

NORTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
Regular Meeting
Board Minutes

Slatington, PA
October 10, 2022

Civility and Decorum – District officials and members of the public are expected to conduct themselves with civility and to afford each other a measure of dignity and respect. Shouting, personal insults, and attacks or any conduct that disrupts the flow of business is considered to be out of order. Members of the public are to direct their comments to the Board in its entirety, cannot single out Board Members for response, nor can a member of the public address specific issues with other members of the community who may be present at the meeting or who are virtually present if it is a virtual or hybrid meeting. In addition, members of the community shall not bring signs or placards to the meeting and shall not applaud or engage in any actions that would impede another community member's right to make comments at the meeting. At the discretion of the Board/Board President, individuals who are disruptive shall be subject to removal from the venue of the Board meeting, unless the disruptive individual agrees to maintain civility and decorum.

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 7:05 p.m. on Monday, October 10, 2022, in the Northern Lehigh Administration Building Board Room..

ROLL CALL Members present: Mr. Robin T. Distler, Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha, Mrs. Rhonda Frantz, Mr. Mathias Green, Jr., Mrs. Michelle M. Heckman, Mrs. Gale N. Husack, and Mrs. Donna M. Kulp (7)

Members absent: Mr. Chad Christman and Mr. Robert L. Kern, Jr. (2)

Non-members present: Mr. Matthew Link, Dr. Tania Stoker, Mr. Todd Breiner, Mr. Greg Derr, Mrs. Michele Dotta, Ms. Danielle Dougherty, Mrs. Nichole Fink, Mr. Frank Gnas, Ms. Victoria Hanna, Mr. David Hauser, Mr. Eric Hill, Mr. Eugene Marks, Mrs. Sherri Molitoris, Mr. Scott Pyne, Atty. Kevin Reid, Mr. John Rushefski, Mr. James Schnyderite, Mr. Michael Strohl and Mr. Terry Ahner (Press).

VISITORS Approximately 14 visitors attended the meeting and one hundred and fifty-six visitors viewed the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT Mr. Link commented yes, we have Mrs. Shonk and a number of our student council representatives . have signed up, but they're actually on the agenda to speak, unless you wanted to comment outside of your comments? Okay, no. Then we have, I'm sorry I can't make this out, Amanda Schull, for a non-agenda item at the end of the meeting as well as Monika DeSousa at the end of the meeting as well. The rest are the Arnold family for Skills USA - there you are. And then also Mr. Ohland, I don't know if you wanted to actually share anything this evening? No, okay. So I think we can just follow our agenda and then at the end of the agenda they would all comment.

APPROVE MINUTES Mr. Fedorcha made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Distler that the minutes of the regular board meeting held on September 12, 2022, be approved and ordered filed.

YEA: Mr. Robin T. Distler, Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha, Mrs. Rhonda Frantz, Mr. Mathias Green, Jr., Mrs. Michelle M. Heckman, Mrs. Gale N. Husack, and Mrs. Donna M. Kulp (7)

NAY: None (0)

Motion carried.

SPECIAL BOARD Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit - Mrs. Husack reported our next meeting is on Monday evening. 6:30 is our start time, it is also streamed so you can watch it online. The only other thing that I had was we did have our event with the adaptive bikes, so that is posted on the website as well. You're welcome to go see it. We did give out I believe it was five bikes and a stroller this year which was fantastic to see students being able to ride who would not normally have that ability to do that. So, that is what we have on the agenda. That's all I have today, thank you.

Lehigh Career & Technical Institute - Mr. Fedorcha commented our new executive director is on board and doing an excellent job. We're very pleased with her. Also, we are going to be hiring. Technically we kind of hired this person because our principal is leaving us. We are in the process of bringing on a new principal, but we are interviewing for our assistant principal. Our supervisors are doing those interviews. There was a candidate who came out extremely high with that, so the board had decided

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(cont.)

that we do not need to post and look again. That we're taking the one person to be the supervisor and the person who really excelled in all those areas will be our new principal. Right now, he's not really committed to a district. He is working in a district, but he can get away so we'll have a great transition time. Also, I'm very happy to say over this year, past year particularly, we had the most students who were recognized and won and went to the skills olympic, which used to be VICA, this year and we had taken I believe it was six places in the top three. In that, throughout our school districts, I'm very happy to say that there is one here in Northern Lehigh and I don't want to take anything away from our principal or our superintendent as I know it's on the agenda, so I'll stop there and congratulate him then. Thank you, sir.

Legislative Report - Mrs. Heckman commented Governor Wolf recently approved a 21.5 million dollar plan to provide universal free school breakfast throughout PA. The program goes into effect on October 1st and will run through the end of 2023 school year. As you know, we are a candidate and a part of the federal program that already provides this, but if we were not that's something that's still going to be offered in Pennsylvania through that time period. The U.S. Department of Education is accepting state level nominees for the 2023 Career and Technical Education Presidential Scholars Program. Each state can nominate 5 students and schools wishing to submit nominations of their career and technical students are due by October 15th. Then this month's PSBA board leadership monthly exchange is September 13th from 12:30 to 1:30, it's a Zoom in the middle of the day where really anyone can discuss more business with PSBA. That's my report.

