

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

**Slatington, PA**  
**January 14, 2008**

**PURPOSE**

The regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors was called to order by the President, Mr. Edward E. Hartman, at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, January 14, 2008 in the boardroom located in the Slatington Elementary School.

**ROLL CALL**

Members present: Mr. Donald H. Dengler, Mr. Bryan C. Dorshimer, Mr. Raymond J. Follweiler, Jr., Mrs. Lauren A. Ganser, Mrs. Lori H. Geronikos, Jr., Mrs. Donna M. Kulp, Mr. Gregory S. Williams, Mr. Edward E. Hartman (8)

Members absent: Mr. Mathias J. Green (1)

Non-members present: Mr. Jeffrey Bachman, Mrs. Lisa Blank, Mrs. Jill Chamberlain, Mr. Greg Derr, Mrs. Lynne Fedorcha, Mr. John Hrizuk, Mrs. Laurie Newman-Mankos, Mrs. Karen Nicholas, Mr. David Papay, Dr. Nicholas P. Sham, Sr., Mr. Michael Showak (Student Rep), Mrs. Dawn Wadsworth, Mrs. Aileen Yadush and Mrs. Sherri Molitoris.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Richard Klocek – Washington Township – asked to speak on the PEL Study Update.

**VISITORS**

Approximately six visitors attended the meeting in addition to Terry Ahner reporter for The Times News.

**SPECIAL BOARD REPORTS**

Lehigh Career and Technical Institute – Mrs. Lori H. Geronikos has agreed to serve as the Board representative for LCTI and Mrs. Donna M. Kulp will serve as the alternate.

Legislative Report – Mr. Gregory S. Williams reported on an article that was published in the Times News. Lehigh School Board President spoke out against PDE mandating high school graduation project requirements.

Committee Reports and/or Meetings

Minutes of the Technology Building and Grounds Meeting held on January 9, 2008 were distributed.

Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on January 9, 2008 were distributed.

Student Representatives to the Board Report

Mr. Michael Showak distributed his written student representative report and verbally reported on its contents. He further read a prepared statement about the recent bomb threats and that high school students do not support these unacceptable actions. The high school students feel that administration has handled these situations very well.

Federal and Other Programs Update - Mrs. Lynne B. Fedorcha reminded school board members about the e-Strategic Plan Meeting being held on January 23, 2008 in the high school library.

Mrs. Fedorcha introduced Mrs. Yadush who spoke to the Board about the MTV MADE television program. Mrs. Yadush distributed documentation and informed the Board on what MADE is. MTV will be in the high school on February 1, 2008 for a casting call for students who are interested in the opportunity to be apart of MADE.

Business Manager's Report – Mrs. Lisa A. Blank invited all Board Members to attend the auditor interviews being held on January 28, 2008 in the district office board room.

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

Dr. Sham distributed the updated PEL study and reported on its contents. He called attention to the results that projected future enrollments will increase according to statistics. Dr. Sham

**SPECIAL  
BOARD  
REPORTS  
(cont.)**

further stated that the Board now has the documentation needed to go back to PDE for reimbursement of a construction project adding classrooms to Slatington Elementary.

**PUBLIC  
COMMENT**

year

Richard Klocek – Washington Township – Asked the Board to consider revisiting the issue and move forward with the construction project at Slatington Elementary School. He stated that this report shows that we will have an over crowding issue in upcoming years. He feels we can not wait for a new superintendent to come on board before we revisit this issue. The prior Board had the foresight to see that a construction project at Slatington Elementary would be needed and they passed a resolution authorizing the future issuance of debt and every year we wait to borrow that money we lose a little bit of it and at the same time construction costs continue to rise.

Mr. Williams stated that he is not comfortable making a decision to move ahead with a multi million dollar project based solely on this document. He does not understand how one year of statistics can change the projections for student enrollment as much as stated in this document.

Executive Session

Mr. Hartman stated that the Board was in executive prior to tonight's meeting to discuss personnel and contract issues.

