

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

**Slatington, PA**  
**August 11, 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, August 11, 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, Mrs. Donna M. Kulp, Mr. Gregory S. Williams, Mr. Edward E. Hartman (8)

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

Non-members present: Mr. Donald Allen, Mr. Jeffrey Bachman, Mrs. Jill Chamberlain, Mrs. Lynne B. Fedorcha, Mr. John Hrizuk, Dr. Linda Marcincin, Mr. Michael Michaels, Mrs. Laurie Newman-Mankos, Mrs. Karen Nicholas, Mrs. Diane Ruff, Mrs. Aileen Yadush and Mrs. Sherri Molitoris.

**VISITORS**

Approximately five visitors attended the meeting in addition to Terry Ahner reporter for The Times News and Andrew Martel from The Morning Call.

**SPECIAL BOARD REPORTS**

Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unite – Mr. Bryan C. Dorshimer distributed the CLIU Board Briefs and verbally reported on its contents which consisted welcoming new Board Member, hiring new transportation administrators, passing of resolutions, lease agreement, policies, summer camps and the purchase of the new CLIU building that was built.

Lehigh Career and Technical Institute – Mrs. Lori H. Geronikos reported that she was asked to represent LCTI at the School Leadership Conference in Harrisburg in October. She is reporting that she is unable to do that because she is having surgery. She reported that someone from our district school attend as representation for our school board as a voting delegate. She also reported that LCTI is continuing on its path to become a technical college.

Committee Reports and/or Meetings

Mr. Dorshimer stated that Buildings and Grounds held a meeting and many items were discussed. Mr. Williams asked if when the minutes are completed for the Technology/Buildings and Grounds meeting if they could be e-mailed to all board members.

Federal and Other Programs Update - Mrs. Lynne B. Fedorcha reported that Science: It's Elementary is continued again for the 2008-2009 school year.

Mr. Dorshimer asked if Governor Rendell got his Kindergarten funding for another year?

Mrs. Fedorcha reported that we are still receiving the Accountability Block Grant (ABG) and funding our full day Kindergarten program. She stated that the ABG received a 2.07% decrease this year but that we were able to continue with all the programs we currently offer.

Superintendent's Report – Mr. Michael W. Michaels

Mr. Michaels thanked Mrs. Molitoris for her assistance helping his transition into the position of superintendent. He reported that he has been visiting and will continue to meet and visit with all the fall athletic teams. He reported that August 6-8, 2008 the administrative team gathered for their summer retreat. Strategic plan was discussed as well as other team building concepts. He thanked Mrs. Fedorcha for her work preparing for the retreat and the planning for the district's Strategic plan.

Mr. Hartman reminded everyone that the next board meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 2, 2008.

**PERSONNEL** An executive session was held prior to tonight's meeting to discuss personnel items. Mr. Dorshimer made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Ganser, that the Board of Education approves the following personnel items:

- Administrative Transfers
  - Jill Chamberlain
    - From: Middle School/High School Transition Assistant Principal
    - To: Middle School Principal
    - Salary: \$87,000 (prorated for the 2008-2009 school year)
    - Effective: September 4, 2008
  - Thomas Mertus
    - From: Special Education Learning Support Teacher – Grade 6 Slatington Elementary
    - To: Elementary ESL Teacher, replacing Michelle Fleck who resigned
    - Salary: \$45,500 (no change in salary)
    - Effective: August 25, 2008
  - Nicole Kovich
    - From: Special Education Life Skills Support Teacher – Slatington Elementary
    - To: Special Education Learning Support Teacher – Grade 6 Slatington Elementary, replacing Thomas Mertus who was transferred
    - Salary: \$46,300 (no change in salary)
    - Effective: August 25, 2008
- Appointments Instructional
  - Amberly Drey Assignment:
    - Temporary Vacancy Replacement 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Teacher Peters Elementary replacing Susan Heil who was granted a leave of absence
    - Salary: \$40,500 (Step 1 Bachelors on the 2008-2009 CBA Salary Schedule)
    - Effective: August 25, 2008
    - Termination Date: On or about January 23, 2009
- Resignation T. Trimble
  - Accept the voluntary resignation of Thomas Trimble from his position as maintenance staff employee, effective May 29, 2008.
- Salary Adjustments
  - Acknowledge the following teachers who have completed the requirements per the Collective Bargaining Agreement that would entitle them to a salary increase for the 2008-2009 school year:
    - Kimberly Jones
      - From: Step 3B
      - To: Step 3B+24
    - Amanda Lychak
      - From: Step 8B+24
      - To: Step 8M
- Substitute Instructional
  - Approve the following individuals as substitute teachers for the 2008-2009 school year at the 2008-2009 substitute rate as approved on the Supplementary Personnel Salary Schedule:
    - Mary Breininger – Art K-12
- Substitute Cafeteria
  - Approve the following individuals as substitute cafeteria workers for the 2008-2009 school year at the 2008-2009 substitute rate as approved on the Supplementary Personnel Salary Schedule:
    - Wendy Green
    - Catherine Faenza\*

**PERSONNEL**

**(cont.)**

Substitute Custodian Approve the following individuals as substitute custodians for the 2008-2009 school year at the 2008-2009 substitute rate as approved on the Supplementary Personnel Salary Schedule:

Stephen Andrews

school/high support house and become overloaded. Mrs. Geronikos reported that she wanted to go on record that she hopes we are reserving the right of our new superintendent to hold off on dissolving the transition assistant middle school principal position. She supports Mrs. Chamberlain as principal but does not eliminating the position of transition assistant principal. She is all for cleaning reorganizing job duties but she does not want our administrative staff to become overloaded.

