

NORTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
Regular Meeting
Board Minutes

Slatington, PA
May 13, 2024

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 7:06 p.m. on Monday, May 13, 2024, in the Northern Lehigh Administration Building Board Room.

ROLL CALL Members present: Mrs. Rhonda Frantz, Mr. Mathias Green, Jr., Mrs. Gale N. Husack, Mr. Robert L. Kern, Jr., Mrs. Donna M. Kulp, and Mrs. Angela Williams (6)

Members absent: Mr. Chad Christman, Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha, and Mrs. Natalie Snyder (3)

Non-members present: Dr. Matthew Link, Dr. Tania Stoker, Ms. Victoria Hanna, Ms. Jalah Cook, Mr. Mr. Todd Breiner, Mr. David Hauser, Mr. Christopher Mann, Mrs. Michele Dotta, Mrs. Nichole Fink, Mr. Eric Hill, Mr. David Jones, Mr. Eugene Marks, Mrs. Sherri Molitoris, Mr. Scott Pyne, Atty. Kristine Roddick, Dr. Lori Bali, Mr. James Schnyderite, and Mr. Michael Strohl.

VISITORS Approximately 3 visitors attended the meeting and seventy-eight visitors viewed the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT Dr. Link commented there are no members of the public that added that they would like to make a public comment on agenda items or non-agenda items.

Mr. Green commented okay, thank you.

APPROVE MINUTES Mrs. Kulp made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Williams that the minutes of the regular board meeting held on April 8, 2024, be approved and ordered filed.

YEA: Mrs. Rhonda Frantz, Mr. Mathias Green, Jr., Mrs. Gale N. Husack, Mr. Robert L. Kern, Jr., Mrs. Donna M. Kulp, and Mrs. Angela Williams (6)

NAY: None (0)
Motion carried.

SPECIAL BOARD REPORTS Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit - Mrs. Husack commented yes, thank you. We did have our meeting in April. It was called our Spring Fling, it replaced our Christmas Party at the time. So, we were celebrating the MDS program and they presented a video and information about that program. That program does have 56 students in it. Northern Lehigh does have some students in those programs. They are in 9 classrooms in both counties, so both in Lehigh and Carbon County, that they service. Within that, there's 36 staff members including and with the help of the nursing agency that they have. They usually have about an 8 student to 2-3 staff member ratio when they're doing that, so there's a nice video that's posted on the IU website that I ask you to take a look at it. It's fantastic to see these students using adaptive toys and being successful in the workplace as they get out and are able to succeed after the schooling. The other item we talked about, our 2024-2025 budget was approved unanimously by all 14 of our districts. So again, the first time, and I know we have all mentioned that but great news that that budget has been passed. Our new 2024-2025 CLIU calendar has also been posted and that is on our website that you're welcome to go take a look at as well as some upcoming graduations. So, some of those graduations for those intermediate students depending on where they are between June 3rd and June 7th. Again, those are posted on the IU website if we have any students that would be interested in

going to attend those graduations. The last thing coming up here in June, just to say it one last time, our golf tournament is June 18th. It's being held at Old Homestead out in New Tripoli. That does go towards our Special Needs Children's Foundation. Both of our puppy dogs that we have supported for the last 2 years will be joining us at the golf tournament and there may even be an adaptive bike that was purchased through those funds for our students that will be at the event. So, if you're available on June 18th, we still have spaces feel free. There's information on the website as well. Thank you.

**SPECIAL
BOARD
REPORTS
(cont.)**

Lehigh Career & Technical Institute - Mr. Fedorcha was not present.

Legislative Report - Mrs. Snyder was not present.

Lehigh Carbon Community College - Mr. Green commented our enrollment continues to be under what we had budgeted for, that's the bad news. The good news is because of all the work that we're going with the Amazon program, which is very lucrative and higher rates on our CDs, so we're now getting you know 5 or 5.5% instead of what we were getting a couple years ago. It looks like our budget will balance out at the end of the year, so that's the good news. Unfortunately, Mr. Christman isn't here, but I would also like to note and I'll tell him later that we were chosen as a military-friendly institute because we would go way out of our way to take care of people who have served our country in the military and I think that's something to be proud of. So, that's all I have.

Committee Reports and/or Meetings

- Minutes of the Education Committee Meeting held on May 6, 2024, were distributed.
- Minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting held on May 6, 2024, were distributed.
- Minutes of the Technology Committee Meeting held on May 6, 2024, were distributed.
- Minutes of the Buildings & Grounds Committee Meeting held on May 6, 2024, were distributed.
- Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on May 6, 2024, were distributed.
- Minutes of the Extra & Co-Curricular Committee Meeting held on May 6, 2024, were distributed.

