

Lehigh Area School District

Lehigh, Pennsylvania

Regular Meeting of School Board
Monday, April 16, 2012 at 7:00PM

Minutes

Pledge of Allegiance

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 7:02 p.m.

Roll Call -

	Present	Absent
Mr. John Finnegan, Member	X	☐
Mr. William J. Hill, Jr., Member	X	☐
Mr. Dave Krause, 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	☐
Mr. Rocky Ahner, President	X	☐
Mr. Michael Malay Jr., Business Manager	X	☐
Dr. Terence Maher, Consulting Superintendent	X	☐
Attorney William Schwab, Solicitor	X	☐
Ms. Bonnie Cortese, Recording Board Secretary	X	☐

Courtesy to the Floor - None

Presentations -

1. **Kelly Fritz / Marie Reese** - Shull-David Accelerated Reading Record-Breaking Event Results (Handout) - Certificate Presented
2. **Brenda Eckley** - Lehigh Support Staff - Traveling Chinese Auction to support the Dental Van & Drug & Alcohol Task Force. Schedule for auction posted on website.
3. **Jason Galloway (Lehigh Republican Club)** - Results of the "2012 Dollar Bill Presidents' Day Contest". Winners from HS and MS announced.
4. **District Nurses** - Immunization Update
5. **Jens Damgaard (Rhoads & Sinon LLP)** - Bond Issue - Explanation of Bond Sale followed by a question / answer session.

Communications –

1. Superintendent's Report – *Dr. Maher*
 - Executive Session for Legal affairs called at 7:52 p.m.
 - Regular Board Meeting resumed at 8:15 p.m.
2. Board President's Report – *Mr. Ahner*
 - Reinforced that the work proposed for the MS gym floor does not include work on the football stadium.
 - Commended athletes for all their accomplishments.
 - Drug & Alcohol Speaker on May 17 & 18 – Chris Herren
 - Mr. Finnegan commended Mr. Tkach for all his dedication and leadership with the Drug & Alcohol Task Force.
 - April 25th – Crime Watch Meeting
 - May 2 – Drug & Alcohol Task Force Meeting 6:30 p.m.
3. Leighton Memorial Library Report – *Mr. Finnegan*
4. Legislative Policy Committee of PSBA Report – *Mr. Krause - absent*
 - PSBA Legislative Report (attached)
5. Title I Advisory Committee Report – *Mr. Zimmerman*
 - Summer Math & Reading Camps
 - Parent Night at Shull-David – April 18
6. CCTI Report – *Mr. Yenser*
7. CLIU Report – *Mr. Wentz - absent*
8. Student Representative Report – *Shyanne Kleintop*
 - FCCLA – Bake Sale
 - Kudos to HS Play – Six Seniors participated
 - May 19 – NHS Spring Social
 - April 20 – Scholastic Scrimmage
 - April 26 & 27 – Science Olympiad
 - May 10 – Band Concert / Envirothon
 - May 11 – Prom (Hotel Bethlehem)
 - April 25 – Red Cross Blood Drive
 - May 17 – Academic Awards
 - Two students participating in HOBY
9. Solicitor's Report – *Attorney William Schwab*
 - Written report
 - Executive session was held for legal purposes
10. Building/Grounds Report – *Mr. Stern*
 - HS – security system to be installed for the Fall
 - HS – Dividing gates similar to those at the MS to be installed
 - MS work bundled: Bleacher construction / curtain / gym floor / removal of anchors
 - Stadium – crushed stone placed on walking track
 - Removal of steps from practice field
 - Stadium bathrooms are a concern
 - More stone to be placed at track parking area
 - Underground electric for the soccer field
 - MS security camera
 - Acknowledge the softball boosters
11. LCCC – *Mr. Stern*
 - Articulation agreements in process

Legislative Report - April

The House Education Committee amended and approved **HB 2028** which removes the Separations Act mandates which currently require school districts to bid individual portions of school construction contracts (i.e. HVAC, electrical, plumbing, etc.) separately. Under HB 2028, school districts will be able to bid contracts separately or as a single contract.

