

**NORTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Board Minutes**  
**Slatington, PA**  
**September 13, 2004**

**PURPOSE** The regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors was called to order by the President, Mr. Mathias J. Green, Jr., at 7:40 p.m. on Monday, September 13, 2004 in the boardroom located in the Slatington Elementary School.

**MOMENT OF SILENCE** A moment of silence was conducted to remember the 911 victims who tragically lost their lives and for two of our students, Asher Boyer and Tyler Kohler who also tragically lost their lives.

**ROLL CALL** Members present: Mr. Franklin D. Beers, Mr. Robert J. Cox, Mr. Bryan C. Dorshimer, Mr. Raymond J. Follweiler, Jr., Mrs. Susan H. Fullas, Mrs. Lauren A. Ganser, Mrs. Lori H. Geronikos, Mr. William H. Hazzard, Mr. Mathias J. Green, Jr., (9)

Members absent: None (0)

Non-members present: Dr. Nicholas P. Sham, Sr., Mrs. Lynne Fedorcha, Mr. Philip Bertolino, Mr. Robert L. Kern, Jr., Dr. Linda Marcincin, Mrs. Karen Nicholas, Mr. John Hrizuk, Mr. Robert Mack, Mr. Brian Geiger, Ms. Christine Stafford, Mr. Jeffrey Bachman, Ms. Laurie Newman-Mankos, Ms. Ashley Kunkle, Ms. Jessica Fidler, and Mrs. Doneta Merkle

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEM** Sheryl Giles—Washington Township— requested permission to comment on any agenda item.

**VISITORS** In addition to Sharon Minnich, reporter for the Times News and Terry Ahner, reporter for The Chronicle, approximately 15 visitors attended the meeting.

**APPROVE MINUTES** Mr. Dorshimer made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Ganser, that the minutes of the regular school board meeting held on August 2, 2004, as amended, the regular school board meeting held on August 9, 2004, and the special school board meeting held on August 30, 2004 be approved and ordered filed.

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Fullas, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Hazzard, Mr. Green (9)

NAY: None (0)

Mr. Green reminded the board and the administration to submit their superintendent evaluation forms in the envelopes provided on the board table.

**SPECIAL BOARD REPORTS** Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit -- Mr. Bryan C. Dorshimer  
Mr. Dorshimer reported that the CLIU has a legal issue pending and he will update the board with the results as soon as they are made available.

Mrs. Geronikos reported that Senator Rhodes was at the football game on Friday evening. He was responsible for the district receiving \$10,000 towards the stadium project.

Student Representatives To The Board Report -- Ashley Kunkle and Jessica Fidler distributed a written report and reported on its contents.

Executive Session Mr. Green reported that there was an executive session to discuss personnel and negotiations at 6:30 p.m. prior to the meeting. There may be a need for an Executive Session later in the meeting or after the meeting.

**SPECIAL****BOARD** Federal and Other Programs -- Mrs. Lynne B. Fedorcha**REPORT**

(Con't.)

Mrs. Fedorcha distributed a Technology Leadership Academy "Webinars" pamphlet for the board and administration to take advantage of.

**Superintendent's Report** – Dr. Nicholas P. Sham, Sr.

Dr. Sham introduced Joey Heiczinger who gave an Eagle Scout Presentation, which is to landscape the area around the sculptures in front of the senior high school library.

Mr. Follweiler made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Beers, that the Board of Education approves the Eagle Scout project presented by Joey Heiczinger.

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Fullas, Mrs. Ganser,  
Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Hazzard, Mr. Green (9)

NAY: None (0)

Dr. Sham recognized district retirees, Richard Snell, Carol Miller, and Judith Mack for their years of service to the district. They were presented with an engraved silver apple.

Mr. Kem introduced Mr. Jon DeFrain, Student Council Advisor, who was present with high school student council members. Council President Ashley Kunkle reported on the council's activities for the year and introduced the council officers and all of the council members present at the meeting.

The council thanked the board for all they do for the district and presented them with a pin as a gift of appreciation.

The third day enrollment report for 2004-2005 was distributed and discussed. Dr. Sham was pleased with the balanced class sizes, especially at the elementary level. (See Attached)

Andrea Madochick, the new Food Services Director, reported that she has been working on a web site with the technology staff with menus and a newsletter. She reported that she is working with Head Start. She is working on setting a point of sale program next year. She will be meeting with the high school student council to get their input on what they would like.