Student Representatives to the Board Report - Ms. Victoria Hanna commented hello everyone, it's nice to see you again and sadly for the last time. Today, Jalah and I will be giving you all a report on our school events, senior festivities, and our sports report. To start, the Prom was held on April 27th on Saturday at Twin Lakes. It was a massive hit, the dance floor was packed, everyone was dancing, eating - it was very fun. Our Prom King was Sam Frame and then our Prom Queen was Stacey Richards. In addition to that, we actually had the staff and people that were at the venue and all that stuff, they actually complimented our students saying we were very respectful and a pleasure to have and that we represented Northern Lehigh very well. So, that's very proud to hear. Also, National Honor Society, they had their class club trip at Six Flags on April 22nd. That was very fun, a lot of students got to enjoy all of the high, fast, thrilling kinds of rides. On May 4th was Mr. N-L and that a very fun show that we had. The winner for Mr. N-L was Bailey Smith. Keystones will be held this week and next week on May 14th for Algebra, May 16th for Literature, and May 21st for Biology. Bulldog Games will be on May 22nd from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the NL Stadium where there will be lots of fun activities for the special education students and a lot of high school students will be helping out and volunteering there. May 23rd will be the Freddy Awards and we have Jackson Hunsicker who was nominated for the award of Outstanding Supporting Actor and Express Time Student Achievement. Then the Theater Club in general won and was nominated for award of Outstanding Scenery. So, congratulations to them and we really hope they win at the Freddy's this year. AP exams were held this past week for multiple students who did AP courses and we're hoping they did well on those. Student council will be having their annual 9th grade orientation for the upcoming eighth graders who are going to be freshmen next year. This will be where student council students will show the students around, where classes are, and how the school will be running. The last thing that I have for tonight is LCTI will be having their graduation on May 29th at PPL. So, that's all I have for today and I'll pass it on to Jalah for senior festivities and sports report. Thank you.

Ms. Cook commented hello everyone. To start, we have a whole bunch of senior festivities going on in these last few weeks. Wednesday, the 15th, seniors will be retrieving their time capsules that they made in 7th grade from Mr. Graver after school. This Thursday, the 16th, seniors will be going on their

**SPECIAL
BOARD
REPORTS
(cont.)**

senior class trip actually at the Poconos. They will get to participate in various activities. Thankfully, the weather is looking very good for them. On Wednesday, May 22nd, the seniors will be having their senior award night at 7:00 p.m. in the high school auditorium honoring seniors who have won any local scholarships. On Wednesday, May 29th, seniors will be receiving their cap and gowns and will also be doing the parade of graduates where they walk through each Northern Lehigh school as students congratulate them. On Thursday, May 30th, the seniors will be having a brunch at Eagles Nest following their graduation rehearsals. And as you may know, on Friday, May 31st at 7:00 p.m., we will be holding a commencement at the stadium. That is all for senior festivities, now onto sports. Baseball is 5 and 15 overall and 5 in districts. They still have a chance at being qualified for districts. Softball is 12 and 9 overall. The girls are also qualified for districts as well. In addition, Arabella Heintzelman won the Ken Kern Scholarship. Track and field have their colonial league meet with multiple athletes earning a medal in multiple events. These students were Caitln Barthold, Bailey Smith, Evelina Mayak, Mikayla Gordon, and Natalie Moffitt. The district's meet will be on Tuesday and Wednesday and we'll have multiple students attending this event. Lastly, Spring Awards night will be held on Monday, May 20th at 6:30 p.m. Thank you and that's all I have for tonight.

Dr. Link commented so we are going to break from the script here for a second because this seems like the most natural time to do it. I would like to take a moment now to recognize our senior student representative to the school board. So, Victoria, let me lead first most simply with great work and thank you for everything you've done on behalf of the school board and for the school board this school year. I'd like to share a few things that Victoria has accomplished over her last four years as a member of the high school. I've had the privilege of witnessing Victoria Hanna exceptional academic achievements, leadership qualities, and dedication to both her education and community. Victoria is a senior at our high school set to graduate, of course, this year. She has proven herself to be an outstanding student and quite honestly a remarkable individual. With a weighted GPA of 4.48, Victoria has excelled in challenging coursework, including 2 AP classes and 7 dual-enrollment courses in addition to many honors-level classes. Her commitment to academic excellence is truly commendable, but it doesn't end there. Beyond her academic achievements, Victoria has demonstrated exemplary leadership both in and outside of school. As the captain of the varsity girls soccer team, she exhibited resilience and toughness earning the prestigious heart of a bulldog award. Her involvement in track and field coupled with athlete of the week by Times News further attest to her dedication to sportsmanship and achievement. Victoria's leadership extends beyond the athletic arena. She has served as Class President for 2 years, been the student school board representative for 2 years, and founded and presided over Nature's Preservers showcasing her commitment and fostering positive change within our school and community. Additionally, her roles in student council and the national honor society reflect her dedication to service and advocacy for others. Her peers look to her to serve as their voice to the school board administration and she accepts this responsibility with confidence and determination while always remaining humble. Victoria is not only a stellar student and leader, but also a compassionate, engaged community member. Her involvement in church youth group activities, charity events, and volunteering over 70 hours at a local hospital demonstrates her commitment to making a positive impact beyond these schoolhouse walls. On behalf of the school board and administration, thank you Victoria for your service to the board. Best wishes at King's College in the classroom and on the soccer pitch. Remember, you will always be a bulldog and we will always be here for you. So again thank you and congratulations on achieving so much during your high school years.

