

**NORTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Board Minutes**

**Slatington, PA**  
**December 3, 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 7:35 p.m. on Tuesday, December 3, 2002 in the boardroom of 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, Mrs. Sheryl A. Giles, Mr. Mathias J. Green, Jr., Mr. Jason M. Newhard, Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha (9)

Members absent: None (0)

Non-members present: Dr. Nicholas P. Sham, Mrs. Lynne B. Fedorcha, Mr. Philip 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), Ms. Laurie Newman, and Mrs. Doneta J. Merkle

**VISITORS** Approximately three visitors attended the meeting, in addition to Sharon Minnich, reporter for The Times News.

**SPECIAL BOARD REPORTS** Carbon-Lehigh Intermediate Unit -- Mr. Bryan C. Dorshimer  
Mr. Dorshimer highlighted items listed on the CLIU Board Brief which was distributed to all board members.

Minutes of the following committee meetings were distributed to all board members:  
1. Policy/Education Committee meeting held on November 18, 2002.  
2. Technology/Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting held on November 6, 2002.  
3. Finance Committee meeting held on October 28, 2002.

Mr. Dorshimer announced that the December Finance Committee meeting has been moved to December 19, 2002.

Legislative Report -- Mrs. Lori H. Geronikos  
Mrs. Geronikos' informed board members that the move towards tax reform was deferred until January 2003.

Superintendent's Report -- Dr. Nicholas P. Sham, Sr.  
1. Dr. Sham distributed a piece of literature entitled "Other People's Children".  
2. He announced that Pride & Promise – Public Schools...Achieve! is an initiative of the Pennsylvania School Boards Association.  
3. He reported that there would be a public hearing for The Lehigh Valley Charter School for the Performing Arts on Monday, December 9, 2002.  
4. All board members received an invitation to the All District Buffet which will be held on the afternoon of December 20.

Executive Session An Executive Session was held prior to the meeting to discuss legal and personnel issues.

**PERSONNEL** A motion was made by Mr. Newhard, with a second made by Mr. Dorshimer, that the Board of Education approve the following personnel items :

Substitutes- Non-Instructional Approve to employ the following substitute cafeteria workers for the 2002-2003 school year at the 2002-2003 substitute rate of \$7.25 per hour:

Sarah Unger  
Judith VanHorn  
Kay Rau

**PERSONNEL**

(Con't.) Approve to employ the following custodian and/or maintenance substitutes for the 2002-2003 school year at the 2002-2003 substitute rate of \$7.25 per hour:

Sarah Unger – Custodian  
Norman Daniel – Custodian & Maintenance

Approve to employ the following substitute aide/secretary for the 2002-2003 school year at the 2002-2003 substitute rate of \$7.25 per hour:

Kay Rau

Resignation- Instructional Accept the resignation of Brenda Booz from her position as one-quarter home economics teacher in the senior high school, effective January 27, 2003 or as soon as a replacement can be found.

Non- Instructional Accept the resignation of Tamra Yesik from her position as Cafeteria/Hall Monitor at the middle school, effective November 12, 2002.

Co-Curricular Appointment for 2002-3003\*

Junior Class Advisor – Brian Pfingstl

*\*The stipend will be determined when a new Collective Bargaining Agreement is approved.*

Furlough Special Education Aide In accordance with School Board Policy #511, approve to furlough Mrs. Patricia Ingles, a one-on-one special education aide in the Slatington Elementary School due to the fact that the student has moved from the district and the services of Mrs. Ingles are no longer needed. As a result of this furlough, the last day of employment for Mrs. Ingles is November 27, 2002.

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

NAY: None (0)

**POLICY**

A motion was made by Mrs. Geronikos, with a second made by Mrs. Giles, that the Board of Education approve the following items listed under Policy:

Mr. Dorshimer requested a copy of the standards set by the Constitution of the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association and the eligibility standards to review.

Table Policy #123 A motion was made by Mr. Dorshimer, with a second made by Mrs. Geronikos, that the Board of Education table, until next meeting, approving revisions to existing school board policy #123: Programs – Interscholastic Athletics until the above mentioned documents can be reviewed.

Vote On Tabling Policy #123. YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles  
Mr. Green, Mr. Newhard, Mr. Fedorcha (9)

NAY: None (0)

Mr. Green questioned whether our district solicitor was qualified to administer the Oath of Office to board members.

Hold For Further Clarification To Revisions Of Policy #005 A motion was made by Mr. Green, with a second made by Mr. Newhard, that the Board of Education table, for further clarification, approving revisions to existing school board policy #005: Local Board Procedures – Organization.

