

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

**Slatington, PA  
September 12, 2011**

**PURPOSE** The regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors was called to order by the President, Mr. Edward E. Hartman, at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, September 12, 2011 in the Administration Office Board Room.

**ROLL CALL** Members present: Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha, Mr. Raymond J. Follweiler, Jr., Mrs. Lauren A. Ganser, Mrs. Lori H. Geronikos, Mr. Mathias J. Green, Jr., Mrs. Natalie J. Green, Mrs. Donna M. Kulp, Mr. Gregory S. Williams, Mr. Edward E. Hartman (9)

Members absent: None (0)

Non-members present: Mr. Jeffrey Bachman, Mrs. Susan Bahnick, Mrs. Jill Chamberlain, Mr. Anthony Connell (Student Rep.), Mr. Greg Derr, Ms. Heather Heiney (Student Rep.), Mr. Eugene Marks, Mr. Michael Michaels, Mrs. Karen Nicholas, Mr. Scott Pyne, Mr. Paul Rearden, Ms. Heather Rehrig, Ms. Mary Kay Williamson, Mr. Robert Vlasaty and Mrs. Sherri Molitoris.

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

**APPROVE MINUTES** Mrs. Ganser made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Fedorcha that the minutes of the regular school board meeting held on August 8, 2011 be approved and ordered filed.

YEA: Mr. Fedorcha, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Green, Mrs. Green, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, Mr. Hartman (9)  
NAY: None (0)

**SPECIAL BOARD REPORTS** Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit – Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha reported the minutes from the meeting are attached to the agenda and Board Briefs are at your seat. In addition, he added that a Business Manager and Assistant Executive Director have been hired and both are former Allentown School District employees.

partnering Lehigh Career and Technical Institute – Mrs. Geronikos reported that LCTI is considering with the Parkland School District with regards to expelled students. Instead of outsourcing, Parkland houses their own expelled students at the Troxell school from the hours of 12-4 and has saved a considerable amount of money by doing so. LCTI is hoping to save money as well as possibly bringing in students to their LCTI courses so they won't have to miss their training. This program will also help boost LCTI's graduation rate which in turn keeps the money flowing. Mrs. Geronikos added that she has been in contact with Rep. Charlie Dent regarding restoring the Perkins Funding to 2011 levels. LCTI has pulled in eight corporations within the last month

that are

doing all of their training through LCTI. Mrs. Geronikos also reported that she did attend an information session at the Advanced Manufacturing facility that has just opened at LCTI that will be available to both our students, and adult students. Many companies have already contracted with LCTI to train their own employees at this high tech site and many unemployed workers, at their own expense, have trained there and are finding better paying jobs.

Mr. Fedorcha questioned whether we will see this agreement with Parkland and the implications of the possible costs to outsource the students at their facility. Mrs. Geronikos stated that this is a brand new concept that has not been fully developed and since as a board we turned down their budget and we had concerns with their overspending, that this is a way that they are looking to reduce their expenses. Mr. Fedorcha cautioned that this will allow LCTI to save money but will the district actually be saving any money.

Legislative Report – Mr. Gregory S. Williams shared Governor Corbett's Administrations Program Policy Guidelines which are published for the direction of agency budget requests for the budget. He read from the circular stating that the governor's proposed budget will be,

*“predicated on the fact that the Pennsylvania economy is still in recovery, and has not yet emerged from the great recession. Therefore, agencies should not assume funding increases for the 2012-2013 fiscal year and should continue to evaluate current programs and recommend changes that will improve program management and operations, reduce costs, and optimize direct services.*

Therefore, we should be prepared for another year of budget cuts from the state that we just experienced in the 2011-2012 budget. He also reported that legislatively there are a lot of hearings going on with Charter Schools at the state level.

Lehigh Carbon Community College – Mr. Mathias J. Green, Jr. shared that peak enrollment occurred about two years ago. This year the per capita enrollment will be comparable to last year but the number of courses being taken and full time students will drop by about 2%. Unfortunately, it looks like some students cannot even afford to go to LCCC full time so they are only signing up for part time classes. He also shared that LCCC lost one of their Trustees, Mr. Joseph Volk, who was a valuable asset to the college and he will be sorely missed. Each district has a representative and there are two representatives at large. Mr. Joe Vault was an at large representative; therefore, the board has the opportunity to nominate someone to fill that position that will serve until June, 2012. Mr. Green asked if anyone is interested in serving in this position, to speak with him or Mr. Williams to explain what is involved.

#### Committee Reports and/or Minutes

Minutes of the Education/Policy Committee Meeting held on September 6, 2011 were distributed.

Minutes of the Technology/Buildings and Grounds Committee Meetings held on September 7, 2011 were distributed.

Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on September 7, 2011 were distributed.

#### Student Representatives to the Board Report

Ms. Heather Heiney and Mr. Anthony Connell distributed their written student representative Report and verbally reported on its contents.

Mr. Williams commended the new High School Administration for their enthusiasm and the concept of the All Pro Team for the students.

Federal and Other Programs Update – Mrs. Karen A. Nicholas stated that she is very proud to announce that the Northern Lehigh School District has once again made AYP and she thanked the students, teachers, parents, administrators and the support of the school board for making it all possible. The district has a set of goals in place to help meet AYP in the current school year. At the High School, Mr. Vlasaty and Mr. Pyne have started the Professional Learning Communities in which they will be analyzing data and reviewing curriculum and continuing Reading Apprenticeship strategies. At the Middle School, they will be introducing RTI, a co-teaching model, and analyzing their data and curriculum. At the Elementary level, there will be a ninety minute block for which they can further differentiate levels of reading and they are piloting a new Math Reading in program.

Mrs. Nicholas reported that professional development is well underway for this year with topics that included SAS portal, Interactive Whiteboards, Reading Apprenticeship Practices, Co-teaching Models and a national speaker, Mr. Tim Rovinski, who focused on Reading fluency and comprehension.

#### Superintendent's Report

Atty. Keith Strohl swore in new Student Representative to the Board, Anthony Connell.

The tentative budget timeline for the 2012-2013 school year was distributed. Because next year is a presidential election year, the primary will be in April, not May.

A copy of a letter to the Secretary of Education, Mr. Tomalis, requesting two emergency days for Hurricane Irene which delayed the opening of school was distributed. If that is not approved, we will apply for two Act 80 days.

Mr. Michaels introduced Lisa Martin, from the Northern Lehigh Theatre Association. She reported that ticket sales were phenomenal and that we won two Freddy Awards for the first time since their inception. The Association donated \$1,100 to the school to purchase side curtains.

All board members received a Third Day Enrollment Report. Enrollment is down 65 students which will have an impact on our budgeting process.

Mr. Hartman recognized and presented a gift to the following individuals who retired from Northern Lehigh School District: Mrs. Andrea Fella, Mrs. Barbara Mantz, Mrs. Diane McMullen, Mrs. Denise Papay, Mrs. Joanne Perich, Mr. Erwin Prutzman, Mrs. Suzanne Tobing and Mr. Ralph Williams.

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

**PERSONNEL** Mrs. Ganser made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Geronikos, that the Board of Education approves the following personnel items:

Appointment Rhonda Frantz  
Administrative Assignment: Co-Director of Business Affairs/Employee Payroll & Benefits, replacing Jeremy Melber who has resigned  
Salary: \$65,000 (prorated 2011-2012 school year)  
Effective Date: September 13, 2011

Sherri Molitoris  
Assignment: Co-Director of Business Affairs/Human Resources, replacing Jeremy Melber who has resigned  
Salary: \$65,000 (prorated 2011-2012 school year)  
Effective Date: September 13, 2011

YEA: Mr. Fedorcha, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Green, Mrs. Green, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, Mr. Hartman (9)

NAY: None (0)

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

Resignation Accept the resignation of Grace Reppert, Middle School Special Education Aide, effective  
G. Reppert immediately. Mrs. Reppert is resigning to finish her own educational obligations

Co-Curricular Approve the resignation of John Sitaras from his position of High School Boys Soccer  
Resignations Coach effective August 20, 2011. Mr. Sitaras resigned due to family issues.  
J.Sitaras

J. Leslie Approve the resignation of Jackie Leslie from her position as Assistant Girl's Basketball Coach effective September 1, 2011. Ms. Leslie resigned due to work issues.

|               |                |   |            |
|---------------|----------------|---|------------|
| Co-Curricular | Patricia Jones | Assistant Girls Soccer Coach                  | \$2,761.35 |
| Appointments  | Chris Sander   | Assistant Boy's Soccer Coach (Shared Stipend) | \$1,380.68 |
| 2011-2012     | Eric Schmidt   | Assistant Boy's Soccer Coach (Shared Stipend) | \$1,380.68 |

Co-Curricular Gary Warmkessel Assistant Softball Coach

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| Volunteers<br>2011-2012                   | Nicole Chirico<br>Michael Hofmann, Jr.<br>Jamie Farber<br>Paula Seiler<br>Austin Danish | Assistant Softball Coach<br>Assistant Girls Basketball Coach<br>Refreshment Stand Volunteer<br>Refreshment Stand Volunteer<br>Assistant Cross Country Coach |
| <b><u>PERSONNEL</u></b><br><b>(cont.)</b> | Patrice Arnold<br>LeAnn Hoch  | HS Dance Team Advisor<br>HS Dance Team Advisor  |

Game Workers 2011-2012 Approve the following person as a Game Worker for the 2011-2012 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 2011- 2012 Supplementary Personnel Salary Schedule.

