

NORTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
Regular Meeting
Board Minutes

Slatington, PA
January 10, 2011

PURPOSE

The regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors was called to order by the President, Mr. Edward E. Hartman, at 7:37 p.m. on Monday, January 10, 2011 in the Middle School Auditorium.

ROLL CALL

Members present: Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha, Mr. Raymond J. Follweiler, Jr., Mrs. Lauren A. Ganser, Mrs. Lori H. Geronikos, Mr. Mathias J. Green, Jr., Mrs. Natalie J. Green, Mrs. Donna M. Kulp, Mr. Gregory S. Williams, Mr. Edward E. Hartman (9)

Members absent: None (0)

Non-members present: Mr. Donald Allen, Mr. Jeffrey Bachman, Mrs. Susan Bahnick, Mrs. Jill Chamberlain, Mr. Greg Derr, Ms. Heather Heiney (Student Rep.), Mr. John Hrizuk, Dr. Linda Marcincin, Mr. Jeremy Melber, Mr. Michael Michaels, Mr. Eugene Marks, Mr. Justin Molitoris (Student Rep.), Mrs. Karen Nicholas, Mr. Paul Rearden, Ms. Heather Rehrig, Attorney Charles Stopp (Solicitor), Mar Kay Williamson, Mrs. Aileen Yadush and Mrs. Sherri Molitoris.

VISITORS

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

APPROVE MINUTES

Mr. Follweiler made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Fedorcha that the minutes of the reorganizational and regular school board meetings held on December 6, 2011 be approved and ordered filed.

YEA: Mr. Fedorcha, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Green, Mrs. Green, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, Mr. Hartman (9)

NAY: None (0)

SPECIAL BOARD REPORTS

Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit – Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha reported the minutes from the meeting are attached to the agenda. The CLIU budget was also distributed to all Board members.

Lehigh Career and Technical Institute – Mrs. Lori H. Geronikos reported they are currently working on the budget and the contract. They are looking at ways to make it more affordable for district's to send students to LCTI in light of state funding cuts. Mrs. Green reported that she attended the December meeting on behalf of Mrs. Geronikos. She stated the one concern discussed at that meeting was the reimbursement of the renovation project. They tabled the motion because there was discussion on whether they were allowed to keep the reimbursement money in a fund at LCTI rather than reimbursing the individual districts. That will again be a discussion at next months meeting.

Mr. Fedorcha encouraged Mrs. Geronikos to vote that LCTI return that money to the sponsoring districts. He stated that we as a district need to carefully look at Northern Lehigh's portion of LCTI's budget, primarily looking at the academic center. Prior to cutting our district budget we need to make sure that LCTI is cutting their budget that will help to meet the needs of the sponsoring districts. Mrs. Geronikos concurred.

Legislative Report – Mr. Gregory S. Williams reported in the State Senate, Senator Piccola and Williams are ready to introduce Senate Bill 1 the Opportunity Scholarship Act. They are looking at expanding out opportunities for children to get into other school situations such as charter schools or private religious schools. They are looking at expanding some of the money from the state's level to go towards that. He read a paragraph from the memorandum that said,

“The Pennsylvania Constitution places the singular responsibility on the General Assembly to provide for the maintenance and support of a thorough and efficient system of public education to serve the needs of the Commonwealth.” With the passage of No Child Left Behind, we are now presented with actual feedback as to how our schools are

performing. It is clear that some are failing our children. We must step up and honor our constitutional responsibility to those children, their parents, and the taxpayers of this state by establishing a program that will redirect those tax dollars wasted on continued failure to other alternatives that have shown success."

He agrees that some districts in this Commonwealth that statement can be applied to. His fear is that there is a large sentiment in Harrisburg currently that seeks to apply that sentiment unilaterally across Pennsylvania. He believes that we all need to be watchful when we hear statements saying that the public school system is failing because everyone in this room knows that it is not failing at Northern Lehigh. We need to make sure that Harrisburg does not lose sight that we still need all the help we can get and if they take money away from us it is going to be a self fulfilling prophecy if that is something that happens.

PSBA has sent an electronic legislative survey for the individual districts to pick what our priorities will be for them to lobby on our behalf for this upcoming year. He will be forwarding recommendations out to the Board this week via e-mail and if anyone has anything in particular on any items they want PSBA to lobby on our behalf for, please let him know.

Lehigh Carbon Community College – Mr. Mathias J. Green, Jr. reported the 2011-2012 budget has been approved and will be distributed at next month's meeting. He stated that he is not sure whether he will be at next month's meeting so he reviewed a few budget items with the Board. The operating budget went up about 1%, the debt service went down .2% and the leases went down about .2%. The overall budget went up by about .6% which he feels is reasonable. He stated that in 2002 the FTE (Full Time Equivalent) was \$5,821.00. Currently in 2009-2010 the FTE is \$5,838.00. In this amount of time the FTE has only increased by \$17.00. Northern Lehigh's overall share for this year is a decrease in the amount of \$77.00.

Committee Reports and/or Meetings

Minutes of the Policy/Education Committee Meeting held on January 3, 2011 were distributed.

Minutes of the Technology/Buildings and Grounds Committee Meeting held on January 5, 2011 were distributed.

Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on January 5, 2011 were distributed.

Student Representatives to the Board Report

Mr. Justin Molitoris and Ms. Heather Heiney distributed their written student representative report and verbally reported on its contents.

Solicitor's Report – Attorney Charles Stopp reported the auditor has asked for any updated legal matters. The solicitor's office has responded to their request. The business manager asked for comments concerning the Retirement Incentive and they have been in communication concerning that issue.

Federal and Other Programs Update – Mrs. Karen A. Nicholas reported in May the 7th & 8th grade students who are currently taking Algebra I will be completing a Keystone Exam. At the high school, students that are taking Algebra I, Biology, and English Literature also will take the Keystone Exams. The district is hearing that these exams are going to be very rigorous. Our teachers are working very hard to prepare our students for these tests. Students will be given three chances to pass the test. It is a graduation requirement to pass the test. We must have something in place for students that are not able to pass the Keystone Exams the first, second or third time.

Secondly, the district's strategic plan was written in 2008 and is to be in effect until 2013. The district must perform a mid point review. The special education plan is due April 30th and the Academic Standards and Assessment, Professional Education and Educational Technology are due September 30th. We will be contacting people to help analyze these plans. We do have a technology committee beginning on January 17th to look at the educational piece on how we are integrating technology into our curriculum. If anyone is interested in joining the committee they can contact Mrs. Nicholas.

Business Manager's Report – Mr. Jeremy G. Melber stated he has distributed this evening the Single Audit ending June 30, 2010. It will be on next months agenda for approval. There is one deficiency in the audit that is because we were spending money out of our capital reserve account for the Slatington Renovation Project and it should have been coming out of a construction account. The reason is because we hired an engineer and architect consultant a year before we issued the money for the project. We used \$100,000 from fund balance until we received the money and then the capital reserve account was reimbursed.

There is a motion on the agenda to approve the financing for the second phase of the Slatington Elementary Renovation project. He stated that he has met with the districts financial advisor and interest rates are starting to increase slightly but he feels that since these bonds will not be issued until March we may see somewhat of a decline but he does not think we will see the numbers we saw in August through October of last year.

He stated that the Act I resolution is on the agenda for approval. It was discussed at the Finance Committee Meeting that it is his recommendation that the Board approve the Act I resolution which states that the district will not exceed the index which is 1.9% for the 2011-2012 school year. He further explained the upcoming budget and the possible loss of stimulus money. He stated that the district is currently budgeting that our basic education funding will not include the increase that we saw with the stimulus money. The district has been working on contingency plans to put into place so the district will not need to raise taxes over the index. If the board does not pass the resolution, the board will have to pass a preliminary budget at next month's board meeting.

Also on the agenda for approval is a Retirement Incentive Plan which administration has been meeting on for the past several months. The plan is to offer a one time only Retirement Incentive Plan which will allow teachers in the district to submit in writing an application to the Superintendent prior to 4PM on April 6th that they will permanently retire from Northern Lehigh School District at the end of this academic school term. In doing so, the school district will give them a retirement incentive in the amount of \$25,000 payable in two installments, \$12,500 on or before October 31, 2011 and \$12,500 on or before February 28, 2012. Administration has been meeting to discuss the effects this plan may have and they feel positions of teachers that retire under this plan will not need to be filled. If the Board approves the Retirement Incentive Plan this evening, administration estimates between 6 to 10 teachers will retire. Without this plan they estimate only 1 or 2 teachers will retire. If 6-8 teachers retire and their positions are not replaced, the district will save between 700-900 thousand dollars.

Superintendent's Report – Mr. Michael W. Michaels

Ethics forms have been distributed and Board members, as well as administration, should complete them sooner rather than later and return them to Sherri Molitoris.

Mr. Michaels introduced Mrs. Nicholas who presented Keystone Awards to our two elementary school principals for making AYP for two consecutive years, 2008-2009 and 2009-2010. Mr. Michaels stated that the middle school under direction of Mrs. Chamberlain and the high school under the direction of Mrs. Yadush and Mr. Allen are also doing very well in our AYP endeavors.

Mr. Michaels stated that this month is School Board Recognition Month. Our Board of Education volunteers their expertises and time for our students and our citizens. He is very happy and honored to work with this group. The nine are very opinionated and sometimes pretty rough, but they are very passionate on their issues. They do a wonderful job of sharing their opinions. In their dialogues they are always thinking about what is best for the citizens and the students in conjunction which is a great situation. On behalf of the students, teachers, support staff and administration, he would like to thank the Board of Education for volunteering their time.

Mr. Hartman reported that an executive session was held prior to tonight's meeting to discuss legal and personnel issues.

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

Administrative Transfer Instructional	<p>Richard Green</p> <p>From: Middle School Industrial Arts Teacher</p> <p>To: Middle School PSSA Prep Class</p> <p>Salary: \$72,050 (Step 17B+24 on the 2010-2011 CBA Salary Schedule) no change in salary</p> <p>Effective: January 27, 2011</p>																																	
Family Medical Leave	<p>Approve the request of employee #735 to take a Family Medical Leave beginning on or about March 28, 2011 for the birth of her second child. She will be using 14.5 accumulated sick and .5 personal days in conjunction with the Family Medical Leave. She plans to return to her current teaching position on or about May 9, 2011.</p> <p>Approve the request of employee #1410 to take a Family Medical Leave beginning on December 22, 2010 for her own medical reasons. She will be using accumulated sick days in conjunction with the Family Medical Leave. She plans to return to her current teaching position upon release from her attending physician on or about February 7, 2011.</p> <p>Approve the request of employee #3520 to take a twelve week Family Medical Leave in the near future. At this time she is unable to provide any definitive dates due to the overseas adoption process and that their travel is at the discretion of China. She will be using accumulated sick days in conjunction with the Family Medical Leave. She plans to return to her current teaching position at the expiration of her twelve week Family Medical Leave.</p>																																	
Unpaid Leave Of Absence	<p>Approve the request of employee #3365 to take an Unpaid Leave of Absence beginning January 27, 2011 and continue until the end of the 2010-2011 school year. She was previously granted a Family Medical Leave which ends on January 26, 2011. She plans to return to her current teaching position at the beginning of the 2011-2012 school year.</p>																																	
Sabbatical Leave	<p>Approve the request of Lora Krum, elementary music teacher, to take a Compensated Sabbatical Leave for the second semester of the 2010-2011 school year.</p>																																	
Temporary Vacancy Replacement Extension	<p>Approve to continue the employment of Michael Strohl as a Temporary Vacancy Replacement Teacher for the remainder of the 2010-2011 school year. The teacher he was replacing was granted an additional unpaid leave of absence until the end of the 2010-2011 school year.</p> <p>Approve to continue the employment of Kelly Weiner as a Temporary Vacancy Replacement Teacher for the remainder of the 2010-2011 school year. The teacher she was replacing was granted an additional unpaid leave of absence until the end of the 2010-2011 school year.</p>																																	
Rescind Co-Curricular Appointment 2010-2011	<p>Rescind the appointment of Richard Mantz from his position as Assistant Boys Basketball Coach for the 2010-2011 school year which was originally approved at the April 12, 2010 board meeting.</p>																																	
Co-Curricular Volunteers 2010-2011	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Richard Mantz</td> <td>Assistant Basketball Coach</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Joseph Seremula, Jr.*</td> <td>Assistant Basketball Coach</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">*Pending Verification of Clearances</td> </tr> </table>	Richard Mantz	Assistant Basketball Coach	Joseph Seremula, Jr.*	Assistant Basketball Coach	*Pending Verification of Clearances																												
Richard Mantz	Assistant Basketball Coach																																	
Joseph Seremula, Jr.*	Assistant Basketball Coach																																	
*Pending Verification of Clearances																																		
Co-Curricular Appointments 2011-2012	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Joe Tout</td> <td>Head Football Coach</td> <td>\$6,876.47</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Steve Hluschak</td> <td>Asst. Football Coach</td> <td>\$4,469.03</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mark Lavine</td> <td>Asst. Football Coach</td> <td>\$4,469.03</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Andrew Lynn</td> <td>Asst. Football Coach</td> <td>\$4,469.03</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dan Blazosky</td> <td>Asst. Football Coach</td> <td>\$4,469.03</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mark Hoffman</td> <td>Asst. Football Coach</td> <td>\$4,469.03</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Terry Bowman</td> <td>Asst. Football Coach-Shared Stipend</td> <td>\$2,234.53</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Manny Guedes</td> <td>Asst. Football Coach-Shared Stipend</td> <td>\$2,234.53</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jessica Frew</td> <td>Head Field Hockey Coach</td> <td>\$4,119.86</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Kelly Follweiler</td> <td>Asst. Field Hockey Coach</td> <td>\$2,677.41</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dave Oertner</td> <td>Head Cross Country Coach</td> <td>\$4,119.86</td> </tr> </table>	Joe Tout	Head Football Coach	\$6,876.47	Steve Hluschak	Asst. Football Coach	\$4,469.03	Mark Lavine	Asst. Football Coach	\$4,469.03	Andrew Lynn	Asst. Football Coach	\$4,469.03	Dan Blazosky	Asst. Football Coach	\$4,469.03	Mark Hoffman	Asst. Football Coach	\$4,469.03	Terry Bowman	Asst. Football Coach-Shared Stipend	\$2,234.53	Manny Guedes	Asst. Football Coach-Shared Stipend	\$2,234.53	Jessica Frew	Head Field Hockey Coach	\$4,119.86	Kelly Follweiler	Asst. Field Hockey Coach	\$2,677.41	Dave Oertner	Head Cross Country Coach	\$4,119.86
Joe Tout	Head Football Coach	\$6,876.47																																
Steve Hluschak	Asst. Football Coach	\$4,469.03																																
Mark Lavine	Asst. Football Coach	\$4,469.03																																
Andrew Lynn	Asst. Football Coach	\$4,469.03																																
Dan Blazosky	Asst. Football Coach	\$4,469.03																																
Mark Hoffman	Asst. Football Coach	\$4,469.03																																
Terry Bowman	Asst. Football Coach-Shared Stipend	\$2,234.53																																
Manny Guedes	Asst. Football Coach-Shared Stipend	\$2,234.53																																
Jessica Frew	Head Field Hockey Coach	\$4,119.86																																
Kelly Follweiler	Asst. Field Hockey Coach	\$2,677.41																																
Dave Oertner	Head Cross Country Coach	\$4,119.86																																

<u>PERSONNEL</u> (cont.)	Beth Case	Asst. Cross Country Coach	\$2,677.41
	John Sitaras	Head Boy's Soccer Coach	\$4,970.42

Co-Curricular Volunteers 2011-2012	Alden Farber James Tkach* Sarah Arndt Jaclyn Follweiler Haley Bomboy Amy Zeiser	Assistant Football Coach Assistant Football Coach Assistant Field Hockey Coach Assistant Field Hockey Coach Assistant Field Hockey Coach Assistant Cross Country Coach
--	--	---

***Pending Verification of Clearances**

Musical
Chore-
ographer

Approve Rachel Halkias as Musical Choreographer/Assistant Director for the Spring Musical for the NLHS Student Theater Group. Stipend for this position will be \$1,000 to be paid out of the HS Student Activities Account. The Musical Choreographer/Assistant Director will be responsible for overseeing all persons involved with musical numbers/responsibilities (pit band, choral arrangements, choral preparation), stage blocking, dance numbers, scheduling, etc as determined by the HS Principal and Production Director.

Unpaid
Volunteer

Approve the following unpaid volunteer aide in the Peters and/or Slatington Elementary Schools for the 2010-2011 school year: Jamie Elmore*.
***Pending Verification of Clearances**

Salary
Adjustments

Acknowledge the following teacher who has completed the requirements per the Collective Bargaining Agreement that would entitle her to a salary increase for the second half of the 2010-2011 school year:

Amy Zeiser
From: Step 6B
To: Step 6B+24

Game
Worker
2010-2011

Approve the following person as a Game Worker for the 2010-2011 school year. Game Workers consist of ticket sellers and takers, game announcers, scoreboard operators, timers, field judges, scorekeepers. Rate of pay is consistent with the rates approved on the 2010 -2011 Supplementary Personnel Salary Schedule.

Michael Strohl

Substitute-
Instructional

Approve the following substitute teachers for the 2010-2011 school year at the 2010-2011 substitute teacher rates as approved on the Supplementary Personnel Salary Schedule:

William Hughes* – Social Studies & Special Education
Caitlin Flaherty – Business/Computer/Information Technology K-12
Tonia Schaeffer – Elementary
***Pending Verification of Missing Documents**

Non-
Instructional

Approve the following individual as a substitute teachers aide for the 2010-2011 school year at the 2010-2011 substitute rate as approved on the Supplementary Personnel Salary Schedule:

Sandra Diehl
Lilly Horwith

Approve the following individual as a cafeteria worker for the 2010-2011 school year at the 2010-2011 substitute rate as approved on the Supplementary Personnel Salary Schedule:

Sandra Diehl
Lilly Horwith

Approve the following individual as a substitute custodian for the 2010-2011 school year at the 2010-2011 substitute rate as approved on the Supplementary Personnel Salary Schedule:

Ronald Chontofalsky Sr.
Sandra Diehl

PERSONNEL
(cont.)

YEA: Mr. Fedorcha, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Green, Mrs. Green, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, Mr. Hartman (9)
 NAY: None (0)

**CONFER-
ENCES**

Mr. Green made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Geronikos, that the Board of Education approves the following conference item:

Rhonda Frantz – A/CAPA Spring Conference – March 10-11, 2011 – Hershey, PA – Registration: \$180.00, Lodging: \$232.00, Travel: \$80.00, Meals: \$8.00 – Total Approximate Cost: \$500.00 – Funding: Business Office Budget

YEA: Mr. Fedorcha, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Green, Mrs. Green, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, Mr. Hartman (9)
 NAY: None (0)

POLICY

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

Field Trip National Honor Society – High School – New York City, NY – April 30, 2011 – Funded by National Honor Society Students

Parkland SD Special Education Agreement Approve to authorize proper officials to enter into an agreement for one Northern Lehigh School District special education student to attend Parkland School District in accordance with the promises and covenants contained in the agreement. This agreement is effective for the 2010-2011 school year.

Board Governance Standards/Code of Conduct Approve to reaffirm the school board governance standards and code of conduct referenced in school board policy #011 – Local Board Procedures – Board Governance Standards/Code of Conduct as recommended by the Pennsylvania School Board Association.
 YEA: Mr. Fedorcha, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Green, Mrs. Green, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, Mr. Hartman (9)
 NAY: None (0)

**NEW
BUSINESS**

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

Retirement Incentive Plan for 2010-2011 Approve to adopt a Retirement Incentive Plan, for all eligible professional employees, on a voluntary basis, for the 2010-2011 school year. **(Distributed to Board Members Only) Attachment**

Resolution for School Board Director Recognition Month – January 2011 **WHEREAS**, the role of locally elected school officials has served the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and local communities in meeting the needs of public education since the passage of the Free School Act in 1834; and

WHEREAS, these local boards have discharged their responsibilities to public education in a manner which has placed public education in the forefront of our educational systems; and

WHEREAS, locally elected officials have distinguished themselves and their communities in this non-paid, volunteer public service commitment; and

WHEREAS, the contributions of the men and women who serve on the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors:

Gary S. Fedorcha
 Raymond J. Follweiler, Jr.
 Lauren A. Ganser
 Lori H. Geronikos
 Mathias J. Green, Jr.
 Natalie J. Green

NEW
BUSINESS
(cont.)

Edward E. Hartman
Donna M. Kulp
Gregory S. Williams

should be recognized and appreciated by those who benefit from the workings of our public school system;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Director of the Pennsylvania School Boards Association hereby proclaims the month of January as School Director Recognition Month in this commonwealth; and

FURTHER RESOLVE that this proclamation be communicated to all school districts, school officials and local communities in a planned program which brings visibility and awareness of the role of locally elected school officials to the citizenry of this commonwealth.

YEA: Mr. Fedorcha, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Green, Mrs. Green, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, Mr. Hartman (9)
NAY: None (0)

Mr. Michaels stated that if a person would retire that is not apart of the general education or we would have more retirements than what was expected, there may need to be a filling of certain vacancies. To say we are not filling any of the retiring positions may not be true. It will be individual specific as discussed at the Finance Committee Meeting.

Mr. Green responded that one of his concerns was that we would be having a lot of teachers retiring, and then with not filling those positions, would end up with large class sizes which would diversely affect the students of Northern Lehigh. He has been insured by Mr. Michaels that this is not going to happen. There may be some positions not filled but the majority of them, if necessary, will be replaced.

FINANCIAL

Mrs. Kulp 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 November 2010
NLMS Student Activities Account month of December 2010
NLHS Student Activities and Scholarship Acct for the month of November and December 2010

List of Bills

Approve the Following List of Bills:
General Fund month of December & January
Cafeteria Fund month of December
Athletic Fund month of December
Refreshment Stand month of December
Construction Fund month of December
Capital Reserve Fund month of December

Advertising/ Document Preparation Construction Bond

Authorize administration to proceed with advertising and document preparation for an additional \$10,000,000 bond to complete the financing of various capital projects. Final interest rates will be presented at the February 14, 2011 regularly scheduled School Board Meeting.

Act 1
Tax Levy
Resolution

NORTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, on June 27, 2006, the Pennsylvania legislature passed Act 1 of Special Session 2006, entitled the "Taxpayer Relief Act" (hereinafter "Act 1");

WHEREAS, Act 1 requires school districts to limit tax increases to the level set by an inflation index unless the tax increase is approved by voters in a referendum or the school

**FINANCIAL
(cont.)**

district obtains from the Department of Education or a court of common pleas certain referendum exceptions;

WHEREAS, Act 1 does, however, allow a board of school directors to elect to adopt a resolution indicating that it will not raise the rate of any tax for the support of the public schools for the following fiscal year by more than its index, provided this resolution must be adopted no later than 110 days prior to the date of the election immediately preceding the upcoming fiscal year;

WHEREAS, the Northern Lehigh School District index for the 2011-2012 fiscal year is 1.9%;

WHEREAS, the Northern Lehigh School District Board of Directors has made the decision that it shall not raise the rate of any tax for the support of the Northern Lehigh School District for the 2011-2012 fiscal year by more than its index.

