

**Northwestern Lehigh School District
6493 Rte. 309, New Tripoli PA 18066
BOARD EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING
District Board Room
Thursday, November 12, 2015, 1:00 PM**



MINUTES

1. Agenda

1.01 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 PM by Ronald Morrison.

1.02 Roll Call

PR/AB

AB	Willard Dellicker	PR	Darryl Schafer
PR	Ronald Morrison	**AB	Phil Toll

Also Present:

Paul Fisher, Jr., Aileen Yadush, Donald Allen, William Dovico, Amy Wahl, Maria Pulli, Jill Berlet, LeAnn Stitzel, Andrea Edmonds, Jennifer Holman and Janine Partenio.

1.03 Approval of Agenda

Moved: D. Schafer

Seconded: R. Morrison

Vote: 2 Aye, 0 Nay

1.04 The Chairman offered Courtesy of the Floor for Public Comment and there was none at the time.

1.05 Approval of Minutes for August 13, 2015

(Held to the end of the meeting for vote)

Moved: D. Schafer

Seconded: P. Toll

Vote: 3 Aye, 0 Nay

2. Routine Items

****P. Toll arrived at
1:28 PM**

2.01 Presentations

Data Presentation of Student Achievement

The Elementary, Middle and High Schools presented data of student achievement on PSSA's and Keystones. Each building reviewed their strengths and needs based on the data given. P. Fisher asked each Principal the same three questions:

1. *Do you believe the scores really reflect what the students are learning?*
2. *How much time was used to collect student data?*
3. *If there was one thing that could be changed (besides time) to improve data, what would that be?*

J. Berlet and M. Pulli believed the student growth scores are more accurate to show how much they learn. This is done through study island. They both said data is collected almost on a daily basis and the one thing that could improve data was increased human resources.

W. Dovico said observations and walkthroughs show better data than testing. He also said the Middle School meets weekly in teams with all of the data to support students. He said every other week they meet to discuss standardized test data and he personally keeps spreadsheets on all of the data. He too believes the human resource aspect would need to change for improved student data. He explained in the 7th Grade there is a 3-person team sharing the responsibilities of Math and Language Arts.

A. Yadush explained that she believes the test scores do accurately represent the student data because the High School does have baseline data to utilize. She also believed that the Keystones in High School are geared for one specific course which is different from the other schools. A. Yadush said they spend about four days per week updating student information and working with teachers and administration. She too believed the availability of teachers is necessary to improve data. She explained that

although it may seem that there are enough teachers, they are not always available at the times that students need them.

P. Fisher thanked the building administration for the time spent to put the data together. He said he appreciated A. Yadush and D. Allen setting their benchmark higher. The Board then discussed the possibility of a data management system and decided to investigate this further. D. Schafer recommended adding Charter Schools into the data collected and not just public schools. J. Holman clarified that the High School information showed Northwestern Lehigh as 69 out of 561 schools. She said this information included Charter Schools for the High School.

2.02 Program of Studies

A. Yadush announced the Graduation Project is no longer required. She said everyone in High School next year will be under the same set of graduation requirements. She explained AP Chemistry is not offered next year, since it was offered this year and runs on an every other year cycle with Chemistry II. She said Chemistry II will be offered next year. R. Morrison questioned if a Programming II class will be returning. A. Yadush explained that Jeremy Smoyer has been focusing on STEAM and working on it in independent study and working them into engineering courses. A. Yadush said final revisions will be brought to the December Board Meeting. There was consensus to move this item to the December Board Meeting for approval.

3. Discussion **Items for Board** **Action**

3.01 Title Programs

L. Stitzel explained the CLIU 21 Title I Services contract for St. John Neumann in Slatington, PA and St. Joseph the Worker in Orefield, PA. She said the cost was in the amount of \$3,731.09. She said the IU teaches our Title I students in non-public schools and that it is a requirement for the District to provide those services for those students. P. Toll questioned if the cost may vary. L. Stitzel said yes it would depend on how many students need the program. J. Holman said the IU will send a new agreement if the cost needs to be adjusted. Consensus was in agreement to move this item to the November 18, 2015 Board Meeting for Approval.

4. Informational **Updates**

4.01 Curriculum Cycle Update

L. Stitzel explained at the August Education Committee Meeting, they discussed curriculum task forces for K-12 and were planning to assess the effectiveness of the cycle process. She said the District went through a full 8-year process and is currently meeting with the task force to see if the process still meets the needs of the District. She said she met with but three and discussed all curriculum. She mentioned the District will be beginning a new cycle for Science, Wellness, Fitness and Guidance. She explained they will look at the programs and see if changes are needed and research the best practices.

5. Other

5.01 Old Business

None

5.02 New Business

None

5.03 The Chairman offered Courtesy of the Floor for Public Comment and there was none at the time

6. Adjournment

Upon motion by D. Schafer, Seconded by P. Toll, the meeting was adjourned at 2:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Janine Partenio, Recording Secretary