Andy Kern

Artistic Director paid out of the HS Fall Play overseeing all Spring Musical S.Shuey Approve Stephen Shuey as Artistic Director for the Fall Play/Spring Musical for the NLHS Student Theater Group. Stipend for the Artistic Director will be \$1,500 to be Student Activities Account. The Artistic Director will be responsible for and persons involved with set design and construction, costuming, lighting, sound, etc. determined by the HS Principal and Production Director.

High School Website Maintenance A. Kern Approve a stipend in the amount of \$500 for Mr. Andrew Kern for High School website maintenance and working with students during the 2011-2012 school year. Mr. Kern has constant contact with teachers, secretaries, and administrators in an effort to update the website on a daily basis with the latest information, handouts, and scheduled events. Stipend to be funded by the student activities fund.

Salary Adjustments Acknowledge the following teachers who have completed the requirements per the Collective Bargaining Agreement that would entitle them to a salary increase for the 2011-2012 school year:

Christopher Bennett

From: Step 3B  
To: Step 3B+24

Kathy Walter

From: Step 11B+24  
To: Step 11M

Thomas Mertus

From: Step 10B+24  
To: Step 10M

Unpaid Volunteers Approve the following unpaid volunteer aides in the Peters and/or Slatington Elementary Schools for the 2011-2012 school year: Joanne Perich and Barbara Mantz

Substitute Instructional Approve the following substitute teachers for the 2011-2012 school year at the 2011-2012 substitute teacher rates as approved on the Supplementary Personnel Salary Schedule:  
Kaitlyn Andrews\* – Elementary  
Heather MacCorkle Edick\* – English  
Elizabeth Elstner – Elementary  
Carol Fella – Music  
Carol Judd – Elementary & Special Education  
Lori King – Elementary  
Edward Anderson – CLIU Guest Teacher  
Donna Bauer – CLIU Guest Teacher  
Nika Belcastro-Albanese – CLIU Guest Teacher

Annette Benedetto – CLIU Guest Teacher  
 Shannon Burky – CLIU Guest Teacher  
 Jamie Farber – CLIU Guest Teacher  
 Katie Fluke – CLIU Guest Teacher  
 Jo Lynn Gazo – CLIU Guest Teacher  
 Ines Heuser – CLIU Guest Teacher  
 Melissa Lawson – CLIU Guest Teacher  
 Asimo Tsilikoudis Long – CLIU Guest Teacher  
 Roderick Lowe – CLIU Guest Teacher  
 Seth McLaughlin – CLIU Guest Teacher  
 Theresa Oliveira – CLIU Guest Teacher  
 Patricia Passick – CLIU Guest Teacher  
 Michael Roth – CLIU Guest Teacher  
 Roobhenn Smith – CLIU Guest Teacher  
 Patricia Sottolano – CLIU Guest Teacher  
 Randall Utsch – CLIU Guest Teacher  
 Jeanine Villano-George – CLIU Guest Teacher  
**\*Pending Verification of Missing Documents**

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

Substitute  
 Non-  
 Instructional  
 Secretary

Approve the following individual as a substitute secretary worker for the 2011-2012 school year at the 2011-2012 substitute rate as approved on the Supplementary Personnel Salary Schedule:

Corinne Hoffman

Cafeteria  
 Workers

Approve the following individual as a substitute cafeteria worker for the 2011-2012 school year at the 2011-2012 substitute rate as approved on the Supplementary Personnel Salary Schedule:

Alice Christman

Custodians

Approve the following individuals as substitute custodians for the 2011-2012 school year at the 2011-2012 substitute rate as approved on the Supplementary Personnel Salary Schedule:

Steven Andrews  
 Alice Christman

YEA: Mr. Fedorcha, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Green, Mrs. Green, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, Mr. Hartman (9)  
 NAY: None (0)

**CONFER-  
 ENCES**

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

Michele Dotta – American Speech, Language and Hearing Association, Social Thinking Workshop – October 6&7, 2011 – Harrisburg, PA – Registration: \$315.00, Travel: \$56.00, Lodging: \$239.00 – Total Approximate Cost: \$606.00 – Funding: Special Education Budget

Everly Kesack – American Speech, Language and Hearing Association, Social Thinking Workshop – October 6&7, 2011 – Harrisburg, PA – Registration: \$315.00, Travel and Lodging: Traveling and Sharing a room with M. Dotta – Total Approximate Cost: \$315.00 – Funding: Special Education Budget

YEA: Mr. Fedorcha, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Green, Mrs. Green, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, Mr. Hartman (9)  
 NAY: None (0)

**POLICY**

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

Approve to authorize proper officials to enter into an agreement for one Northern Lehigh School District special education student to attend Parkland School District in accordance with the promises and covenants contained in the agreement. This agreement is effective for the 2011-2012 school year.

