

NORTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board Minutes

Slatington, PA

February 9, 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 7:38 p.m., on Monday, February 9, 2004 in the boardroom located in the Slatington Elementary School.

ROLL CALL Members present: Mr. Franklin D. Beers, Mr. Robert J. Cox, Mr. Bryan C. Dorshimer, Mr. Raymond J. Follweiler, Jr., Mrs. Lauren A. Ganser, Mrs. Lori H. Geronikos, Mr. William H. Hazzard, Ms. Angelique M. Papay, Mr. Mathias J. Green, Jr. (9)

Members absent: None (0)

Non-members present: Dr. Nicholas P. Sham, Sr., Mrs. Lynn B. Fedorcha, Mr. Philip Bertolino, Dr. Linda Marcincin, Mrs. Karen Nicholas, Mr. John Hrizuk, Mr. David Papay, Mr. Robert Mack, Mr. Brian Geiger, Ms. Christine Stafford, Mr. Jeffrey Bachman (arrived at 8:25 p.m.), Ms. Laurie Newman, Mrs. Doneta Merkle

VISITORS Approximately 14 visitors attended the meeting, in addition to Sharon Minnich, reporter for The Times News, and Terry Ahner, reporter for The Chronicle newspapers.

PUBLIC COMMENT Jane Kropf – Slatington and Donna Kulp – Washington Township – They would like to have the opportunity to comment on all agenda items they have a question on.

ON AGENDA ITEM

APPROVE MINUTES Mr. Dorshimer made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Follweiler, that the minutes of the regular school board meeting held on January 5, 2004, the regular school board meeting held on January 12, 2004, and the special school board meeting held on January 29, 2004 be approved and ordered filed.

Mrs. Ganser wanted to make a statement, for the record, regarding the January 29th special board meeting. With respect to the appointment of the newest school board member, she felt compelled to draw attention to the fact that he was permitted to be placed in the pool of applicants. She stated that she thought it was agreed upon as a board that all applicants had to have a resume and a letter of application submitted. To the best of her recollection she didn't believe that resumes were received by all four candidates and she felt that it was not fair to the other candidates that took the time to follow the application requirements.

PUBLIC COMMENT Jane Kropf – Asked if she was to understand that the actual process wasn't complied with. **COMMENT**

ROLL CALL: YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Hazzard, Ms. Papay, Mr. Green (6)

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

Motion carried.

SPECIAL BOARD REPORTS Committee Reports and/or Meetings

All board members received a copy of the minutes of the Policy/Education Committee meeting held on January 19, 2004, the minutes of the Community Relations Committee meeting held on January 21, 2004, and the minutes of the Technology/Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting held on February 4, 2004.

SPECIAL

BOARD Legislative Report – Mrs. Lori H. Geronikos**REPORTS**
(Con't.)

Mrs. Geronikos discussed Act 48 of 2003, which contains the language for distributing the basic subsidy for districts.

Mrs. Geronikos recently received an educational directive from PSBA and NSBA with regard to training for our teachers. She stated that as board members we need to start to pay attention to the fact that some of the classes or conferences our teachers are going to they have to attend because of No Child Left Behind. This is a mandate and must be complied with.

Superintendent's Report –

Dr. Nicholas P. Sham, Sr.

Dr. Sham reminded the board that the March 1 board meeting will be held at the Peters Elementary School.

Dr. Sham informed the board that copies of the minutes of the Administrative Team Meetings will be distributed monthly to all board members as an informational item.

Brian Geiger reported that the heater for the field house should be arriving in the district tomorrow.

John Hrizuk was called upon to discuss some of the technology implications as they relate to reconfiguration.

There was an Executive Session prior to the meeting at 6:30 p.m. for personnel reasons. At 8:02 p.m. President Green reconvened the Executive Session for personnel reasons. The Board reconvened their regular meeting at 8:50 p.m.

PERSONNEL

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

Substitutes
Instructional

Approve the following substitute teacher for the 2003-2004 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:

Barbara Schieck – All Subject Areas (CLIU Guest Teacher Program)

Resignation-
Non-
Instructional

Accept the resignation of Rosemarie Wertman from her position as Library Aide in the Slatington Elementary School, effective at the end of the school day on Friday, February 13, 2004.

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

NAY: None (0)

POLICY

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

Conferences

Approve the request of Deborah Geiger to attend the 6th Annual Conference for Pennsylvania Kindergarten Teachers on March 2, 2004 in Hershey, PA. Expenses for this conference include \$165.00 for registration plus the cost of a substitute teacher for one day and was included in the Slatington Elementary 2003-3004 budget.

Approve the request of Susanne Hegedus to attend the 6th Annual Conference for Pennsylvania Kindergarten Teachers on March 2, 2004 in Hershey, PA. Expenses for this conference include \$165.00 for registration plus the cost of a substitute teacher for one day and was included in the Slatington Elementary 2003-3004 budget.

POLICY**(Con't.)**

Approve the request of Laurie Newman to attend the 32nd Annual Law Conference at Lehigh University on May 13, 2004. Expenses for this conference include \$125.00 for registration and will be funded through IDEA money.