Dr. Sham asked the board to look over the "draft" of the district goals and contact him if there are any changes they would like to see.

The Head Start Program at Peters Elementary has begun with this school year. Dr. Sham reported that he is working on the visit by Governor Rendell on September 27.

Dr. Sham reported that he had many good complements at the football game about the district's athletic complex.

He reminded everyone that the October 4 Board Meeting will be held at the Lehigh Career & Technical Institute in Schnecksville.

**PERSONNEL**

Mrs. Fullas made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Beers, that the Board of Education approves the following items listed under Personnel:

Adjust Start Date	Approve to adjust the start date for Denise Plotsko, Temporary Vacancy Replacement teacher, from October 7, 2004 to September 7, 2004.
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**PERSONNEL**

(Con't.)

**Professional Contract** According to Article II-1108, subsection (b) of the School Code: "A temporary professional employee, initially employed by a school district on or after June 30, 1996, whose work has been certified by the district superintendent to the secretary of the school district, during the last four (4) months of the third year of such service, as being satisfactory, shall thereafter be a "professional employee" within the meaning of this article." Therefore, it is recommended to approve "professional employee" status per correspondence received from the Stroudsburg School District for Tanya L. Williams, who has satisfactorily completed three years of service to the Stroudsburg School District.

**Administrative Evaluations For 2004-2005** Approve administrative evaluations for school administrators as recommended by the Superintendent for the 2004-2005 school year.

**Administrative Raises & Merit Increases** Approve administrative raises and merit increases for school administrators as recommended by the Superintendent for the 2004-2005 school year. These increases will be retroactive to July 1, 2004.

**Unpaid Volunteer** Approve the following unpaid volunteer for the 2004-2005 school year:  
Joseph Bortz – Volunteer Percussion Instructor for Marching Band

**Substitutes Instructional** Approve the following substitute teacher for the 2004-2005 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: Susan Magee – Elementary

**Administrative Transfer** Robin Schultz  
From: Special Education Learning Support Aide  
Grade 5 – Slatington Elementary School  
To: Special Education Learning Support Aide  
K-2 – Peters Elementary School, replacing Nancy Wagner,  
who resigned.  
Salary: \$9.45 – Step 1 on the 2004-2005 Educational Support Staff  
Salary Schedule  
Effective Date: September 15, 2004

**Adjust Salary Allison Garbe** Approve to adjust the previously approved salary of Allison Garbe, Title I Instructional Aide in the Slatington Elementary School, from \$9.45 per hour to \$10.45.

**Amend Start Date For Laurie Ramsey** Approve to amend the starting date of the child rearing leave approved on August 2, 2004 for Laurie Ramsey, Slatington Elementary fifth grade teacher from a start date of October 7, 2004 to a start date of September 1, 2004. Mrs. Ramsey's expected return date remains at early February 2005.

ROLL CALL: YEA: Mr. Hazzard, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Fullas, Mr. Follweiler,  
Mr. Cox, Mr. Beers, Mr. Green (7)

NAY: Mrs. Ganser, Mr. Dorshimer (2)

Motion carried.

**Public Comment** Sheryl Giles – Washington Township – Wanted to know what the percentage increase was for the administrative salaries. Dr. Sham responded by saying that it varies. It all depends on the completion of the individual goals.

**POLICY**

A motion was made by Mrs. Ganser, with a second made by Mr. Beers, that the Board of Education approves the request of Andrea Madochick, to attend the PA School Food Association conference in Lancaster, PA on October 21 and 22, 2004. Expenses for this conference include \$145.00 for registration, \$45.00 for travel, \$170.00 for lodging and will be funded through the cafeteria budget.

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Fullas, Mrs. Ganser,  
Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Hazzard, Mr. Green (9)

NAY: None (0)

**CURRICU-  
LUM AND  
INSTRUC-  
TION**

Mrs. Geronikos made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Hazzard, that the Board of Education approves the following items listed under Curriculum and Instruction:

Continuing  
Professional  
Education Plan

Approve the Northern Lehigh School District Continuing Professional Education Plan (Act 48 of 1999). The Plan shall be in effect from September 30, 2004 through September 29, 2006.