Mr. Green commented did I hear King's College, is that where you're going? Any thoughts on what you want to do when you get there other than play soccer?

Ms. Victoria Hanna commented I'm doing their accelerated doctorate program for occupational therapy.

Mr. Green commented wow, thank you. I've seen a lot of student board members over the years and I remember when you came 2 years ago and you were kind of like head in paper and shy. And boy, you've come a long way in 2 years. You really, really have, I mean you just blossomed. It's happened with other people and I'm sure your partner next, there, is going to follow in your footsteps, but you've really matured. Thank you very much, on behalf of the board and myself.

**SPECIAL
BOARD
REPORTS
(cont.)**

Dr. Link commented Victoria, yes, you've absolutely been a great kind of mentor and role model for Jalah. Jalah, I'm excited for your senior year. Victoria, I owe you an apology on behalf of Amazon. So traditionally, we give our senior school board representatives a clock engraved with your representation of the school board here. I am so sorry but it has not arrived yet. So, we will get that to you this week, I'm hopeful that it's here tomorrow. I do apologize for that, but you're still awesome. Would you like to say anything?

Ms. Victoria Hanna commented it's just been an honor being here and I don't know, it's just, I'm glad I got this opportunity and I just appreciate it. Thank you.

Mr. Green commented anyone else want to add anything?

Mrs. Kulp commented it's been great having you here and seeing what's going on and the passion and everything that you do.

Dr. Link commented I will continue my report at the actual time.

Solicitor's Report - Attorney Roddick commented I do. It's been a bust month and that's a tough act to follow - dry, boring stuff. Okay, so on April 19th, the new Title IX amendments were issued and they are to take effect on August 1st of 2024. So your policies are going to need to be revised accordingly. Major changes include a number of definition changes, qualifications and training requirements for the Title IX coordinator, implementation of clear grievance procedures, a broader definition of sexual harassment. The definition has been severe, pervasive and objectively offensive. They have now removed objectively offensive, so it's a little bit broader. They clarify the scope of sex discrimination and they expand jurisdiction to include conduct outside the educational program or activity or outside of the United States. The Title II of the ADA regulations came out on April 14th. These regulations require state and local governments, including school districts, to verify the accessibility of your web content and mobile apps. You're required to now adhere to the web content accessibility guidelines version 2.1 level AA as the technical standard that encompasses text, images, sounds, videos, and more. The focus is to enhance accessibility for individuals who have vision, hearing, cognitive, and manual dexterity disabilities. So, when you have to be in compliance with this depends upon the size of your city or county. If you have more than 49,999 people, you must comply by April 24th of 2026. If you have less than 49,999 people, you must comply by April 26th of 2027. Last but not least, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court did accept Parkland School District petition for allowance of appeal in the Coleman versus Parkland School District matter. As you may recall that was the issue of whether or not the Sunshine Act had 3 exceptions or 4 exceptions to the rule that the agenda items must be posted at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. So, the district's brief is due next month and hopefully we'll have a decision sooner rather than later. Any questions?

Mr. Green commented okay, thank you. If you guys have homework to do and you want to be excused, you're certainly welcome to or you can stick around and enjoy your misery with the rest of us, but entirely up to you. Just letting you know, whatever you want to do.

Assistant Superintendent's Report - Dr. Stoker commented as far as our ESSER grant update, we have expended ESSER 1 and ESSER 2. We are on ESSER 3, we've spent money on salaries and benefits for our kindergarten teacher, technology integration specialist, director of educational technology, curriculum and instruction, ELDP teacher, paraprofessionals, the nurse at Peters and additional hot spots. With regard to ESSER learning loss, we purchased books for social, emotional learning for staff. Under ESSER afterschool, we had salary and benefits for our high school tutoring program. Under ESSER summer enrichment, we didn't have any spending this month. Next, we have our monthly data report for the board. Mr. Haas, if you can pull up our presentation.

Dr. Stoker presents powerpoint presentation on monthly data report, with a focus on curriculum and professional development.

**SPECIAL
BOARD
REPORTS
(cont.)**

Business Manager's Report - Mrs. Molitoris commented okay, we're going to do our budget presentation. The short and condensed version of our budget presentation as we have been giving the full presentations at our finance committee meetings. And Dr. Link is going to start us off.

Dr. Link begins the powerpoint presentation on the Proposed Final Budget for the 2024-2025 School Year and District Long Term Planning.

Mr. Green commented so the budget is just on the agenda and we're not going to vote on that now, but since we've just gone through this, are there any questions, comments?

Mrs. Frantz commented I do have a question. The Homestead Farmstead, will that increase stay there, in other words, in 25-26 will that be the same amount or is there a possibility that could go down?

Mrs. Molitoris commented it's unknown, Rhonda. Honestly, and we don't know unless it depends on that tax revenue and what they're seeing in the gaming and the casinos and stuff. That's what that's based on. The money wasn't, this year, we put a lot of money back into that pot this year because it hadn't been raised in many years. Whether it stays, we're hopeful, but it's undetermined because it really depends on the gaming market.

