

Lehigh Area School District

Lehigh, Pennsylvania

Regular Meeting of School Board
Monday, December 16, 2013 at 7:00PM
Executive Session @ 5:45 PM

Minutes

Pledge of Allegiance

****Moment of silence for deceased employee - Brenda Strausberger**
Brenda was employed as the Shull-David Elementary Principal's Secretary since 1991.

Call to Order - A regular 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 7:05 p.m.

Roll Call -

	Present	Absent
Mr. Rocky Ahner, Member	X	☐
Mr. William J. Hill, Jr., Member	X	☐
Mr. Stephen L. Holland, Member	X	☐
Mr. Hal Resh, Vice-President	X	☐
Mr. Larry Stern, Member	X	☐
Mr. Wayne Wentz, Member	☐	X
Mr. Andrew Yenser, Treasurer	X	☐
Mr. Thomas Zimmerman, Member	☐	X
Mrs. Gloria Bowman, President	X	☐
Mr. Michael Malay Jr., Business Manager	X	☐
Mr. Jonathan Cleaver, Superintendent	X	☐
Attorney William Schwab, Solicitor	X	☐
Ms. Bonnie Cortese, Recording Board Secretary	X	☐

*****Notice of Executive Session**

Public Comment on Agenda

1. Workshop Board Meeting Scheduled for January 13, 2014 at 7 p.m. in the Board Room

Presentations -

1. EI Associates – East Penn & Mahoning Elementary Building Plans

- Handout
- PowerPoint

Communications -

1. Superintendent's Report – Mr. Cleaver
 - Two snow days to date – Last day of school moved to June 10, 2014
 - Sp. Ed. Funding commission released final report which includes a formula for distributing new special education funds.
2. Board President's Report – Mrs. Bowman
 - Thanks to Mrs. Howland for reading tribute to Brenda Strausberger written by Aaron Sebelin, Principal
 - Thank you to Board Committees and Chairs
 - Building & Grounds Meeting will be held at 2 p.m. on 12/17/2013
 - Positive Feedback
 - Thank you to Mrs. Marchetti for invitation to dinner/book discussion
 - Recognition of student accomplishments.
 - Recognition of past employee, Audrey DiFluri, who recently passed away
3. Lehigh Memorial Library Report – Mr. Zimmerman - Absent
4. Legislative Policy Committee of PSBA Report – Mr. Ahner
 - Legislative changes for Administrative reporting for child abuse
 - Looking at Drug Testing for prospective employees
5. Title I Advisory Committee Report – Mrs. Bowman
 - Next Title I Advisory Meeting – 1/31/2014
6. CCTI Report - Mr. Yenser
 - Finance Committee Meeting – 12/12/2013
7. CLIU Report – Mr. Wentz - Absent
8. Student Representative Report – Nicole Schnell
 - Winter Socials
 - Band Concert
 - Volleyball Tournament – bring two cans of food to donate
 - Keystone Rewards Luncheon
 - ASFAB results in January
 - January 8th – Keystone testing begins
 - Final Exams 1/22 & 23/2014
9. Solicitor's Report – Attorney William Schwab- written
10. Building/Grounds Report - Mr. Wentz - Absent
11. LCCC – Mr. Stern
 - Search ongoing for LCCC President
 - New Carbon site Open House – 12/17/2013
12. Academic Affairs Committee Report – Mrs. Bowman
 - Will be scheduled after the Holiday
 - Meetings will be alternate months with the Policy Committee

Approval of Minutes -

MOTION by Mr. Hill, SECONDED by Mr. Ahner to approve the Minutes of the December 2, 2013, re-organization meeting.

VOTE: YES - 7 NO - ABSENT - 2 ABSTENTIONS -

Motion carried.

Financial Matter -

Activities Fund MOTION by Mr. Stern, SECONDED by Mr. Yenser to approve the Lehigh Area High School Activities Fund for November 2013.

VOTE: YES - 7 NO - ABSENT - 2 ABSTENTIONS -

Motion carried.

