowing that a good bit of the work being done last year was interrupted due to the mandated school shutdown. Also, additionally in the achievement and growth areas, a number of state assessments were postponed, delayed and we're trying to re-engage in that work this year. In March, much of the work that we were able to do in last year's annual goals was cut short. You'll see that this year's annual goals in some ways are a continuation or an extension of the work that we were doing last year. The first goal is the achievement and growth goal. School and academic department leadership will continue to utilize student achievement and growth data from state and/or local assessments to determine an area focus and develop an action plan to improve outcomes which are differentiated for all learners. Furthermore, these data will be used to identify and address gaps as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. We know that coming out of last spring and through this fall we're going to have additional work to do to close any gaps that may have previously existed or exacerbated because of the mandated school closures. The data that we receive from the incoming assessments, whether at the local level or the state level will help us make guided decisions to improve instruction moving forward for our students. Professional development, this is much of the work that began at the end of last school year through the summer and even as recently as this morning and this afternoon for our professional development day. We're looking to offer customized professional development based upon the needs of each employee, specific to the grade level and/or department in which they work. Professional development should be responsive to participant need, purposeful, and ongoing. Participants will be provided an opportunity for reflection and feedback. We will enhance professional development with partnership from external consultants and continue to further develop in-house experts for sustainability. At the end of last year and through the summer, we had a number of our teacher leaders step up and really start delivering focused professional development for their colleagues. And, this year we've also partnered with an expert consultant in the area of teaching in an online environment and customizing instruction for students, that's the Institute for Teaching and Learning. They played a large role in our professional development that was delivered this morning and this afternoon. Culture and climate, the district will continue to develop a positive school culture and climate including supporting members of the school community through trauma-informed approaches in a setting that is diverse, equitable and inclusive. Last school year, we began to train-up a team of administrators in the school district in partnership with the United Way and Lehigh University in the area of trauma-informed approaches. Again, unfortunately, a lot of the in-person professional development was cut short in the spring. We have started to re-engage in that it is an online model. We're also looking to extend that into an emphasis on diversity, equity, and inclusiveness for our students and employees as well. In the area of instructional technology, which has always been an important area in what we do, but of course the current environment has really magnified and amplified the need for ongoing professional development in this area. Continue the effective use of instructional technology both inside and outside of the classroom to enhance the education of our

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(cont.)**

students. Technology will be used to strengthen communication, collaboration, problem-solving, and critical thinking skills. District operations, the Northern Lehigh School District will provide high-quality teaching and learning in a safe, healthy, and secure learning environment while offering cost efficient services to all stakeholders. Some of these are going to look similar to last year and that's because administratively, we believe that we have work in these domains so that we can say that we appropriately addressed some of the work that we started last school year.

Mr. Fedorcha commented that certainly one of our goals is to keep school safe and open. Mr. Link commented that our ongoing goal is to keep schools as open as possible and as safe as possible through the fall and into the winter. Mr. Fedorcha thanked Mr. Link and commented I think we're doing a great job.

Mr. Link continued with revisiting a topic with the Board about a parent committee request. We had a parent participate in some of our previous school board meetings as well as some committee level meetings. And, that parent, that has children at several different building levels within the school district, is requesting that we develop a venue or potentially another committee for parents to come and share concerns specific to the current teaching and learning environment triggered by the pandemic. A place for parents to go with legitimate concerns or ways to solve common problems when it comes to the lack of standardization in communication platforms, expectations for virtual learning assignments across grades, and so on. Throughout the beginning of the school year, this parent has noted that much of the focus has been given to the safety within our buildings and lunches. Both of which are important factors for the well-being of our students. Unfortunately, this parent believes that there's been little focus on the quality of education in the hybrid and the full virtual modes or the success of the actual learning at home. He is asking that the Board consider adding to the agenda for this meeting the possibility of forming a committee to help parents better understand curriculum, streamline communication platforms between teachers and parents, clarify regulations and expectations across grades, and assist parents in problem solving these areas to come up with solutions that can be implemented in the long-term. Mr. Link turned the topic back to the school board and asked for direction on whether any of the school board members would like to make a motion to develop such a committee moving forward.