Mrs. Ganser asked to return to executive session at the conclusion of the board meeting. She needed to have some clarification on a legal issue.

**PERSONNEL**

Mr. Dorshimer made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Ganser, that the Board of Education approves the following personnel items:

Substitute-  
Instructional

Approve the following substitute teachers for the 2007-2008 school year at the 2007-2008 substitute teacher rates as approved on the Supplementary Personnel Salary Schedule:

Ashley Barber – History

Appointment  
Non-  
Instructional

Tracy Delans  
Assignment:

Personal Care Assistant for student #1790144 at  
Slatington Elementary School

Salary:

\$9.88/Per Hour/6½ Hours Per Day/ 5 Days Per Week  
(2005-2008 Educational Support Staff Memorandum of Understanding)

Effective:

January 15, 2008

**\*60 day probationary period ending on or about April 16, 2008**

**\*\*Pending Verification of Clearances**

Resignation  
M. Fritchman

Accept the resignation of Melissa Fritchman from her position as Office Aide in at Slatington Elementary, effective January 18, 2008. Mrs. Fritchman is resigning her position due to medical reasons.

YEA: Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos,  
Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, Mr. Hartman (8)

NAY: None (0)

**CONFER-  
ENCES**

Mrs. Ganser made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Williams, that the Board of Education approves the following conference items:

Heather Rehrig – 2008 Annual Conference National Association of School Psychologists – February 5 – 9, 2008 – New Orleans, LA – Registration: \$190.00, Lodging: \$690.00, Meals: \$225.00 – Total Approximate Cost: \$1,105.00 – Funding: Curriculum and Instruction Budget (Ms. Rehrig is a presenter at the 2008 National Conference)

Tim Weaber – PA Educational Technology Expo & Conference – February 10 – 12, 2008 – Hershey, PA – Registration: \$180.00, Lodging: \$198.00, Travel: \$45.60 – Total Approximate Cost: \$423.60 – Funding: Accountability Block Grant

**CONFER-  
ENCES  
(cont.)**

Lora Krum – 2008 PMEA Annual Conference – April 17-19, 2008 – Hershey, PA –  
Registration: \$95.00, Lodging: \$294.00, Travel: \$42.00 – Total Approximate Cost:  
\$431.00 – Funding: Elementary Music Department Budget

YEA: Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos,  
Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, Mr. Hartman (8)  
NAY: None (0)

**POLICY**

Mr. Williams made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Ganser, that the Board of Education approve the following policy item:

Board Policy  
First  
Reading

Approve school board policy #220 – Pupils – Student Expression/Distribution and Posting of Materials, as presented after first reading.

YEA: Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos,  
Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, Mr. Hartman (8)  
NAY: None (0)

**OLD  
BUSINESS**

Mr. Williams made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Ganser, that the Board of Education approve to remove from the table the motion for the addition of the High School Young Republicans Club that was tabled at the May 7, 2007 board meeting.

YEA: Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos,  
Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, Mr. Hartman (8)  
NAY: None (0)

Addition of  
High School  
Young  
Republicans  
Club

Mr. Williams made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Ganser, that the Board of Education approve the request of the high school administration to conduct a Young Republicans Club in the high school. This club will provide students with a forum to discuss their opinions on issues of the day, current events, and upcoming elections, as well as, participate in local charity events and organize debates for students. There will be no cost to the district to conduct this club.

YEA: Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos,  
Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, Mr. Hartman (8)  
NAY: None (0)

project  
  
moving

Mrs. Geronikos stated that the Board decided not to move ahead with the construction at Slatington Elementary and put a moratorium put on any future building until a new superintendent comes on board. The Foundation turned over close to a quarter of a million dollars to the district for the addition of a high school science lab, what is the status of forward with that project. The funds were designated by EITC people that the funds must go towards a science lab. She asked what is going to be the Boards favor in regards to that construction project.

Mr. Dengler stated that when the Foundation comes forward with the entire cost for the project he will agree to move ahead with the project.

was  
lab.  
  
science  
money.