Payment Of Bills MOTION by Mr. Stern, SECONDED by Mr. Ahner to approve the Payment of Bills:

General Fund	\$ 764,609.19
Benefits	\$ 1,259.06
Food Service Fund	\$ 69,314.78
Capital Reserve	\$ -----
Athletic Fund	\$ <u>11,988.23</u>
Total	\$ 847,171.26

VOTE: YES - 7 NO - ABSENT - 2 ABSTENTIONS -

Motion carried.

Treasurer's Reports MOTION by Mr. Yenser, SECONDED by Mr. Hill to approve the following reports:

- a. Revenue Report
- b. Budget Report
- c. Treasurer's Reports
 1. General Fund
 2. Capital Reserve Fund
 3. Food Service Fund

VOTE: YES - 7 NO - ABSENT - 2 ABSTENTIONS -
Motion carried.

Per Cap/ Occ. Tax Exemptions MOTION by Mr. Stern, SECONDED by Mr. Ahner to approve exemptions from Per Capita and/or Occupational Tax per the attached list.

VOTE: YES - 7 NO - ABSENT - 2 ABSTENTIONS -
Motion carried.

T. Holmes PASBO Conference Approved MOTION by Mr. Yenser, SECONDED by Mr. Stern to approve Tina Holmes to attend the 59th Annual PASBO Conference at the Hershey Lodge & Convention Center from March 11 – 14, 2014 at a budgeted cost not to exceed \$775.00. Included in the cost will be registration, hotel, and mileage.

VOTE: YES - 7 NO - ABSENT - 2 ABSTENTIONS -
Motion carried.

Gen. Fund Committed MOTION by Mr. Yenser, SECONDED by Mr. Stern to direct the administration to Commit a portion of its current General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance into a committed Fund Balance: \$7,000,000 for PSERS and \$1,000,000 for Other Post-Employment Benefits.

VOTE: YES - 7 NO - ABSENT - 2 ABSTENTIONS -
Motion carried.

**MA Twp.
2013
Delinquent
Taxes**

MOTION by Mr. Hill, SECONDED by Mr. Yenser that the Board hereby hires Portnoff & Associates per their agreement to verify taxes and collect 2013 delinquent school taxes for Mahoning Township.

VOTE: YES - 7 NO - ABSENT - 2 ABSTENTIONS -
Motion carried.

**Carb. Co.
Not to
Collect
MA Taxes**

MOTION by Mr. Stern, SECONDED by Mr. Yenser that the Board adopts a resolution that the Carbon County Tax Claim Bureau will not collect the 2013 delinquent school taxes for Mahoning Township.

VOTE: YES - 7 NO - ABSENT - 2 ABSTENTIONS -
Motion carried.

**Fees for
Collection
Of 2013
Del. Taxes**

MOTION by Mr. Stern, SECONDED by Mr. Hill that the Board adopts the attached resolution establishing fees and costs in connection with the collection of 2013 delinquent school taxes not collected by the tax claim bureau.

VOTE: YES - 7 NO - ABSENT - 2 ABSTENTIONS -
Motion carried.

**Solicitor
Approved
to Negotiate**

MOTION by Mr. Stern, SECONDED by Mr. Yenser that the Board authorizes the Solicitor to negotiate a settlement of the former superintendent to bring back to the board for approval.

VOTE: YES - 7 NO - ABSENT - 2 ABSTENTIONS -
Motion carried.

**R. Ahner
To Attend
NSBA
Conference**

MOTION by Mr. Stern, SECONDED by Mr. Resh to approve Rocky Ahner, Board Member, to attend the National School Board Association's Conference as the PA delegate in Washington DC, on February 2 - 4, 2014, at a cost not to exceed \$2,400.00 which includes room/registration/meals and mileage.

VOTE: YES - 7 NO - ABSENT - 2 ABSTENTIONS -
Motion carried.

