

**NORTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Board Minutes**

**Slatington, PA  
November 4, 2002**

**PURPOSE** The regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors was called to order by the President, Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha, at 7:40 p.m. on Monday, November 4, 2002 in the gymnasium located in the Slatington Elementary School.

**ROLL CALL** Members present: Mr. Robert J. Cox, Mr. Bryan C. Dorshimer, Mrs. Jane J. Escott, Mrs. Lauren A. Ganser, Mrs. Lori H. Geronikos, Mr. Mathias J. Green, Jr., Mr. Jason M. Newhard, Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha (8)

Members absent: Mrs. Sheryl A. Giles (Arrived at 7:45 p.m.)

Non-members present: Dr. Nicholas P. Sham, Sr., Mrs. Lynne B. Fedorcha, Mr. Philip C. Bertolino, Mr. Christopher Iacobelli, Dr. Linda Marcincin, Mrs. Karen Nicholas, Mr. John Hrizuk, Mr. David Papay, Mr. Robert Mack, Mr. Brian Geiger, Mr. Bernard Rockovich, Atty. Charles Stopp (Solicitor), Mr. Jeffrey Bachman, Ms. Laurie Newman, Mr. Nicholas Sander, Ms. Amberly Gable and Mrs. Doneta J. Merkle

**VISITORS** Approximately 80 visitors attended the meeting, in addition to Sharon Minnich, reporter for The Times News and Elizabeth Bartolai, reporter for The Morning Call.

**SPECIAL BOARD REPORTS** All board members received a copy of the minutes of the Policy/Education Committee meeting held on November 18, 2002.

Committee  
Reports  
and/or  
Meetings

Student Rep. Report Nicholas Sander and Amberly Gable distributed a written report and highlighted the contents verbally for the month.

Superintendent's Report -- Dr. Nicholas P. Sham, Sr.

Dr. Sham's report included the following:

1. Recognition of retirees Thomas Sheehan, John Posegay and Marvin Mantz.
2. Members of the Junior National Honor Society presented their new project proposal, a senior prom for senior citizens, to the board.
3. Karen Nicholas gave a reading project report.
4. Brian Geiger gave a PowerPoint presentation on Integrated Pest Management.
5. Mrs. Lynn Sechler, President of the Northern Lehigh Educational Foundation, gave the annual report for the Foundation.
6. Dr. Clyde Hornberger, Director of Lehigh Career and Technical Institute, addressed the board on some resolutions that appeared on the agenda.

Executive Session An Executive Session, for personnel issues, was held before and after the meeting.

**PERSONNEL** A motion was made by Mrs. Geronikos, with a second made by Mrs. Giles, that the Board of Education approve the following personnel items:

Appointment Nancy Wagner  
Assignment: One-on-One Special Education Aide  
Peters Elementary School – Grade 1  
New Position – IDEA Funded  
Salary: \$8.64 Per Hour/6 ½ Hours Per Day/5 Days Per Week  
Effective Date: October 28, 2002  
\*She will serve a 60-day probationary period.

**PERSONNEL**

(Con't.)

