

NORTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board Minutes

Slatington, PA
May 13, 2002

PURPOSE The regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors was called to order by the President, Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha, at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, May 13, 2002 in the Slatington Elementary School gymnasium.

ROLL CALL Members present: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Fedorcha (8)

Members absent: Mr. Newhard (1)

Non-members present: Dr. Nicholas P. Sham, Sr., Mrs. Lynne B. Fedorcha, Dr. Linda Marcincin, Mrs. Karen Nicholas, Mr. John Hrizuk, Mr. Jeffrey Bachman, Mr. David Papay, Mr. Robert Mack, Mr. Brian Geiger, Mr. Bernard Rockovich, Ms. Laurie Newman, Ms. Pamela Grammes, Mr. Nichlolas Sander, Mrs. Doneta J. Merkle

VISITORS Approximately 85 visitors attended the meeting, in addition to Elizabeth Bartolai, reporter for The Morning Call, and Blue Ridge Cable TV 13.

APPROVE MINUTES A motion was made by Mr. Dorshimer, with a second by Mrs. Geronikos, that the minutes of the regular school board meeting held on April 1, 2002, the regular school board meeting held on April 8, 2002, and the special school board meeting held on April 29, 2002 be approved and ordered filed after making the following correction:

Page 6 of the April 8, 2002 minutes, under Information, second paragraph, line one, the special school board meeting date should be changed from May 29, 2002 to April 29, 2002.

YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos,
Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Fedorcha (8)

NAY: None (0)

SPECIAL BOARD REPORTS Lehigh Career & Technical Institute -- Mrs. Sheryl A. Giles
Mrs. Giles gave her report of the LCTI Joint Operating Committee meeting held on April 24, 2002.

Dr. Clyde Hornberger, Director of the Lehigh Career & Technical Institute, presented an overview of the LCTI 2002-2003 budget.

Committee Reports and/or Meetings All board members received copies of the minutes of the Technology/Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting held on May 1, 2002.

Student Representatives To The Board Report -- Ms. Pamela Grammes and Mr. Nicholas Sander gave a report to the board highlighting many activities occurring at the senior high school.

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

Dr. Sham introduced two Slatington Elementary Students who attained some recognition:

1. Cortney Blocker – 2002 Lehigh Valley PBS Young Writer's & Illustrators Contest Honorable Mention Winner who read her story "The Mystery of Rebecca's Lost Blanket" for the board.
2. Jordan Herzog – Read her poem entitled "Sunflower" which was published in the Anthology of Poetry for Young Americans.

Mr. Jason Graver and two Junior National Honor Society students invited the board to a dedication ceremony of their project, which is to erect a war memorial in front of the middle school.

Dr. Sham introduced Mr. Barry Brobst, from The Architectural Studio, who made a presentation based upon the re-roofing of the middle school roof and change orders that relate to the re-roofing of middle school roof.

Executive Session An Executive Session was held at 6:30 p.m. preceding the meeting and again after the meeting for personnel issues.

PERSONNEL A motion was made by Mrs. Escott, which was seconded by Mrs. Giles, that the Board of Education approve the following personnel items:

Appointment Robin L. Schultz*
Non-Instructional Assignment: New Position
One-on-One Special Education Aide in the Peters Elementary School
Salary: \$8.64 Per Hour/6 ½ Hours Per Day/5 Days Per Week
Effective Date: April 26, 2002
*60-Day Probationary Period

Resignations- Accept the resignation of Kim Rohrbach from her position as high school mathematics teacher in the
Instructional- district, effective August 31, 2002. She has accepted a position in another school district.
Kim Rohrbach

John Posegay Accept the resignation of John Posegay from his position as special education teacher in
Retirement the senior high school. Effective June 17, 2002, which at the present time is the last
teacher day of the 2001-2002 school year, Mr. Posegay will be retiring from Northern Lehigh
School District after teaching in the district for 35 years.