In House action:

The **House Finance Committee** approved **SB 405**. This bill amends the Local Tax Enabling Act to clarify and place restrictions on when a political subdivision may levy a business privilege tax. Under the bill, a mercantile or business privilege tax may be imposed by a local taxing jurisdiction only if the privilege of doing business is exercised through a base of operations in the local taxing jurisdiction. "Base of operations" is defined as an actual, physical and permanent place of business; merely engaging in transactions within the taxing jurisdiction does not constitute "the privilege of doing business."

The **House Appropriations Committee** approved **SB 743**, which permits a person who is qualified as a teacher or director in a private driver education training school but does not hold a professional educator certification to teach driver education in a public school classroom. The instructor could be hired provided that the employing school district has posted the vacant position for a minimum of 10 days and that there is no qualified candidate to fill the position.

In Senate action:

The Senate Education Committee approved these bills:

SB 1410 amends the Public School Code to allow the Pittsburgh School District to continue its designation as a Commonwealth Partnership School District, which provides certain management flexibility regarding the disposal of real estate, demotion of administrators and renegotiation of certain contracts. This designation is set to expire on June 30, 2012. The committee added a technical amendment to the bill.

SB 1436 prohibits the State Board of Education and Department of Education from moving forward with its current proposal to amend the Chapter 4 regulations to reduce the number of Keystone Exams required for graduation from 10 to three. Under SB 1436, the State Board and/or PDE would not be permitted to take action prior to June 30, 2020, that would have the effect of eliminating, limiting or delaying the development or implementation of the full range of 10 Keystone Exams. The bill was amended to maintain the current requirement that the exams count for at least one-third of a student's final course grade.

SB 1440 requires the state to reimburse school districts, charter schools and cyber charter schools for costs incurred should PDE or the State Board of Education reduce the number of Keystone Exams to be developed and implemented.

The Senate Finance Committee did not vote on SB 1309 that it had been scheduled to consider this week. SB 1309 would prohibit a school district or other taxing district from appealing the assessment of property based on the sale of the property, sometimes referred to as "reverse appeals" or "spot assessments."

The **Senate Appropriations Committee** approved **HB 823**. This bill amends the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code to require municipalities to notify school superintendents of plats within the school district to allow them to plan for potential changes in student enrollment.

April Recognitions:

- Lehighton HS Cheerleaders for capturing its FIRST ever championship at Del. Val College Gold Cup Cheer Classic

Approval of Minutes -

MOTION by Mr. Yenser, SECONDED by Mr. Stern to approve the Minutes of the March 26, 2012 regular meeting.

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

Motion carried.

Financial Matters -

Activities Report MOTION by Mr. Finnegan, SECONDED by Mr. Stern to approve the Lehigh Area High School Activities Fund for March 2012.

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

Motion carried.

Payment Of Bills MOTION by Mr. Yenser, SECONDED by Mr. Hill to approve the Payment of Bills:

General Fund	\$ 223,624.29
Benefits	\$ _____
Food Service Fund	\$ 1,999.45
Capital Reserve	\$ _____
Athletic Fund	\$ <u>10,236.90</u>
Total	\$ 235,860.64

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

Motion carried.

**Treasurer
Reports**

MOTION by Mr. Stern, SECONDED by Mr. Yenser to approve the following reports:

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

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

**Refund of
2011 Occ.
Tax for
C. Hawk
Approved**

MOTION by Mr. Finnegan, SECONDED by Mr. Stern to refund Occupational Tax for year 2011 to Carolyn Hawk in the amount of \$122.50.

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

**OAA
Fundraiser
Approved**

MOTION by Mr. Hill, SECONDED by Mr. Finnegan to approve the Athletic Trainers from OAA to sell wrist bands for \$1.00 each in support of the Greg Moyer fund, for the remainder of the 2011-2012 school year. Proceeds of this fund raiser are used to purchase defibrillators for various school districts.

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

**2012-2013
Proposed
Budget
Approved**

MOTION by Mr. Yenser, SECONDED by Mr. Zimmerman to approve the Proposed Final Budget for the 2012-2013 General Fund Budget.

