

NORTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

**Board Minutes
Slatington, PA
October 11, 2004**

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 7:31 p.m. on Monday, October 11, 2004 in boardroom located in the Slatington Elementary School.

ROLL CALL Members present: Mr. Franklin 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, Sr., Mrs. Lynne Fedorcha, Mr. Philip Bertolino, Dr. Linda Marcincin, Mrs. Karen Nicholas, Mr. John Hrizuk, Mr. Robert Mack, Mr. Brian Geiger, Ms. Christine Stafford, Mr. Jeffrey Bachman, Ms. Laurie Newman-Mankos, Ms. Ashley Kunkle, Ms. Jessica Fidler, and Mrs. Doneta Merkle

VISITORS In addition to Sharon Minnich, reporter for the Times News and Terry Ahner, reporter for The Chronicle, approximately 5 visitors attended the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEM Mrs. Donna Kulp reserved the right to comment on any agenda item.

APPROVE MINUTES A motion was made by Mr. Dorshimer, with a second made by Mr. Beers, that the minutes of the regular school board meeting held on September 7, 2004, and the regular school board meeting held on September 13, 2004 be approved and ordered filed.

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

NAY: None (0)

SPECIAL BOARD REPORTS Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit -- Mr. Bryan C. Dorshimer
Mr. Dorshimer announced that one of the technology directors at the CLIU was asked to participate at the state level; however, he did not accept the invitation because of the responsibilities he has at the CLIU.

Legislative Report -- Mrs. Lori H. Geronikos
Mrs. Geronikos announced that she would be attending the PSBA Fall County Legislative meeting in November.

Committee Reports and/or Meetings
All board members received a copy of the minutes of the Technology/Buildings & Grounds Committee meeting held on October 6, 2004.

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

Federal and Other Programs -- Mrs. Lynne B. Fedorcha

Mrs. Fedorcha distributed a chart for free and reduced lunch with the current information for 2004-2005 along with information for 2003-2004 for comparison. This chart shows the equal distribution between the elementary buildings thus affording both Slatington and Peters Elementary school the ability to offer Title I services.

Mrs. Fedorcha introduced Mrs. Michelle Raber who presented the board with a plaque the district received from the American Red Cross in recognition of the district's partnership with the American Red Cross of the Greater Lehigh Valley to enhance the ability of our employees and students to prevent, prepare for, and respond to, emergencies by providing quality health and safety training in the form of CPR programs the district has been offering.

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

Dr. Sham explained the Individual Administrative Goals and informed the board that he approved them for the 2004-2005 school year.

Dr. Sham discussed information that he distributed to board members about an Act 72 proposal to provide support services to CLIU school districts to aid them in working through various aspects of Act 72.

Mr. Cox made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Geronikos that the Northern Lehigh School District Board of Education approves to become part of a consortium group of CLIU 21 school districts to engage PFM to provide services in regard to Act 72 at a cost of \$15,000.

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

NAY: None (0)

Dr. Sham informed the board that he received a request from a Walnutport resident who lives 1.8 miles from the middle school according to district calculations. This individual is requesting transportation for his child. Notification was also received from a doctor, not a doctor's request, that the child has some asthmatic difficulties, however, there is no indication that the child needs transportation. Dr. Sham felt that the district needs to follow their policy with regard to this request as presented.

Film Club

Mr. Cox made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Beers, that the Board of Education approves the request of the senior high school to create a film appreciation club as presented. The club would be completely self-funded and the advisor is volunteering his services. The club will meet one a month.

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

NAY: None (0)

Executive Session

An Executive Session was held at 6:00 p.m. in the Superintendent's Office for personnel items and possible legal issues.

PERSONNEL

A motion was made by Mrs. Fullas, with a second made by Mrs. Geronikos, that the Board of Education approves the following items listed under Personnel:

Appointments
Non-Instruct-
Ional

Jo Leigh Sponsler

Assignment:

Personal Care Assistant

Primary Life Skills Support Classroom

New Position – Peters Elementary School IDEA Funded

Salary:

\$9.17 – Step 0 on the 2004-2005 Educational Support Staff Salary Schedule

Effective Date:

October 12, 2004

PERSONNEL (Con't.)

Administrative Angela Schoenberger

Transfer From: Lunchroom Aide in the senior high school
 To: Study Hall Monitor in the senior high school,
 replacing Robin Miller
 Salary: \$9.17 Per Hour (Step 0 on the 2004-2005 Educational
 Support Staff Hourly Rate Schedule)
 6 ½ Hours Per Day/5 Days Per Week
 Effective Date: October 12, 2004

Leave Of Absence Approve the request of Tara Balliet, Slatington Elementary sixth grade teacher, to take a leave of absence using her sick days beginning September 14, 2004.

FMLA/Unpaid Upon exhaustion of her sick days, Tara Balliet has submitted a request to take a 12-week
 Unpaid Child Family Medical Leave of absence with an unpaid child rearing leave until the end of the
 Rearing Leave second marking period of the 2004-2005 school year.

Substitutes Instructional 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: Mark Rehrig – Biology

Non-Instructional Approve the following substitute aide for the 2004-2005 school year at the rate of \$7.25 per hour:
 Tara Hengst

Leave Without Pay Approve the request of Denise Papay, Title I Reading Teacher at Peters Elementary School, to take a one
 day unpaid leave of absence, without pay, on December 3, 2004. Her request will not be considered a
 precedent for future requests per correspondence received from the Northern Lehigh Education
 Association.

