Lehighton Area School District

Lehighton, Pennsylvania

Special Meeting of School Board
Monday, December 17, 2012 at 7:00PM

Minutes

Pledge of Allegiance

***** Moment of silence for victims of Sandy Hook Elementary, CT**

Call to Order - A special meeting of the Lehighton 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. 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	☐
Mr. Jonathan Cleaver, Superintendent	X	☐
Attorney William Schwab, Solicitor	X	☐
Mrs. Melissa Wagner, Recording Board Secretary	X	☐

Courtesy to the Floor – None

Presentations -

1. **Timothy Tkach / Craig Reichl –** Keystone Exams – 11th Grade Students - PowerPoint
2. **Suzanne Howland** – Thank you to Franklin Students/Families for money raised for the American Red Cross – Nan Cressley / Edie Lutsko

VI. Communications

1. Superintendent's Report – *Mr. Cleaver*
   --- *Posting on website to help parents in the aftermath of the Sandy Hook incident*
   --- *Phone calls / emails / recommendations*
   --- *Practices in place*
2. Board President's Report – *Mr. Ahner*
   --- *Sandy Hook Incident:*
   Our school plan is good
   We cannot give into our fears
   Most important is safety of the students
   --- *HS / MS /Elementary Concerts were wonderful*
3. Lehighton Memorial Library Report – *Mr. Finnegan - absent*
4. Legislative Policy Committee of PSBA Report – *Mr. Resh*
   --- *Reported under New Business*
5. Title I Advisory Committee Report – *Mr. Zimmerman - None*
6. CCTI Report - *Mr. Yenser*
   --- *Next meeting 12/20/2012 @ 6 p.m.*
7. CLIU Report – *Mr. Wentz*
   --- *Next meeting 12/17/2012*
8. Student Representative Report – *Nicole Schnell*
   --- *FBLA Regional Leadership*
   --- *NHS Social*
   --- *Choral Concert 12/20/2012*
   --- *Academic Pep Rally 12/21/2012*
9. Solicitor's Report – *Attorney William Schwab - written*
10. Building/Grounds Report - *Mr. Wentz*
    --- *Meetings the 2nd Tuesday of each month except January*
    --- *12/21/2012 Mahoning Boiler Repair*
    --- *Tree removal at high school*
    --- *Sound System upgrade @ High School gym in mid-January*
11. LCCC – *Mr. Stern*
    --- *December graduation*
    --- *Budget season*
    --- *Renovation at LCCC continuing*

Approval of Minutes -

MOTION by Mr. Hill, SECONDED by Mr. Zimmerman to approve the Minutes of the December 3, 2012, re-organization meeting.

VOTE: YES - 8 NO - _____ ABSENT - 1 ABSTENTIONS - _____

Motion carried.

Financial Matters -

Activities Report

MOTION by Mr. Zimmerman, SECONDED by Mr. Wentz to approve the Lehighton Area High School Activities Fund for November 2012.

VOTE: YES - 8 NO - _____ ABSENT - 1 ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

Payment Of Bills

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

General Fund	$	1,449,232.53
Benefits	$	----------
Food Service Fund	$	----------
Capital Reserve	$	----------
Athletic Fund	$	11,398.26
Total	$	1,460,630.79

VOTE: YES - 7 NO - _____ ABSENT - 1 ABSTENTIONS – 1 - Krause
Motion carried.

Treasurer Reports

MOTION by Mr. Krause, 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 - 8 NO - _____ ABSENT - 1 ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

Per Cap./ Occ. Tax Exemptions Approved

MOTION by Mr. Wentz, SECONDED by Mr. Krause to approve exemptions from Per Capital and/or Occupational Tax per the attached list.

VOTE: YES - 8 NO - _____ ABSENT - 1 ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

2012 Occ. Tax – K. Hine Approved

MOTION by Mr. Yenser, SECONDED by Mr. Stern to refund Occupational Tax for year 2012 in the amount of $122.50 to Kathy J. Hine.

VOTE: YES - 8 NO - _____ ABSENT - 1 ABSTENTIONS - _____

Motion carried.

Tax Collector Comp. Resolution #11/12-13

MOTION by Mr. Wentz, SECONDED by Mr. Stern to approve the Tax Collector Compensation Resolution # 11/12 -13.

Roll Call Vote:

	Yes	No	Absent	Abstention
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. Dave Krause, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Rocky Ahner, President	X	☐	☐	☐

VOTE: YES - 8 NO - _____ ABSENT - 1 ABSTENTIONS - _____

Motion carried.

Approval To Advertise For Fencing Bids

MOTION by Mr. Zimmerman, SECONDED by Mr. Wentz to approve Joseph Hauser and Building and Grounds Committee to develop specifications and advertise for bids for fencing around the current Varsity Softball and Varsity Baseball fields.

VOTE: YES - 7 NO - 1 ABSENT - 1 ABSTENTIONS - _____

Motion carried.

