

Lehigh Area School District

Lehigh, Pennsylvania

Reorganization Meeting of School Board

Monday, December 3, 2012 at 7:00PM

Minutes

Pledge of Allegiance

*** Moment of silence for deceased employee (Sherry Snyder) and student (Gavin Krum)

Call to Order

Roll Call - A re-organizational 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.

	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	☐
Ms. Bonnie Cortese, Recording Board Secretary	X	☐

**Notice of Executive Session

Courtesy to the Floor -

1. James Blakeslee / Travis Andrews - Report on Red Ribbon Week Activities

Election of Temporary President -

Vice President presides and opens nominations for Temporary President.

Mr. Hill nominates Mr. Zimmerman for Temporary President.

Vice President calls for other nominations.

- (1) MOTION by Mr. Krause, SECONDED by Mr. Hill to close nominations and elect Mr. Zimmerman 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 Mr. Ahner for President.

Temporary President calls for other nominations.

Mr. Stern nominates Mr. Krause for President.

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

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

Motion carried.

Mr. Finnegan requests to pose the following two questions to the candidates:

- A. Please Prioritize:
 - 1. Students
 - 2. Buildings
 - 3. Taxpayers
- B. Priorities for 2013

Mr. Ahner's Answers:

- A. Students
 - Taxpayers
 - Buildings
- B. Provide a Drug & Alcohol-Free environment
 - Watch money spent

Mr. Krause's Answers:

- A. Students/Staff/Professional Development
 - Buildings (part of the educational system)
 - Taxpayers
- B. Curriculum
 - Building Projects
 - Support the Superintendent
 - Improved Communication

Roll Call to elect the President:

	Ahner	Krause	Absent	Abstention
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. Hal Resh, Vice-President	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Rocky Ahner, President	X	☐	☐	☐

VOTE: AHNER - 5 KRAUSE - 4 ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____

Mr. Ahner is elected as President.

The President assumes the Chair.

Election of Vice President -

President presides and calls for nominations for Vice President.

Mr. Wentz nominates Mr. Resh for Vice President.

President calls for other nominations.

Mr. Yenser nominates Mr. Finnegan for Vice President.

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

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

Motion carried.

Roll Call to elect the Vice President:

	Resh	Finnegan	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: RESH - 6 FINNEGAN - 3 ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____

Mr. Resh is elected as Vice President.

President will conduct the appointment of the following positions:

A. Negotiations/Personnel Committee (December 2012 to December 2013)

Appointees (4): Wayne Wentz, Chair
Rocky Ahner
William Hill
Hal Resh

B. Budget/Finance Committee (December 2012 to December 2013)

Appointees (3): Hal Resh, Chair
Rocky Ahner
Andrew Yenser

C. Building and Grounds Committee (December 2012 to December 2013)

Appointees (2): Wayne Wentz, Chair
William Hill

D. Policy Committee (December 2012 to December 2013)

Appointees (3): David Krause, Chair
John Finnegan

E. Wellness Committee (December 2012 to December 2013)

Appointee (1): John Finnegan

F. Leighton Memorial Library Board (December 2012 to December 2013)

Appointees (2): John Finnegan

G. Athletic Committee (December 2012 to December 2013)

Appointees (3): Will be appointed at a later date.

H. Legislative Policy Committee of PSBA (December 2012 to December 2013)

Appointees (2): Rocky Ahner
Hal Resh

I. Advisory Committee of Title I (December 2012 to December 2013)

Appointee (1): Thomas Zimmerman

President will conduct election of the following positions:

Carbon Career & Technical Institute Alternate Representative to Joint Operating Committee (December 2012 to December 2013)

President calls for nominations.

Mr. Hill nominates Mr. Zimmerman.

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

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

Calendar of Regular School Board Meetings:

MOTION by Mr. Finnegan, SECONDED by Mr. Krause to approve the Lehigh Area School District Regular School Board 2013 Meeting Schedule.

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

Presentations - None

Communications -

1. Superintendent's Report – Mr. Cleaver
--- Thank you to Mr. Tkach and teachers for working on K-12 Math aligning Common Core Standards.
--- Newsletter ready and on-line
2. Board President's Report – Mr. Ahner
--- Thanks to board members support for re-election of President
Goal for improvement next year.
3. Lehighton Memorial Library Report – Mr. Finnegan
--- Meeting 11/29/12:
--- Windows replaced
--- Looking for new ceiling / lighting
--- Looking at purchasing new computers
4. Legislative Policy Committee of PSBA Report – Mr. Krause
--- Fiscal Cliff – tax increases, cuts to Title I, Special Ed., Headstart
5. Title I Advisory Committee Report – Mr. Zimmerman - None
6. CCTI Report - Mr. Yenser - None
7. CLIU Report – Mr. Wentz
--- Meeting 12/17/12
8. Student Representative Report – Nicole Schnell - absent
9. Solicitor's Report – Attorney William Schwab - written
10. Building/Grounds Report - Mr. Stern
--- Thank you to Mr. Hauser for all the work that was accomplished during time on this committee.
11. LCCC – Mr. Stern
--- Meeting 12/6/12

Mr. Wentz – Kudos to Elem/MS for work on "Trees for Troops" - \$1,000 raised.