Mr. Fedorcha commented that he believes that the school board itself as well as the district has a number of committees that can address all those concerns and at all those committees that parents and members of the public can be part of those meetings. If they have specific concerns about the quality or whatever else of the education of their child within a school building, they also have the opportunity to speak to a principal. Mr. Link added that other venues would include always starting with the teacher or the building principal or potentially school counselor. We also offer the Education/Policy committee or the Community Relations committee which could potentially also be appropriate venues. Starting with the direct conversation with the building principal as well. At our elementary buildings we have the PTO groups which Mr. Schnyderite or Mr. Pyne could speak to. At the secondary buildings we also have opportunities for parents to engage directly with the building leadership teams as well. Mr. Fedorcha commented that on behalf of the Board, unless the board has any other decisions to make differently, that he does not see, at this time, a need for an additional board committee to be formed for those issues that we do have vehicles within our system that can be asked and answered for those questions that parents may have. Mr. Distler commented that he agreed with Mr. Fedorcha. We do have other channels and communication relevant to the students by the parents through the buildings. Mr. Keegan commented that as a grandfather of a Kindergartener and listening to some Kindergarten parents, he thinks that one of the things we need to do is focus on the newest parents in our district. What he's hearing is that our programs are content-rich, which is a credit to the school district, but sometimes the ability to maneuver between the platforms and get to the instruction is difficult particularly for the newest parents and with the grandparents who are helping out in the pinch. There are a lot of grandparents out there that are not tech savvy and sometimes it's very difficult and causes a little crying and angst on the homefront when we're trying to get the work done. He thinks we need to be able to address the newest parents in the district for next year and for this year and be cognizant of their needs and also all the grandparents that are out there pinch hitting for the parents who go to work. Mr. Link asked Dr. Stoker or Mr. Schnyderite to speak to some of the feedback we've also received in our most recent parent survey. Those conversations have already started at the primary grade level. Dr. Stoker commented that they are holding monthly meetings, which are now virtual, for our parents that are in our

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(cont.)**

elementary buildings. Those are Title I school-wide plan meetings but they're open to any parents that want to discuss academics or pretty much anything that goes on in the buildings. They take all sorts of questions ahead of time and make sure they have answers for them. Or, if people show up to the meetings on the spot, there's always a forum for discussion. I would invite that parent or any parents or grandparents to certainly participate in those monthly meetings. They're really good discussions between the administration and the parents that come to those meetings. There's a lot of action that takes place as a result of that. Mr. Schnyderite commented that it is one of the things that came up in the recent survey. He would encourage parents to reach out to him or the classroom teacher. He realizes that grandparents are a lot of times at home working with kids. He created a nine-minute video with one for Kindergarten, one for first grade and one for second grade, that takes you from the beginning like, open up the Chromebook; push this button; click here. It's a sequential step from the beginning of logging the child in to going next to how to log into Clever, which is a simple one-button click to here's where the work is in Google Classroom. A lot of teachers have been working with parents on this and sharing out those videos. He can also look at putting the videos online. Mr. Pyne and Mr. Schnyderite have an elementary school family engagement meeting coming up next Tuesday. Families have the ability to pose a question, suggestion or idea and we create an agenda and have a chance to discuss it in our first one of year and the first ever, virtual one will be this upcoming Tuesday. Mr. Keegan suggested that the Board get a demonstration in a board meeting on how it's maneuvered so they can see what parents see.

Executive Session Mr. Fedorcha reported that an executive session was held virtually prior to tonight's meeting to discuss personnel items.