Atty. Schwab explained that this is not the final version of the budget, but a worse case scenario.

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

2012-2013 MOTION by Mr. Finnegan, SECONDED by Mr. Stern to approve the 2012-
Chartwell's 2013 proposed Food Service Budget from Chartwell School Dining Services.

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

HS Bldg. MOTION by Mr. Hill, SECONDED by Mr. Stern that upon recommendation by the
Envelope Solicitor, the District hereby authorizes the Building and Grounds Committee to
RFP seek requests for proposals for engineering services in regards to the building
Approved envelope at the Lehigh Area High School. Said requests for proposals of service
 shall relate only to the building envelope issues at the high school, including, but
 not necessarily limited to, the maintenance and improvement of the roofing and
 exterior masonry.

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

Resolution MOTION by Mr. Zimmerman, SECONDED by Mr. Resh to adopt the Resolution
#11/12-07 (#11/12-07) presented by Bond Counsel authorizing a refunding bond issue to
Bond Issue refund Lehigh Area School District's 2004 Bonds and its 2006 and 2007A Note if
Approved a minimum net savings of 2% of the refunded debt can be achieved.

Roll Call Vote:

	Yes	No	Absent	Abstention
Mr. Dave Krause, Member	☐	☐	X	☐
Mr. Hal Resh, Vice-President	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Larry Stern, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Wayne Wentz, Member	☐	☐	X	☐
Mr. Andrew Yenser, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Thomas Zimmerman, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. John Finnegan, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. William J. Hill, Jr., Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Rocky Ahner, President	X	☐	☐	☐

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

Personnel -

**Coursework
Approved**

MOTION by Mr. Stern, SECONDED by Mr. Yenser to approve the following requests for pre-approval of courses for continuing education:

1. **Felicia Amorim** – May 7 – June 20, 2012 / Conducting & Writing a Review of Ed.
2. **Jennifer Boyle** – May 14 – June 20, 2012 / Psychological Foundations (for either the on-line course or the campus course, whichever is not cancelled. Both the on-line version and the campus version are for the same course and same dates.)
3. **Jennifer Boyle** – June 20 – 26, 2012 / Student Engagement and Standards-Based Learning
4. **Pamela Firkal** – May 15 – June 21, 2012 / Internet Literacy for Educators
5. **Pamela Firkal** – July 2 - 19, 2012 / Using Assessment to Guide Instruction
6. **Jessica Grasso** – June 11 – July 12, 2012 / US Historiography
7. **Jessica Grasso** – July 16 – August 15, 2012 / Action Research in Education
8. **Jessica Grasso** – July 16 – August 15, 2012 / History of Modern Germany
9. **Jessica Grasso** - (2012-2013 School Year) August 27 – December 14, 2012 / Applied Technology Integration in Education
10. **Joanna Kozyra-Barilla** – June 8 – 24, 2012 / Survey of US History
11. **Lisa Krause** – May 7 – July 1, 2012 / Educational Administration
12. **Lisa Krause** – May 7 – July 1, 2012 / Problems in School Administration & Supervision
13. **Lisa Krause** – May 7 – July 1, 2012 / Principal as Administrator
14. **Lisa Krause** – May 7 – July 1, 2012 / School Finance
(Lisa will take two of the four courses – depending on which courses are not cancelled.)
15. **Jacob Marushak** – May 14 – June 24, 2012 / Internet Literacy for Educators
16. **Julie McHugh** – July 5 – 11, 2012 / Classroom Management
17. **Courtney Schleicher** – May 14 – August 12, 2012 / Teaching and Evaluation Theory
18. **Marianne Slaby** – June 4 – August 5, 2012 / Developing Reading & Writing Across Curriculum
19. **Marianne Slaby** – June 4 – August 15, 2012 / Action Research for Ed. Change
20. **Melissa Volcskai** – May 21 – June 20, 2012 / Research in Education

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

**Athletic
Hires**

MOTION by Mr. Stern, SECONDED by Mr. Finnegan to approve the attached list of Athletic hires for the 2011-2012 and 2012-2013 school years.