Lehigh Carbon Community College - Mr. Green commented attendance still remains down a little bit from where it was other years. It's getting closer, but it's still not what it had been so that's a little bit of a concern. I don't know how much you want to get into this, but we also had some very disturbing news. Our president got an email saying that there's currently discussion in Harrisburg to change what schools will require for a bachelor's degree. The school, and I see someone shaking their head. The Kutztowns, I can't think of any other ones, the East Stroudsburgs, the uh.

Mr. Link commented the PASSHE.

Mr. Green commented yes, that's it. Thank you. They are going to be given the option of saying oh you have 95 credits, we'll give you a bachelor's degree which sounds to me to be totally ludicrous as it kind of takes away from everyone who's worked to get their 120 credits to get a degree. Why then would students want to come to LCCC for 60 credits and then get another 60 credits somewhere else when they can go to Kutztown and get a degree in 90. It just doesn't make a whole lot of sense and I see there are people in the audience that are shaking their head that have heard that and I don't know if you have had any discussion with any people, but personally I think that's a step in the wrong direction. Degrading that whole concept. What do you do for a doctorate degree, you know it's just that 125 credits, I don't know. I'm just reporting that so people are aware of it and go from there. That's about it, thank you.

Committee Reports and/or Meetings

- > Minutes of the Technology/Buildings & Grounds Committee Meeting held on October 3, 2022, were distributed.
- > Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on October 3, 2022, were distributed.
- > Minutes of the Education Committee Meeting held on October 3, 2022, were distributed.
- > Minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting held on October 3, 2022, were distributed.
- > Minutes of the Community Relations Committee Meeting held on October 3, 2022, were distributed.

Student Representatives to the Board Report - Ms. Danielle Dougherty commented hello everyone. Our report tonight is overly long because obviously we have the student council officers with us who have our report on most of the homecoming and blood drive stuff. I will start with the homecoming bonfire which isn't overly student council related, so I could talk about this. It's supposed to take place this Thursday, October 13th. There is a little bit of a chance of rain, so if that does come then it'll be postponed until October 27th just that we can still recognize our fall sports and things like that since that's very important. Also, there's a bunch of club vendors that are looking to make money from this

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event, so we're hoping that can be like a good time for everyone to come out and see people from the community. Hoping it can be before homecoming, but if not it'll be before the away game at Palmerton, so it's still a good celebration. Then last week, each grade was assigned a hallway to decorate and we've started decorating. We spent most of last week and half of this week we will spend to finish decorating. The senior class, which a few of us are here, have been helping. We have the main lobby right in the front, juniors have by the library, and sophomores and freshmen have the hallways upstairs. That's all I have for homecoming. Obviously for spirit week and pep rally I'll hand over to Maddie later. Next, I have a whole bunch of individual class and class officer news. There's been a lot of elections and stuff, so we have a whole list for each grade. I want to congratulate Victoria, she is President of her class, so that is wonderful. Emma Wensing is the class of 2024 Vice President, Zoe Edwards as their Secretary, Cadence Whalen is their Treasurer and Daisy Richards is the Historian. So, that's all great leadership. I'm sure they'll do great, it will be nice planning prom and stuff with them. Speaking of prom, right now we are having our Krispy Kreme fundraiser, so we combine that with their grade and then all that money goes toward our prom. So, if you're looking for some krispy kreme donuts, look for a junior or a senior and we're willing to sell to you. That goes until October 18, so maybe get to them before then. Next for the officers I have the sophomore class. Marissa Meyer is their President this year and Matthew McCarty is their Vice-President. Katya Pesesko is Secretary and Katelynn Bartholdis the Treasurer and Cameron Schmick is the Historian. So again, some great leadership. Nice to see people take on those positions, it's a really good thing to see. Then, finally for the incoming Freshmen class, Ronald Verba is their President, Olivia Schaeffer is the Vice-President, Marley Edwards is the Secretary, Evelina Mayak is the Treasurer and Samantha Mack is the Historian. I think that's all I have for you guys tonight, but Victoria has her portion including the sports report.