- Employ Joseph Smar As Guidance Counselor Approve to employ Joseph Smar, under the provisions of the Public School Employees' Retirement Code, 24 P.S., subsection 8346 (b) for approximately 45 days to fill the position of elementary guidance counselor in the Slatington Elementary School at a per diem rate of \$150.00, effective October 21, 2002.
- Substitutes Instructional Approve the following substitute teacher for the 2002-2003 school year at the substitute teacher rates of \$70.00 for 1-10 non-consecutive days; \$80.00 for 11-20 non-consecutive days; and \$90.00 for 21+ non-consecutive days: Luther H. Smith, Jr. – All Subject Areas
- Unpaid Volunteer Aides For Peters Elem. Approve the following individuals as unpaid volunteer aides in the Peters Elementary School for the 2002-2003 school year: \* Pending Verification of Clearances  
Christine Afflerbach, Evelyn Barone, Maria Beltz\*, Lori Bevans\*, Sharon Boyesen, Tina Chalk\*, Ruth Davies, Mary-Beth Dellecker, Rita Erschen, Mary-Beth Fatzinger, Melissa Fliszar, Vera Hoppe, Diane Krause, Donna Lobach-Berger, Krystal Miller-Brown, Angela Scott\*, Pam Stokes\*, Ann Stoss, Pamela Umlauf, Louanne Verba\*, Donna Wagner, Nancy Wagner, Michelle Weil\*, Tina Williams
- Unpaid Volunteer Aides For Slatington Elem. Approve the following individuals as unpaid volunteer aides in the Slatington Elementary School for the 2002-2003 school year: \*Pending Verification of Clearances  
Robin Blocker, Jennifer Britton\*, Jamie Farber\*, Crystal Horvath, Patricia Ingles, Heather Minnich\*, Kathy Yelinek
- Unpaid Volunteer Computer Technician Approve Mark T. Barone to serve as an unpaid volunteer computer technician, working with the district's technology coordinators for the 2002-2003 school year, effective November 5, 2002. (Pending Verification of Clearances)
- Resignation Jr. Class Advisor Accept the resignation of Scott DeLong from his position as Junior Class Advisor for the 2002-2003 school year.
- Middle School Boys' Intramural Coach Approve to appoint George Weaver as the middle school Intramural Boys' Basketball Coach for the 2002-2003 school year at the budgeted stipend of \$1000.00
- Middle School Girls' Intramural Coach Approve to appoint Andrea Edmonds as the middle school Intramural Girls' Basketball Coach for the 2002-2003 school year at the budgeted stipend of \$1000.00
- YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Newhard, Mr. Fedorcha (9)  
NAY: None (0)
- POLICY**
- Board Policies 1<sup>st</sup> Reading Approve revisions to existing school board policy #202.1: Pupils – Foreign Exchange Students, as presented after 1<sup>st</sup> reading.
- Approve revisions to existing school board policy #716: Property – Integrated Pest Management, as presented after 1<sup>st</sup> reading.

**POLICY**

(Con't.)

Approve revisions to existing school board policies #248: Pupils, #348: Administrative Employees, #448: Professional Employees; and #548: Classified Employees – Unlawful Harassment, as presented after 1<sup>st</sup> reading.

Conferences

Approve the request of Debra Siglin and Susan Mendes to attend a Bureau of Education and Research conference in Allentown on November 18, 2002. Expenses include \$165.00 each for registration plus the cost of two substitute teachers for one day for a total cost of \$330.00 and has been approved by the district's Continuing Professional Education Committee.

Approve the request of Robert Mack to attend a Lehigh University School Leadership Conference in Bethlehem on November 22, 2002. Expenses for this conference include \$115.00 for registration.

Approve the request of Tara Balliet, Marlene Simock and Kelly Kromer to attend a Staff Development for Educators conference on December 13, 2002. Expenses for this conference include \$135.00 each for registration plus the cost of three substitute teachers for one day for a total cost of \$405.00 and has been approved by the district's Continuing Professional Education Committee.

Approve the request of Robert Kern to attend a Lehigh University School Leadership Conference on November 22, 2002. Expenses for this conference include \$115.00 for registration plus the cost of a substitute teacher.

Approve the request of Deborah Geiger, Susan Strubinger, Kori Dibilio, Karen Haberern, Kelly Kromer, Christine Koder, Gail Lafferty, Janet Millen to attend an Applebaum Training Institute conference on January 8, 2003. Expenses for this conference include \$120.00 each for registration, \$40.80 for mileage (several vehicles), \$55.00 for meals (combined requests), for a total of \$1055.80 plus the cost of a substitute for seven teachers for one day and will be paid for through Title IIA funds.

Change  
Board  
Committee  
Name

Approve the recommendation of the Community Relations/Volunteerism Committee to change the title of the committee to Community Relations Committee.