AND NOW, on this 10th day of January, 2011, it is hereby **RESOLVED** by the Northern Lehigh School District (hereinafter "District") Board of Directors (hereinafter "Board") the following:

1. The Board certifies that it will not increase any school district tax for the 2011-2012 school year at a rate that exceeds the index as calculated by the Pennsylvania Department of Education.
2. The Board certifies that it will comply with the procedures set forth in Section 687, of the Pennsylvania Public School Code (hereinafter "School Code"), 24 P.S. §6-687, for the adoption of its proposed and final budget.
3. The Board certifies that increasing any tax at a rate less than or equal to the index will be sufficient to balance its final budget of the 2011-2012 fiscal year.
4. The Administration of the District will submit the District's information on a proposed increase in the rate of a tax levied for the support of the District to the Pennsylvania Department of Education on the uniform form prepared by the Pennsylvania Department of Education no later than five days after the Board's adoption of this Resolution.
5. The Administration of the District will send a copy of this Resolution to the Pennsylvania Department of Education no later than five days after the Board's adoption of this Resolution.
6. The Board understands and agrees that by passing this Resolution it is not eligible to seek referendum exceptions under Section 333(f) of Act 1 and is not eligible to request approval from the voters through a referendum to increase a tax rate by more than the index as established for the 2011-2012 fiscal year.
7. Once this Resolution is passed, the Administration of the District is not required to comply with the preliminary budget requirements set forth in paragraphs (a) and (c) of Section 311 of Act 1. Provided, however:
 - (a) The Board understands and agrees that, upon receipt of the information submitted by the District as set forth in paragraphs 4 and 5 above, the Pennsylvania Department of Education shall compare the District's proposed percentage increase in the rate of the tax with the index.
 - (b) Within ten days of the receipt of this information, the Pennsylvania Department of Education shall inform the District whether its proposed tax rate increase is less than or equal to the index.
 - (c) If the Pennsylvania Department of Education determines that the District's proposed increase in the rate of the District's tax exceeds the index, the District is subject to the preliminary budget requirements as set forth in paragraph (a) and (c) of Section 311 of Act 1.

FINANCIAL
(cont.)

YEA: Mr. Fedorcha, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Green, Mrs. Green,
Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, Mr. Hartman (9)
NAY: None (0)

LEGAL

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

Settlement
Agreements

Authorize administration on behalf of Northern Lehigh School District to accept a settlement agreement recommended by Sweet, Stevens, Katz & Williams File #095.0015 in regards to student #1390034.

Authorize administration on behalf of Northern Lehigh School District to accept a settlement agreement recommended by Sweet, Stevens, Katz & Williams File #095.0014 in regards to student #1990181.

YEA: Mr. Fedorcha, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Green, Mrs. Green,
Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, Mr. Hartman (9)
NAY: None (0)

**CORR-
ESPON-
DENCE**

Mr. Williams reported that all members received an invitation to attend the Middle School All Stars Award Ceremony.

**INFOR-
MATION**

Minutes of the Lehigh Career & Technical Institute Joint Operating Committee meeting held on October 27, 2010 were distributed.

Minutes of the Lehigh Carbon Community College Board of Trustees meeting held on November 4, 2010 were distributed.

Minutes of the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit 21 Board of Directors meeting held on November 15, 2010 were distributed.

**ADJOURN-
MENT**

Mr. Follweiler made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Fedorcha, that the regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh School District Board of School Directors is adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

YEA: Mr. Fedorcha, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Mr. Green, Mrs. Green,
Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, Mr. Hartman (9)
NAY: None (0)

Respectfully submitted,

Gregory S. Williams
Secretary

ATTEST: _____ President
Edward E. Hartman