

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

**Slatington, PA
October 8,**

2012

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, October 8, 2012, in the Administration Office Board Room.

ROLL CALL

Members present: Mr. Robin T. Distler, Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha, Mr. Raymond J. Follweiler, Jr., Mrs. Lauren A. Ganser, Mr. Mathias J. Green, Mrs. Natalie J. Green, Mrs. Donna M. Kulp, Mr. Gregory S. Williams, and Mr. Edward E. Hartman (9)

Members absent: (0)

Non-members present: Mr. Jeffrey Bachman, Mrs. Susan Bahnick, Ms. Courtney Blocker (Senior Rep.), Mrs. Jill Chamberlain, Mr. Greg Derr, Mr. Scot Engler, Mrs. Rhonda Frantz, Mr. John Hrizuk, Dr. Linda Marcincin, Mr. Michael Michaels, Mrs. Sherri Molitoris, Mrs. Karen Nicholas, Mr. Scott Pyne, Attorney Charles Stopp (District Solicitor), and Mr. Robert Vlasaty.

VISITORS

Approximately one visitor attended the meeting, in addition to Terry Ahner, reporter for The Times News.

**APPROVE
MINUTES**

Mr. Follweiler made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Fedorcha that the minutes of the regular school board meeting held on September 10, 2012 be approved and ordered filed.

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

NAY: None (0)

**SPECIAL
BOARD
REPORTS**

Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit . Mr. Raymond J. Follweiler reported that at the board seats is a copy of the Route 309 construction plan for the next year.

Lehigh Career and Technical Institute - Mr. Fedorcha reported that the minutes were distributed.

Legislative Report . Mr. Gregory S. Williams reported that the Department of Revenue released their September collections which were roughly 1.8% higher than anticipated which puts collections at .2% higher than anticipated for the year.

Mr. Williams reported that at a recent hearing on the proposed elimination of property taxes, an independent study found that abolishing the property taxes and increasing the income and sales taxes would create a \$1.5 billion revenue shortfall in the first year. While retired homeowners would receive the greatest benefit, working renters and small businesses would see their liabilities increase. In addition, Pennsylvania businesses and home owners would pay more federal income taxes without the property tax deduction.

Lehigh Carbon Community College . Mr. Mathias J. Green, Jr. reported that Lehigh Carbon Community College received a five-year \$2 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education. Mr. Green also reported that a recent study found that Lehigh Carbon Community College's tuition rates have risen at a significantly slower rate than that of state schools and state-related schools over the last five years.

Student Representatives to the Board Report . Ms. Courtney Blocker distributed the written student representative report and verbally reported on its contents.

Mr. Follweiler asked if they would be having a bonfire this year. Mr. Vlasaty stated that he is working with Mr. Derr on the location and obtaining the necessary permit.

SPECIAL Federal and Other Programs Update . Mrs. Karen A. Nicholas reported that today was an inservice **BOARD** day. The special education teachers met with Attorney Faust and learned how to write proper

REPORTS re-evaluations. The Middle School and High School focused on Discovery Streaming and our PVAAS data. Even though we did not make AYP, our PVAAS data shows that we did have student growth at all levels. This data will be shared with the Education/Policy Committee in November. The elementary schools had a guest speaker on the technology piece of the new math program as well as Study Island.

(cont.)

Mrs. Nicholas reported that the Barnes and Noble event will be held on November 8, 2012. All students in preschool through sixth grade will be invited. Barnes and Noble will be giving a cookie party to one classroom from Peters and Slatington Elementary with the most students in attendance. There will also be raffle prizes of books and a cheesecake from the Cheesecake Factory. This event is held to get our students excited about books and reading.

Business Managers Report . Mrs. Frantz reported that our health insurance premiums are expected to increase between 10-14%. The consortium has agreed to use a portion of the rate stabilization fund to keep the increase at about 7%. Unfortunately, the fund has been utilized heavily over the past few years and is dwindling. The exact numbers will be available in December.