**PERSONNEL** Mr. Green made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Keegan that the Board of Education approves the following personnel items:

Appointment Instructional	Melissa Bowers* Assignment: Salary:  Effective:  <b>*Pending Verification of Missing Personnel File Items</b>	Professional Employee Elementary Special Education Teacher \$63,275 (Step 8M+24 Masters on the 2020-2021 CBA Salary Schedule) Upon release from current employer
	Mark McDermott Assignment: Salary:  Effective: Termination Date:  <b>*Pending Verification of Missing Personnel File Items</b>	Long Term Substitute Slatington Elementary 5th Grade Teacher Substitute Teacher Rate Days 1-30; Day 31 and beyond: \$50,750 (Step 1 Bachelors on the 2020-2021 CBA Salary Schedule) September 30, 2020 Upon return of full time teacher
Appointment Non- Instructional	Stuart Henritz* Assignment: Salary: Effective:  <b>*60 Working Day Probationary Period</b>	Administrative Assistant to the Director of Support Services \$30,750.00 (prorated) per year September 28, 2020
	Tracey Williams* Assignment: Salary: Effective:  <b>*60 Working Day Probationary Period</b>	Administrative Assistant to the Director of Special Education \$30,750.00 (prorated) per year September 28, 2020
	David Jones* Assignment:	Full-time School Police Officer (SPO)



**PERSONNEL**  
**(cont.)**

Salary: \$21.00/hour for the 2020-2021 school year  
(grant funded)  
Effective: October 13, 2020

\*60 Working Day Probationary Period  
\*Pending Verification of Missing Personnel File Items

Jennifer Bittenbender\*

Assignment: Paraprofessional  
Salary: \$15.00/hour for the 2020-2021 school year  
Effective: October 13, 2020

\*60 Working Day Probationary Period  
\*Pending Verification of Missing Personnel File Items

Holly Rainey\*

Assignment: Cafeteria Paraprofessional  
Salary: \$13.47/hour for the 2020-2021 school year  
Effective: October 19, 2020

\*60 Working Day Probationary Period  
\*Pending Verification of Missing Personnel File Items

## Resignation

V. Marks Accept the resignation of Valerie Marks from her position as permanent substitute teacher, effective September 28, 2020.

A. Wechsler Accept the resignation of Alyssia Wechsler from her position as Middle School Half Time Family Consumer Science Teacher, effective the end of the school day September 25, 2020.

S. Pender Accept the resignation of Shelly Pender from her position as High School Office Paraprofessional, effective September 29, 2020.

S. Henritz Accept the resignation of Stuart Henritz from his position as Administrative Assistant to the Director of Support Services, effective October 2, 2020.

Family Medical Leave Approve the request of employee #7092 to take a family medical leave of absence beginning December 7, 2020, for the birth of a child. Employee is requesting to use accumulated sick days. Upon exhaustion of sick days employee is requesting a four weeks of family medical leave. Employee plans to return to her position upon release from her physician, on or about March 2, 2021.

Salary Adjustment Acknowledge the following teacher who has completed the requirements per the Collective Bargaining Agreement that would entitle them to a salary increase for the 2020-2021 school year:

Michael Lehtonen  
From: Step 17M  
To: Step 17M+24

Co-Curricular Appointments 2020-2021	Ryan Cunningham	Assistant Boys' Basketball Coach (JH)	\$5,136.00
	Bradley Huebner	Assistant Boys' Basketball Coach	\$5,136.00

Co-Curricular Change of Status Approve the motion to change the status of Marijo Whalen, Assistant Girls' Basketball Coach - Shared stipend - \$2,568.00, which was originally approved at the September 14, 2020, board meeting, to Assistant Girls' Basketball Coach - \$5,136.00 for the 2020-2021 school year.

**PERSONNEL**

**(cont.)**

Co-Curricular Renewals Motion to renew the appointment of the following Co-Curricular position for the 2020-2021 school year:

Jacob Schneck Assistant Boys' Basketball Coach (MS) \$5,034.00

Game Workers 2020-2021 Motion to appoint the following individuals as a Game Worker for the 2020-2021 school year. Game workers consist of ticket sellers and takers, game announcers, scoreboard operators, timers, field judges and scorekeepers. Rate of pay is consistent with the rates Workers approved on the 2020-2021 Supplemental Personnel Salary Schedule:

Stephen Haas  
Megan Farkas

Co-Curricular Volunteers 2020-2021 Devon Glose Assistant Boys' Basketball Coach  
Janelle Morales Assistant Girls' Basketball Coach  
Zandra Whalen Assistant Girls' Basketball Coach

Substitute Instructional Motion to renew the appointment of the following substitute teachers for the 2020-2021 school year at the 2020-2021 substitute teacher rates as approved on the Supplemental Personnel Salary Schedule:

Carley Andrejack - Emergency Certified  
Ricky Guth - Citizenship  
Dawn Kemery - PK-4

Substitute Non-Instructional Motion to renew the appointment of the following individuals as a substitute custodian for the 2020-2021 school year at the 2020-2021 substitute rate as approved on the Supplemental Personnel Salary Schedule:

Gicela Gonzalez

Motion to renew the appointment of the following individuals as a substitute paraprofessional for the 2020-2021 school year at the 2020-2021 substitute rate as approved on the Supplemental Personnel Salary Schedule:

Carley Andrejack  
Shelly Pender

Permanent Substitute Approve the following individual as District Wide permanent substitute teacher for the 2020-2021 school year. He will be paid a daily per diem rate of \$120 and will receive district health benefits according to the Affordable Care Act regulations with co-payment amounts equivalent to that of district personnel.

Frank Damian

Roll call.

YEA: Mr. Green, Mrs. Husack, Mr. Keegan, Mrs. Kulp, Mrs. Martineau, Mr. Distler, and Mr. Fedorcha (7)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: Mrs. Heckman, Mr. Kern (2)

Motion carried.

**POLICY**

Mr. Keegan made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Green that the Board of Education approves the following policy items:

Board Policy First Reading Approve school board policy #103 – Programs - Discrimination/Title IX Sexual Harassment Affecting Students, as presented after first reading.

Approve school board policy #104 – Programs - Discrimination/Title IX Sexual Harassment Affecting Staff, as presented after first reading.

Approve school board policy #247– Pupils - Hazing, as presented after first reading.

Approve school board policy #249– Pupils - Bullying/Cyberbullying, as presented after first reading.

Approve school board policy #317.1– Employees - Educator Misconduct, as presented after first reading.

Approve school board policy #824 – Operations - Maintaining Professional Adult/Student Boundaries, as presented after first reading.

Board Policy Second Reading Approve school board policy #308 – Employees - Employment Contract/Board Resolution, as presented after second reading.

Approve school board policy #146.1 - Programs - Trauma Informed Approach, as presented after second reading.

Roll call.

YEA: Mrs. Husack, Mr. Keegan, Mrs. Kulp, Mrs. Martineau, Mr. Distler, Mr. Green, and Mr. Fedorcha (7)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: Mrs. Heckman, Mr. Kern (2)

Motion carried.

**CURRICULUM AND IN-STRUCTION**

Student Agreement Whitehall-Coplay

Mrs. Kulp made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Martineau that the Board of Education approves the following curriculum and instruction item:

Approve to authorize proper officials to enter into an agreement between the Northern Lehigh School District and Whitehall-Coplay School District for the purpose of furnishing a Life Skills Support Program for the student #2090080 for the 2020-2021 school year.

Roll call.

YEA: Mrs. Husack, Mr. Keegan, Mrs. Kulp, Mrs. Martineau, Mr. Distler, Mr. Green, and Mr. Fedorcha (7)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: Mrs. Heckman, Mr. Kern (2)

Motion carried.



**NEW  
BUSINESS**

Mr. Distler made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Keegan that the Board of Education approves the following new business item:

2020-2021  
NLSD Goals Approve the Northern Lehigh School District Goals for the 2020-2021 school year as presented in the Superintendent's Report.

Roll call.

YEA: Mr. Keegan, Mrs. Kulp, Mrs. Martineau, Mr. Distler, Mr. Green, Mrs. Husack, and Mr. Fedorcha (7)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: Mrs. Heckman, Mr. Kern (2)

Motion carried.

**FINANCIAL**

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

List of  
Reports

Approve the Following Financial Reports:  
General Fund Account months of July and August, 2020 (Unaudited)  
NLMS Student Activities Account month of July 2020 (Unaudited)  
NLHS Student Activities Account month of July 2020 (Unaudited)

List of  
Bills

Approve the Following List of Bills:  
General Fund months of September & October, 2020  
Cafeteria Fund months of September & October, 2020

Per Capita  
Abatement/  
Exoneration

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

Public Library  
the Donation

Approve to release the \$5,000.00 donation to the Slatington Public Library that is budgeted in 2020-2021 school year.