Mr. Green okay, I think the one comment I would make I thought it was interesting that we could do a 2% increase and people in Lehigh County would pay what 2 bucks a year more or 3 bucks a year more in taxes or something like that. So, not as quite good for the people in Northampton but they would basically break even just the additional monies that we've gotten in that one particular area.

Superintendent's Report - Dr. Link commented thank you, Mr. Green. So, I'd like to continue with my superintendent's update. We have a lot of great things to share out this evening as well, or continue to share out. This week and the last 2 week actually marked a number of employee appreciation days. So all of last week was National Teacher Appreciation Week, last week was also National School Nurses Appreciation Day, the week prior to that, May 3rd, was Cafeteria Worker Appreciation Day. Then this week is National Police Week and of course we have our own police department now in the Northern Lehigh School District. So on behalf of the board and administration, I'd like to acknowledge the hardwork and dedication to supporting our students in Northern Lehigh of all of our employees. Because of all of you in the district, our students have access to caring teachers, high quality educational programs, health services, safe and secure schools offering a welcoming learning environment for academics, the arts, athletics, and any other activity or club that our students would like to join. They can pretty much find something here to meet an interest that they have. So again, to all of our employees, thank you for everything that you do every day. I know that our school board echoes that same appreciation. At this point, I'd like to give a little bit of my time over to Mr. Dave Carroll, our current Band Director, to share brief information on Drum Corps International and the Boston Crusaders.

Mr. Carroll commented when Dr. Link came to me and said that he would be interested in continuing to host a Drum Corps for DCI East and that he would like me to consider to coordinate that for the district this summer, I said I would be glad to do so. I told him I would be glad to do so. I told him that I would need to continue to have my keys with security and I have made sure that my housing team would still be in place which they all are. The housing team specifically at that foundation is Mr. Randy Utsch, who has been an employee here, Mr. Shawn Green, who is anxious to be part of the team as long as his family obligations work around the schedule, and Mrs. Becky Herring, who's a custodian at the high school and knows that building intimately. We were able to secure the Boston Crusaders again here, they were here last year. Wonderful corps, top five, they did a really great job here as guests and I think we did a great job again as hosts. The dates specifically that the DCI is looking for is a very similar schedule to last year. They have their home show in Lawrence Mass on Thursday, August 1st and they would be arriving here sometime in the morning of Friday, August 2nd. Last year, they arrived at about 5:00 a.m., and that's late but they were driving back from their show all night in Massachusetts. So they would stay, say they would arrive Friday AM, stay overnight Friday, rehearse

SPECIAL
BOARD
REPORTS
(cont.)

here again on Saturday, and then they would perform Saturday night at DCI East. Now, several of the tenants that Dr. Link and I have worked together for this type of situation was that 1: it's a community reach out that the community would be able to go in and view them rehearsing. Honestly, you could go in and watch them anytime. What we try to do is coordinate a specific time to reach out to the public and say hey, here's a specific time when you can go in to see them when the entire group is together because they start in the morning all broken down and they come together as one ensemble. We're going to make sure that we do that again this year. Boston Crusaders are very public-oriented both with their home area in Massachusetts and when they were here they were great. There were several other considerations, 1 that we have free tickets for all of our marching band students. I always try to get 1 for the student and 1 for the adult to take that student for both the Friday night and the Saturday show so they can go down to Allentown and watch both nights. It's just tremendous for the program. In our discussions with DCI, they were curious about would we be able to have them come back here on Sunday and leave Sunday. That's not something you and I discussed because I wasn't privy to that information. I said I don't know, my people would still be in place. From my perspective, I'm completely okay with that and I don't think that that's a for sure thing yet. I think they're working through some logistics as they have a competition in Reading and then they head out to Ohio towards World Championships the next week. Another consideration too is they're coming from Atlanta and they talked about on Wednesday, August 31st, they need a site to stay here in the Lehigh Valley. I said, well that's not what we agreed upon. So they had assigned them stay at another school for just that 1 night in the Lehigh Valley. I said, well I will mention that in my report. Could they stay in Northern Lehigh with the idea being that they can leave their equipment they're going up to Massachusetts and come straight on back. As of right now, Whitehall will be housing them on Wednesday and then they'll be coming back to us on Friday. So, I'm anxious to do that and very happy to do that for the district as we've been doing for many years for variety of years.

Mrs. Kulp commented you said 8/31, is that 7/31 or is that 8/31 and then.

Mr. Carroll commented they're coming into, okay right now they're scheduled to stay at Whitehall on August 31st, then they're going to go up to Massachusetts to do their home show and then come back to us on August 2nd. It would also again in the past require with our summer schedule, to create a variance of some type so that we may have access to that building on that Friday which is not typically the case.

Dr. Link commented so Mr. Carroll, would it be more accommodating to the Crusaders if they were able to stay here from the 31st to the 3rd? Is that what you're saying?