Mrs. Blank stated that when the district received the funds from the Foundation and signed an agreement with them, we were aware that the money was earned under the EITC and there was limitations. A good portion on the money was to have been spent by December 31, 2007. The Board entered into a contract with Architectural Studios. Architectural Studios plan on work being done together between Slatington Elementary renovations and the high school science lab. The architects understanding was that when the Slatington project was put on hold the science lab project was also put on hold. Currently the district has no plan on documents on the lab. We have not spent any money. She has concerns on legally if we can sit on the

Mr. Hartman stated that he was under the impression that funding for this project was from outside sources and not being funded by tax dollars.

**OLD**  
has **BUSINESS**  
(cont.)

they

Foundation  
plan con.

Mrs. Geronikos stated that currently all money received is from corporate donations. She has been questioned on whether the Education Foundation would be applying for more EITC funds. She had to tell them no because she can not go for more money if the money is not going to be used for a science lab. She stated that originally the project was to cost \$400,000. Since then, construction costs have gone up a great deal. At the same token have received reports from the high school and also from PDE that the standards are going to be raised for science and we are going to have to do something because we do not have anything in the high school. Ultimately we are going to need the science lab and this money is a boost to get it started. The science lab project is a reimbursable project. The Foundation has put a halt to go after more money because there has been no movement with

barely

Mrs. Kulp stated that she is grateful for the money but is disappointed that the money has a specific use and not as the district would feel fit to use the money. The Foundation should have been focused on a project that they could fully fund instead of one that they could fund.

Mr. Dorshimer referenced the vote taken at the meeting held at LCTI. He stated that his memory was a 5 to 4 vote for no construction projects to be brought to the Board until a new superintendent is on Board. He would like to see that motion at the next board meeting.

Mr. Williams stated that he is not prepared to make a decision on this currently. He wants to give administration and the Education Foundation a one last pitch at the next board meeting to sell this project.

said

Mrs. Ganser stated that she also is not ready at this time to make the decision. She also that in all fairness she doesn't feel we can ask the tax payers to fund this project.

to

Mr. Dengler stated that Slatington Elementary needs to be renovated. The district will have go out to the tax payers to fund this project. He is not willing to go and ask taxpayers for more money to pay for a science lab.

meeting.  
vote on the

Mr. Hartman stated that this issue will be addressed at the February 11, 2008 board meeting. There will be time for presentation and discussion and then the Board will take a vote on the issue.

Mr. Dorshimer asked that Mrs. Blank look into the legal issues with the money currently. He further stated that he would like information on where there is a definite need for this lab.

The

Mrs. Yadush stated that she will not be present at the February 11, 2008 board meeting. Board has directed her to give her presentation on curriculum and standards at the February 4, 2008 board meeting.

**NEW**  
**BUSINESS**

Mrs. Ganser made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Williams, that the Board of Education approves the following new business items:

Clerical Group  
Memorandum  
Of  
Understanding

Approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Northern Lehigh School District and the Clerical Group as presented.

State Ethics  
Commission

The Northern Lehigh School District Board of School Directors designates Sherri A. Molitoris to receive and file Form SEC-1, Statement of Financial Interests from the Northern Lehigh School District Board members and designated employees as required by law, and the Northern Lehigh School District Board of Directors requires: the Superintendent, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Director of Special Education, Business Manager, Director of Support Services, District Solicitor, Elementary Principals, Middle School Principal, Transition High School/Middle School Assistant Principal, High School Assistant Principal, High School Principal, Technology Coordinator, Assistant Technology Coordinator, Food Services Director, and School Psychologists to file Form SEC-1, as required by the regulations of the State Ethics Commission.

**NEW  
BUSINESS  
(cont.)**

YEA: Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos,  
Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, Mr. Hartman (8)  
NAY: None (0)

**FINANCIAL**

Mr. Dorshimer made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Ganser, that the Board of Education approves the following financial items:

## Financial Reports

Approve the Following Financial Reports:  
General Fund month of December  
NLMS Student Activities Account month of November and December  
NLHS Student Activities Account month of December

## Payment Of Bills

Approve the Following List of Bills:  
General Fund months of December  
Cafeteria Fund month of December  
Athletic Fund month of December  
Refreshment Stand Fund month of December

## 2006-2007 Single Audit

Accept the 2006-2007 audit and management report for the single audit ending June 30, 2007. A copy of the audit was distributed at the January 7, 2008 school board meeting.