Mrs. Ganser stated that this was discussed in length last week.

Mr. Williams stated that he hopes Mr. Michaels will come back to the Board October 1<sup>st</sup> with a report on how things are going with the three administrators.

Board for position both

Mr. Michaels said that he agrees with Mr. Williams statement but cautions the Board that giving a report on October 1<sup>st</sup> and starting after Labor Day might be a little short. He thanked the allowing him the opportunity to review this issue because if asked the question today if the is needed, he would not know the answer to that question. He feels he owes do diligent to issues concerning this position. He will research this issue and after time will give a recommendation to the Board.

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

NAY: None (0)

**OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Dorshimer stated that this is the last board meeting prior to school starting. He asked if the district is ready for the start of school.

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Mr. Michaels stated that the district is getting closer. Mr. Michaels asked if he was questioning teachers, curriculum or the buildings themselves.

Mr. Dorshimer stated everything. He stated that he asked Mr. Derr last Wednesday.

Mr. Michaels stated that he has toured the buildings and there is one the he has concerns with. He has met with the principal and met with Mr. Derr about a contingency plan. He promised he would make another visit this week to see if there was progress.

Mr. Dorshimer stated the he was a little naive and unaware that in the elementary level there are teachers teaching certain subjects.

Dr. Marcincin stated that in 6<sup>th</sup> grade all teacher teach language arts. The students move between classes. 5<sup>th</sup> grade and 4<sup>th</sup> grades are group according to math.

he

Mr. Michaels stated that he is comfortable with the curriculum and the teaching. The only thing is not comfortable with is one building. There are some things that he hopes would have been different. He has shared his concerns with Mr. Derr and Mr. Derr assured him it would be fine for the start of school.

**FINANCIAL**

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

Bill Payment

Approve the Following List of Bills:  
General Fund months of June and July  
Cafeteria Fund month of June and July  
Capital Projects month of June

Athletic Fund month of June  
 MS Student Activity Account month of June  
 HS Student Activity Account months of May, June and July  
 HS Scholarship Account months of May and June

**FINANCIAL**  
**(cont.)**

Edward  
 Ziegler-  
 Purchase  
 Pine Boards

Approve to accept the bid from Edward Ziegler for the purchase of pine boards from the high school gymnasium bleachers. Mr. Ziegler's total purchase price is \$208.00.

Donald Gogel  
 Purchase  
 Plywood

Approve to accept the bid from Donald Gogel for the purchase of plywood from the high school gymnasium bleachers. Mr. Gogel's total purchase price is \$141.00.

Dixie Chopper  
 American  
 Lawn Equip

Approve the awarding of bid for Dixie Chopper Model #3060 to American Lawn Equipment at a cost of \$7,769.00.

Whiteboards  
 Kurtz Bros.

Approve the awarding of bid for Whiteboards to Kurtz Brothers at a cost of \$10,071.00. The Whiteboards will be installed in the Slatington Elementary and Middle School buildings.

Mr. Dorshimer is concerned with items that were purchased by community members and their removal from the district. He thought once the bids are awarded at a board meeting the purchaser only has a certain amount of time to remove the items off school property. He hopes that these items will be gone by September 2<sup>nd</sup> and school will be open for students.

Mr. Michaels stated that there is no sense having policies if we do not follow them. He assured Mr. Dorshimer that there is a date on the letter when these items must be picked up and if these items are not removed by then the maintenance department will remove these items and the purchaser will be responsible to pay for the labor hours it took for our maintenance staff to remove the items.

remove

Mrs. Kulp asked if the Dixie Chopper was replacing a piece of equipment.

Mr. Dorshimer stated it is replacing a piece of property but that we are not scraping the old piece of equipment. It will be taken to Peters Elementary to be used as a back up.

Mrs. Kulp asked if a majority of the whiteboards will be received and put in prior to the beginning of school.

Mr. Dorshimer stated that the whiteboards will be put in as many as possible before school starts. The remainder will be installed during in-service days, holidays, etc. The building principal was asked to prioritize what classrooms needed the whiteboards first.

Mrs. Ganser asked why a lot of the bills listed for payment are marked as not classified.

Mrs. Rehrig stated that these items were payables and came out of last year's budget and that is how the system categorizes payables.

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

NAY: None (0)

**INFOR-**  
**MATION**

Minutes of the Lehigh Carbon Community College Board of Trustees meeting held on July 2, 2008 were distributed.

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

Edward Ziegler – Slatington Borough reported that parts of the new bridge are being delivered and the completion date is ahead of schedule.

**ADJOURN-  
MENT**

Mr. Follweiler made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Williams, that the regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh School District Board of School Directors is adjourned at 8:04 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