Mr. Carroll commented it may be. Either way, they're doing to leave back to Massachusetts for their large show on Thursday no matter what. They're just coming up from Atlanta, they need a stopping point on Wednesday. They're going to go to Massachusetts on Thursday and then definitely come back then with us on Friday, Saturday, maybe could they stay over on Sunday. And right now, DCI is housing them at Whitehall.

Dr. Link commented so, thank you Mr. Carroll. I think we all know now that these are good guests to have. They are very accommodating to our high school band members and they open up their world class practices, and even rehearsals, to our community here for free. I know at the last committee meeting it was brought up, can we also live stream through NFHS. That is something that we can do for free for anybody that would like to watch them but cannot come to the stadium for whatever the reason may be. Administration fully supports this and it's on the agenda for this evening. So I would like, when we get to that agenda item, I would like the board to consider maybe giving them a larger window of time. I apologize this information is just coming now, but I am so supportive of this group because of everything that they do for our students that as long as at no additional cost to the district and all of those other offerings to our students and community are in place that we extend that from as long as the evening of July 31st until the morning of Sunday, August 4th.

Mr. Carroll commented I would just need to make sure my housing team is available those evenings, yeah.

**SPECIAL
BOARD
REPORTS
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Dr. Link commented so if that all works out and the board so chooses, I would request that we extend that time for them for us to host them here in our high school and have access to our buildings and grounds for rehearsal.

Mr. Carroll commented Dr. Link would that latitude extend to Sunday?

Dr. Link commented yes, so into Sunday. You said they would leave Sunday, right?

Mr. Carroll commented correct.

Dr. Link commented so yes, they can leave Sunday instead of, so they can return here after the . competition in Allentown Saturday evening and leave Sunday. That of course is up to the school board, but I fully support that decision if you do as well. So we'll vote on that in a little bit.

Mrs. Kulp commented excuse me. How does that apply with the 4-day district schedule?

Dr. Link commented sure, so that's why it's actually coming to the agenda motion is originally written because that's where the school board approves a variance to the 4-day work week. So, that's where the volunteer staff comes in and we open the high school stadium and high school building more so they can sleep and have access to the locker room and showers and to the stadium so they can actually practice. So that's what we have been doing is granting that variance to the 4-day work week.

Mrs. Kulp commented okay, thank you.

Dr. Link commented you're welcome.

Mr. Green commented anyone else, any other questions?

Dr. Link commented okay, then back to some more great news. Again, the achievements of our staff and the generosity of our community never ceases to amaze me. Next, I would like to share that this morning I was made aware of a donation to our Life Skills Cafe. For those of you that don't know, our Life Skills Cafe is a student-run cafe at Slatington Elementary School. One or two times a month, the students in life skills with some of the greatest needs, either physically or cognitively, are given an opportunity to work together, to prepare a menu, and then also a little entrepreneurship to then sell those items which typically consist of baked goods, coffee, tea, and things like that to the faculty and staff here. It's always a nice day when some of the office staff, myself a lot of the teachers. You get in there and there's a line out the door for people to buy these treats and then also the exchange of money with these students, teaching them a skill or several skills. So we are very fond of that program here at Slatington Elementary School. Last week, I was actually contacted by the director of LCTI, Dr. Lisa Greenawalt. She shared with me that recently one of her family members has passed away and some of you in the audience may recognize this name, former Slatington Elementary Special Education Teacher, Mrs. Annamae Greenawalt. She was a teacher here for many years and sadly she has passed away. The family, in recognition of her love of education, teaching, and her time here at Slatington Elementary School, wanted to make a donation on behalf of her to kind of make her memory of her live on here at Slatington Elementary School. So they have donated \$250 and through that conversation we've decided that the Life Skills Cafe would be the best recipient of that because that donation can go towards buying you know some equipment for the Life Skills Cafe, some supplies, to help that program kind of live on beyond its actual kind of dedicated budget, which is all towards the funds they raise. So last week Mr. Breiner and I presented that check to Mr. Stillwell and all of the children while they were working that day at the cafe. it was a great experience and a way to honor Mrs. Annamae Greenawalt. We're appreciative of the donation and please know that Mrs. Annamae's memory and passion for education will live on through the cafe and its students. Also this morning, a member of our special education department, Mrs. Allyson DeHart, shared with me that an anonymous donor funded this remarkable banner behind the board table as a permanent welcome to our annual Bulldog Games each year. So the banner will be placed near the entrance to Bulldog Stadium welcoming our student athletes, volunteers, parents, and guardians and other community members to the Bulldog games. The bulldog games began 2 years ago, this is its 3rd year