Ms. Victoria Hanna commented hello everyone, I'm Victoria Hanna. On October 7th, the high school had a PBIS assembly for the students and it informed everyone of our Bulldog inspire and incentive program. There was lots of fun and games that demonstrated each of the different stuff that's part of the program and it really helps students realize what it takes to take on those roles that were needed in the program. Also, on that day there was a meeting for the National Honor Society for sophomores, juniors and seniors if they wanted to apply. The application for that is due on October 24th. Also, on October 21st there's going to be picture retakes for anyone who wants to get their pictures redone or they just missed it - that we had last month. A lot of clubs are doing a lot of things, having meetings, starting events and things that they haven't planned. Now we have our sports. Boys soccer is 0, 10 and 2 in the league and 2, 12 and 2 overall. Tomorrow is their senior night, so if you guys want to come out and support them. We've had a lot of students actually in the student section support the football team, girls soccer team, the field hockey team on their senior nights. So, hopefully tomorrow they have a lot of support for that. Field hockey has one more game left and their record is 0-16 in the league and 0-16 overall. Girls soccer team is 6 and 6 in the league and as of now we're number 6 in the league, so we're qualified if that stays in place. We have a game this Thursday - the team and the time have not been decided yet, but we are also qualified for districts and that's going to be later on, but we just finished last week our in-season. Cross-country has a home meet on Tuesday and their league meet will be on Wednesday, October 19th. So, good luck to them. Football's actually doing really good this year. They are 3 and 1 in the Colonial School Red Division and overall they're 6 and 1. This Friday they beat Notre Dame Green Pond 40-33, it was a pretty intense game but pretty fun to watch. Their homecoming game is this Friday against Tamaqua which will be at 7 and hopefully there's going to be a lot of students there wearing blue and white to support. That's it.

Mr. Green commented thank you both. Any questions?

Solicitor's Report - Mr. Green commented Okay, Solicitor's Report. I'd like to just introduce Attorney Kevin Reid who is filling in this evening. If you have a report, it's all yours. Floor is yours.

Attorney Reid commented thank you, pleasure to be here. There's no report this evening, Mr. President, thank you.

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(cont.)**

Mr. Green commented but he did tell me something earlier. He said that our bonds are finally settling and we are going to be getting our money shortly for that, so that's a good thing. I was also concerned too. I thought the board rates and interest rates were increasing that we were getting hit every time interest rates were jumping. He told me no that that's not true. That he was able to actually lock everything in several months ago, so we are getting a pretty good rate even though the rates have gone up. So, thank you for your work on that. Appreciate it.

Assistant Superintendent's Report - Dr. Stoker commented thank you very much. At your places and there are copies out front of the ESSER grant spending update as of the end of September. In ESSER grant 2, we paid for the middle school kitchen renovations. The extra teacher that we have in kindergarten, salary and benefits, to offset the large kindergarten class that we have this year. Our technology integration specialists salary and benefits as well. In ESSER 3, we paid for transportation for our summer learning, stipends for our summer band programs for the facilitators for that. During COVID we had purchased water bottles for staff members to use with the new bubblers that we have, so we bought some new water bottles for our new staff to use. We also paid for the nurse that's at Peter's, salary and benefits. Concrete pad that's out back that we have the tent on behind Slatington. We have ESSER paraprofessionals that we have in the buildings and we paid salary and benefits for those positions. We purchased automagical forms which is a digital platform piece that we have to manipulate documents. We also purchased some books for learning loss. Those are the updates since last month.

Mr. Green commented thank you, questions?

Business Manager's Report - Mrs. Molitoris commented our local auditors were in from September 26th through the 29th. We should have their reports back sometime towards the end of October or beginning of November and at that point in time I'll report on how we did and how the ending of last year.

Mr. Green commented I'm sure it'll be perfect. Thank you.

Superintendent's Report - Mr. Link commented thank you, Mr. Green. My report tonight is one of those reports that I really enjoy doing because I get to talk about great things our students are doing, our principals get to talk about great things that our students are doing, and our students get to talk about great things that our students are doing. First, I'd like to Mrs. Shonk who is our student council advisor. Mrs. Shonk if you could just kind of introduce your team that's here tonight and then they can give their student council updates.

Mrs. Shonk commented sounds good. Thank you for having us. My name is Amy Shonk and I am the new student council advisor in the high school. I would like to introduce to you our officers. We have Madeline Mack as President, our Vice-President is Danielle Dougherty, our Secretary is Delia Quier and our Treasurer is Erica Crier. So far we have completed our application process for six new members, so we are now at a total of 30 and I sent you those.

Mr. Link commented I just signed off on them earlier today.

Mrs. Shonk commented and I'm sure you know we have homecoming this coming week which we've been really hard at work at planning. I will leave everything to Madeline to fill you in.

Ms. Madeline Mack commented our spirit week committee put together an exciting week of spirit days. On Friday, October 7th we had a pajama day. On October 11th, we will have twin day. On October 12th, we will have a dress like Adam Sandler day. On October 13th, we will have a decades day and following our tradition, we will have a blue and white day on October 14th. Our pep rally will be held on Friday, October 14th during block 4. This is mainly run by the cheerleaders, but we are there to assist. At the pep rally we will announce our spirit week winners for each day and announce our homecoming court. Our homecoming court this year will consist of 8 girls and 8 boys. The parade will take place on Friday, October 14th on Center Street starting at Renschler's and ending at the stadium. The high school cheerleaders and marching band members and NLYAA football players and

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(cont.)**

cheerleaders, Slatington and Walnutport police and the local fire companies will all be participating in the parade. Renschler's will be donating 2 of the cars to us for the parade, the rest will then come from members of student council and friends. During the game, the 2022 homecoming king and queen will be announced at halftime. Our returning King from 2020, Joseph Abbadelli, and Queen of 2018, Lexi Meccas, will be coming back to crown the next winners during halftime and they will also be riding in the parade with us. The homecoming dance will on Saturday, October 15th, from 7 to 10pm. Our DJ and photobooth are both booked and we have hoagies coming from Weis, pizza from Mama's, and various snacks, desserts, and drinks coming as well. Aside from homecoming, we will also be hosting our annual fall blood drive on October 12th. During this, we'll work with Miller Keystone. We are looking forward to the rest of the homecoming festivities and what the rest of the year has in store. Thank you.