**Solicitor
Authorized
To Take
Action** MOTION by Mr. Yenser, SECONDED by Mr. Holland that the District hereby authorizes the solicitor, William G. Schwab, during the extended time between meetings, to take any necessary action to protect the interest of the District in litigation or appeal matters.

VOTE: YES - 7 NO - _____ ABSENT - 2 ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

**SD - Café.
Tables
Approved** MOTION by Mr. Hill, SECONDED by Mr. Holland to approve the recommendation to purchase the P.E.M. Co. cafeteria tables for Shull-David Elementary per the attached quote of \$18,592.00 through the PA COSTARS program (contract #035-007).

VOTE: YES - 7 NO - _____ ABSENT - 2 ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

Personnel -

**Coursework
Approval** MOTION by Mr. Stern, SECONDED by Mr. Hill to approve the following requests for pre-approval of courses/Programs of Study for continuing education:
1. Karen Blisard – December 17, 2013 – April 15, 2014 / Teach Well, Learn Well:RTI
2. Michael Feifel - January 6 – March 1, 2014 / The Progressive Era
3. Michael Feifel - March 8 – May 3, 2014 / The American Revolution
4. Amber Konek – January 23 – April 24, 2014 / Psychological Foundations

VOTE: YES - 7 NO - _____ ABSENT - 2 ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

**Substitutes
Hired** MOTION by Mr. Hill, SECONDED by Mr. Yenser to approve the attached list of candidates for the 2013-2014 Substitute list pending clearances.

VOTE: YES - 7 NO - _____ ABSENT - 2 ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

J. Malay Resigned MOTION by Mr. Stern, SECONDED by Mr. Ahner to accept the resignation of **J. Michael Malay, Jr.**, Business Administrator, effective on or before February 7, 2014.

VOTE: YES - 6 NO - 1 - Yenser ABSENT - 2 ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

M. Ehrlacher Resigned MOTION by Mr. Hill, SECONDED by Mr. Stern to accept the resignation of **Mary Ehrlacher**, part-time cleaner assigned to the Middle School, effective March 28, 2014.

VOTE: YES - 7 NO - _____ ABSENT - 2 ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

A. Rheinhardt Step Aligned MOTION by Mr. Stern, SECONDED by Mr. Yenser to approve the adjustment for **Alison Rheinhardt**, special education teacher, long-term substitute assignment approved at the December 2, 2013 board meeting to be hired at Step 3, Bachelors for the 2nd semester of the 2013-2014 school year.

VOTE: YES - 7 NO - _____ ABSENT - 2 ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

Miscellaneous -

School Journey Requests Approved MOTION by Mr. Hill, SECONDED by Mr. Ahner to approve the following School Enrichment Journey requests:

1. Gr. 5 & 6 Chorus (Thomas Weidner) - April 5, 2014 (7 a.m. - 6:15 p.m.) - Blue Mtn. School District to participate in an honors chorus festival.
2. Gr. 5 & 6 Band (Thomas Weidner) - April 25, 2014 (11 a.m. - 9 p.m.) - No. Schuykill Sch. District to participate in honors band festival.
3. MS Jazz Ensemble (Thomas Weidner) - March 14, 2014 (5:30 - 11:30 p.m.) - Netchmann MS in Bethlehem, PA to participate in a Jazz Festival.
4. Gr. 5 & 6 Band (Thomas Weidner) - May 2, 2014 (4:30 - 11:30 p.m.) - Reading, PA for an end-of-year celebration at the Reading Phillies Game.
5. HS Physics Classes (Doug Bowman) - May 9, 2014 (8 a.m. - 8 p.m.) to Hershey Park for physics day activities.
6. HS Ski Club (Doug Bowman) - February 25, March 18, 26, April 9, 2014 (3 - 8 p.m.) - to North Summit Climbing Gym & Reading Rocks for indoor rock climbing.
7. Grade 8 ACE Team (Susan McElvar) - February 24 & 25, 2014 (7:25 a.m. - 3 p.m.) - to Northwestern Lehigh for Grade 8 ACE competition.
8. Sixth Sense Team (Susan McElvar/Sherry Hoffman) - April 24 & 25, 2014 (7:15 a.m. - 3 p.m.) for Sixth Sense County Competition.