**SPECIAL
BOARD
REPORTS**

providing our students with special needs to participate in fun stadium games and activities. It's become a very popular day each year in which many of our high school students served as helpers and peer buddies, so again we are very appreciative of this anonymous donor's donation of this beautiful banner behind us here which will now be part of bulldog games moving forward each year. Again, don't forget, Bulldog Games are May 22nd in our stadium. Now, I'd like to recognize and congratulate one of our employees who has received an award. Mrs. Allison Chruscial who has received the Lehigh County's School Counselors Association Award for the school counselor of the year is present with us this evening. So out of all the nominations in the entire county, Mrs. Chruscial was nominated by her peers so her school counselors from around the Lehigh County and from the officers in the association. I think that's really special when a nomination comes from your own colleague group and peer group and one of our school counselors, you are a teacher at heart, was selected for this recognition. I would like to also thank Mrs. Raquel Hoffert, the other school counselor at the high school, who's the one that brought this to administration and said she would like to make the nomination which we all fully supported. And Mrs. Hoffert also gets a little recognition for being the one that kind of got this started. So, in presenting Mrs. Chruscial with her award, the association representatives shared that many nominations were received and Mrs. Chruscial was the clear choice for the award this year. They said that it is evident that she goes above and beyond for the students of the Northern Lehigh School District in so many ways. This is clearly true because she's not just a school counselor, she's also a coach, an advisor, a recent administrative intern, and of course a parent to children in the district. She's here this evening with several family members, so Mrs. Chruscial, that being said, I would like to congratulate you. I would like to give you an opportunity to talk, but first I would like to see if Dr. Bali or Mr. Strohl, our high school administration, would like to say anything this evening.

Dr. Bali commented well, I would like to say, thank you first of all for letting me say this, but Allison you have been, you know I've worked with many counselors, you are a rockstar. You know our kids seek her out everyday, where is she, you know it's evident when she's not there because there's just a gap in our team. As a new administrator to the district, I've had so many conversations with her and just her willingness to help and collaborate and help me be a better leader and she has done that. So, I'm just thankful for all you do and for all you do for me and our team everyday.

Mr. Strohl commented I can tell you that Mrs. Chruscial is an integral part of the high school. She supports students on a daily basis. She's part of our child study team and our data team and both of those teams really are important to support our students which is who she is and puts first. She is a bulldog through and through and she bleeds blue and white.

Mrs. Chruscial commented so I brought tonight my husband, my mother Holly and my father Ron. I just want to thank, I hope I do not cry because I get very emotional. I was truly, truly, truly floored when this happened last week. I had no idea. You know, you don't go into the profession as an educator really for the accolades, you're in it for the kids for the district you work for. I've always led with that. You know, to be honored for something like this is just truly a gift. I love what I do, truly. You know, my roots began in Bethlehem, but I'm ending in my home. My home is Northern Lehigh and it always has been. I'm dedicated to the district, I'm dedicated to all of you, I'm dedicated to the kids most of all. So I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart, you really allowed me to really blossom into the type of educator I am today. It is an honor for me to give that back to all of you, so thank you. By the way, this is the award they presented me. It was actually made in the Banana Factory in Bethlehem. So, actually I'm going to talk about it because it was like a real symbolic moment for me. I started my roots in Bethlehem, in Bethlehem Area School District, I taught in the middle school on the south side of Bethlehem and the Banana Factory was a piece of - we used to take our students there. So, I feel this is a full circle moment for me to have a piece of south side with me.

Dr. Link commented congratulations again. That concludes my report for this evening, Sir.

Executive Session Mr. Green commented an executive session was held this evening at 6:00 p.m. It was 100% personnel items that we discussed at that meeting.

PERSONNEL Mr. Green commented I would like to recommend to approve all items except for K at this point in time.

Mrs. Frantz made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Husack, that the Board of Education approves a motion to approve personnel items A through P, except for item K:

Salary Adjustment Approve a salary increase for Mr. Eric Hill, Director of Technology, in the amount of \$2,000 for additional child accounting responsibilities effective July 1, 2024.

Appointment Instructional

- 1. Katie Cappuccino Temporary Professional Employee
Assignment: Chemistry Teacher - Secondary
Salary: \$65,675 (Step 4 Masters on the 2024-2025 CBA Salary Schedule)
Effective: August 20, 2024
- 2. Mikayla Vangelo Temporary Professional Employee
Assignment: Music Teacher - Secondary
Salary: \$64,775 (Step 1 Masters on the 2024-2025 CBA Salary Schedule)
Effective: August 20, 2024
- 3. Krista Petrulsky Temporary Professional Employee
Assignment: District-wide BCBA
Salary: \$64,775 (Step 1 Masters on the 2024-2025 CBA Salary Schedule)
Effective: August 20, 2024

Appointment Non-Instructional

- 1. Autumn Fink *
From: Peters Elementary School Instructional Paraprofessional
To: Peters Elementary School Office Assistant
Salary: \$14.97
Effective: May 6, 2024
***60 Working Day Probationary Period**

Termination 1. The board hereby terminates employee #7562, effective April 16, 2024.
From: \$14.00/hour
To: \$15.19/hour
Effective: March 25, 2024

Summer Program Positions

- Funding through ESSER III Motion to approve the following individuals to the Open Horizons/I.N.S.P.I.R.E. Summer Program Positions, for the summer of 2024:

Name	Position	Rate	Completion Prog. Prem. Pay
Justin Fritz	Instructor	CBA Curr. Rate/Hr.	up to \$1,000
MaryAnn Mattiola	Instructor	CBA Curr. Rate/Hr.	up to \$1,000
Brittany Tremper	Paraprofessional	Hourly Rate	up to \$750
Heidi Eckhart	Paraprofessional	Hourly Rate	up to \$750