Personnel -

Coursework Approval

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

1. **Kenneth Eck, Jr.** – January 7 – March 3, 2013 / Teaching in the 21st Century
2. **Carly Finkboner –** January 28 – May 17, 2013 / Fluency Disorders in Children (pending approval by PDE)
3. **Carly Finkboner** – January 28 – May 17, 2013 / Communication Disorders of Hearing Impaired (pending approval by PDE)
4. **Carly Finkboner** – January 28 – May 17, 2013 / Teaching Practicum (pending approval by PDE)
5. **Michelle Rohrbach** – January 28 – May 18, 2013 / Methods of Research

VOTE: YES - 8 NO - _____ ABSENT - 1 ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

2012-2013 Substitutes Approved

MOTION by Mr. Krause, SECONDED by Mr. Yenser to approve the attached list of candidates for the **2012-2013 Substitute** list pending clearances.

VOTE: YES - 8 NO - _____ ABSENT - 1 ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

2013-2014 Athletic Hires Approved

MOTION by Mr. Stern, SECONDED by Mr. Krause to approve the attached list of Athletic hires for the **2013-2014** school year.

VOTE: YES - 8 NO - _____ ABSENT - 1 ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

R. Bressi Resignation Accepted

MOTION by Mr. Hill, SECONDED by Mr. Krause accept the resignation of **Ray Bressi**, Girls' Basketball Head Coach, effective December 4, 2012.

VOTE: YES - 8 NO - _____ ABSENT - 1 ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

C. Kasian Transferred To Head Girls BB Coach

MOTION by Mr. Wentz, SECONDED by Mr. Krause to approve the transfer of **Christopher Kasian,** as assistant Girls' Basketball Coach, to Head Girls' Basketball Coach, effective retroactive to December 4, 2012 for the 2012-2013 school year.

VOTE: YES - 8 NO - _____ ABSENT - 1 ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

O. Gombert Resignation Accepted

MOTION by Mr. Stern, SECONDED by Mr. Wentz to accept the resignation of **Olga Gombert,** Shull-David lunch aide, effective December 6, 2012.

VOTE: YES - 8 NO - _____ ABSENT - 1 ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

J. Schafer Approved As LT Sub

MOTION by Mr. Zimmerman, SECONDED by Mr. Wentz to approve the recommendation to hire **Jessica Schafer** as a long-term substitute as a Music Teacher assigned to Mahoning / Shull-David Elementary Schools, retroactive to the start of the 2012-2013 school year.

VOTE: YES - 8 NO - _____ ABSENT - 1 ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

M. Kibler Approved As LT Sub

MOTION by Mr. Krause, SECONDED by Mr. Wentz to approve the recommendation to hire **Megan Kibler** as a long-term substitute as a Kindergarten Teacher assigned to Franklin Elementary, retroactive to the start of the 2012-2013 school year.

VOTE: YES - 8 NO - _____ ABSENT - 1 ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

D. Schnell Approved As LT Sub

MOTION by Mr. Stern, SECONDED by Mr. Yenser to approve the recommendation to hire **Diane Schnell** as a long-term substitute as a Grade 3 Teacher assigned to East Penn Elementary, retroactive to the start of the 2012-2013 school year.

VOTE: YES - 8 NO - _____ ABSENT - 1 ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried

FMLA Leave Approved

MOTION by Mr. Yenser, SECONDED by Mr. Stern to acknowledge FMLA leave for the following employees, not to exceed 12 weeks:

1. **Employee 1167_** – effective approximately March 27, 2013

VOTE: YES - 8 NO - _____ ABSENT - 1 ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

Miscellaneous -

School Journey Requests Approved

MOTION by Mr. Wentz, SECONDED by Mr. Krause to approve the following School Journey requests:

1. **MS Jazz Ensemble (Thomas Weidner)** – March 15, 2013 (5 – 11:30 p.m.)– to participate in a jazz festival in Bethlehem, PA.
2. **Grade 5-6 Chorus (Thomas Weidner) –** April 4, 2013 (2:30 – 7 p.m.) – to travel to Rascals Fun Zone as a student reward for chorus participation.
3. **Grade 5-6 Band (Thomas Weidner) –** April 26, 2013 (11 a.m. – 9 p.m.) – for selected students to participate in an honors festival at Governor Mifflin School District in Reading, PA.
4. **Grade 5-6 Band (Thomas Weidner) –** May 17, 2013 (4:30 – 11:30 pm) to the Reading Fightin' Phils game as a reward for band participation
5. **MS – Grade 7 Maroon & White Teams (Yvette Sharrow / Joseph Yescavage) –** February 25 or 26, 2013 – class trip to the Blue Mtn. Ski Resort – explore the science of sliding.
6. **HS Band (Bryan Buffington)** – January 10-12, 2013 – to travel to Daniel Boone HS to participate in District 10 Orchestra Festival.
7. **HS Band (Bryan Buffington)** – May 3, 2013 (7:30 a.m. – 1 a.m.) band seniors to travel to New York City to see a Broadway show.
8. **HS – FCCLA (Julie McHugh)** – December 23, 2012 (3 p.m.) – to travel to the Summit Nursing Home to visit with residents.