Homebound  
Instruction

Grant Homebound instruction for an eleventh grade student, Student No. 04-37300 for five hours per week, effective October 17, 2002 and terminating on December 20, 2002.

Alternative  
Instruction For  
Special Educa-  
tion Student

Approve to provide alternative instruction, at the rate of \$16.00 per hour, for a twelfth grade special education student, Student No. 03-05400 changing from the current emotional support placement to an Alternative Education Plan of 2.5 hours per week, not to exceed 6 weeks, during the evening in the senior high school library, effective October 29, 2002.

Class of 2003  
Class Trip

Approve the request of the Class of 2003 to participate in a class trip to Six Flags Great Adventure in New Jersey on June 6, 2002. Expenses will be derived from participating students.

YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Newhard, Mr. Fedorcha (9)

NAY: None (0)

Early Retirement  
Incentive Plan

A motion was made by Mrs. Geronikos, with a second made by Mrs. Ganser, that the Board of Education approve to adopt an Early Retirement Incentive Plan, for all eligible professional employees, on a voluntary basis, for the 2002-2003 school year, as presented. (See Attached)

**POLICY**

A discussion ensued with regard to an ERI presentation distributed to all board members by Mr. Cox.

(Con't.)

Amend Main Motion A motion was made by Mr. Dorshimer, with a second made by Mrs. Geronikos, that the Board of Education amend the main motion as follows:  
Page 1 – Item #2 - Guidelines – Eligibility – Item a. – The first line of second paragraph should read: The professional employee must be a fulltime active employee “during the 2002-2003 school year”.

Vote On Amendment YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Newhard, Mr. Fedorcha (9)  
NAY: None (0)

Amend Main Motion A motion was made by Mr. Geronikos, with a second made by Mrs. Ganser, that the Board of Education amend the main motion as follows:  
Page 2 – Item 2f. – Should read as follows: Retirement shall not only be a retirement from the Northern Lehigh School District, but also from “fulltime” teaching in the public school system in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Vote On Amendment Roll Call: YEA: Mr. Cox, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Newhard, Mr. Fedorcha (8)  
NAY: Mr. Dorshimer (1)  
Motion carried.

Amend Main Motion A motion was made by Mrs. Ganser, with a second made by Mrs. Geronikos, that the Board of Motion Education amend the main motion as follows:

Add the word “medical” in front of all references to insurance.

Vote On Main Motion YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Newhard, Mr. Fedorcha (9)  
NAY: None (0)

Vote On Main Motion ROLL CALL: YEA: Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Newhard, Mr. Cox, Mr. Fedorcha (7)  
NAY: Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Green (2)  
Motion carried.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Northern Lehigh Community Advisory Council For 2002-2003 Approve the following individuals as members of the Northern Lehigh Community Advisory Council for the 2002-2003 school year. In accordance with School Board Policy #905, this council is established to review, discuss, and make recommendations relating to the various aspects of educational planning for the district. The purpose of this council shall be to improve and implement an on-going, two-way communication between the community and schools. It is understood that the Community Advisory Council’s function is advisory only. Meetings with the Superintendent for the Community Advisory Council are set for 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. on November 14, 2002 and February 13, and April 15, 2003.

|                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| Ara Barlieb      | Carol Miller     |
| Linda Deurer     | Cindy Sander     |
| Cathy Groller    | Lori Vernon      |
| Susanne Meixsell | Sandra Josephson |

## **NEW BUSINESS**

(Con't.)

LCTI  
Resolutions

Approve the following Articles of Agreement Amendment for the Lehigh Career and Technical Institute:

**RESOLVED:** That the Board of Directors of the Northern Lehigh School District hereby authorize the approval of Amendment No. 2 to the Agreement for the Establishment and Operation of the Lehigh County Area Vocational-Technical School entered into as of the first day of July 1996 as amended on July 23, 1969.