STEAM Camp Motion to approve the following individuals to STEAM Camp positions for the summer of 2024:

Name	Position	Rate
Ingrid Duran	Paraprofessional	Hourly Rate paid through ESSERIII
Brittany Tremper	Paraprofessional	Hourly Rate paid through NLEF

Secondary Summer Band Camp Approve a tuition free secondary summer band program and also approve a stipend for summer band program director, Ms. Mikayla Vangelo. Ms. Vangelo’s stipend will be \$1,000.00 to be paid out of ESSER funds for learning loss. The summer band program will tentatively run Monday, July 15, 2024 to Thursday, July 18, 2024.

ESY Program Approve to conduct an Extended School Year (ESY) Program for students with special needs from July 8-25, 2024. The program will run weekly, Monday through Thursday, from 9:00AM-12:00PM. Further approve to employ the following individuals to the listed positions for the ESY program:

Name	Position	Rate	Completion Prog. Prem. Pay
Katelyn Terplan	Instructor	CBA Curr. Rate/Hr.	Up to \$1,000
Ryan Stilwell	Instructor	CBA Curr. Rate/Hr.	Up to \$1,000
Lynn Werley-Olesak	Instructor	CBA Curr. Rate/Hr.	Up to \$1,000
Kim Depril	Paraprofessional	Hourly Rate	Up to \$750
Ingrid Duran	Paraprofessional	Hourly Rate	Up to \$750
Ryan Papay	Paraprofessional	Hourly Rate	Up to \$750
Tara Hengst	Paraprofessional	Hourly Rate	Up to \$750
Heather Kuntz	Paraprofessional	Hourly Rate	Up to \$750
Jennifer Kuhns	Paraprofessional	Hourly Rate	Up to \$750
Robin Blocker	Paraprofessional	Hourly Rate	Up to \$750
Andrea Maldonado	Paraprofessional	Hourly Rate	Up to \$750

Co-Curricular Appointments 2023-2024 Per the recommendation of administration, due to the large number of participants some of which require specialized support, approve Alexandra Powell-Renstchler as an Assistant Middle School Co-Ed Soccer Coach, at the stipend amount of \$1,694 (prorated), for the 2023-2024 season.

Co-Curricular Volunteers Motion to appoint the following Co-Curricular volunteers for the 2024-2025 school year:

Kassandra Beller Assistant Field Hockey Coach

Co-Curricular Appointment 2024-2025 Motion to appoint the following Co-Curricular positions for the 2024-2025 school year:

Allison Chruscial	Head Field Hockey Coach	\$5,769
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ESY Transportation Paraprofessional Approve to continue to employ Jennifer Haas as transportation paraprofessional for student #2390125. The extended school year program runs June 24-August 2, 2024. Approve compensation for five hours per day at her agreed upon hourly rate plus the completion program premium pay of \$750

Game Workers 2023-2024 Motion to appoint the following individuals as a Game Worker for the 2023-2024 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 2023-2024 Supplemental Personnel Salary Schedule:

James Yadush

Summertime Maintenance Motion to approve the following four individuals as Summertime Maintenance/Custodial helpers for the summer of 2024 at a rate of \$12.50 per hour:

Brody Benson
Blake Everett
James Mann
Braden Marzen
Christopher Taveras

PERSONNEL

(cont.)

Appoint Personnel Approve the Superintendent to appoint qualified personnel to vacant positions during the period of time from April 9, 2024 through the next regularly scheduled board meeting.

YEA: Mrs. Rhonda Frantz, Mr. Mathias Green, Jr., Mrs. Gale N. Husack, Mr. Robert L. Kern, Jr., Mrs. Donna M. Kulp, and Mrs. Angela Williams (6)

NAY: None (0)
Motion carried.

Mrs. Kulp made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Kern, that the Board of Education approved the following personnel item K:

Co-Curricular Appointment 2024-2025 Motion to appointment the following Co-Curricular positions for the 2024-2025 school year:

Michael Bauer	MS Interschol. Boys Basketball Coach (Shared Stipend)	\$2,289.50
Bobby Fahler	Assistant Boys Basketball Coach	\$5,187
Robert Fahler, Jr.	Head Boys Basketball Coach	\$7,980
Scott Gerould	Senior High Winter Intramurals - Track	\$1,010
Christopher Heery	Head Girls Basketball Coach	\$7,980
Steven Jonkman	Majorette/Band Advisor	\$2,472
John Tristan Moore	Head Boys Soccer Coach	\$6,116
Winterford Ohland	Senior High Winter Intramurals - Weightlifting	\$1,010
Joseph Tout	Senior High Winter Intramurals - Weightlifting	\$1,010
Mikayla Vangelo	Secondary Band Director	\$5,850
William Watkins	Assistant Girls Basketball Coach	\$5,187
Jacob Waylen	JH Assistant Boys Basketball Coach	\$5,187
Tim Whalen	JH Assistant Wrestling Coach	\$5,187
Zachary Williams	MS Interschol. Boys Basketball Coach (Shared Stipend)	\$2,289.50

YEA: Mrs. Rhonda Frantz, Mr. Mathias Green, Jr., Mrs. Gale N. Husack, Mr. Robert L. Kern, Jr., Mrs. Donna M. Kulp (5)

NAY: Mrs. Angela Williams (1)
Motion carried.

