

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

**Slatington, PA**  
**May 14, 2012**

**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, May 14, 2012, in the Administration Office Board Room.

**ROLL CALL** Members present: Mr. Robin T. Distler, Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha, Mr. Raymond J. Follweiler, Jr., Mrs. Lauren A. Ganser, Mrs. Natalie J. Green, Mrs. Donna M. Kulp, Mr. Gregory S. Williams, and Mr. Edward E. Hartman (8)

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

Non-members present: Mr. Jeffrey Bachman, Mrs. Susan Bahnick, Mrs. Jill Chamberlain, Mr. Anthony Connell (Student Rep.), Mr. Greg Derr, Mr. Scot Engler, Mrs. Rhonda Frantz, Ms. Heather Heiney (Student Rep.), Mr. John Hrizuk, Dr. Linda Marcincin, Mr. Michael Michaels, Mrs. Sherri Molitoris, Mr. Paul Rearden, Jr., Attorney Charles Stopp (District Solicitor), and Mr. Robert Vlasaty.

**VISITORS** Approximately five 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 regular school board meeting held on April 10, 2012 be approved and ordered filed.

YEA: Mr. Distler, Mr. Fedorcha, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Green, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, Mr. Hartman (8)  
NAY: None (0)

**SPECIAL BOARD REPORTS** Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit – Mrs. Donna M. Kulp announced that she has had a hard time making the meetings due to work and health issues. Mrs. Kulp stated that the IU has hired a new Curriculum & Instruction & Educational Technology Coordinator, Dr. Charlotte Golden. This means that the top three people at the IU have a doctorates degree. Mr. Hartman asked the Board members if anyone could take over Mrs. Kulp's position as board representative to the IU. Mrs. Ganser expressed interest but a phone call to the solicitor will be made to see if she can serve because she is an employee of the IU,

Lehigh Career and Technical Institute – Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha reported that a new business manager has been hired, Patricia Babar, she has both school district and vocational school experience. Mr. Fedorcha announced that the senior awards will be held on May 24, 2012. He further reported that because of the success and outstanding programs at LCTI, a special invitation was extended to give a presentation at the White House later this month.

Legislative Report – Mr. Gregory S. Williams reported that the Senate, on a vote of 39-8, approved their version of a budget which scraps Governor Corbett's proposal of combining multiple line items into one. Their budget is a 1.9% increase which restores \$50 million for the Accountability Block Grant which unfortunately still falls about 50% short of last years funding. Mr. Williams also reported that this budget reduces the appropriation to PSERS by \$60 million.

Mr. Williams further reported that the State Board of Education approved proposed changes to the Keystone exams. Beginning with the class of 2017, three Keystone exams will have to be passed - Algebra 1, Literature and Biology as a requirement of graduation. By 2020, a total of five exams would be required and they are also looking at an additional five exams that could be used on a voluntary basis.

Board member Mr. Mathias J. Green arrived at 7:40 p.m.

**Committee Reports and/or Meetings**

Minutes of the Education/Policy committee meeting held on May 7, 2012 were distributed.

**SPECIAL  
BOARD  
REPORTS**  
**(cont.)**

Minutes of the Technology/Buildings and Grounds committee meeting held on May 9, 2012 were distributed.

Minutes of the Finance committee meetings held on April 4 and May 9, 2012 were distributed.

Student Representatives to the Board Report

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

Solicitor's Report – Attorney Charles Stopp introduced their new intern, Amber Knipe.

Business Manager's Report

Mrs. Frantz announced that the Act 80 day for January 20, 2012 has been submitted and we are awaiting approval. Mrs. Frantz reported that the Supplemental Personnel Salary schedule is on the agenda for approval tonight and there are no changes from last year. Lastly, she and Mrs. Molitoris have been visiting the buildings explaining the budget and it has been very well received.

Mrs. Molitoris reported that the proposed budget at the board seats was approved last month and will be out for public viewing tomorrow before the final vote at the June board meeting. Mrs. Molitoris stated that we received the homestead amount, \$949,189.00 which is \$60 more than last year. We are down 61 homestead applications due to sale of properties. Homestead applications are due by March for anyone buying a home in the district. Mrs. Molitoris announced that at the board seats are ballots for CLIU and LCCC that need to be returned this evening. Lastly, fund balance allocation is on the agenda for approval.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Michaels called on Mr. Robert Vlasaty. Mr. Vlasaty recognized Margaret "Maggie" Surdovel, who was unable to attend tonight because she is practicing for the Freddy Awards, as the recipient of the Certificate of Achievement award for her many accomplishments. Through her speeches, her personal life, and her high school years, Maggie is the epitome of Bulldog Pride. We congratulate her and are very proud of her and wish her well in her future endeavors. Mr. Vlasaty reported that we have seven students who would like to attend the new Bulldog Academy and a total of 15 people planning to attend the presentation on June 4, 2012. Mr. Michaels added that we need to make sure that our cyber/charter students live in the district because area superintendents are reporting that families are moving and no longer living in their districts.

Mr. Michaels asked Mr. Scot Engler to update the board on immunizations. Mr. Engler reported that with the two week extension from the State, we are not required to exclude anyone from school.

Mr. Michaels announced that National Teacher Appreciation Week was May 7-11 and he thanked them for the wonderful job they do with our students. At the board seats is a sampling of thank you notes received from our teachers.

Mr. Michaels called on Mr. Gary Fedorcha to recognize Ricardo Sandoval. Mr. Fedorcha introduced Ricardo as the Rotary Club's Exchange student from Venezuela. Mr. Sandoval shared his experiences during the school year and he thanked the board for the opportunity to attend Northern Lehigh High School.

Mr. Michaels announced that Baccalaureate is May 31, 2012 at 7PM and graduation is scheduled for June 1, 2012 at 7PM. If the weather cooperates and construction has not begun in the stadium, graduation will be held outside in the stadium.

On a personal note, Mr. Michaels announced that he became a grandfather last week and his youngest daughter was just married this past weekend.

**PERSONNEL**

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

**PERSONNEL****(cont.)**

Appointment Instructional Samantha Lilly Temporary Vacancy Replacement  
Assignment: Slatington Elementary Special Education Teacher  
replacing an employee on medical leave  
Salary: Substitute Teacher Rate Days 1-30;  
Day 31 and beyond \$43,580 prorated  
(Step 1 Bachelors on the 2011-2012 CBA Salary Schedule)  
Effective March 7, 2012  
Termination Date: June 4, 2012  
**\*Pending Verification of Missing Documents**

Family Medical Leave Approve the request of employee #3360 to take a five week Family Medical Leave starting August 27, 2012 for the birth of her first child. Employee will be using sick days August 20-24 and then utilize her family medical leave. Employee's intention is to return to her current teaching position upon medical release from her attending physician on or about October 1, 2012.

Unpaid Leave Of Absence Approve the request of employee #3370 to take an Unpaid Leave of Absence beginning April 27, 2012 until the end of the 2011-2012 school year. She plans to return to her current position at the beginning of the 2012-2013 school year.

Resignation/ Retirement D. Siglin Accept the retirement resignation of Debra Siglin from her position as 5<sup>th</sup> grade Teacher at Slatington Elementary School effective the end of the work day, June 7, 2012. At this time she will begin her retirement from the Northern Lehigh School District after 27 years of service.

Co-Curricular Resignation D. Blazosky Approve the resignation of Dan Blazosky from his position as Assistant Boy's Football Coach for the 2012-2013 season. Mr. Blazosky resigned due to work issues.

Co-Curricular Appointments 2012-2013	Cory Hartsell*	Assistant Boy's Football Coach	\$4,536.07
	Jeff Miller	Head Boy's Basketball Coach	\$6,979.62
	Dennis Rehrig	Assistant Boy's Basketball Coach	\$4,536.07
	Richard Mantz	Assistant Boy's Basketball Coach (JH)	\$4,536.07
	Richard Roberts IV*	MS Boy's Basketball Coach	\$3,053.31
	Anthony Thomas*	Head Girl's Basketball Coach	\$6,979.62
	Todd Herzog	Head Wrestling Coach	\$6,979.62
	Brett Martinez	Assistant Wrestling Coach	\$4,536.07
	Rob Marlatt	Assistant Wrestling Coach (JH)	\$4,536.07
	Kathi Neff	Cheerleading Advisor – Shared Stipend	\$1,542.23
	LeAnn Hoch	Cheerleading Advisor – Shared Stipend	\$1,542.23
	Nicholas Sander	Senior High Fall Play Director	\$1,488.99
	Nicholas Sander	Senior High Spring Musical Director	\$2,801.35

**\*Pending verification of missing personnel file items**

Co-Curricular Volunteers 2012-2013	Mike Mantz	Assistant Boy's Basketball Coach
	Trevor Miller	Assistant Boy's Basketball Coach
	Pat Wanamaker	Assistant Boy's Basketball Coach
	Brent Herzog	Assistant Wrestling Coach
	Mike Reichard*	Assistant Wrestling Coach

**\*Pending verification of missing personnel file items**

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

NAY: None (0)

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

**PERSONNEL**  
**(cont.)**

## Substitute

Approve the following substitute teacher for the 2011-2012 school year at the 2011-2012 substitute teacher rates as approved on the Supplementary Personnel Salary Schedule:

## Instructional

Jordan Nichols\* – Elementary Education & ESL  
\*Pending verification of missing personnel file items

## Substitute

Approve the following individual as a substitute cafeteria worker for the 2011-2012 school year at the 2011-2012 substitute rates as approved on the Supplementary Personnel Salary Schedule: Robert Wetzel\* \*Pending verification of missing personnel file items

## Non-Instructional

Approve the following individual as a substitute custodian for the 2011-2012 school year at the 2011-2012 substitute rates as approved on the Supplementary Personnel Salary Schedule: Shawn Rios\* \*Pending Verification of Missing Documents

YEA: Mr. Distler, Mr. Fedorcha, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mr. Green, Mrs. Green, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams (8)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: Mr. Hartman (1)

**POLICY**

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

## Homebound Instruction

It is recommended that the Board of Education grant homebound instruction for a 3rd grade student, Student No. 2190062, for five hours per week, effective April 2, 2012 and continuing until the end of the school year.

## Board Policy First Reading

Approve school board policy #201 – Pupils – Admission of Students, as presented after first reading.

Approve school board policy #815 – Operations – Acceptable Use of Internet and Information Systems, as presented after first reading

## Agreement of Sponsorship

Approve the Agreement of Sponsorship To Attend Another Pennsylvania Community College for Jared Scott Young, in accordance with the guidelines established under Policy #912. Beginning in the Fall of 2012, he will be a fulltime student at Northampton Community College to pursue his course of study in Automotive Technology.

## School Lunch Prices 2012-2013

Approve the recommendation of the administration that, effective August 27, 2012, school lunch prices be increased as follows:

Elementary Schools – from \$2.15 to \$2.25

Middle School & High School – from \$2.40 to \$2.50

Adult Lunches – from \$3.85 to \$4.00

Mrs. Susan Bahnick added that the increase in prices was due to a new funding formula mandated by the state. Mr. Williams clarified that if we did not raise our prices, we would not receive the reimbursement from the state if we did not.

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

NAY: None (0)

**CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION**

Mrs. Ganser made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Fedorcha, that the Board of Education approve the following curriculum and instruction item:

Approve administration to enter into a partnership agreement with Lehigh Carbon Community College in order to provide our students with greater options to earn concurrent high school/college credit. The term of the Dual Enrollment Partnership Proposal between Northern Lehigh School District and Lehigh Carbon Community College will be from July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2013.

**CURRIC-  
ULUM AND  
INSTRUC-  
TION  
(cont.)**

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

**NEW  
BUSINESS**

Mrs. Kulp questioned Mr. Williams about the tax shift from property to sales tax. Mr. Williams stated that the House Finance Committee will conduct a hearing on House Bill 1776 which is a comprehensive tax reform proposal that would eliminate property taxes, raise sales and use tax amounts and remove certain items currently excluded from sales tax, and authorize the imposition of PIT or EIT by school district subject to voter approval. This is not a new idea and while it has some backing, it is unlikely to pass through both sides of congress.

**FINANCIAL**

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

Financial Reports

Approve the Following Financial Reports:  
NLMS Student Activities Account month of March & April 2012  
NLHS Student Activities and Scholarship Acct for the month of March & April 2012

List of Bills

Approve the Following List of Bills:  
General Fund months of April & May 2012  
Cafeteria Fund month of April 2012  
Capital Construction month of May 2012  
Capital Projects month of April & May 2012

Supplemental Salary Schedule

Approve the Supplemental Personnel Salary Schedule for the 2012-2013 school year as presented.

Sports Physicals Co-payment

Approve the co-payment amount for student athletes receiving a sports physical from OAA during the 2012-2013 school year at a cost of \$5.00 per student in accordance with school board policy #122.

Fuel Bid

Approve the awarding of fuel bids to the following companies with a contract period of July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013:

**DIESEL FUEL** – Awarded to Mansfield Oil at a cost of \$.2094 (normal blend) per gallon over rack rate on date of delivery and an additional \$.0250 (winterization additive) per gallon over rack rate on date of delivery.

**#2 GRADE FUEL OIL TRANSPORT DELIVERY** – Awarded to Mansfield Oil at a cost of \$.0336 per gallon over rack rate on date of delivery.

**#2 GRADE FUEL OIL TANKWAGON DELIVERY** – Awarded to Mansfield Oil at a cost of \$.2094 per gallon over rack rate on date of delivery.

**UNLEADED GASOLINE** – Awarded to Isobunkers, LLC at a cost of \$.2174 per gallon over rack rate on date of delivery.

Fund Balance Designation

Approve to designate Fund Balance ending June 30, 2011 as follows:

1. Committed Fund Balance For:
  - a. Health Insurance Premiums \$ 810,000.00
  - b. PSERS Increase \$ 2,724,536.00
2. Assigned Fund Balnce

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

a. Assigned for Current School Year Usage	\$ 1,100,000.00
b. Transfer to Capital Projects – Turf, Peters Roof, etc.	\$ 1,488,000.00
c. Technology	\$ 71,788.00
d. Replacement Equipment	\$ 1,000,747.00
e. Long Range Maintenance	\$ 800,000.00
 3. Unassigned Fund Balance	 \$ 2,207,341.75
 <b>Fund Balance Total:</b>	 <b>\$10,202,412.75</b>

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

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

Election of Treasurer Election of a Treasurer for the 2012-2013 fiscal year, as required by Section 404 of the Pennsylvania School Code of 1949, as amended.

**RECOMMEND** .... That the Board of Education elects Mrs. Donna M. Kulp as Treasurer for the 2012-2013 fiscal year, effective July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013.

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

**LEGAL**

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

Sweet, Stevens, Williams & Katz, LLP Approve to appoint Sweet, Stevens, Williams & Katz, LLP as special counsel for the 2012-2013 school year. The hourly rate for non-routine matters will be \$185.00 per hour. The rate for routine or general advice will be \$140.00 per hour. There is no increase over last year's rates.

**INFORMATION**

Minutes of the Lehigh Career & Technical Institute Joint Operating Committee meeting held on March 28, 2012 were distributed.

Minutes of the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit 21 Board of Directors meeting held on March 19, 2012 were distributed.

Minutes of the Lehigh Carbon Community College Board of Trustees meetings held on March 1, 2012 and April 5, 2012.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Williams made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Green, that the regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh School District Board of School Directors is adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

YEA: Mr. Distler, Mr. Fedorcha, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, 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