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

Extra-Curr. Hires MOTION by Mr. Yenser, SECONDED by Mr. Stern to approve the attached **Extra-Curricular** hire for the **2011-2012** school year.

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

Uncomp. Parental Leave Approved MOTION by Mr. Finnegan, SECONDED by Mr. Stern to approve the extension of an uncompensated parental leave for **Employee #74**. The present leave is effective until April 27, 2012. The extension is requested from that dated until the end of the 2011-2012 school year.

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

2012-2013 Leave of Absence Approved MOTION by Mr. Hill, SECONDED by Mr. Finnegan to approve a Leave of Absence for the purpose of restoration of health for **Employee #12** for the 2012-2013 school year. Per employees request, sick days and personal days will be applied. A Doctor's excuse has been provided.

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

C. Winkelspecht LT Speech Hired for 2012-2013 MOTION by Mr. Yenser, SECONDED by Mr. Stern to approve the recommendation to hire **Chelsea Winkelspecht** as a long-term substitute speech therapist, effective for the 2012-2013 school year, salary based on the Lehigh Area Education Association Collective Bargaining Agreement , Step 1 Masters.

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

D. Dorward FT Custodian Hired MOTION by Mr. Stern, SECONDED by Mr. Finnegan to approve the recommendation to hire **Donald Dorward** as a full-time Custodian, effective April 17, 2012, at a pro-rated salary of \$23,347.00.

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

**J. Gasper
FT Art
Hired For
2012-2013**

MOTION by Mr. Zimmerman, SECONDED by Mr. Hill to approve the recommendation to hire **Jessica Gasper** as a full-time art teacher, effective for the 2012-2013 school year, salary based on the Lehigh Area Education Association Collective Bargaining Agreement , Step 1 Bachelors.

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

**Uncomp.
Leave for
FT Empl.
Approved**

MOTION by Mr. Finnegan, SECONDED by Mr. Zimmerman to approve an uncompensated leave for the purpose of travel for full-time Employee #420 for June 8 – 12, 2012.

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

Miscellaneous -

**School
Journey
Requests
Approved**

MOTION by Mr. Stern, SECONDED by Mr. Yenser to approve the following School Journey requests:

1. **HS Government Students (Cory Hartsell)** – April 26, 2012 (8:15 a.m. – 3 p.m.) – to travel to the Carbon County Court House for Carbon County Government Day 2012.
2. **EP Kindergarten & Grade 1 (Rhonda Zerbe)** – April 27, 2012 (8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.) – to travel to the Philadelphia Zoo for a PTO field trip.
3. **Federal Government Class (James Corpora)** – April 30, 2012 (8:30 a.m. – 1:45 p.m.) – to travel to the Carbon County Court House for “Sentencing Day” cases.
4. **MS Jazz Ensemble (Thomas Weidner)** – May 9, 2012 (2:30 pm) to Cypress Lanes, Lehighton, for an end-of-the-year party.
5. **HS Envirothon Team (Robert Barowski)** – May 10, 2012 (8 a.m. – 2:30 pm.) to the Carbon County Environmental Center for Envirothon Competition.
6. **HS Student Council/Civics Students (Michael Feifel)** – May 10, 2012 (7 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.) – to travel to PSU – Schuylkill Haven Campus for Senator Argall’s “Senator for a Day”.
7. **FR Grade 2 (Martha Cox/Colleen Hoppes/Robin Roberts)** – May 15, 2012 (8:45 a.m. – 2:45 p.m.) – to travel to Crystal Cave / West Penn Park for a PTO sponsored field trip.
8. **HS Sports & Entertainment Marketing Class (Jonathan Hakim)** – May 16, 2012 (8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.) – to travel to Dorney Park for Business & Marketing Career Day.
9. **SD Grade 2 (Jessica Grasso/Jan Wentz/Donald Herman/Lisa Barth)** – May 18, 2012 (12:30 – 2 p.m.) – to travel to the Lehighton Recreation Center for the Health Fair.
10. **MS Gr. 5/6 (John Lopata)** – May 29, 2012 (11:45 a.m. – 3 p.m.) – to travel to the Lehigh Valley Zoo as a Tribe Pride reward.
11. **MS Gr. 7/8 (John Lopata)** – May 29, 2012 (11:45 a.m. – 7:15 p.m.) to travel to Dorney Park as a Tribe Pride reward.