The local audit has been completed. Board members will be notified when the exit meeting is scheduled.

Mrs. Molitoris stated that the 2013-2014 Tax Index has been set at 1.7%. She stated that the district's adjusted index is 2.4% which is .1% higher than last year due to an increase in the aide ratio. Act I guidelines state that any county that has a reassessment must stay at the index equal to the prior year. We are seeking clarification on this issue because although the base index stayed the same, the district's adjusted index increased by .1%.

Mrs. Molitoris also reported that at the Finance Committee meeting, there was discussion about filing for exceptions in order to raise taxes by 2 mills. Mrs. Molitoris stated that a preliminary budget will be needed by either the January or February board meetings because exceptions have to be filed with PDE by February 25, 2013. The two exceptions will be for retirement and special education. Mrs. Molitoris clarified that even if we apply for exceptions and they are approved, you do not have to use them.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Michaels announced that he will be donating two books to the high school library.

Mr. Michaels stated that Mr. Fedorcha is working with LCTI to add a third student representative to attend our board meetings and update board members on events at LCTI.

Mr. Michaels asked the school principals to make sure they add Veterans Day and Election Day as topics in their curriculums on those days next month.

Mr. Michaels asked Mr. Engler to share what the special education department is covering during in-services this year. Mr. Engler explained that in order to bring students back into the district, comes the need to provide training and guidance. This year we have designated a sequence of structured trainings including functional behavior assessments, IEP writing and training on re-evaluations. The faculty is thankful to get these opportunities to learn more about their field. Mr. Michaels added that he experienced some resistance from the faculty concerning the Keystone prep classes. Like anything new, there is a little angst and growing pains. We are asking that all of our teachers, including special education, work with our students in order to be better prepared for the Keystone exams.

Mr. Michaels announced that in Sunday's Morning Call there was an article about the State changing PSSA testing for Charter Schools making it easier for Charter schools to meet benchmarks. Stuard Knade, chief legal council for PSBA stated. %The General Assembly needs

to ask what is real and why are we being fed this kind of façade.+ Mr. Michaels added that these are the questions we need to and will be asking our local representatives.

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

Administrative Transfers Connie Zellner
 From: Peters Elementary School Head Cook
 To: Slatington Elementary Cook& Helper
 Salary: \$14.87 Per Hour/5 ½ Hours Per Day/180 Student Days per Year plus additional cleaning days as needed
 (2009-2013 Educational Support Personnel Association CBA)
 Effective: September 10, 2012
***60 Day probationary period ending November 8, 2012.**

Debbie Peters*
 From: Slatington Elementary Cook& Helper
 To: Peters Elementary Head Cook
 Salary: \$17.43 Per Hour/5 ½ Hours Per Day/180 Student Days per year plus additional cleaning days as needed
 (2009-2013 Educational Support Personnel Association CBA)
 Effective: September 10, 2012
***60 Day probationary period ending November 8, 2012.**

Jennifer Sheridan*
 From: Part Time Middle School Cook& Helper replacing Sheila Andrews who resigned.
 To: High School Cook& Helper
 Salary: \$8.80 Per Hour/5 ½ Hours Per Day/180 Student Days per year plus additional cleaning days as needed, there is no change in salary (2009-2013 Educational Support Personnel Association CBA)
 Effective: October 9, 2012
***60 Day probationary period ending December 7, 2012.**

Appointments Instructional Steven Jonkman
 Assignment: Temporary Vacancy Replacement
 Slatington/Peters Elementary Music Teacher replacing an employee on family medical leave
 Salary: Substitute Teacher Rate Days 1-30;
 Day 31 and beyond \$44,000 prorated
 (Step 1 Bachelors on the 2012-2013 CBA Salary Schedule)
 Effective: September 24, 2012
 Termination Date: On or about January 14, 2013