VOTE: YES - 7 NO - _____ ABSENT - 2 ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

**Board
Committees
Acknowledged**

MOTION by Mr. Hill, SECONDED by Mr. Ahner to acknowledge the assignment of the attached board committees.

VOTE: YES - 7 NO - ABSENT - 2 ABSTENTIONS -
Motion carried.

Programs -

**Use of
School
Property
Approved**

MOTION by Mr. Stern, SECONDED by Mr. Yenser to approve Use of School Property for:

1. LASD High School Boys' Soccer (Dave Yob) - Sundays (January 5 - February 22, 2014) - to use the High School gym for indoor soccer workouts.
2. Hunter Meckes Memorial Soccer Tournament (Sherry Meckes) - April 13, 2014 (7 a.m. - 7 p.m.) - to use the MS and HS fields for a memorial soccer tournament.
3. Palmerton Pre-School & Child Care Ctr. (Sherry Mertz) - May 21, 2014 (6-8 p.m.) - to use the MS Auditorium for a preschool graduation.
4. Class of 2014 All-Nigh Party Committee (Cindy Cordova) - April 12 & 13, 2014 (10 a.m. - 3 p.m.) to use the High School gym and lobby food stand for the Basket Raffle.

VOTE: YES - 7 NO - ABSENT - 2 ABSTENTIONS -
Motion carried.

**Track/Field
Sunday
Practice
Approved**

MOTION by Mr. Ahner, SECONDED by Mr. Stern to approve the Track and Field team to hold a practice on Sunday, May 4, 2014 due to a schedule change for the MVC Championship Meet which will now be held on Monday, May 5, 2014.

VOTE: YES - 7 NO - ABSENT - 2 ABSTENTIONS -
Motion carried.

Old Business for Discussion - None

New Business for Discussion –

1. Addendum –

S. Brandt MOTION by Mr. Ahner, SECONDED by Mr. Holland approve the recommendation
Sch. Psych. to hire **Sarah Brandt** as School Psychologist at pro-rated Step 3 Masters on the
Hired LAEA salary scale, effective January 6, 2014, pending receipt of clearances.

VOTE: YES - 7 NO - _____ ABSENT - 2 ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

Acknowledge MOTION by Mr. Hill, SECONDED by Mr. Ahner to acknowledge the sale of the
Sale of CCTI CCTI Adult Education property (as recommended from CCTI-JOC), located at 77
Adult Ed. West 13th Street, Jim Thorpe, PA, to include the property, the permanent structure,
Property and the portable structure, under sealed bid with a minimum reserve of \$257,000.
All deed transfers and taxes will be paid by the buyer with due diligence to zoning.
The property with buildings will be sold “as is” with all bids to be received within
sixty (60) days of advertising, and closing to commence upon sixty (60) days of the
public opening of bids. Proceeds will be distributed amongst Carbon County
school districts based on current market value.

VOTE: YES - 7 NO - _____ ABSENT - 2 ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

2. Mr. Stern –

- *LCCC document received – Not included in budget presentation*

3. Mr. Cleaver –

- *Questions regarding EI presentation will be emailed prior to the workshop meeting.*

4. Mrs. Howland –

- *Three out of the four Holiday programs were held and were exceptional. Franklin’s program will be held 12/17 (snowdate 12/18)*

Courtesy of the floor / Public Comment - None

Adjournment -

Next regular scheduled meeting is the regular meeting on Monday, January 27, 2014. A workshop meeting is scheduled for January 13, 2014 at 7 p.m.

MOTION by Mr. Hill, SECONDED by Mr. Resh to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 p.m.

VOTE: YES - 7 NO - _____ ABSENT - 2 ABSTENTIONS - _____

Respectfully submitted

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. Michael Malay, Jr.", with a stylized flourish at the end.

J. Michael Malay, Jr.
Board Secretary

(Minutes of December 16, 2013 include Pages 1 through 10)