Mr. Link commented does that conclude your report this evening? Okay, so next year as you girls move up we're going to get you up here and you're going to get some talking parts. So, up next on the agenda has to do with Act 35. Act 35 requires all Pennsylvania school districts to administer at least once, during grades 7 through 12, a locally developed assessment of United States history, government, and civics that includes the nature, purpose, principals and structure of the United States constitutional democracy, the principals, operations, and documents of the United States government, and the rights and responsibilities of citizenship. Each school entity shall determine the form of the assessment, the manner for which the assessment shall be administered, and how and when it is administered. A school entity may also use the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services test to satisfy the requirements of this paragraph. So, this is a new requirement placed on school districts that began back in 2018 and I am very happy to recognize 3 of our high school students tonight who scored a perfect on the exam. That is a rare and admirable achievement this evening. So, I'd like to call each one of our perfect recipients tonight up to the table. Maybe Mr. Rashefski or if you could kind of snap some pictures. Mr. Green, would you like to hand them their certificates? Our first one is Miss Lily Groover.

Mr. Green commented congratulations.

Mr. Link commented and up next we have Miss Victoria Hanna.

Mr. Green commented congratulations.

Mr. Link commented and our last perfect score for this evening and this year is Caitlin Kirk.

Mr. Green commented congratulations, Caitlin.

Mr. Link commented so if we can just give all 3 of our students here an applause. Again, congratulations and thank you for representing the school district so well. We have one more student this evening that we would like to recognize for a most outstanding achievement and that is Brayden Arnold for SkillsUSA National Competition. I am going to ask Mr. Rushefski to come up and tell a little bit more about Brayden's accomplishment, but also to have Bradyen come up and hopefully we can hear a few words from Brayden as we present to him his certificate this evening.

Mr. Rushefski commented Brayden is a junior this year and last year he was a sophomore. During his sophomore year, he took second place in SkillsUSA National. This was in Atlanta, Georgia of June of 2022 and he did it in the area of marine service technology. He also took first place in the Pennsylvania SkillsUSA competition for the same category - marine service technology. From what I understand, high school students and college students are competing in this category. He spoke at the LCTI about 2 weeks ago and I think it's good for the Northern Lehigh community to hear from Brayden what it took for him to make it through this journey to Atlanta, Georgia. Go ahead.

Mr. Brayden Arnold commented alright so first I'm going to start off and talk about what SkillsUSA is. So, SkillsUSA is a program that helps students like me get into the workforce. So, they have different programs like leadership conferences, obviously the competition that I went to and different

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(cont.)**

conferences that happen along those times that allow us to network within our industries. Pretty much how I got to where I am today was started in the winter of last year around January. I didn't really know much about SkillsUSA and my tech teacher talked to me about this competition that was going on locally, and that's with like six of the local schools. So, I went to the competition for motorcycle which is in my lab which is at LCTI, so I competed there. I tried my best and I took second in the district, so that did not qualify me for states for that competition. I went to the marine competition, so there's no local competition for that so I went right into states for that. That was held in Hershey, PA and that's for all students and district from around PA. I went there, that was the Hershey Lodge. I competed there and I just had fun and tried my best and I walked away with first which was shell shocked. I had not idea that I was able to do that. So then from there that qualified me to go to the national competition in Atlanta, Georgia. In the middle of June I hopped on a plane at ABE and we headed down to Atlanta, Georgia. We stayed there for 5 days. It was really cool to see everybody down there. I met all of these different people. Then, I competed in my competition. I still had no idea how I was going to do, I just went and had fun. I competed there and I took second.

Mr. Rushefski commented Brayden go ahead to our Superintendent and Board President.

Mr. Fedorcha commented can I just add one thing. I did not say this to Brayden at the vo tech school, but I want to say this here publicly. Basically, the marine part of the program is not really taught directly and you took it upon yourself along with the teachers to be able to get the knowledge that you took. So when you went and competed with both the state and the national, you were competing with students who had full marine programming. But you yourself kind of taught yourself.

Mr. Arnold commented yeah, I had a job shadow at the Backwoods Marina and I worked there for 5 days and that helped me get a little bit, but most of this stuff is pretty similar between the stuff. The only thing that there's a few things that are different.

Mr. Fedorcha commented but kudos to you for taking it upon yourself.