Appointment Non-Instructional Robin Blocker
 Assignment: PCA for Student #2390122 at Peters Elementary School
 Salary: \$11.40 Per Hour Monday-Friday, 11:20 . 3:50 up to 180 Student Days a school year plus additional 20 Hrs for Staff Development according to language in MOU
 (This rate is in effect until a new Memorandum of Understanding is in place)
 Effective Date: September 24, 2012
***Pending verification of missing documents and 60 Day probationary period ending November 22, 2012**

Kayla Perkowski*
 Assignment: PCA for Student #2390122 at Peters Elementary School
 Salary: \$11.40 Per Hour Monday-Friday, 8:50 . 1:20 up to 180 Student Days a school year plus additional 20 Hrs for Staff Development according to language in MOU
 (This rate is in effect until a new Memorandum of Understanding is in place)
 Effective Date: September 24, 2012

***60 Day probationary period ending November 22, 2012.**

PERSONNEL
(cont.)

Patricia Ingles*
Assignment: High School Special Education Aide replacing employees who resigned.
Salary: \$12.77 Per Hour Monday-Friday, 8:50 . 1:20 up to 180 Student Days a school year plus additional 20 Hrs for Staff Development according to language in MOU (This rate is in effect until a new Memorandum of Understanding is in place)
Effective Date: October 4, 2012
***Pending Verification of missing documents; 60 Day probationary period ending December 2, 2012.**

Schelene Fritzing
Assignment: Part Time Middle School Cook & Helper replacing Beth Gabovitz who resigned
Salary: \$8.50 Per Hour/2 Hours Per Day/5 Days Per Week/ up to 180 Student Days per year plus additional cleaning days as needed (2009-2013 Educational Support Personnel Association CBA)
Effective Date: October 9, 2012
***60 Day probationary period ending December 7, 2012.**

Resignation H. Fiske Accept the resignation of Holly Fiske, Peters Elementary Library Aide, effective September 29, 2012.

Resignation L. Hoppes Accept the resignation of Lindsay Hoppes, Peters Elementary Office Aide, effective September 22, 2012.

Family Medical Leave Approve the request of employee #1260 to take a Family Medical Leave to care for a family member. She will be using fourteen sick days and three personal days beginning September 24, 2012. She will then be requesting a twelve week family medical leave beginning on October 17, 2012 and her anticipated return date is January 14, 2013.

Salary Adjustments 2012-2013 Acknowledge the following teachers who have completed the requirements per the Collective Bargaining Agreement that would entitle them to a salary increase for the 2013 school year:

Jeremy Battista
From: Step 5B
To: Step 5B+24

Jamie Bigley
From: Step 7B+24
To: Step 7M

Co-Curricular Appointments	Theresa Cinicola	Freshman Class Advisor	\$ 634.55
	Julie Everett	Freshman Class Advisor	\$ 634.55

Substitute-Instructional Approve the following substitute teachers for the 2012-2013 school year at the 2012-2013 substitute teacher rates as approved on the Supplementary Personnel Salary Schedule:

Katherine Ache* - Elementary
Katie Baskin . Elementary
Laura Gregson* . Elementary
Michele Harrison* - Elementary
Jacquelyn Kinsella* . Elementary & ESL

Natasha Lewis* - Language Arts
 Susan Miller . Elementary
 Zachary Moyer* . Health & Physical Education
 Katrina Wehr . Communications, English, Business/Computer Information Technology,
 Technology Education
***Pending Verification of Missing Documents**

PERSONNEL
(cont.)

Substitute- Non-Schedule: Instructional Secretary Approve the following individuals as substitute secretary for the 2012-2013 school year at the 2012-2013 substitute rate as approved on the Supplementary Personnel Salary
 Holly Fiske

Unpaid Volunteers Approve the following unpaid volunteer aides in the Peters and/or Slatington Elementary Schools for the 2012-2013 school year:

Lynne McGeehan*
***Pending Verification of Missing Documents**

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

NAY: None (0)

POLICY

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

Board Policy Second Reading Approve school board policy #249 . Pupils . Bullying/Cyberbullying, as presented after second reading.