Substitutes- Approve to employ the following substitute teacher for the 2001-2002 school year at the
Instructional substitute teacher rates of \$70.00 for 1-10 non-consecutive days; \$80.00 for 11-20 non-consecutive
days; \$90.00 for 21+ non-consecutive days:

Allison Kuntz – Elementary
Kyle Yanders – Elementary

Co-Curricular Appointment for 2001-2002

Lana Schmidt – German Exchange Club Advisor -- \$682.00
(This appointment is retroactive to September 14, 2001. Lana was hired to replace Victoria Burse as a
foreign language teacher and has been carrying out the duties of German Club Advisor since that time.
Victoria's resignation from her teaching position in the district was effective 9-14-01).

YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos,
Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Fedorcha (8)

NAY: None (0)

POLICY A motion was made by Mr. Dorshimer, with a second made by Mrs. Ganser, that the Board of
Education approve the following items listed under Policy:

NLMS Approve the Northern Lehigh Middle School Student Activities Account Fund Statement for the
Student Act. month of April 2002.
Fund Statement

NLHS Approve the Northern Lehigh High School Student Activities Account Fund Statement for the
Student Act. month of April 2002.
Fund Statement

Student Representatives 2002-2003 Approve Amberly Gable as a Student Representative to the Board for the 2002-2003 school year. Amberly has been elected as the junior representative to the board and will serve from September 2002 through June 2003. Nicholas Sander will continue to serve as the senior representative to the board until June 2003.

POLICY (Con't.)

Non-Resident Student Attendance Approve to permit a middle school student, whose parents have moved from the Northern Lehigh School District, to remain in attendance for the duration of this school term in accordance with School Board Policy #202.

Summer Band Camp Approve a tuition fee of \$25.00 per student for a six-week elementary summer band program and also approve a stipend of \$900.00 for summer band program director Terry Jenkins for the summer of 2002.

Homebound Instruction Grant homebound instruction for a 12th grade student, Student No. 02-45050, for five hours per week for approximately 4-6 weeks beginning sometime on or about May 16, 2002.

YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos,
Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Fedorcha (8)

NAY: None (0)

FINANCIAL

A motion was made by Mr. Cox, with a second made by Mr. Dorshimer, that the Board of Education approve the following financial items:

Treasurer's Report Approve the report of the Treasurer, Mr. Cox, as presented for the month of April 2002.

Reports (Info Only) All board members received the April 2002 Expenditure Reports for the Cafeteria, General and Capital Reserve Funds. Approve the Cafeteria Reports for the month of April 2002. (Information Only)

Award Bids Approve the awarding of bids for general supplies, art supplies, lumber supplies, and industrial arts supplies.

YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos,
Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Fedorcha (8)

NAY: None (0)

Lehigh Career and Technical Institute 2003-2004 Budget A motion was made by Mrs. Giles, with a second made by Mrs. Geronikos, that the Board of Education approve the Lehigh Career and Technical Institute budget for the 2002-2003 school year totaling \$13,295,780, an increase of \$1,281,980 or 10.67% over the 2001-2002 budget amounts. Northern Lehigh School District's share of the 2002-2003 budget is \$633,511.57, an increase of \$63,490.53 or 11.13 % more than the previous year.

It is also recommended that the Board of Education approve an additional \$3000.00 expenditure for the Public Relations Consortium at the Lehigh Career and Technical Institute. This figure is not included in our Member District Cost Calculation figures in the budget document.

YEA: Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos,
Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Fedorcha (7)

NAY: None (0)

ABSTAIN: Mr. Cox (1)

Election Of Treasurer 2002-2003 Fiscal Year A motion was made by Mrs. Escott, with a second made by Mrs. Geronikos, that the Board of Education elect Mr. Robert J. Cox as Treasurer for the 2002-3003 fiscal year, as required by Section 404 of the Pennsylvania School Code of 1949, as amended. There is no stipend attached to this position.

YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos,
Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Fedorcha (8)
NAY: None (0)

FINANCIAL (Con't.)