YEA: Mr. Fedorcha, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Green, Mrs. Green, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, Mr. Hartman (9)

NAY: None (0)

**CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION**

Mrs. Ganser made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Geronikos, that the Board of Education approves the following curriculum and instruction items.

Center For Humanistic Change (SAP)

Approve to authorize the superintendent to execute a letter of agreement for the 2011-2012 academic year with the Center for Humanistic Change. Inc. to provide Student Assistance Program (SAP) Liaison services. The Student Assistance Teams in our school district will use these services.

New Story special Schools

Approve to authorize proper officials to enter into an agreement between the Northern Lehigh School District and New Story Schools for the purpose of furnishing regular education or education programs for students for the 2011-2012 school year.

YEA: Mr. Fedorcha, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Green, Mrs. Green, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, Mr. Hartman (9)

NAY: None (0)

**NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Follweiler made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Ganser, that the Board of Education approves the following new business:

Approve to designate and authorize the following administrators to sign summary offense notices for district students for the 2011-2012 school year:

Mr. Paul Rearden, Jr. – Peters Elementary School Principal  
Dr. Linda Marcincin – Slatington Elementary School Principal  
Mrs. Jill Chamberlain – Middle School Principal  
Mr. Robert Vlasaty – High School Principal  
Mr. Scott Pyne – High School Assistant Principal

YEA: Mr. Fedorcha, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Green, Mrs. Green, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, Mr. Hartman (9)

NAY: None (0)

Mr. Williams reported the Policy/Education Committee has been renamed to the Education/Policy Committee.

**FINANCIAL Education**

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

List of Bills:

Approve the following list of bills:  
General Fund months of August & September  
Cafeteria Fund month of August  
Construction Fund month of August & September  
Athletic Fund months of August

Per Capita Abatement/Exoneration

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

EIT Reolution Approve the Resolution Re-adopting, Restating and Amending It's Earned Income Tax Resolution (Originally enacted in June 14, 1965) To Establish Conformity With The Local Tax Enabling Act as Amended by Act 32 of July 2, 2008, as presented.

R.Frantz S.Molitoris Certified Custodians of NL School District's Assets Approve the resolution stating Northern Lehigh School District hereby certifies that Sherri A . Molitoris and Rhonda L. Frantz are hereby authorized and empowered to take such actions and to execute and deliver such documents as may be necessary to discharge the School District's obligations with respect to the appointment of the Bank as Custodian and with respect to instructions to enable the Bank to discharge its obligations as Custodian of the School District's assets.

**FINANCIAL (cont.)** YEA: Mr. Fedorcha, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Green, Mrs. Green, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, Mr. Hartman (9)  
NAY: None (0)

**LEGAL Education** Mrs. Ganser made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Follweiler, that the Board of Education approves the following legal items:

R.Frantz S.Molitoris Alternates Act 32 Delegates Appoint Rhonda Frantz and Sherri Molitoris, Co-Directors of Business Affairs, as alternate Act 32 Tax Collection Committee Representatives for Northern Lehigh School District. Mrs. Frantz and Mrs. Molitoris will act as voting delegates on the committee in the absence of appointed district voting delegate, Mr. Edward Hartman.

YEA: Mr. Fedorcha, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Green, Mrs. Green, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, Mr. Hartman (9)  
NAY: None (0)

**CORR-ESPON-DENCE** Mr. Williams reported that PSBA has sent out a white paper with regards to school building size which was given to Mr. Michaels for anyone that is interested in reviewing it.

Mr. Williams received correspondence from Senator Jay Costa, soliciting our input for what is important with regards to funding for the upcoming budget year.

Mr. Williams also received correspondence from LCCC with regards to the representative at large position that is available on their Board of Trustees.

**INFORMATION** Minutes of the Lehigh Carbon Community College Board of Trustees meeting held on July 7, 2011 and August 4, 2011 were distributed.

Minutes of the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit 21 Board of Directors meeting held on July 18, 2011 were distributed.

Minutes of the Lehigh Career & Technical Institute Joint Operating Committee meeting held on June 22, 2011 were distributed.

**ADJOURNMENT** Mr. Follweiler made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Green, that the regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh School District Board of School Directors is adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

YEA: Mr. Fedorcha, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Green, Mrs. Green, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, Mr. Hartman (9)  
NAY: None (0)

Respectfully submitted,

Gregory S. Williams  
Secretary

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_ President  
Edward E. Hartman