Approval of Minutes -

MOTION by Mr. Finnegan, SECONDED by Mr. Yenser to approve the Minutes of the November 19, 2012 regular meeting.

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

Motion carried.

Financial Matters -

**Per Cap/
Occ. Tax
Exemptions
Approved**

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

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

Motion carried.

**Occ. Tax
Approved
V. Fairchild**

MOTION by Mr. Krause, SECONDED by Mr. Stern to refund Occupational Tax for year 2012 in the amount of \$122.50 to Virginia Fairchild.

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

Motion carried.

**Approve
Checks
Dated
12/17/12**

MOTION by Mr. Yenser, SECONDED by Mr. Krause to approve issuing checks dated December 17, 2012 to pay invoices remaining up to December 17, 2012, should a second meeting in December 2012 not be held. Payments will be included in the January 2013 Board Agenda for confirmation.

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

Motion carried.

**HS Gym
Sound
System
Approved**

MOTION by Mr. Stern, SECONDED by Mr. Finnegan to approve the proposal from Communications Systems, Inc. (CSI) to purchase a High School Gymnasium Sound System at a cost of \$21,957.00 through the Co-Stars Purchasing Program.

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

Motion carried.

**Fund
Balance
Transfers
Approved**

MOTION by Mr. Yenser, SECONDED by Mr. Krause to direct the administration to Commit a portion of its current General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance into a Committed Fund Balance: \$8,000,000 for PSERS and \$2,000,000 for Other Post-Employment Benefits.

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

Motion carried

MOTION by Mr. Krause, SECONDED by Mr. Resh to move items (F) and (G) as one motion:

#11612-02 (F) To approve the proposal #11612-02 from JMSI Environmental Corp for
EP Elem. completion of an asbestos abatement project design for the proposed
Asbestos renovation project which will be completed at East Penn Elementary.
Abatement

#11612-03 (G) To approve the proposal #11612-03 from JMSI Environmental Corp for
MA Elem. completion of an asbestos abatement project design for the proposed
Asbestos renovation project which will be completed at Mahoning Elementary.
Abatement

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

Motion carried.

2011-2012 MOTION by Mr. Yenser, SECONDED by Mr. Wentz to approve the fiscal year 2011-
Budget 2012 final budget transfers.
Transfers

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

Motion carried.

Resolution MOTION by Mr. Zimmerman, SECONDED by Mr. Wentz to approve the following
#11/12-11 resolution (#11/12-11), A RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF
Berkheimer LEHIGHTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT, CARBON COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA,
Collector AUTHORIZING, EMPOWERING AND DIRECTING THE PROPER OFFICERS OF
Of EIT THE GOVERNING BOARD TO APPOINT A LIASON BETWEEN IT AND
BERKHEIMER, THE DULY APPOINTED COLLECTOR OF EIT FOR THE
DISTRICT FOR THE EXPRESS PURPOSE OF SHARING CONFIDENTIAL TAX
INFORMATION WITH THE DISTRICT FOR OFFICIAL PURPOSES.

Roll Call Vote:

	Yes	No	Absent	Abstention
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, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Thomas Zimmerman, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Rocky Ahner, President	X	☐	☐	☐

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

Motion carried.

#11/12-12 MOTION by Mr. Zimmerman, SECONDED by Mr. Finnegan to approve the
Authorizing following resolution (#11/12-12), A RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD
Collection OF LEHIGHTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING
Of AND EMPOWERING ITS LOCAL TAX COLLECTOR, BERKHEIMER, TO IMPOSE
Delinquent AND RETAIN COSTS OF COLLECTION ON DELINQUENT TAXES.
Taxes

Roll Call Vote:

	Yes	No	Absent	Abstention
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, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Thomas Zimmerman, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Rocky Ahner, President	X	☐	☐	☐

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

Motion carried.

Personnel -

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

1. **Natasha Brown** - January 21 - April 28, 2013 / Using Assessment to Guide Instruction
2. **Kenneth Eck, Jr.** - January 21 - April 28, 2013 / Teaching Authentic Content
3. **Melissa Geiser** - January 7 - March 10, 2013 / Word Study (K-3) Print Awareness
4. **Chris Knappenberger** - January 21 - April 22, 2013 / Psychological Foundations of Education
5. **Jennifer Kovach** - January 28 - May 17, 2013 / Reading & Language Development for Diverse Learners
6. **Jennifer Kovach** - January 28 - May 17, 2013 / Teaching Content Area Reading to Diverse Learners
7. **Lisa Krause** - January 28 - May 10, 2013 / Field Experience in Educational Leadership
8. **Jessica Scholl** - January 15 - March 11, 2013 / Classroom Management: Orchestrating a Community of Learners Online
9. **Dennis Semmel** - January 21 - April 22, 2013 / Psychological Foundations of Education

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

Motion carried.