Mr. Link commented again, congratulations Brayden. Thank you so much for representing the district. So, that's why this is one of my favorite superintendent's reports to give when we get to highlight the achievements of our students. It's what we're here for. So, congratulations once again to all of you and to all of our representatives tonight. Thank you so much for sharing out all of the great things that are happening around the district. You are all welcome to stay for the remainder of the meeting or you may choose to go home and engage in your studies and your homework and extracurriculars. Mr. Green that concludes my report for this evening.

Executive Session Executive sessions was held at 6:15 p.m. this evening at the Northern Lehigh Administration Building Board Room for the purpose of a little bit of legal, but mostly personnel items that we discussed.

PERSONNEL Mr. Fedorcha made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Husack, that the Board of Education approves a motion to approve personnel items A through J:

Resignation /Retirement J. Ohland Accept the resignation of Jay Ohland from his position as Permanent Substitute teacher for the district, effective at the end of the day on August 31, 2022.

A. Heyer Accept the resignation of Ashley Heyer from her position as Cook's Helper, effective at the end of the day on September 26, 2022.

Appointment Non-Instructional 1. Megan Rex*

Assignment: ELDP Paraprofessional
Salary: \$15.91/hour
Effective: September 26, 2022

*60 Working Day Probationary Period

PERSONNEL**(cont.)**

2. Shelly Frantz*
 Assignment: Cook's Helper
 Salary: \$13.75/hour/5.5 hours
 Effective: October 3, 2022
 *60 Working Day Probationary Period

3. Nancy Scheker*
 Assignment: Full-time Custodian
 Salary: \$16.69 per hour/8 hours per day
 Effective: On or about October 27, 2022
 *60 Working Day Probationary Period

4. Megan Sandt*
 Assignment: Cook's Helper
 Salary: \$13.75/hour/4.5 hours
 Effective: September 19, 2022
 *60 Working Day Probationary Period

Appointment
Instructional

1. Jay Ohland Professional Employee
 Assignment: Secondary Science Teacher
 Salary: \$61,175 (Step 1 Masters on the 2022-2023 CBA Salary Schedule)
 Effective: September 1, 2022

2. Maria Schaffer Professional Employee
 Assignment: Middle School Counselor
 Salary: \$62,075 (Step 4 Masters on the 2022-2023 CBA Salary Schedule)
 Effective: January 17, 2023

3. Jenna Martin Temporary Professional Employee
 Assignment: Half-time ESL Teacher
 Salary: \$29,463 (Step 1 Bachelors on the 2022-2023 CBA Salary Schedule) to be paid through ESSER 2.
 Effective: On or about October 12, 2022

Administrative

Transfer

Non-Instructional

1. Robin Blocker
 From: High School Paraprofessional
 To: Middle School Paraprofessional
 Salary: No change in salary
 Effective: October 11, 2022

Substitutes

Instructional

Motion to renew the appointment of the following substitute teachers for the 2022-2023 school year at the 2022-2023 substitute teacher rates as approved on the Supplemental Personnel Salary Schedule:

Rick Guth - Secondary

Co-Curricular	Shawn Frame	Asst. Football Coach (Shared Stipend to Full)	\$5,136
Appointments	Wilbert Scott	Asst. Football Coach (Shared Stipend)	\$2,568
2022-2023	Jacob Waylen	Asst. Boys Basketball Coach	\$5,136

Rescind

Co-Curricular

Appointments

S. Hluschak

Rescind the motion appointing Stephen Hluschak as the Assistant Football Coach that was approved at the March 14, 2022, school board meeting.

PERSONNEL**(cont.)**

Brandywine Transportation Bus Drivers and Aides Motion to approve the following bus drivers and aides from Brandywine Transportation to transport Northern Lehigh School District students for the 2022-2023 school year:

Tristyna Neff

Game Workers 2022-2023 Motion to appoint the following individuals as a Game Worker for the 2022-2023 school year. Game workers consist of ticket sellers and takers, game announcers, scoreboard operators, timers, field judges and scorekeepers. Rate of pay is consistent with the rates approved on the 2022-2023 Supplemental Personnel Salary Schedule:

Chris Mann
Rebecca Edwards

Clerical/ Classroom Volunteers Approve the following unpaid volunteer district-wide for the 2022-2023 school year.

Susan Bahnick

YEA: Mr. Robin T. Distler, Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha, Mrs. Rhonda Frantz, Mr. Mathias Green, Jr., Mrs. Michelle M. Heckman, Mrs. Gale N. Husack, and Mrs. Donna M. Kulp (7)

NAY: None (0)
Motion carried.

POLICY

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

Board Policy First Reading Approve school board policy #218 - Student Discipline - Pupils, as presented after first reading.

Approve school board policy #227 - Controlled Substances / Paraphernalia -Pupils, as presented after the first reading.

Board Policy Second Reading Approve school board policy #202.1 - Foreign Exchange Students - Pupils, as presented after the second reading.

Approve school board policy #220 - Student Expression / Dissemination of Materials - Pupils, as presented after the second reading.

Approve school board policy #913 - Nonschool Organizations / Groups / Individuals - Community, as presented after the second reading.