VOTE: YES - 8 NO - _____ ABSENT - 1 ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

Early Grad. Approved

MOTION by Mr. Hill, SECONDED by Mr. Stern to approve early graduation for **Student #14135.**

VOTE: YES - 8 NO - _____ ABSENT - 1 ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

Programs -

Use of School Property Approved

MOTION by Mr. Wentz, SECONDED by Mr. Zimmerman to approve Use of School Property for:

1. **LBBPC (Daniel Rossino)** - January 12, 2013 (1:30 - 9:30 pm) to us the MS Concession Stand to sell food/drinks for basketball games.
2. **Lehighton Volleyball Boosters (TJ O'Connor)** - Sunday, April 7 & 28, 2013 - to use the HS gym and concession stand for a Volleyball Tournament

VOTE: YES - 8 NO - _____ ABSENT - 1 ABSTENTIONS _____
Motion carried.

Affiliation w/ Bloom. University Approved

MOTION by Mr. Krause, SECONDED by Mr. Stern to approve an Affiliation Agreement between Lehighton Area School District and **Bloomsburg University** for the purpose of providing experiential learning for Education students.

VOTE: YES - 8 NO - _____ ABSENT - 1 ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

Old Business for Discussion -

Athletic Committee

Appointment of Athletic Committee -
-- Appointed until January - Larry Stern, Wayne Wentz, William Hill
Co-Curricular / Extra-Curricular

New Business for Discussion -
1. Addendum -

Payment Of Bills

MOTION by Mr. Stern, SECONDED by Mr. Wentz to approve the additional Payment of Bills:

General Fund	$ 95,736.73
---Health Benefits	$ 32,828.10
Food Service Fund	$ 70,896.60
Capital Reserve	$ ----------
Athletic Fund	$ 1,407.90
Total	$ 200,869.33

VOTE: YES - 8 NO - _____ ABSENT - 1 ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

MJ Thomas Approved Asst. Girls BB Coach

MOTION by Mr. Stern, SECONDED by Mr. Krause to approve the transfer of Mary Jane Thomas from Volunteer Girls' Basketball Coach to Assistant Girls' Basketball Coach.

VOTE: YES - 8 NO - _____ ABSENT - 1 ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

T. O'Connor Approved Head VB Coach

MOTION by Mr. Stern, SECONDED by Mr. Wentz to approve Timothy O'Connor as Head Volleyball Coach upon the recommendation of Mr. Spotts for the 2013-14 school year.

VOTE: YES - 8 NO - _____ ABSENT - 1 ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

EP & MA Phase I Env. Site Assessment Approved

MOTION by Mr. Wentz, SECONDED by Mr. Zimmerman to accept the $3,400 proposal from Barry Isett & Associates, Inc., for completing the Phase I Environmental Site Assessment for East Penn and Mahoning.

VOTE: YES - 7 NO - 1 ABSENT - 1 ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

EP & MA Geothermal Test Wells Approved

MOTION by Mr. Zimmerman, SECONDED by Mr. Wentz to accept the $16,500 proposal from Reith Geothermal Energy, Inc., for the Geothermal Test Wells at East Penn and Mahoning.

VOTE: YES - 8 NO - _____ ABSENT - 1 ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

HS District Chorus Approved

MOTION by Mr. Yenser, SECONDED by Mr. Zimmerman to approve three (3) High School students to attend a joint rehearsal for District Chorus at Muhlenberg High School on Tuesday, January 22, 2013, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

VOTE: YES - 8 NO - _____ ABSENT - 1 ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

2. **Mr. Malay -** Preliminary Budget meeting January 7, 14, and 21, 2013 at 4 p.m. Budget binders were distributed. Finance Committee meetings will be the first Monday of each month.

3. **Mr. Cleaver -** Received proposals for East Penn and Mahoning for schematic designs.

4. **Solicitor's Report -**
   (a) RFP for Auditor. PSBA recommends:
      -- new auditors on the recommendation list
      -- Same auditor for 17 years
   (b) Cafeteria - do not re-bid until contract is over

5. **Mr. Resh - Legislative Report -**
   -- 26 years w/ NEA & PSEA
   -- National School Board Assoc. asking for help from local school boards

6. **MOTION**:

NESBA Resolution Approved MOTION by Mr. Krause, SECONDED by Mr. Zimmerman to send the NSBA resolution regarding the Budget Control Act on behalf of Lehighton Area School Board.

VOTE: YES - 8 NO - _____ ABSENT - 1 ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

7. **Kudos to Franklin and Middle School Music Programs**

Adjournment -

Next regular scheduled meeting is Monday, January 28, 2013.

MOTION by Mr. Zimmerman, SECONDED by Mr. Krause to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

VOTE: YES - 8 NO - _____ ABSENT - 1 ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted

J. Michael Malay, Jr.
Board Secretary

(Minutes of December 17, 2012 include Pages 1 through 10)