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

Intern Affiliation Agreement Approved MOTION by Mr. Stern, SECONDED by Mr. Zimmerman to approve the Lehigh Area School District to establish a formal Affiliation Agreement with Bloomsburg University to allow for credit-bearing internships to take place within the school district's technology department. This agreement will cover all Bloomsburg internship placements for a five-year period.

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. Good News Club - Tuesdays October 23, 2012 - April 2013 (3 - 4:45 p.m.) - to use the Shull-David All-Purpose Room for meetings.

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

Summer Band Programs Approved MOTION by Mr. Finnegan, SECONDED by Mr. Yenser to approve the following summer programs:
1. HS Band Camp (100)
2. Middle School Music Program (170 hours) as follows:
 Band Orchestra Gr. 5 & 6 (85 hours)
 Band Orchestra Gr. 7 & 8 (85 hours)

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

Senior Candidates Approved For Graduation MOTION by Mr. Hill, SECONDED by Mr. Zimmerman to approve the attached list of high school seniors as candidates for graduation on Friday, June 1, 2012.

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

**Senior
Class
Outing
Approved**

MOTION by Mr. Stern, SECONDED by Mr. Hill to approve the **HS Senior Class Outing** scheduled for **May 21, 2012** (9 a.m. - 5 p.m.) at Split Rock Lodge, at no cost to the district. It must also be understood should there be any insubordination or any other misconduct (especially involving the use of drugs and/or alcohol) the involved may be excluded from participation in commencement exercises.

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

**SADD
Staged
Auto
Accident
Approved**

MOTION by Mr. Finnegan, SECONDED by Mr. Yenser to approve the staging of an auto accident on school property on May 11, 2012 sponsored by Students Against Destructive Decisions. Event is staged preliminary to Prom to caution students to make responsible decisions when operating and riding in motor vehicles.

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

**Courses
Approved
For Class
Of 2016**

MOTION by Mr. Stern, SECONDED by Mr. Hill to approve Composition and Communication to be a required course beginning with the class of 2016. This course is designed to provide an opportunity for students to improve upon competencies in reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Total credit requirements for graduation will remain at 28.

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

Old Business for Discussion- None

New Business for Discussion -

1. Addendum -

Payment Of Bills MOTION by Mr. Yenser, SECONDED by Mr. Zimmerman to approve the additional Payment of Bills:

General Fund	\$ 142,862.23
---Health Benefits	\$ 29,851.90
Food Service Fund	\$ 75,004.29
Capital Reserve	\$ -----
Athletic Fund	\$ <u>4,982.41</u>
Total	\$ 252,700.83

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

Retirements Accepted MOTION by Mr. Hill, SECONDED by Mr. Finnegan to accept the intent to retire for the following professional employees, effective the end of the 2011-2012 school year:
1. James Corpora - HS Social Studies Teacher - Hired July 23, 1979
2. John Gill - HS Special Education Teacher - Hired as Long-term Sub
September 12, 1994, and Full-time on August 14, 1995

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

2. Addendum (2) -

Paul Blunt Ratified As Board Chief Negotiator MOTION by Mr. Stern, SECONDED by Mr. Hill to that any direct negotiations between individual board members and association officers/members was not authorized. Board ratifies Paul Blunt as chief negotiator.

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

3. Mr. Yenser (Board Member) - Commented on the proposed budget - We would welcome any questions and would be happy to clarify . There was a budget meeting and no one contacted us.

4. Mr. Stern (Board Member) - Condolences to the Brong Family and the Family of Kay Novatnack (employee).

Adjournment -

Next regular scheduled meeting is Monday, May 21, 2012.

MOTION by Mr. Finnegan , SECONDED by Mr. Hill to adjourn the meeting a 8:52 p.m.

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

Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted

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

J. Michael Malay, Jr.
Board Secretary

(Minutes of April 16, 2012 include Pages 1 through 12)