YEA: Mr. Robin T. Distler, Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha, Mrs. Rhonda Frantz, Mr. Mathias Green, Jr., Mrs. Michelle M. Heckman, Mrs. Gale N. Husack, and Mrs. Donna M. Kulp (7)

NAY: None (0)
Motion carried.

**CONFER-
ENCES**

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

D. Hauser Dave Hauser - CFES Global Conference - November 7-8, 2022 - The Sagamore Resort - Bolton Landing, NY, at no cost to the district.

M. Strohl Michael Strohl - CFES Global Conference - November 7-8, 2022 - The Sagamore Resort - Bolton Landing, NY - Travel: \$333.76 - Total Approximate Cost: \$333.76 - Funding: High School Budget.

**CONFER-
ENCES****(cont.)**

S. Molitoris

Sherri Molitoris - 68th PASBO Annual Conference - March 13-17, 2023 - Kalahari Resort & Conference Center - Pocono Manor, PA - Registration: \$349.00, Travel: \$62.50, Hotel: \$453, Meals: \$75.00 - Total Approximate Cost: \$939.50 - Funding: Business Office Budget.

YEA: Mr. Robin T. Distler, Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha, Mrs. Rhonda Frantz, Mr. Mathias Green, Jr., Mrs. Michelle M. Heckman, Mrs. Gale N. Husack, and Mrs. Donna M. Kulp (7)

NAY: None (0)

Motion carried.

**CURRIC-
ULUM AND
INSTRUC-
TION**Induction
Program

Mr. Fedorcha made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Distler, that the Board of Education approves the following curriculum and instruction items:

Approve the following teachers as helping teachers in the Northern Lehigh School District Induction Program for the 2022-2023 school year:

Helping Teacher	Inductee	Stipend
Larry Meixsell	Jay Ohland	\$400.00 (Split ½ Year)
Jason Graver	Jay Ohland	\$400.00 (Split ½ Year)
Allison Chruscial	Maria Schaffer	\$200.00
MaryAnn Mattiola	Jenna Martin	\$400.00 (Split Stipend)
Manuel Gonzalez	Jenna Martin	\$400.00 (Split Stipend)

Apple Tree
Educational
Associates, LLC

Authorize administration to enter into an agreement with Apple Tree Educational Associates, LLC to provide bilingual school psychologist services to assist the Special Education Department with bilingual assessments and student evaluations. Rate of pay will be \$1,600.00 per student evaluation.

EdInsight

As per the recommendation of the administration and the Education Committee, approve to authorize the administration to enter into an agreement with EdInsight for the purchase of ten hours of consulting services at a cost of \$2,500 funding through ESSER 7% set aside for social emotional learning.

YEA: Mr. Robin T. Distler, Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha, Mrs. Rhonda Frantz, Mr. Mathias Green, Jr., Mrs. Michelle M. Heckman, Mrs. Gale N. Husack, and Mrs. Donna M. Kulp (7)

NAY: None (0)

Motion carried.

**NEW
BUSINESS**

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

Bucks County
Intermediate
Unit

As per the recommendation of the administration, approve to authorize proper officials to enter into an agreement with Bucks County Intermediate Unit to comply with the requirement, goals and to strive to accomplish the objectives of Pennsylvania's Education for Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness (ECYEH) Program.

YEA: Mr. Robin T. Distler, Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha, Mrs. Rhonda Frantz, Mr. Mathias Green, Jr., Mrs. Michelle M. Heckman, Mrs. Gale N. Husack, and Mrs. Donna M. Kulp (7)

NAY: None (0)

Motion carried.

FINANCIAL

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

Financial
Reports

Approve the Following Financial Reports:

1. General Fund month of July, August and September, 2022 (unaudited)
2. Cafeteria Fund month of July, August and September, 2022 (unaudited)

FINANCIAL
(cont.)

3. NLMS Student Activities/Clubs Accounts month of September, 2022 (Unaudited)
4. NLHS Scholarship Account month of September, 2022 (Unaudited)

List of Bills

Approve the Following List of Bills:

1. General Fund months of September & October, 2022
2. Cafeteria Fund months of September & October, 2022

Abatement/
Exoneration

Approve abatement/exoneration requests of per capita taxes, for the residents that fall within the guidelines, as presented.

Slatington
Public Library

Approve to release the \$5,000.00 donation to the Slatington Public Library that is budgeted in the 2022-2023 school year.

Statewide
Tax Recovery

Approve the appointment of Statewide Tax Recovery as the delinquent per capita tax collector for the 2022 tax year.

Westmoreland
Intermediate
Unit

To continue to contract with Westmoreland Intermediate Unit, for the purposes of providing compliance software and Fraud Check Services, which would meet all compliance requirements by PDE, at a yearly cost of \$500.00, no increase over prior year.

Transportation
Contract

As per the recommendation of the administration and the Technology/Buildings and Grounds Committee, approve the transportation contract at the IRS reimbursement rate with the parent of Student #3190178.