A motion was made by Mr. Green, with a second by Mrs. Geronikos, that the Board of Education approve the following financial items:

Award Bid To Re-Roof Middle School Approve to award the bid to Atlantic Roofing Corp as the contractor for the re-roofing of the Northern Lehigh Middle School in the amount of \$616,000.00, based upon the bid documents of April 22, 2002, and addendum to the bid specifications dated May 2, 2002. This approval is contingent upon Atlantic Roofing Corp. supplying the proper documentation upon Notice of Intent.

Change Order G-3, P-1 and H-1 For Middle School Approve change orders G-3 in the amount of \$43,456.00 for Hollenbach Construction, Inc., P-1 in the amount of \$15,994.00 for JBM Plumbing, Inc., and H-1 in the amount of \$8446.00 for JBM Plumbing, Inc. and enter into contract for these change orders upon approval of Pennsylvania Department of Education PLANCON I.

YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos,
Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Fedorcha (8)
NAY: None (0)

RECOGNITION OF GUESTS

Jim Curry – High School Senior – read a letter asking the board to consider making Mr. Papay the permanent high school principal and listed his reasons for making this statement.

Brandon Lucien – High School Senior – Asked the board to appoint Mr. Papay to the position of high school principal and keep Mr. Kern as Dean of Students in the high school and read a list of reasons why.

Ted Kistler – Slatington – Retired Chief of Police in the Borough of Slatington who was closely involved with the school during his 32 years of service on the Police Department. He worked many administrators and teachers over the years. He also worked with Mr. Papay who he feels ranks among the best. He is a very conscientious person with regards to the school and his job and his students. Consider keeping him on as Principal and hire another assistant to help him.

Natalie Green – Presented the board with a petition signed by almost 750 taxpayers, citizens, and students of the community. She stated that this petition shows that Mr. Papay has won the support of our community. Why look for a principal through the interview process? This is a waste of our time when the best person for the job has already performed the duties necessary numerous times.

Kelly Papay – What other qualifications are you looking for that Mr. Papay, her father, does not have?

Jessica Nonnemaker – Middle School Student – Read a letter in support of Mr. Papay as high school principal stating he cares for the well-being of the students.

Patricia Nonnemaker – Washington Township -- Why entertain applicants for high school principal for the third time. Why not appoint Mr. Papay to the position and make him high school principal for his dedication and public support.

Michelle Lucien – Slatington – A long time resident of the community and graduate of Slatington High School. She has observed many problems as a result of school districts bringing someone into the district from outside the community. Why not hire someone from within who knows the workings of our school district and has a relationship with, and support of, the community.

RECESS

President Fedorcha called for a short recess at 9:20 p.m. The board reconvened at 9:30 p.m.

BUDGET DISCUSSION

Dr. Sham brought everyone up to date from the last school board meeting and reviewed a prioritized list of cuts that the administration generated for the board to reduce the budget by one mill and by two mills and what those reductions would mean to the school district.

Mr. Dorshimer wanted to go on record that the reason he was not at the special school board meeting, held on April 29, 2002, when the tentative budget was adopted, was because he was on a vacation that had been planned since January. He stated that he had informed the board that he would not be available for that meeting. He also cited his exemplary attendance record at board meetings over the past ten years.

Brandon Lucien – Slatington – Stated disagreement with several of the cuts the administration presented to the board.

Elizabeth Buresh – She questioned various items on several pages in the preliminary budget. She also asked if the board and administration would consider forming a Task Force of teachers, administrators, and community members to look at the reconfiguration of the elementary schools.

Steve Bandzi – Washington Township – Is there money appropriated to hire a new principal?

Janet Peck – Washington Township – She had a question about the reconfiguration of the elementary schools. Did the administration and board consider changing the strategic plan?

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Dorshimer, with a second made by Mr. Cox, that the regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors be adjourned at 9:45 p.m..

YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos,
Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Fedorcha (8)
NAY: None (0)

Respectfully submitted,

Jane J. Escott
Secretary

ATTEST: _____ President
Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha