

Lehigh Area School District

Lehigh, Pennsylvania

Reorganization Meeting of School Board

Monday, December 7, 2015, at 7:00PM

Minutes

Pledge of Allegiance

*** Moment of silence for Barry Reed, former administrator, at the passing of his wife.*

Call to Order - A re-organization meeting of the Lehigh Area School Board was held in the Administration Building, Conference Room A, on the above date and called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call

	Present	Absent
Mr. Rocky Ahner, Member	X	☐
Mr. William J. Hill, Jr., Member	X	☐
Mr. Stephen L. Holland, Member	X	☐
Mrs. Lori Nothstein, Member	X	☐
Mr. Hal Resh, Member	X	☐
Mr. Larry Stern, Vice-President	X	☐
Mr. Wayne Wentz, Member	X	☐
Mr. Andrew Yenser, Treasurer	X	☐
Mrs. Gloria Bowman, President	X	☐
Mr. Brian Feick, Business Manager	X	☐
Mr. Jonathan Cleaver, Superintendent	X	☐
Attorney William Schwab, Solicitor	X	☐
Mrs. Melissa Wagner, Recording Secretary	X	☐

Recognition and expression of appreciation for departing board members:

Mr. Rocky Ahner
Mrs. Lori Nothstein
Mr. Larry Stern

Mr. Cleaver presented certificates to outgoing board members with a personal thank you to all three members. Board members are like a second family with all the time spent with them. We are fortunate to have the district, staff, and board members we do.

Oath of Office for New Board Members and Re-Elected Board Members:

Mr. Byron J. Arner
Mr. Richard R. Beltz
Mrs. Marianne Dwyer
Mr. Wayne Wentz
Mr. Andrew Yenser

All newly elected and re-elected board members took the Oath of Office with Atty. Schwab administering the oath. New members took their seats at the table.

Roll Call

	Present	Absent
Mr. Byron J. Arner, Member	X	☐
Mr. Richard R. Beltz, Member	X	☐
Mrs. Gloria Bowman, Member	X	☐
Mrs. Marianne Dwyer, Member	X	☐
Mr. William J. Hill, Jr., Member	X	☐
Mr. Stephen L. Holland, Member	X	☐
Mr. Hal Resh, Member	X	☐
Mr. Wayne Wentz, Member	X	☐
Mr. Andrew Yenser, Member	X	☐
Mr. Brian Feick, Business Manager	X	☐
Mr. Jonathan Cleaver, Superintendent	X	☐
Attorney William Schwab, Solicitor	X	☐
Mrs. Melissa Wagner, Recording Secretary	X	☐

Public Comment on Agenda

1. Wayne Wentz - Election of Board

Thanked the 3 outgoing members and welcomed the 3 incoming members with hopes to keep moving the district forward, keeping tax down, and doing the best we can for the kids.

2. Larry Stern - Item VIII. - Election of President

Thanked everyone for allowing him to serve the district that his parents attended, he and his wife, and children attended. Thanked Mr. Cleaver for leadership and ideals. Thanked Mrs. Bowman for invaluable leadership.

In 2013, we were ready to start an elementary project. Fall of 2013, it was decided not to do any exploratory action at Mahoning from sewer prospective. This pretty much stopped everything in the district. Delayed for several years and cost millions of dollars in interest under the guidance of Mr. Ahner and Mr. Resh.

Thanked Mr. Hill for saying we'd never get a better deal than Trane and we did. Saying that a stadium would not be built on his watch, and it was. For not doing his duty by completing the evaluation of the Superintendent.

To Mr. Resh – abstinence from key votes, not being prepared and blaming it on lack of information, and not attending meetings.

New board members, you've been elected, but you are not puppets, do the research and put in the time.

Election of Temporary President

Current President presides and opens nominations for Temporary President.

Mr. Beltz nominates Mr. Hill for Temporary President.

Current President calls for other nominations.

(1) MOTION by Mr. Yenser , SECONDED by Mr. Wentz to close nominations.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

(2) MOTION by Mrs. Dwyer , SECONDED by Mr. Arner to elect Mr. Hill, as Temporary President.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

Election of President

Temporary President presides and calls for nominations for President.

Mr. Wentz nominates Mrs. Bowman for President.

Mrs. Dwyer nominates Mr. Resh for President

Temporary President calls for other nominations.

(1) MOTION by Mr. Yenser , SECONDED by Mr. Arner to close nominations.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

Roll Call Vote to elect Mrs. Bowman as President:

	Yes	No	Absent	Abstention
Mr. Byron J. Arner, Member	☐	X	☐	☐
Mr. Richard R. Beltz, Member	☐	X	☐	☐
Mrs. Gloria Bowman, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mrs. Marianne Dwyer, Member	☐	X	☐	☐
Mr. William J. Hill, Jr., Member	☐	X	☐	☐
Mr. Stephen Holland, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Hal Resh, Member	☐	X	☐	☐
Mr. Wayne Wentz, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Andrew Yenser, Member	X	☐	☐	☐

VOTE: YES - 4 NO - 5 ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion denied.

Roll Call Vote to elect Mr. Resh as President:

	Yes	No	Absent	Abstention
Mr. Richard R. Beltz, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mrs. Gloria Bowman, Member	☐	X	☐	☐
Mrs. Marianne Dwyer, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. William J. Hill, Jr., Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Stephen Holland, Member	☐	X	☐	☐
Mr. Hal Resh, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Wayne Wentz, Member	☐	X	☐	☐
Mr. Andrew Yenser, Member	☐	X	☐	☐
Mr. Byron J. Arner, Member	X	☐	☐	☐

VOTE: YES - 5 NO - 4 ABSENT - ABSTENTIONS -

Motion carried.

The President assumes the Chair. – Mr. Resh remained at his current seat and conducted the remainder of the meeting.

Mr. Wentz – Given the information tonight this is a disgrace to the district.

Mrs. Bowman thanked all for allowing her to serve as President and she will do the annual report for 2015.

Mr. Resh – Board members have day-by-day duties in their jobs and will need to clear schedules and schedule committee meetings at more reasonable hours.

Election of Vice President

President presides and calls for nominations for Vice President.

Mr. Arner nominates Mr. Beltz for Vice President.

President calls for other nominations.

(1) MOTION by Mrs. Dwyer, SECONDED by Mr. Hill to close nominations.

Roll Call Vote:

	Yes	No	Absent	Abstention
Mrs. Gloria Bowman, Member	☐	X	☐	☐
Mrs. Marianne Dwyer, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. William J. Hill, Jr., Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Stephen Holland, Member	☐	X	☐	☐
Mr. Hal Resh, President	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Wayne Wentz, Member	☐	X	☐	☐
Mr. Andrew Yenser, Member	☐	X	☐	☐
Mr. Byron J. Arner, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Richard R. Beltz, Member	X	☐	☐	☐

VOTE: YES - 5 NO - 4 ABSENT - ABSTENTIONS -

Motion carried.

(2) MOTION by Mrs. Dwyer , SECONDED by Mr. Arner to elect Mr. Beltz, as Vice President.

Roll Call Vote:

	Yes	No	Absent	Abstention
Mrs. Marianne Dwyer, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. William J. Hill, Jr., Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Stephen Holland, Member	☐	X	☐	☐
Mr. Hal Resh, President	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Wayne Wentz, Member	☐	X	☐	☐
Mr. Andrew Yenser, Member	☐	X	☐	☐
Mr. Byron J. Arner, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Richard R. Beltz, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mrs. Gloria Bowman, Member	☐	X	☐	☐

VOTE: YES - 5 NO - 4 ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

President will conduct the appointment of the following positions:

Negotiations/Personnel Committee (December 2015 to December 2016)
(President may decide to defer the assignment of committees until a later date)

Appointees (4): Mrs. Marianne Dwyer
Mr. Byron J. Arner
Mr. Richard R. Beltz
Mr. William J. Hill, Jr.

Budget/Finance Committee (December 2015 to December 2016)
(President may decide to defer the assignment of committees until a later date)

Appointees (3): Mr. Richard R. Beltz, Chairperson
Mr. Byron J. Arner
Mrs. Marianne Dwyer

Mr. Resh would like to see Building and Grounds Committee to meet just before Budget and Finance Committee, moving it to a later time.

Building and Grounds Committee (December 2015 to December 2016)
(President may decide to defer the assignment of committees until a later date)

Appointees (2): Mr. Richard R. Beltz
Mr. Byron J. Arner

Policy Committee (December 2015 to December 2016)
(President may decide to defer the assignment of committees until a later date)

Appointees (3): Mrs. Gloria Bowman
Mrs. Marianne Dwyer
Mr. Stephen Holland

Wellness Committee (December 2015 to December 2016)
(President may decide to defer the assignment of committees until a later date)

Appointee (1): *Deferred until later date.*

Lehigh Memorial Library Board (December 2015 to December 2016)
(President may decide to defer the assignment of committees until a later date)

Appointees (2): *Deferred until later date.*

Athletic Committee (December 2015 to December 2016)
(President may decide to defer the assignment of committees until a later date)

Appointees (3): *Deferred until later date.*

Legislative Policy Committee of PSBA (December 2015 to December 2016)
(President may decide to defer the assignment of committees until a later date)

Appointees (2): *Deferred until later date.*

Advisory Committee of Title I (December 2015 to December 2016)
(President may decide to defer the assignment of committees until a later date)

Appointee (1): *Deferred until later date.*

Academic Affairs Committee (December 2015 to December 2016)
(President may decide to defer the assignment of committees until a later date)

Appointee (1): *Deferred until later date.*

President will conduct election of the following positions:

Carbon Career & Technical Institute Alternate Representative to Joint Operating Committee (December 2015 to December 2016)

President calls for nominations.

Mrs. Dwyer nominates Mr. Hill.

MOTION by Mr. Hill , SECONDED by Mrs. Bowman to close nominations and elect Mr. Hill, as Carbon Career & Technical Institute Alternate Representative to Joint Operating Committee.

VOTE: YES - 2 NO - ____ ABSENT - ____ ABSTENTIONS - ____
Motion carried.

Calendar of Regular School Board Meetings & Workshop Meetings:

Reg. Board Mtgs. 2016 Approved MOTION by Mrs. Bowman, SECONDED by Mr. Yenser to approve the Lehighton Area School District Regular School Board Meeting Schedule.

Atty. Schwab asked for clarification on both regular board and workshop meetings that motions and votes can be made at both meetings.

Mr. Cleaver added that it would be beneficial to have both as voting meetings.

Mr. Resh added that the regular scheduled board meeting should be the day-by-day operations and the workshop not to include any of these items.

Atty. Schwab would like them clearly advertised.

Mr. Hill asked that if a motion fails at one meeting we shouldn't come back two weeks later with another vote on it.

Atty. Schwab informed Mr. Hill that the board can always reconsider its actions at a later date.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - ____ ABSENT - ____ ABSTENTIONS - ____
Motion carried.

Wksp. Board Mtgs. 2016 Approved MOTION by Mr. Yenser, SECONDED by Mrs. Bowman to approve the Lehighton Area School District Board Workshop Meeting Schedule.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - ____ ABSENT - ____ ABSTENTIONS - ____
Motion carried.

Presentations

Tim Tkach – School Performance Profile and Comparison for Keystone Scores 2014-15

Mr. Tkach presented a PowerPoint and handout for board members regarding the SPP and Keystone Scores. SPP was only for 11th grade students this year for calculation purposes. Compared LAHS to 10 other schools in the area. SPP dropped but test scores went up. Scores used were Algebra, Biology and ELA (English Language Arts). Other indicators are used to add to the calculation. LAHS does not include any scores from CCTI's full-time students (loss of 6-7 points). Our graduation rate was off by 13 points (have talked with the state). Achievement scores do not reflect when districts are maintaining the growth. If there are any questions, Mr. Tkach will sit down with individuals to explain.

Approval of Minutes

MOTION by Mrs. Bowman, SECONDED by Mr. Wentz to approve the Minutes of the November 23, 2015 regular meeting

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____

Motion carried.

Financial Matters

Occ. Tax Refund Approved MOTION by Mr. Yenser, SECONDED by Mr. Wentz to refund Occupational Tax for year 2015 in the amount of \$122.50 to Wayne Sheckler.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____

Motion carried.

Iss. Checks 12/31/15 Denied MOTION by Mrs. Bowman, SECONDED by Mr. Yenser to approve issuing checks dated December 31, 2015, to pay invoices remaining up to December 31, 2015, should a second meeting in December 2015 not be held. Payments will be included in the January 2016 Board Agenda for confirmation.

Mr. Beltz – What are the bills we are paying?

Mr. Feick – This is just in case we have a snow cancellation, I can give to all board members and have finance committee review them.

Mr. Hill – It is 49 days until January meeting. I think we should have another meeting on December 21st.

Roll Call Vote:

	Yes	No	Absent	Abstention
Mr. William J. Hill, Jr., Member	☐	X	☐	☐
Mr. Stephen Holland, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Hal Resh, Member	☐	X	☐	☐
Mr. Wayne Wentz, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Andrew Yenser, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Byron J. Arner, Member	☐	X	☐	☐
Mr. Richard R. Beltz, Member	☐	X	☐	☐
Mrs. Gloria Bowman, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mrs. Marianne Dwyer, Member	☐	X	☐	☐

VOTE: YES - 4 NO - 5 ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____

Motion denied.

Mr. Hill – There is a 45-day window to pay bills, correct?

Mr. Feick – That 45 days starts after the last board meeting.

Mr. Beltz – Is there any chance of them being delinquent?

Mr. Feick – Yes

Mr. Beltz – By the 21st?

Mr. Feick – No, if we have a meeting the 21st we are fine but we should have a snow date.

Dec. Board Mtg. App. MOTION by Mr. Hill, SECONDED by Mr. Beltz to hold a regular scheduled board meeting on Monday, December 21, 2015, with a snow date of Monday, December 28, 2015, at 7:00 p.m.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - ____ ABSENT - ____ ABSTENTIONS - ____
Motion carried

K. Nenscel Conf. App. MOTION by Mr. Wentz, SECONDED by Mrs. Bowman to approve **Kimberly Nenscel** to attend "Powerful Strategies for Using the Eight Standards for Mathematical Practice to Increase Your Students' Math Achievement Grade 3-6, at Hyatt Place in Bethlehem, PA, on January 25, 2016, at a cost not to exceed \$300.00. Funding provided through the 2015-16 Title I Grant.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - ____ ABSENT - ____ ABSTENTIONS - ____
Motion carried.

Supp. Fund FBLA App. MOTION by Mrs. Bowman, SECONDED by Mr. Beltz to approve the supplemental funding application not to exceed the amount of **\$3,500.00** for the **FBLA** to attend the State Leadership Conference in Hershey, PA on April 11-13, 2016.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - ____ ABSENT - ____ ABSTENTIONS - ____
Motion carried.

HS Winter Rec. App. MOTION by Mr. Yenser, SECONDED by Mrs. Bowman to approve Lehigh Area High School to offer a winter credit recovery program for students at a cost not to exceed \$150 per class using the APEX Learning System for 15, 2-hour sessions for the month of February 2016.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - ____ ABSENT - ____ ABSTENTIONS - ____
Motion carried.

Personnel

Course Approvals MOTION by Mrs. Bowman, SECONDED by Mrs. Wentz to approve the following requests for pre-approval of courses for continuing education:

1. **Suzanne Howland** – February 2016-May 2016/EADM 606 – School Plant Management
2. **Adrienne Fedor** – December 14, 2015-January 13, 2016/ ARU 556 Curricular Applications in Art Education
3. **Adrienne Fedor** – January 19, 2016-May 7, 2016/ ARU 526 Differentiated Instruction through Art
4. **Allison Rheinhart** – January 15, 2016-January 31, 2016/Skills for Building the Collaborative Classroom

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

2015-16 MOTION by Mr. Yenser, SECONDED by Mrs. Bowman to approve the attached list
Subs App. of candidates for the 2015-2016 Substitute list pending clearances.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

Resignations MOTION by Mr. Yenser, SECONDED by Mrs. Dwyer to accept the resignation of
Approved the following personnel:
1. **Kathleen Kintz** - Lunch-Time Aide - effective immediately.
2. **Teri Koch** - Part-Time Cleaner - effective immediately.
3. **Delores Dorward** - Part-Time Cleaner - effective December 17, 2015

