

**NORTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board Minutes**

**Slatington, PA
March 7, 2005**

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 7:30 p.m. on Monday, March 7, 2005 in the gymnasium located in the Peters Elementary School.

ROLL CALL Members present: Mr. Franklin D. Beers, 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. (8)

Members absent: Mr. Robert J. Cox (1)

Non-members present: Dr. Nicholas P. Sham, Sr., Mrs. Lynn Fedorcha, Mr. Philip Bertolino, Mr. Robert Kern, Dr. Linda Marcincin, Mr. John Hrizuk, Mr. David Papay, Mr. Robert Mack, Mr. Brian Geiger, Ms. Christine Stafford, Attorney Janie Slamon (Solicitor), Mrs. Laurie Newman-Mankos, Ms. Andrea Madochick, Ms. Ashley Kunkle, Ms. Jessica Fidler and Mrs. Sherri Molitoris

VISITORS Approximately 12 visitors attended the meeting, in addition to Sharon Minnich, reporter for The Times News and Terry Ahner, reporter for The Chronicle.

SPECIAL BOARD REPORTS Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit – Mr. Bryan C. Dorshimer
Mr. Dorshimer reported on the CLIU Board Brief which was distributed to all board members.

Legislative Report -- Mrs. Lori H. Geronikos

Mrs. Geronikos reported on the PSBA Legislative Conference she attended where she met with about 300 board members throughout the state where Act 72 was one of the topics discussed.

Public Comment Anthony Valentini – Washington Township – Said that the board is wrong in not accepting Act 72. He shared his feelings with the board.

Peter Ruth – Washington Township – Agrees that Act 72 should be passed. He asked various questions and also shared his feelings and concerns with the board.

Lehigh Carbon Community College – Mr. Mathias J. Green, Jr.

Mr. Green commented on the community college budget that appears later on the agenda.

Committee Reports and/or Meetings

All board members received a copy of the minutes of the Policy/Education/Staffing Committee meeting held on February 23, 2005 and the minutes of the Technology/Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting held on March 2, 2005.

Student Representatives To The Board Report – Ms. Ashley Kunkle and Ms. Jessica Fidler distributed their written report for the month and reported on its contents.

Federal and Other Programs Update – Mrs. Lynne B. Fedorcha

She announced that the Safe Schools meeting scheduled for March 8 will be cancelled. Mrs. Fedorcha distributed her Curriculum and Instruction Report and reviewed its contents.

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

Dr. Sham reported on the following:

He announced that the Board/Administration Retreat would be held one day, April 2, 2005, due to the fact that several board members were unable to attend the Friday evening portion of the retreat.

He acknowledged Elizabeth Keiser, an 8th grade student whose poster appeared on the PPL published calendar.

Act 72 information booklets were distributed to all board members.

An Executive Session was held in the Peters Elementary School Faculty Room immediately following the meeting for negotiations.

PERSONNEL

Mrs. Fullas made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Hazzard, that the Board of Education approves the following items listed under Personnel:

Salary
Adjustment

Acknowledge the following teacher who has completed the requirements per the Collective Bargaining Agreement that would entitle her to a salary increase for the second semester of the 2004-2005 school year:

Sandra Becker

From: 6B \$38,300

To: 6B+24 \$38,500

Unpaid
Volunteer

Approve the following individual as an unpaid volunteer coach for the 2005 spring season:

Gary Warmkessel – Volunteer Softball Coach (Pending Verification of Clearances)

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

NAY: None (0)

POLICY

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

Conferences

Approve the request of Terry Jenkins to attend the PA Music Educators Association Annual Convention in Hershey, PA on April 21 and 22, 2005. Expenses for this conference include \$80.00 for registration, \$37.80 for travel for an approximate total cost of \$117.00 and will be funded through the General Fund.

Approve the request of Laurie Mott to attend a Bureau of Education & Research conference in Allentown on March 14, 2005. Expenses for this conference include \$175.00 for registration plus the cost of a substitute teacher for one day and will be funded through Title I funds.

Approve the request of Rhonda Frantz to attend the Attendance/Child Accounting Professional Association Spring Conference from March 30 to April 1, 2005 in Hershey, PA. Expenses for this trip include \$155.00 for registration, \$60.00 for travel, \$20.00 for meals, \$123.00 for lodging for a total cost of \$358.00 and will be funded through the Business Office budget.

Approve the request of Heather Tift to attend the Attendance/Child Accounting Professional Association Spring Conference from March 30 to April 1, 2005 in Hershey, PA. Expenses for this trip include \$155.00 for registration, \$20.00 for meals, \$123.00 for lodging for a total cost of \$298.00 and will be funded through the Business Office budget.

Board Policy
First Reading

Approve revisions to existing school board policy #802 – Operations – School Organization, as presented after first reading.

Approve revisions to existing school board policy #117 – Programs – Homebound Instruction, as presented after first reading.

Approve revisions to existing school board policy #202 – Pupils – Attendance of Nonresident Students, as presented after first reading.

Approve revisions to existing school board policy #808 – Operations – Food Services, as presented after first reading.

POLICY

(Con't.)

Approve revisions to existing school board policy #217 – Pupils – Graduation Requirements, as presented after first reading.

Approve to adopt new school board policy #200 – Pupils – Enrollment in District, as presented after first reading.

Approve to replace existing school board policy #201 – Pupils – Admission of Students, with new PSBA recommended policy #201.