**POLICY**

(Con't.)

Vote On

YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles

Tabling Policy #005	Mr. Green, Mr. Newhard, Mr. Fedorcha (9) NAY: None (0)
Board Policies 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Approve revisions to existing school board policy #007: Local Board Procedures – Distribution, as presented after 1 <sup>st</sup> reading.  Approve revisions to existing school board policy #328 Administrative Employees – Administrator Compensation Plan, as presented after 1 <sup>st</sup> reading.
Board Policies 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Approve revisions to existing school board policy #202.1: Pupils – Foreign Exchange Students, as presented after 2 <sup>nd</sup> reading.  Approve revisions to existing school board policy #716: Property – Integrated Pest Management, as presented after 2 <sup>nd</sup> reading.  Approve revisions to existing school board policies #248: Pupils, #348: Administrative Employees, #448: Professional Employees, and #548: Classified Employees – Unlawful Harassment, as presented after 2 <sup>nd</sup> reading.
Conferences	Approve the request of Lynn Haab and Tammy Frstick to attend a Bureau of Education and Research conference in King of Prussia on December 9, 2002. Expenses include \$165.00 each for registration for a total of \$330.00 plus the cost of two substitute teachers for one day and will be paid for through IDEA funds.  Approve the request of Susan Beil, Shawn Green, and Janet Bashore to attend an Institute for Education conference in Frazer, PA on December 10, 2002. Expenses for the conference include \$175.00 each for registration, \$10.00 each for meals, \$20.49 for travel for a total cost of \$575.49 plus the cost of three substitute teachers for one day and will be funded through Title IIA funds.  Approve the request of Tracy Ettinger and Jane Kutney to attend a Bureau of Education and Research one-day seminar in Allentown, PA on January 27, 2003. Expenses for this conference include \$155.00 each for registration, \$5.40 each for travel, for a total cost of \$320.80 plus the cost of two substitute teachers for one day and has been approved by the district's Continuing Professional Development Committee.
NLMS Student Activity Fund Statement	Approve the Northern Lehigh Middle School Student Activities Account Fund Statement for the month of October 2002.
Homebound Instruction	Grant homebound instruction for a tenth grade student, Student No. 05-32500, for five hours per week, effective November 25, 2002 and terminating on January 2, 2003.
<b><u>NEW BUSINESS</u></b>	A motion was made by Mr. Dorshimer, with a second made by Mr. Green, that the Board of Education approve a special education settlement to <i>Parent "A"</i> for \$5000.00 in lieu of a Due Process Hearing. She will receive \$1500 for compensatory education fund and \$3500.00 for reimbursement.  YEA: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles Mr. Green, Mr. Newhard, Mr. Fedorcha (9) NAY: None (0)  Mr. Cox suggested that board members and administration look at their schedules for the month of January 2003 and choose a Thursday or Friday evening and go bowling as a group.
<b><u>FINANCIAL</u></b>	A motion was made by Mr. Dorshimer, with a second made by Mrs. Escott, that the Board of Education approve the following financial items:
PC Abatements	Approve abatement of per capita taxes, for the residents that fall within the guidelines, as amended on the recommendation of Mr. Dorshimer, adjusting the amount of total abatements to from \$680.00 to \$580.00.

Construction Account Bills Dated 11/19/02 Approve payment of bills from the Construction Account, dated November 19, 2002, as presented.

Construction Account Bills Dated 12/2/02 Approve payment of bills from the Construction Account, dated December 2, 2002, as presented.

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

Cash Management Portfolio Approve the Arthurs Lestrage Cash Management Portfolio for the month of October 2002, as presented.

Per Capita Tax Refund Approve a \$9.80 per capita refund for Tracy Zellner, 922 Williams Avenue, Walnutport, PA. Tracy Zellner had previously been exonerated from per capita tax and still made payment.

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

**LEGAL** A motion was made by Mr. Newhard, with a second made by Mr. Green, that the Board of  
Steckel & Stopp Solicitors Education approve to appoint the law firm of Steckel and Stopp as solicitors for the Northern Lehigh School District for 2003 at a retainer fee of \$1750.00.

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

**CORRESPONDENCE** Mrs. Escott read a letter of appreciation from the Slatington Public Library for the contribution to the library.

**INFORMATION** All board members received a copy of the minutes of the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit Board of Directors meeting held on October 21, 2002.

All board members received a copy of the minutes of the Washington Township Board of Supervisors meeting held on October 8, 2002.

**ADJOURNMENT** A motion was made by Mrs. Geronikos, with a second made by Mrs. Ganser, that the regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors be adjourned at 8:10 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