Unpaid Volunteer Approve the following unpaid volunteer for the 2004-2005 school year:
 Cindy Petruska – Middle School Dance Team Advisor

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

NAY: None (0)

POLICY

A motion was made by Mrs. Ganser, which was seconded by Mrs. Geronikos, that the Board of
 Education approves the following items listed under Policy:

Conferences Approve the request of Tammy Brown to attend a Keystone State Reading Association conference from
 October 24-27, 2004 at Seven Springs. Expenses for this conference includes \$105.00 for registration, \$456.00
 for lodging, \$90.00 for travel, for a total cost of \$651.00 and will be funded through title I funds.

Approve the request of Dr. Linda Marcincin to attend the PA Association of Elementary & Secondary School
 Principals conference from October 24-26, 2004 in Pittsburgh, PA. Expenses for this conference include
 \$250.00 for registration, \$221.00 for travel, \$58.00 for meals, \$372.00 for lodging for a total cost of \$901.00 and
 will be funded through the 2004-2005 Slatington Elementary budget.

Field Trip Requests Slatington Elementary Grade 5 – Philadelphia Zoo – October 28, 2004 – Funded by PTO

German-American Exchange Group (22 German Students & 20 American Students):
 October 14, 2004 – Philadelphia – Funded through German Club Fund

October 18, 2004 – Amish Country – Funded through German Club Fund
October 21, 2004 – New York City – Funded through German Club Fund

POLICY (Con't.)

SADD – 14th Annual SADD State Conference – October 19, 2004 – Lancaster Host Resort & Conference Center – Funded through Valley Youth House

ROLL CALL YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Cox, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Fullas, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Hazzard, Mr. Green (8)

NAY: Mr. Dorshimer (1)

Motion carried.

**CURRIC-
ULUM AND
INSTRUC-
TION**

Mr. Dorshimer made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Follweiler, that the Board of Education approves to authorize proper officials to execute an agreement between the Northern Lehigh School District and the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit to provide services for special education for the 2004-2005 school year 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)

**NEW
BUSINESS**

Mr. Green expressed some frustration on his part with regard to the early bird negotiation process to date and the lack of communication and lack of feedback with regard to what is happening.

Mrs. Ganser stated that she sent an email over the weekend and she wanted to discuss the information in executive session prior to the meeting; however, time didn't allow that to happen.

Mrs. Ganser voluntarily resigned from the Negotiations Committee. Mr. Green appointed Mr. Dorshimer and Mrs. Ganser to that committee since they are two board members who are familiar with the negotiating process. He also asked them to attend Lehigh County Coalition meetings and share information from those meetings with the board.

New
Custodial
Maintenance
Position

Mr. Green made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Hazzard, that the Board of Education bring back to the table and reintroduce the motion presented at the October 4 board meeting and approve the creation of a new custodial/maintenance position for the field Staff house and bus garage.

ROLL CALL: YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Fullas, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Hazzard, Mr. Green (6)

NAY: Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Ganser, Mr. Beers (3)

Motion carried.

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

Treasurer's
Report

Approve the report of the treasurer, Mr. Cox, as presented for the months of July, August and September 2004.

Reports
(Info Only)

All board members received the July, August and September 2004 Revenue and Expenditure Reports for the Cafeteria, General, and Capital Reserve Funds, as presented.

General Fund

Approve payment of General Fund bills for the months of September and October 2004, as presented.

MS Student
Activity
Account

Approve the Northern Lehigh Middle School Student Activity Account fund statement for the month of September 2004, as presented.

Fund
Statement

HS Student Activity Account Fund Statement	Approve the Northern Lehigh High School Student Activity Account fund statement for the month of September 2004, as presented.
NL Refreshment Stand Account Report	Approve the Northern Lehigh Refreshment Stand Account Report for the months ending August 31, 2004 and September 30, 2004, as presented.
NL Athletic Fund Report	Approve the Northern Lehigh Athletic Fund Report for the months of July/August 2004 and September 2004, as presented.
NL Sports Accounts Financial Reports	Approve the Northern Lehigh Sports Accounts Financial Report for the two months ending September 30, 2004, as presented.
Transfer Funds	Authorize the transfer of \$1,000,000.00 from the General Fund undesignated fund balance to the General Fund PLGIT Plus Account for long-term investment instruments including FDIC insured Certificate of Deposits.
Addressable Fire Alarm System	Approve the purchase and installation of an Addressable Fire Alarm System from SimplexGrinnell for the field house. The cost of the new system will be \$35,643.00 and will be funded from the 2004 AAA Bond.
Security System For Field House	Approve the purchase and installation of a security system for the field house. The cost of the new system is not to exceed \$3,999.99 and will be funded from the 2004 AAA Bond.
PC TaxRefund	Approve a per capita tax refund in the amount of \$9.80 to Doris M. Moore, Washington Township, PO Box 22 Slatington due to duplicate payment during the discount period.
	YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Fullas, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Hazzard, Mr. Green (9)
	NAY: None (0)

**CORRES-
PONDENCE**

The board received the following correspondence:

1. Flyer from Lehigh Valley Business/Education Partnership who is sponsoring a Community Forum on The Homeowner Tax Relief Act (Act 72).
2. An unsigned letter about the Bulldog Band.
3. A letter regarding a Title I reading program issue.
4. A request from Donna Kulp about taping board meetings. Mr. Green referred her letter to the Policy Committee to review.

**INFORM-
ATION**

All board members received a copy of the minutes of the Lehigh Carbon Community College Board of Trustees meeting held on September 2, 2004.

RECOGNITION OF GUESTS

Michelle Raber – Northern Lehigh Community Center – She thanked the board for allowing them to use the Slatington Elementary cafeteria and gym for their aerobics program.

Mr. Dorshimer addressed security issues in schools. He emphasized that our facilities are secure as long as all employees abide by district rules and policies that are in effect and keep the doors locked.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Cox made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Beers, that the regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors be adjourned at 9:02 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.