Revised  
Teacher  
Induction  
Program

Approve the revised Northern Lehigh School District Teacher Induction Program. This Plan shall be in effect from September 30, 2004 through September 29, 2006.

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Fullas, Mrs. Ganser,  
Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Hazzard, Mr. Green (9)

NAY: None (0)

**NEW  
BUSINESS**

Mr. Beers registered a complaint about the handicapped facilities at the athletic stadium stating that there aren't enough handicapped parking spaces. Mr. Geiger will look into the regulations associated with handicapped parking.

**FINANCIAL** Mr. Cox made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Beers, that the Board of Education approves the following financial items:

General Fund  
Bills

Approve payment of General Fund bills for the month of August and September 2004, as presented.

NLMS Student  
Activity  
Statement

Approve the Northern Lehigh Middle School Student Activity Account fund statement for the month of August 2004, as presented.

Real Estate  
Refunds  
For Duplicate

Approve the following real estate refunds due to duplicate payment during the discount period:

Tax Bill #774, Paul W & Janice C. Grimes, 6719 Old Grange Road, Slatington, in the amount of Payment \$3,876.04.

Tax Bill #846, Clifford D & Amy T Fritts, W S Alley S of T795, Slatington, in the amount of \$37.93.

Tax Bill #1418, Cynthia V Jensen, 7343 W Hillcrest Lane, Slatington, in the amount of \$1,595.42.

Tax Bill #1515, Richard E Kern, Jr., 7330 E Hillcrest Lane, Slatington, in the amount of \$1,552.44.

Tax Bill #1224, Mark & Suzanne Herbold, 2219 Skyline Drive, Slatington, in the amount of \$260.43.

Tax Bill #2333, Anthony J Piotrowski, 2261 Mountain Road, Slatington, in the amount of \$1,759.77.

Tax Bill #2915, Herbert L & Connie L Stein, 7351 2<sup>nd</sup> St, Slatington, in the amount of \$1,944.34.

**FINANCIAL**

(Con't.)

Real Estate Tax Refunds 2004-2005 Approve a real estate tax refund for the 2004-2005 tax year in the amount of \$25.29 to Northwest Territory LLC, PO Box 698, Fogelsville. The refund is due to an assessment change due to the lot being split effective July 1, 2004.

Approve a real estate tax refund for the 2004-2005 tax year in the amount of \$533.49 to Melizza & John Kulp, 5950 PA Route 873, Slatington. The refund is due to the original tax bill being paid prior to receiving notice from the county that the original parcel was deleted and split into 3 lots and the new assessment amount of these lots effective July 1, 2004.

Open Interest Bearing Acct. Authorize the business manager to open an interest bearing checking account with the designated depository Harleysville Bank for 2004AAA Bond transactions.

End Of Year Budget Transfers Approve end of the year post-audit budget transfers for the 2003-04 fiscal year as submitted by Hutchinson Gorman and Freeh P.C.

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Fullas, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Hazzard, Mr. Green (9)  
NAY: None (0)

**RECOGNITION OF GUESTS**

Sheryl Giles – Washington Township – Questioned procedure at the last board meeting when Mr. Green swore in the new board director, Mrs. Fullas. She stated that according to the school law handbook it states that only a judge or mayor or a temporary president can swear in a school board director. Is it legal to have a president of the board swear in a school director? Mr. Green responded that yes it is and that if you read further down the law it states that a board president can also swear in any new board members. Mrs. Giles stated that she spoke with someone from PSBA and she was told that it is not legal.

Executive Session Mr. Green requested that the board retire for an executive session at 8:30 p.m. The board reconvened at 9:20 p.m. Mr. Green announced that the board discussed some legal items and personnel items that were related to items discussed at last weeks board meeting. He reported that there is pending litigation and there was no action to be taken at the meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Mr. Cox, with a second made by Mr. Beers that the regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors be adjourned at 9:21 p.m.

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Fullas, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Hazzard, Mr. Green (9)  
NAY: None (0)

Respectfully submitted,

Bryan C. Dorshimer  
Secretary

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_ President  
Mathias J. Green, Jr.