Portnoff  
Law  
Resolution

RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves the addendum to the agreement with Portnoff Associates, Ltd. to be the delinquent real estate tax collector for the 2021 tax year.

Statewide  
Tax Recovery

Approve the appointment of Statewide Tax Recovery as the delinquent per capita tax collector for the 2021 tax year.

Halo Fogger  
Purchase

As per the recommendation from the Technology/Buildings and Grounds Committee, approve the purchase of five (5) Halo Fogger machines and HaloMist disinfectant at a cost of \$42,255.00, funding through the PCCD-COVID Grant.

New Holland  
Tractor  
Purchase

As per the recommendation from the Technology/Buildings and Grounds Committee, approve the purchase of a New Holland Tractor with snow plow at a cost of \$12,580.00, funding through the Building and Grounds Budget.

Screencastify  
Purchase

Motion to approve the purchase of a 3-year licence (2020-2021, 2021-2022, 2022-2023) of Screencastify, a Chrome browser extension used to create videos, at a total cost of \$18,900.00 to be paid out of the ESSER Grant.

EdPuzzle  
Purchase

Motion to approve the purchase of a 3-year licence (2020-2021, 2021-2022, 2022-2023) of EdPuzzle, a web-based formative assessment tool, at a total cost of \$13,200 to be paid out of the ESSER Grant.

**FINANCIAL**  
**(cont.)**Neffs Bank  
Authorization

Authorize the following financial institution to act as an approved depository for school district funds and/or temporary investments. The Northern Lehigh School Board further authorizes the following financial institution to transfer funds on deposit to any other bank for the credit of the Northern Lehigh School District. The Board further authorizes the Business Manager and/or Superintendent to enter into agreements, supplements or amendments to agreements to implement the foregoing operations for the 2020-2021 school year.

Neffs National Bank

IDEA Part B  
Section 611

Approve the Use of Funds Agreement with CLIU #21 for IDEA Part B, Section 611 pass through funds for the 2020-2021 school year in the amount of \$292,074.54.

Roll call.

YEA: Mrs. Kulp, Mrs. Martineau, Mr. Distler, Mr. Green, Mrs. Husack, Mr. Keegan  
and Mr. Fedorcha (7)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: Mrs. Heckman, Mr. Kern (2)

Motion carried.

**CORRES-**  
**PONDENCE**

Acknowledge PlanCon K was accepted as per the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE).

**INFOR-**  
**MATION**

Minutes of the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit 21 Board of Directors meetings held on August 17, 2020, were distributed..

Minutes of the Lehigh Carbon Community College Board of Trustees meeting held on September 3, 2020, were distributed.

Minutes of the Lehigh Career & Technical Institute Joint Operating Committee meeting held on August 26, 2020, were distributed.

Mr. Green commented that there was some discussion on Mr. Link writing a letter to the Borough of Slatington suggesting that they continue with the funding of the recreation center. There is no motion needed but he wanted to be on record saying he applauds Mr. Link for doing that, thank you very much. As a board member, he supports it and he hopes that the municipalities can get together and keep the center moving forward. Mr. Fedorcha commented that the meeting is this evening. He thanked Mr. Link for doing the letter. We work well with the recreation committee group and we need it basically because there's nothing for our children to do in the summertime. Through them, we are in correspondence and working together with them to offer summer programs. Mr. Link agreed with Mr. Fedorcha. We have a great community partnership with Northern Lehigh Recreation. It's mutually beneficial for our students, for their families. It's not just programs for children that they offer, it's for residents of all ages. It's a mutually beneficial partnership and he hopes that they're able to stay in existence.

**RECOG-**  
**NITION OF**  
**GUESTS**

Mr. Fedorcha asked Mr. Hill if there were any comments or questions from guests.

Mr. Hill read a few questions. Andreas Hassold asked when are we looking to assess a possible 5-day school week in person. Ashley King asked what is the plan for the second marking period as we are closely approaching it.