Vector Security

As per the recommendation of the administration, allow administration to enter into an agreement with Vector Security to install a video intercom system with door release for the field house at a cost of \$1449. The cost of the project will be paid for through PCCD Safety and Security Grant.

Act 57
Resolution

Per the recommendation of the administration and the Finance Committee, approve the Act 57 Resolution as attached.

PSDLAF
Resolution

Per the recommendation of the administration and the Finance Committee, approve the attached Resolution authorizing the Director of Business Affairs to join Northern Lehigh School District with other Pennsylvania School Districts as a Settlor of the Pennsylvania School District Liquid Asset Fund (PSDLAF) for the purpose of investing funds of the School District on a pooled basis with the funds of other Pennsylvania School Districts.

PSDLAF
Account
Opening

Per the recommendation of the administration and the Finance Committee, approve to allow the Director of Business Affairs to open an account through the Pennsylvania School District Liquid Asset Fund (PSDLAF) for proceeds from the settlement of the 2022 Bond on October 17, 2022.

Mrs. Kulp commented I would just like to say that I think it's great that the district's able to help the Slatington Library. It's a nice resource for our students between the books and the computers and everything. I am very proud that we're able to keep that funding going.

YEA: Mr. Robin T. Distler, Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha, Mrs. Rhonda Frantz, Mr. Mathias Green, Jr., Mrs. Michelle M. Heckman, Mrs. Gale N. Husack, and Mrs. Donna M. Kulp (7)

NAY: None (0)

Motion carried.

LEGAL

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

LEGAL**(cont.)**Expulsion
Hearing
Waivers
#2690222

The Board agrees to the expulsion hearing waiver for Student #2690222. Student and guardian have agreed to waive their right to a formal expulsion hearing in front of the School Board and have also agreed to disciplinary action outlined in the waiver.

#2590241

The Board agrees to the expulsion hearing waiver for Student #2590241. Student and guardian have agreed to waive their right to a formal expulsion hearing in front of the School Board and have also agreed to disciplinary action outlined in the waiver.

#2690052

The Board agrees to the expulsion hearing waiver for Student #2690052. Student and guardian have agreed to waive their right to a formal expulsion hearing in front of the School Board and have also agreed to disciplinary action outlined in the waiver.

Separation
Agreement

Approve the Separation Agreement for Employee I.D. #6929.

YEA: Mr. Robin T. Distler, Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha, Mrs. Rhonda Frantz, Mr. Mathias Green, Jr.,
Mrs. Michelle M. Heckman, Mrs. Gale N. Husack, and Mrs. Donna M. Kulp (7)

NAY: None (0)

Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Green commented I have nothing currently under correspondence. Does anyone?

INFORMATION

Minutes of the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit 21 Board of Directors meetings held on July 18, 2022 and August 15, 2022..

Minutes of the Lehigh Carbon Community College Board of Trustees meeting held on August 4, 2022.

Minutes of the Lehigh Career & Technical Institute Joint Operating Committee meetings held on June 22, 2022 and August 24, 2022.

RECOGNITION OF GUESTS

Mr. Green commented now we'll go back. I think there were a few guests that wanted to be recognized, so if you can.

Mr. Link commented sure. If I may, just take a moment to recognize, before we open it up for public comment. We have 2 of our professional staff members this evening. First, I would like to congratulate and welcome Mrs. Maria Schaffer who will be our next Northern Lehigh Middle School School Counselor. Congratulations. Then, also Mr. Jay Ohland who has been filling in as a middle school science teacher, but now is official and will be our new middle school science teacher moving forward. Congratulations to both of you and welcome.

Mr. Green commented I have a question, can somebody get him a Northern Lehigh shirt?

Mr. Ohland commented I was going to go today, but the place was closed. (Audience laughter).

Mr. Link commented okay, so first this evening we have Ms. Monika DeSousa who would like to speak on a non-agenda item.

Ms. DeSousa commented so I'm pretty much here on behalf of the higher performing segment of the student body and their families. I feel, as well as the other parents of the district, that this portion of the class often gets overlooked because they're able to achieve decent grades and rarely cause trouble. As the saying goes, the squeaky wheel gets the oil, but these wheels don't squeak so they get neglected. These students are good students who achieve what's required but nothing more is

RECOG-
NITION
OF
GUESTS
(cont.)