Approve the request of Jane Englert to attend the PA Educational Technology Expo and Conference in Hershey, PA on February 22, 2004. Expenses for this conference include \$130.00 for registration and will be funded through Title IID funds.

Board Policy Reading

Approve new board policy #826: Operations – HIPPA Compliance, as presented, after first reading. First

Approve new board policy #135: Programs – Parental Permission For Research Involving Students, as presented after first reading.

Approve revisions to existing board policy #005: Local Board Procedures – Organization, as presented after first reading.

Field Trip Request

Approve the request of the Teams North and South in the middle school to organize a field trip, scheduled for Thursday, April 8, 2004 to take the entire eighth grade class to visit historic sights in Philadelphia. This trip will entail no cost to the district. They are also requesting permission to conduct fundraising and/or offer parents the option to pay a small fee for the trip.

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

NAY: None (0)

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

Mrs. Geronikos made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Cox, that the Board of Education approves to authorize the Superintendent to apply for a half-day Act 80 waiver, for elementary students only, to conduct curriculum and planning in the afternoon on February 27, 2004.

ROLL CALL: YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Hazzard, Ms. Papay, Mr. Green (6)

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

Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Dorshimer made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Cox, that the Board of Education approves a 3% salary increase for Dr. Nicholas P. Sham, Sr., Superintendent of Schools, retroactive to July 1, 2003.

ROLL CALL: YEA: Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Beers, Mr. Cox, Mr. Green (5)

NAY: Mrs. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mr. Hazzard, Ms. Papay (4)

Motion carried.

Present Football Jerseys To Team Members

Mr. Beers made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Follweiler, that the Board of Education grants permission to give the 2003 Northern Lehigh High School Bulldog football team members their football jerseys. This recommendation was made due to the fact that the Northern Lehigh High School football team has competed in the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association Class AA Championship game and has finished second in the State of Pennsylvania.

Although in favor of this action, Mr. Cox wanted all board members to be aware of the fact that replacement of these jerseys would not be just a few hundred dollars, but most likely several thousand.

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

NAY: None (0)

PUBLIC COMMENT Jane Kropf – Slatington – Actually had a question in reference to Dr. Sham’s evaluation. It was her understanding that the evaluation this year was actually a lesser percentage than it was last year with reference to the overall rating. If that is the case, then how can the board justify any type of increase?

President Green questioned Mrs. Kopf as to how it was her understanding and how did she get that information because it was private and confidential information and should not have been discussed with anyone outside of the nine board members.

FINANCIAL Mr. Cox made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Beers, 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 January 2004.

General Fund Approve payment of General Fund bills, as presented, for the month of January 2004.

NL Athletic Fund Report Approve the Northern Lehigh Athletic Fund Report, as presented, for the month of January 2004.

NL Refreshment & Sports Acct. Report Approve the Northern Lehigh Refreshment Stand and Sports Account Financial Report, as presented, for the month ended January 31, 2004.

Solicit Bids For Field House Additions Approve to allow proper officials to solicit bids for the additions and renovation to the Northern Lehigh School District Field House.

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

NAY: None (0)

Amend Supplemental Personnel Salary Schedule Mr. Cox made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Ganser, that the Board of Education approve the amended Supplementary Personnel Salary Schedule for the 2003-2004 school year for only those positions as presented.

ROLL CALL: YEA: Mr. Follweiler, Mr. Hazzard, Mr. Beers, Mr. Cox, Mr. Green (5)

NAY: Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Ms. Papay, Mr. Dorshimer (4)

Motion carried.

New Board Committee List Mr. Dorshimer made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Beers, that the Board of Education adopts an amended Board Committee List. This amended list includes co-chairpersons. It also contains several committee changes that were made to accommodate requests from individual board members.

INFORMATION All board members received a copy of the minutes of the Lehigh Carbon Community College Board of Trustees meeting held on January 8, 2004.

RECOGNITION OF GUESTS Jane Kropf – Slatington – Did the administration find out any information with regard to the cheerleaders and their lack of attendance at away games? She questioned block 4 study hall on uneven days in the senior high school with regard to one student in the class with three monitors. Is the district’s supplementary personnel salary schedule available for review by the public. Does the district have an accounting of the Running of the Dawgs financial statements?

Brian Holobusky – Slatington – What is the status of reconfiguring the elementary schools? What

is the bussing situation with YCare for next year? Could parents have a question and answer period regarding reconfiguration.

Executive Cindy Holobusky – Slatington – Had some concerns with regard to day care for next year. Mr. Cox asked if the Board could have a short, five minute, executive session following the Session meeting to talk about personnel issues.

APPOINT Mr. Green appointed Mr. Follweiler as temporary secretary for the remainder of the meeting due to
TEMPORARY the fact that Mr. Dorshimer had to leave the meeting to go to work.
SECRETARY

ADJOURN- Mr. Cox made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Beers, that the regular meeting of the
MENT Northern Lehigh School District Board of School Directors be adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Cox, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Hazzard,
Ms. Papay, Mr. Green (8)

NAY: None (0)

Respectfully submitted,

Bryan C. Dorshimer
Secretary

ATTEST: _____ President
Mathias J. Green, Jr.