Video Club Approve the request of the Senior High Administration to create a Video Club. This club will allow students to gain knowledge and experience with journalism, on-air broadcasting, and video production. The entire student body will benefit from a Morning Show that will provide important announcements about school-related activities. The club will meet after school and there will be no cost to the district.

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

NAY: None (0)

FINANCIAL

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

List of Bills Approve the Following List of Bills:
 General Fund months of September & October
 Cafeteria Fund month of September
 Refreshment Stand month of September
 Capital Construction months of September & October
 Capital Projects month of September

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

Clarity Service Group Agreement 2012-2013 Approve to authorize proper officials to enter into an agreement between the Northern Lehigh School District and Clarity Service Group for the purpose of providing Behavior Analytic Services for the 2012-2013 school year at a cost of \$120/hour for PhD and Clinical Director Services and \$95/hour for Masters Level Services.

Revised Supplemental Personnel Salary Schedule Approve the revised Supplemental Personnel Salary Schedule for the 2012-2013 school year as presented.

FINANCIAL
(cont.)

Cascade Water Services Agreement 2012-2013 Authorize administration to enter into an agreement with Cascade Water Services to provide water treatment services for the school district from August 1, 2012 through July 30, 2013 at a cost of \$230.00 per month.

American Athletic Courts, Inc. Contract Authorize administration to enter into a contract with American Athletic Courts, Inc. to repair the track edge and curbing at a cost of \$6,800.00 to be paid from remaining money in the bond and any remaining balance will be paid from the general fund.

Rescind Closing of Class of 2012 Account Rescind the following motions approved at the August 13, 2012 board meeting
Approve the request of the senior high school to close the Class of 2012 account in accordance with the Student Activities Account guidelines. The account balance is \$1,259.47 and the Class of 2012 is recommending that the funds be used to landscape outside of the High School Cafeteria and purchase picnic tables for the student body to enjoy lunch outdoors. A 2012 dedication sign will also be purchased to display in the area.

Rescind Closing of FBLA & German Club Accounts Approve the request of the senior high school to close the NLHS FBLA and German Club Accounts due to inactivity and transfer the monies to the Principal's Discretionary Account, a total of \$4,591.54. This money will be used to purchase televisions and wall mounts for classrooms for the future television studio to be viewed throughout the classrooms.

FBLA -	\$4,547.37
German Club -	\$ 44.17
TOTAL	\$4,591.54

Close Class of 2012 Acct. Approve the request of the senior high school to close the Class of 2012 account in accordance with the Student Activities Account guidelines and transfer remaining proceeds to Student Council's Activity Account. The account balance is \$1,259.47 and the Class of 2012 is recommending that the funds be used to landscape outside of the High School Cafeteria and purchase picnic tables for the student body to enjoy lunch outdoors. A 2012 dedication sign will also be purchased to display in the area.

Close FBLA And German Club Accounts Approve the request of the senior high school to close the NLHS FBLA and German Activity Club accounts due to inactivity and transfer remaining proceeds to Student Council's Activity Account. This money will be used to purchase items useful for students here at the high school.

FBLA -	\$4,547.37
German Club -	\$ 44.17
TOTAL	\$4,591.54

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

INFOR-
MATION

Minutes of the Lehigh Carbon Community College Board of Trustees meeting held on August 2, 2012 were distributed.

Minutes of the Lehigh Career & Technical Institute Joint Operating Committee meeting held on August 22, 2012 were distributed.

Minutes of the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit #21 Board of Directors meeting held on August 20, 2012 were distributed.

**ADJOURN-
MENT**

Mr. Follweiler made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Kulp, that the regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh School District Board of School Directors is adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

YEA: Mr. Distler, Mr. Fedorcha, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, 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