2012-13 Substitutes Approved MOTION by Mr. Finnegan, SECONDED by Mr. Stern to approve the attached list of candidates for the **2012-2013 Substitute** list pending clearances.

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

Motion carried.

2012-13 Athletic/ Ex. Curr. Hires MOTION by Mr. Hill, SECONDED by Mr. Krause to approve the attached list of Athletic / Extra-Curricular hires for the **2012-2013** school year.

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

Motion carried.

Parental Leave Approved MOTION by Mr. Finnegan, SECONDED by Mr. Wentz to approve the following employee, #501, for a parental leave to begin January 2, 2013 until February 13, 2013, and to use sick days as requested.

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

Motion carried.

Miscellaneous -

School Journey Requests Approved MOTION by Mr. Yenser, SECONDED by Mr. Finnegan to approve the following School Journey requests:

1. **LAMS Yearbook (Amy Smith)** – December 13, 2012 (11 a.m. – 2 p.m.) – to travel to Pizza Hut as a reward for a magazine fundraiser.
2. **Mahoning (K-4)** – One day during the week of December 17, 2012 (8:45 – 11 a.m.) – to the Mahoning Valley Cinema as a present of the PTO
3. **MA Kindergarten (Mrs. Kocher, Mrs. Geiser, Mrs. Cardell)** – May 2, 2013 (8:45 a.m. – 2:15 p.m.) – to participate in a field trip to the Lehigh Valley Zoo.
4. **HS – Foods for Fitness Class (Julie McHugh)** – January 2-4, 2013 (8 – 9 a.m.) – to travel to Lehigh Giant store for comparison foods project.
5. **HS Juniors (Doug Bowman)** – April 5, 2013 (7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.) – for Junior students interested in engineering to travel to Wilkes University for Engineering Olympics.

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

Motion carried.

Programs -

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

1. **LAHS Volleyball (TJ O'Connor)** - (Available Sundays January - April 28, 2013) to use the high school gym / weight room for volleyball conditioning.
2. **Lehighton Soccer Club (Sherry Meckes)** - April 14, 2013 (7 a.m. - 6 p.m.) - to use the HS fields for the 6th Annual Hunter-Meckes Memorial Soccer Tournament

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

Motion carried.

1st Readings Policies MOTION by Mr. Krause, SECONDED by Mr. Yenser to approve the **1st reading** of the revisions of the following Lehighton Area School District Policies:

#006, #336, #707.1, #903

1. **#006** - Meetings
2. **#336** - Personal Necessity Leave
3. **#707.1** - Emergency and Disaster Plans
4. **#903 - Attachment** - Public Participation in Board Meetings

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

Motion carried.

Old Business for Discussion - None

New Business for Discussion -

1. Addendum -

Aerial Property Surveys Approved MOTION by Mr. Finnegan, SECONDED by Mr. Stern to approve Barry Isett & Assoc. to complete proposal survey of all District properties and sites. The scope of the service that will be provided will be of the amount of \$45,500.00. This is a reimbursable event through the PlanCon process.

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

Motion carried.

Uncomp. MOTION by Mr. Finnegan, SECONDED by Mr. Wentz to approve an
Leave uncompensated leave for the purpose of restoration of health for **Employee #592** for
Days 3 days (November 12, 13 & 14, 2012).
Approved

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

2. **Mr. Ahner** - Mentioned the possibility of a second meeting in December.
MOTION by Mr. Zimmerman, SECONDED by Mr. Finnegan to have a second board meeting scheduled for December 17, 2012.

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

3. **Bruce Koch (Teacher)** - requested the floor regarding a question on Item E (Finance).
MOTION by Mr. Hill, SECONDED Mr. Finnegan to allow Mr. Koch to bring his question to the floor.

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

Mr. Koch was wondering why we had Item E (Finance) *"to direct the administration to Commit a portion of its current General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance into a Committed Fund Balance: \$8,000,000 for PSERS and \$2,000,000 for Other Post-Employment Benefits,"* when we had a similar motion a few months ago to put \$10M in PSERS. Mr. Koch also wanted to commend the board for being proactive in their effort to take care of the PSER situation and to Mr. Krause for the outstanding job he has done with this legislative reports during his term as Legislative Committee Chair.

Adjournment -

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

MOTION by Mr. Stern, SECONDED by Mr. Krause to adjourn the meeting at 7:59 p.m.

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

Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted



J. Michael Malay, Jr.
Board Secretary

(Minutes of December 3, 2012 include Pages 1 through 14)