asked of them. This doesn't prepare them or help them grow and develop their critical thinking skills, time management skills, study skills, which is needed for their future in high school, college, and in the workforce. I don't live in a bubble. I know COVID has impacted the education system drastically, but there are huge gaps in the district that need to be fulfilled and addressed, I feel. When discussing this with several other parents in the elementary, middle, and some high school, three main issues among several others came up. The first was, the higher level kids are not being developed to their educational needs. There are no papers, projects rarely or any homework given. No summer reading requirements for the middle schoolers. Number two, there was a huge knowledge gap in writing, especially chemical and physical sciences and elementary health education. The latter not even being addressed in the elementary school in Slatington for the past two years. It just never was discussed - about puberty or anything with these young kids. Number three is the lack of access to curriculum. We can't even help our children learn what they're supposed to learn because we don't have access to any of the curriculum guides that are supposed to be out there. I've talked to Mr. Pyne and Mr. Hauser about this and I know it's in the works, but I don't know why we're so behind as a school district to address this concern. I'm here because a change needs to happen sooner rather than later to help our kids. It's not just the ones that do well, but everybody. The better performing students are not in need of a full flex period at the middle school. This time could be utilized more specifically for this part of the student body. They could do, you know I understand that kids do need remediation, but the top performers in our class don't need that extra time. They don't need to catch up because their work has already been done. I feel like more attention needs to be placed on the kids that want to do more work and learn more and not be afraid when they're challenged and there are many children in the grades that are out there, but they are just not being pushed to their full potential. I'm not an educator. I do have a lot of respect for the teachers and what they have to deal with on a daily basis. I understand that this is a small and under-resourced school district, but emphasis I feel has to be placed more on the quality of education versus anything else. I don't have a solution to this problem which is why I'm here. All we want as parents is to try and bring awareness to the problems that exist and try and fix them because it's directly affecting our kids. So, pretty much that's all I have to say, so thank you.

Mr. Link commented thank you Ms. DeSousa. I do encourage you to become part of the solution with us. We have our education committees, we have our curriculum council. We recently just wrapped up our comprehensive planning, but I sincerely hope I get to see you at some of those meetings as well and we can continue the conversation. Thank you.

Mr. Green commented thank you.

Mr. Link commented then next we have Ms. Amanda Schull also for a parent concern.

Ms. Schull commented I just wanted to echo over sentiments. My daughter wants to be a meteorologist which will most likely mean that she needs to go to Penn State University. Given the test scores here in Math that I've seen, I have strong concerns that she will even be able to get into Penn State to be able to get that degree. So, I echo her sentiments and I will be glad to participate in any programs and things that you guys have that we can help to make it better.

Mr. Link commented thank you and thank you for joining us this evening. We also have Ms. Marwa Schoch this evening for an unidentified non-agenda item.

Ms. Schoch commented bear with me, I have really bad anxiety. I'm just trying to get this out there. Hi, my name is Marwa Schoch. I am a behavioral health consultant. I have a master's degree in psychology as well as certifications in early childhood development and promoting basic functional emotional developmental capacities. My son attends second grade at Peters. Within and outside of my role, I have found that teachers are struggling to understand the behavioral and developmental needs of students. I've witnessed teachers losing patience with children, feeling as though they are lacking support or discipling children for behaviors that they cannot control. Just this past Friday, my son who is diagnosed with autism, ADHD, and anxiety, informed me that his teacher grabbed him by the arm and removed him from an activity when he could not process the directive that was given. He was making repetitive sounds which he does due to the need to self-stimulate. She asked him if he

RECOGNITION OF GUESTS (cont.)

was ready to return to the activity and my son said yes. She then said, "oh, maybe I should talk in your language so that you will understand me". His peers laughed at him as she proceeded to mock him in front of his whole class by making the repetitive sounds that he made. He was mortified. No student deserves to be discriminated against, especially not one with a diagnosis. No student deserves to be mocked, punished for their deficits, or made fun of by the adults who are supposed to be there to teach, support, and protect them. My only explanation based on faith and humanity is that this behavior is due to ignorance and lack of education, so how can we change that? We can provide additional trainings for teachers. We can inform them of how to identify and respond in a positive and productive manner to mental health diagnoses. We will help them understand that reward not punishment will be effective in helping our children thrive and becoming educated about behaviors, mental health, and the developmental needs and in learning how to manage behaviors and meet each individual's child's needs. Teachers will reduce their overall stress and have stronger more positive interactions with their students. This is essential as currently 1 in 6 children in the U.S. have 1 or more developmental disabilities or other developmental delays. About 1 in 100 children have autism and 2.4 million school-aged children present with ADHD. We need to do better, our children deserve better and my son deserves better.

Mr. Link commented thank you, Ms. Schoch. We don't want any student to feel like that. We will look into your allegations. I appreciate you coming to share that with all of us here. Thank you. Our administrative team will be back in touch with you. Thank you both for coming tonight.

Mr. Green commented yes, thanks for coming. I just want to say that I have a grandson who's partially autistic, so I understand some of the things you're saying and there's time where he's totally with us and other times where he's not even in the same world yet alone the same room and we work with him and we strive and get along pretty well actually when it all comes down to it. So, thank you for coming forward. Okay, is that it?

Mr. Link commented that concludes our list of public comments for this evening.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Fedorcha made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Kulp that the regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh School District Board of School Directors adjourned.

YEA: Mr. Robin T. Distler, Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha, Mrs. Rhonda Frantz, Mr. Mathias Green, Jr., Mrs. Michelle M. Heckman, Mrs. Gale N. Husack, and Mrs. Donna M. Kulp (7)

NAY: None (0)
Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Gale N. Husack
Secretary

ATTEST:

Mr. Matthias J. Green, Jr.

President