## CLIU 2008-2009 Budget

Approve a resolution regarding the 2008-2009 Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit Operational and Program Services budget. Total expenditures equal \$2,130,236.00 a decrease of \$3,656.00 (-.17%) over the 2007-2008 budget. Northern Lehigh's share is proposed to be \$18,893.00 an increase of \$796.00 from the 2007-2008 budget. A copy of the budget was distributed at the January 7, 2008 school board meeting.

## LCTI 2008-2009 Budget

Approve a resolution regarding the Lehigh Career & Technical Institute general fund budget and Academic Center expenditures for the 2008-2009 school year. The general fund budget total is \$21,014,680.00 an increase of \$1,168,960.00 or 5.9%. Northern Lehigh School District's portion of the 2008-2009 general fund budget is \$833,474.30. The expenditures for the Academic Center Budget for the period of July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009 total \$1,149,920.00. A copy of the budget was distributed at the January 7, 2008 school board meeting.

## Service Agreement Medtronic

Authorize administration to extend the service agreement with Medtronic for the 5 Automated External Defibrillator units (AED) for the years 2008-2011. Cost for this service is \$1,500.00 per year.

## Bid Band Uniforms

Authorize administration to advertise for bids for 60 band uniforms. The cost for the uniforms will be shared equally between the district and band boosters. The district portion will be allocated from the 2008-2009 equipment replacement budget.

## Budgetary Transfers

Approve budgetary transfers for the 2007-2008 fiscal year as presented.

YEA: Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos,  
Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, Mr. Hartman (8)  
NAY: None (0)

## Maintenance Cell Phones

Authorize administration to add two cell phones to our current cell phone contract. The additional cost per month for the two cell phones will be \$45.08.

## ROLL CALL:

YEA: Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Williams (3)  
NAY: Mr. Dengler, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Hartman (5)  
Motion Defeated.

Mr. Dorshimer stated that organizations have complained that they must pay for a custodian/maintenance person but often when they need them they can not be found. This is because the district asks them to perform other tasks while they are here instead of sitting around

**FINANCIAL**  
in (cont.)

doing nothing. Cell phones are the only way to get in contact with employees when they are not area of where the event is taking place.

Parent  
Emergency  
Notification  
System

Mr. Dorshimer made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Williams, that the Board of Education approve entering into a three (3) year contract with Capital Area Intermediate Unit to provide a School to Parent communication system through Connect-Ed (The NTI Group) at an initial cost for the remainder of this school year not to exceed \$3,300.00.

Mr. Hrizuk stated that the contract is for 3 years at a cost of \$6,018.00 per year.

YEA: Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos,  
Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, Mr. Hartman (8)

NAY: None (0)

**INFOR-**  
**MATION**

Mr. Dorshimer stated that people have been in contact with him and they are very pleased with the parent scheduling meeting that is held at the high school. It is a great way of knowing what is going on.

Mr. Hartman stated that Dr. Marcincin was named secretary of the State Principal Association.

**RECOG-**  
**NITION OF**  
**GUESTS**

Richard Klocek – Washington Township – He is concerned that if the wish of the Board is to return some or all of the money given to the district by companies for the addition of the science lab that we will have lost trust with these companies. There are many other groups within our district that possibly will need to solicit funds from companies and if we give back this money these companies are liable to say that Northern Lehigh does not need us and therefore not give us money in the future.

**ADJOURN-**  
**MENT**

Mrs. Ganser made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Dengler, that the regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh School District Board of School Directors is adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

YEA: Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos,  
Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, Mr. Hartman (8)

NAY: None (0)

Respectfully submitted,

Bryan C. Dorshimer  
Secretary

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_ President  
Edward E. Hartman