Approve a Resolution to amend the Articles of Incorporation of the Lehigh County Area Vocational-Technical School Authority, and add Section 8 which extends the term of existence of the LCVTS Authority until March 22, 2051. The LCVTS Authority at the present time will terminate on March 22, 2017.

YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Newhard, Mr. Fedorcha (9)

NAY: None (0)

**FINANCIAL**

A motion was made by Mrs. Geronikos, with a second made by Mr. Green, that the Board of Education approve the following financial items:

Treasurer's  
Report

Approve the report of the Treasurer, Mr. Cox, as presented for the month of June 2002.

PC Abatements

Approve abatement of per capita taxes, for the residents that fall within the guidelines, as presented.

Construction  
Account Bills

Approve payment of bills from the Construction Account, as presented.

Additional  
Construction  
Account Bills

Approve payment of an additional bill from the Construction Account, as presented.

Extended  
Construction  
Bills

Approve payment of bills from the Extended Construction Account, as presented.

Capital Reserve  
#1 Account  
Bills

Approve payment of bills from the Capital Reserve #1 Account, as presented.

Portfolio For  
September  
2002

Approve the Arthurs Lestrage Cash Management Portfolio for the month of September 2002.

Adjust Cap  
For Chief  
Negotiator

Approve to adjust the cap for services for chief negotiator, Benjamin L. Pratt, Esq. from a previously approved maximum \$10,000.00 limit to a maximum of \$15,000.00 for this initial calendar year. The \$85.00 per hour for all work done in conjunction with negotiations remains the same.

**FINANCIAL**

(Con't.)

Real Estate Tax Refunds Approve a \$331.35 real estate tax refund to Glencrest Realty Company, 6000 Glencrest Road, Slatington, PA 18080-3060. Glencrest Realty paid the 2002-2003 tax bill even though a trailer was removed from the lot effective 7-1-2002.

Approve a \$391.79 real estate tax refund to Kenneth A. Terry & Patrice Allen, 1115 Shadow Oaks Lane, Slatington, PA 18080-1235. They are due a refund because the assessed value of the property was changed effective July 1, 2002 from \$74,700 to \$65,950, due to a property information correction.

Proposal To Replace Xerox Machines Recommend that the Board of Education approve a proposal from Xerox to replace four copiers in each of the building administration offices with a Xerox 5830 T. One new Xerox 5885 and one DC 490 digital machine will replace the two older machines in central duplicating. Also, a Xerox DC 1632 will replace the old administrative office machine. The machines are being replaced, because current machines are old, and the district is experiencing lost productivity due to downtime. The savings to the district for the remainder of the current school year for these improved machines is \$8,477.00. The 2003-2004 school year savings are \$1,770.00, and the 2004-2005 savings are projected at \$8,076.00. All machines purchased are 60-month leases and are on the Pennsylvania State Contract 3610-01.

Transfer Funds Approve a \$2,500 transfer from 10-2380-760-000-30-80 (High School Principal's Equipment Account) to the Northern Lehigh High School Student Activities Fund - Musical Account.

YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Newhard, Mr. Fedorcha (9)

NAY: None (0)

Hold Until Next Meeting A motion was made by Mrs. Escott, with a second made by Mr. Newhard, that the Board of Education hold until the next meeting approving a \$724.45 refund to Walnutport Borough for an over billing on the 2000-2001 Earned Income Tax Office Billing. This over billing arose due to salary from real estate collection being included in the EIT salary category, and bonding insurance not covering EIT collection.

YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Newhard, Mr. Fedorcha (9)

NAY: None (0)

**INFORMATION** All board members received a copy of the minutes of the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit Board of Directors meeting held on September 16, 2002.

**ADJOURNMENT** A motion was made by Mr. Newhard, with a second made by Mr. Cox, that the regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors be adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mr. Newhard, Mr. Fedorcha (9)

NAY: None (0)

Respectfully submitted,

Jane J. Escott  
Secretary

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_ President  
Gary S. Fedorcha