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

Miscellaneous

School Jnys. MOTION by Mrs. Bowman, SECONDED by Mr. Yenser to approve the following
Approved School Journey requests:
1. **FCCLA (J. McHugh)** - December 13, 2015 (Snow Date: 12/21/15) - to travel to "Summit" Nursing Home for Christmas Bingo - 2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.
2. **FBLA (K. Mychaliszyn-Simko, T. Miller)** - April 11-13, 2016 - to travel to Hershey for the FBLA State Leadership Conference
3. **East Penn - Grade 2 (J. Grasso, J. Bruch)** - April 15, 2016 - to travel to DaVinci Science Center - 8:45 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

Homebound MOTION by Mr. Yenser, SECONDED by Mrs. Dwyer to approve Homebound
Approved Instruction for Student #16158.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

HS Prog. of Studies App. MOTION by Mrs. Bowman, SECONDED by Mr. Yenser to approve the updates to the Lehigh Area High School Program of Studies for 2016-2017 school year.

Mr. Yenser thanked the high school for keeping the program of studies current.

Mr. Resh questioned about more control of courses.

Mr. Cleaver explained that the AASA Act in legislation has language that allows the state more flexibility. More information should be coming out soon.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

Programs

Use of Prop. Approved MOTION by Mrs. Bowman, SECONDED by Mrs. Dwyer to approve Use of School Property for:

1. East Penn PTO (Nicole Baker) – East Penn Classroom 126 for Santa’s Secret Workshop – 12/14/15-12/17/15

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS _____
Motion carried.

Old Business for Discussion - None

New Business for Discussion

Mr. Resh read a letter of resignation from Mr. Hill as representative on the school authority at CCTI effective December 7, 2015.

Mr. Yenser – This is the controlling branch of the CCTI that controls the property.

Mr. Cleaver – They meet about 4-5 times per year

Atty. Schwab – We don’t have to fill this in 30 days. We do not need a board member, it’s just been tradition.

Mr. Resh – Mr. Almer, you are a graduate of this school?

Mr. Rocky Almer – Yes, I am.

Mr. Resh – Are you willing to serve on the authority.

Mr. Rocky Almer – Yes.

Atty. Schwab – it does require a motion and a vote.

R. Ahner CCTI App. MOTION by Mr. Hill, SECONDED by Mrs. Dwyer to appoint Rocky Ahner as the Joint Operating Authority Representative at the Carbon County Technical Institute.

Mrs. Bowman nominates Mr. Wentz. Mr. Wentz denied the nomination.

MOTION by Mr. Hill, SECONDED by Mrs. Dwyer to close nominations.

Roll Call Vote to Elect Mr. Ahner to CCTI:

	Yes	No	Absent	Abstention
Mr. Stephen Holland, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Hal Resh, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Wayne Wentz, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Andrew Yenser, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Byron J. Arner, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Richard R. Beltz, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mrs. Gloria Bowman, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mrs. Marianne Dwyer, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. William J. Hill, Jr., Member	X	☐	☐	☐

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____

Motion carried.

Courtesy of the floor / Public Comment

1. Mike Lusch – Elementary Center vs. Renovation

Thank you to outgoing members for time patience and effort. Welcome to the new school board members. Several of you ran on the platform to renovate the existing elementary buildings. I would like to see you present your side of the argument – the numbers, benefits. We talked about being transparent. This is an opportunity, hopefully at the next board meeting, to give your interpretation.

2. David Bradley

Welcome to new board members. If you are looking at renovation, look at actual cost not what architect has given. A forensic audit is in order. Suppression of ideas and transfer of knowledge through a dialog doesn't make sense, to review a written report makes sense. The oppression of a voice at the Act 34 and of a veteran in a meeting, the blocking of a voter referendum, antics associated with spending millions on an architect that wasn't bid, the MOU with Mr. Kraky, the Fisher resignation, and the state roof program ignored by the board. The lack of consideration of the students who will be burdened by the debt. Please make public the amended complaint filed by Mr. Dages.

Adjournment

Next regular scheduled meeting is Monday, December 21, 2015, snow date of Monday, December 28, 2015, at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Resh reminded all that there will be an executive session following the board meeting.

Atty. Schwab stated that the reason for the executive session is for litigation purposes and personnel.

MOTION by Mrs. Bowman, SECONDED by Mr. Arner to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 p.m.

VOTE: YES - 2 NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____

*** Executive Session was held after the meeting for litigation purposes and personnel.*

Respectfully submitted



Brian Feick
Board Secretary

(Minutes of December 7, 2015 include Pages 1 through 13.)