**RECOGNITION OF GUESTS**  
**(cont.)**

Mr. Link responded that we're still currently following guidance coming down from PDE and the Department of Health based on the county level of transmission per 1,000 residents. Lehigh County and Northampton County, which is a small fragment of our overall district footprint, are both still well within what is considered the moderate level of transmission. He believes Lehigh County is at about 45 people per thousand residents testing positive. The range is anywhere from 10 and 100, so we're almost in the middle of that range. The recommended modality for the moderate level of transmission is to stay in the hybrid or blended level. We do have about three (3) weeks, plus or minus, until the change into the second quarter. It's a little bit early for us to say either way right now. We need to monitor it through the next week or two. But, if nothing changes, and seeing the success that we had with mitigating the impact of Covid-19 within our buildings, if he had to make a recommendation to the school board this evening, he would recommend that we stayed the course of what we are currently doing. He does believe it's a little early to make the final decision on that moving into the second quarter yet.

Mr. Green asked Mr. Link if he needed a motion from the board to go beyond the first semester on that or did our motion grant you the ability to make that decision based on state levels or was the motion just for the first marking period?

Mr. Link responded that the initial motion was at least through the first marking period and within the health and safety plan he had been granted the authority to make those decisions to adjust as we need to move forward. Of course, he would do that with consultation from the Department of Health, monitoring the local levels of transmission here, and in communication with the school board.

Mrs. Martineau asked for clarification. The board has had some discussions and also through the media. Is she correct that it's still true that Northern Lehigh is clear of any infections in our buildings while our neighboring, sister schools have all had to close various classrooms or clubs for infection rates?

Mr. Link responded that Northern Lehigh and all our partner school districts around the Lehigh Valley are working very hard to do all they can to mitigate the transmission of Covid-19 within the school buildings. Unfortunately, some of them had to either close school buildings or quarantine teams or classrooms. We have not yet had to do that. We have not had any exposure within our school buildings as of 8:01 p.m. on October 12. It's a very dynamic situation, very fluid situation. We continue to monitor it and do all we can to put safeguards in place. We are being very strict with implementing our safeguards and so far we've had a great deal of success with that. Our school nurses, our teachers, our building principals have been very helpful in communicating up to central office when they have questions. He has a direct line to the Department of Health. They usually respond in less than an hour when we have questions or concerns. We've been following their guidance as well. Quite honestly, the large bulk of the workload has been done by our families. Really doing what they need to do to monitor their children's symptoms, monitoring their own symptoms and communicating directly with the school nurses and building principals so we can make informed decisions.

Mrs. Martineau responded that she appreciates everybody in the community, the schools, the administration, the parents, the kids for fighting the good fight and she hopes it stays this way.

Mr. Hill read one more comment. What is the attendance policy going to be for indoor sports and if there is no final decision yet as to who can attend, how are we going to determine the need for volunteers?

Mr. Link responded that currently, we continue to monitor the situation as it relates to transmission within the county. We have our guidance from the Governor's office, the current guidance as it's going through appeal, as far as the percentage of the total occupancy that is allowed in buildings and indoor gatherings. That does include the

**RECOGNITION OF GUESTS (cont.)**

student athletes, any officials, coaches, trainers and administration that would be there as well. Mr. Geist and he are in communication almost daily. It's almost like we touch base four or five times a week on trying to make a decision for the winter sports and we're just not there yet. Mr. Geist added that discussions in the Colonial League, winter sports have not even come to the forefront. We're still trying to make our way through the fall sports and also try to determine capacity limits in our indoor venues.

Mr. Fedorcha thanked everyone who joined the meeting tonight and thanked the board and wished everybody to stay safe and stay well until the next meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mrs. Husack made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Distler, that the regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh School District Board of School Directors is adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Roll call.

YEA: Mrs. Kulp, Mrs. Martineau, Mr. Distler, Mr. Green, Mrs. Husack, Mr. Keegan, and Mr. Fedorcha (8)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: Mrs. Heckman, Mr. Kern (2)

Motion carried.

Mr. Fedorcha wished a happy birthday to one of our finest teachers we've ever had, Mrs. Edith Rader turned 100 years old.

Respectfully submitted,

Gale N. Husack  
Secretary

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_ President  
Gary S. Fedorcha