Board Policy
Second
Reading

Approve revisions to existing school board policy #434 – Professional Employees – Sick Leave, as presented after second reading.

Approve the request of the National Honor Society to travel to New York City on Saturday, April 2, 2005 for their annual senior trip. There will be no cost to the district for this trip.

Approve the request of the Northern Lehigh High School Marching Band to participate in its annual spring trip. This year they are requesting permission to travel to Williamsburg, Virginia from April 15 through April 17, 2005. The entire cost of the trip will be paid for by the students, chaperones, and the Northern Lehigh Band Boosters.

ROLL CALL: YEA: Mrs. Fullas, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Hazzard, Mr. Green (4)
NAY: Mr. Beers, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser (4)

Motion defeated.

**CURRICU-
LUM AND
INSTRUCT-**

Mrs. Ganser made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Dorshimer, that the Board of Education approves the request of Mrs. Lana Schmidt, high school German teacher. She has submitted a request for the continuation of the Northern Lehigh German-American Exchange Program between **ION** interested students from the Northern Lehigh School District and the Eduard Spraenger Gymnasium in Landau, Germany. The first half of the exchange cycle was successfully completed in October 2004. Mrs. Schmidt is requesting permission to take an outstanding group of Northern Lehigh students that have applied and been accepted to travel to Germany for the second half of the exchange cycle. She is also requesting permission to take two colleagues to accompany her as chaperones for the students. They are planning to depart on June 15, 2005 and return on July 2, 2005. Most of the students are taking the trip as part of the recently Board approved "German in Germany" course. Trip participants will be responsible for all expenses; however, they do request liability insurance coverage for the entire group, as has been granted since their first exchange trip in 1984.

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

NAY: None (0)

**OLD
BUSINESS**

Mrs. Geronikos made a motion, that the Board of Education approves a previously defeated motion and approve Policy items A1-2, B 1-7, C-1, D and E. Mr. Green ruled that this was not an admissible motion since Mrs. Geronikos was not from the "victorious" side. Mrs. Ganser made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Dorshimer that the Board of Education approves a new motion to approve Policy A1-2, B1-7, C-1, and D and E.

Amend
Motion

Mr. Dorshimer made a motion to amend the previous motion to include Policy Item A-3. Mrs. Ganser seconded his motion accepting the amendment.

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Fullas, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos,

Mr. Hazzard, Mr. Green (8)
 NAY: None (0)

**OLD
 BUSINESS**
 (Con't.)

Mr. Beers wanted to know if the Board was going to do anything for the State Championship high school wrestling team. Mr. Green stated that when the season is over they will be recognized by the Board.

Mr. Ganser asked for an update on the status of the drinking water at Peters Elementary.

Mrs. Geronikos wanted to know what the status was of the letter of intent that was sent to Lehigh Carbon Community College two years ago with the intent that the district no longer wanted to participate in the community college.

FINANCIAL

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

PC Abatements Approve abatement of per capita taxes, for the residents that fall within the guidelines, as presented.

Construction Account 2004 A and 2004 AAA Bills Approve payment of bills from the Construction Account 2004 A and 2004 AAA Financing, as presented.

Cash Management Portfolio Approve the Arthurs Lestrage Cash Management Portfolio for the month of January 2005.

Terminate Contract With Ceridian Benefit Services for COBRA Authorize district administration to terminate the contract between Northern Lehigh School District and Ceridian Benefit Services for COBRA administration effective June 30, 2005.

Lehigh County Insurance Consortium & PSBA Insurance Trust Authorize district administration to execute a COBRA administration services agreement between Northern Lehigh School District as part of the Lehigh County Insurance Consortium and PSBA Insurance Trust effective July 1, 2005. The fees associated with this contract shall be \$15.00 per qualifying event letter and \$6.00/month/subscriber for collection of premiums.

Lehigh Carbon Community 2005-2006 Northern Lehigh's enrollment is 156.1 FTE, a decrease of 20.7 FTE. Northern Lehigh's share of the total budget is \$174,509, an increase of \$18,432 or 11.81%.
 Approve a resolution regarding the 2005-2006 Lehigh Carbon Community College budget. Total expenditures equal \$4,594,548, an increase of \$609,537 (15.30%) over the 2004-2005 budget. College 2005-2006 Budget

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Fullas, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Hazzard, Mr. Green (8)
 NAY: None (0)

**INFORM-
 ATION**

All board members received a copy of the minutes of the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit Board of Directors meeting held on January 20, 2005, the minutes of the Washington Township Board of Supervisors meeting held on January 11, 2005, the minutes of the Lehigh Career & Technical Institute Joint Operating Committee meeting held on January 26, 2005 and the LCTI Director's Report for

February 2005, the minutes of the Lehigh Carbon Community College Board of Trustees meeting held on February 3, 2005, the minutes of the Borough of Slatington Parks and Recreation Committee meeting held on February 21, 2005.

RECOGNITION OF GUESTS

Peter Ruth – Washington Township – Thanked the board for “thinking outside the box” by considering withdrawing from the community college to help save taxpayers money.

Mrs. Fullas reminded board members of the executive session following the meeting to discuss negotiatons.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Beers made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Dorshimer, that the regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh School District Board of School Directors be adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

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

NAY: None (0)

Respectfully submitted,

Bryan C. Dorshimer
Secretary

ATTEST: _____ (President)