Dr. Link commented so with us this evening is Ms. Mikayla Vangelo. Ms. Vangelo, congratulations, you are going to be our newest music teacher at Northern Lehigh School District. We are very excited to have you join our team, so if you would like to stand and be recognized by the board, congratulations.

POLICY

Mrs. Frantz made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Husack, that the Board of Education approves the following policy items A and B:

Student Representative to the Board Approve Olivia Schaffer as Student Representative to the Board for the 2024-2025 school year. Olivia Schaffer has been appointed as the junior representative to the board and will serve from September 2024 through June 2026. Jalah Cook will serve as the senior student representative to the board until June 2025.

Film Club Application Approve the initial club/activity application for the Northern Lehigh High School Film Club. The Northern Lehigh Education Association recommended stipend for the advisor of this club, Nick Sander, is \$200.00 beginning with the 2024-2025 school year. Upon approval by the Board, the approved stipend will be added to the Collective Bargaining Agreement, as per policy #122.

POLICY
(cont.)

YEA: Mrs. Rhonda Frantz, Mr. Mathias Green, Jr., Mrs. Gale N. Husack, Mr. Robert L. Kern, Jr., Mrs. Donna M. Kulp, and Mrs. Angela Williams (6)
 NAY: None (0)
 Motion carried.

CONFERENCE-
NCES

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

James Schnyderite - CKLA visit - April 16, 2024 - Hughesville, PA - Registration: \$0- Travel: \$136.68 - Meals: \$0 - Total Approximate Cost: \$136.68 - Funding: Curriculum Budget.

Scott Pyne - PDE Keystone Rangefinding - July 8-12, 2024 - King of Prussia, PA - Registration: \$0 - Travel: \$0 - Meals: \$0 - Other expenses: \$0.

Scott Pyne - CKLA visit - April 16, 2024 - Hughesville, PA - Registration: \$0 - Travel: \$136.68 - Meals: \$0 - Total Approximate Cost: \$136.68 - Funding: Curriculum Budget.

Scott Pyne- CKLA visit- April 11, 2024- Mechanicsburg, PA- Registration: \$0- Travel: \$127.10- Meals: \$0- Total Approximate Cost: \$127.10- Funding: Curriculum Budget.

Mark Nicosia - Municipal Police Rifle Instructor - July 29-31, 2024 - Schwensksville, PA- Registration: \$300 - Travel: \$178.09 - Meals: \$45.00 - Other expenses: \$542.00 - Total Approximate Cost: \$1,065.09 - Funding: School Police Budget.

Tania Stoker - EF Tours Global Leadership Development Program - Panama - October 10-14, 2024 - Registration: \$0 - Airfare: \$0 - Mileage - \$121.94 - Meals: \$160 - Other Expenses: \$115 - Total Approximate Cost - \$396.94 - Funding: Pennsylvania Association of School Administrators (PASA) scholarship and Assistant Superintendent's Budget.

YEA: Mrs. Rhonda Frantz, Mr. Mathias Green, Jr., Mrs. Gale N. Husack, Mr. Robert L. Kern, Jr., Mrs. Donna M. Kulp, and Mrs. Angela Williams (6)
 NAY: None (0)
 Motion carried.

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

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

A. Title I, Title IIA, Title III, & Title IV – 2024-2025

Approve to authorize proper officials to execute contracts for Title I, Title II, Title III, and Title IV for the 2024-2025 school year.

Induction and/or New Teacher Program

Approve the following teachers as helping teachers in the Northern Lehigh School District Induction Program for the 2024-2025 school year:

<u>Helping Teacher</u>	<u>Inductee or New Teacher</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
Gabryella Wilder	Katie Cappuccino	\$800
Steven Jonkman	Mikayla Vangelo	\$800
Shannon Jones	Mikayla Vangelo	\$200
Allyson DeHart	Krista Petrusky	\$800

**CURRIC-
ULUM AND
INSTRUC-
TION**

(cont.)

Mentor for Administrative Staff Approve the following support staff assistants as mentors in accordance with the Northern Lehigh School District Administrative Support Staff Agreement:

Mentor	New Employee	Stipend
Karen Beltz	Janna Seip	\$100.00

Unique As per the recommendation of the administration, approve to renew the Unique Learning System service contract for special needs students for the 2024-2025 school year at a cost of \$2,264.97. This is an increase of \$165 from last year. Funding through Medical Access.

Amplify As per the recommendation of the administration, Education Committee and Finance Committee approve the adoption and purchase of Amplify CKLA and Amplify ELA for grade K-6 at a cost not to exceed \$291,159.00, funding through ESSER III Grant and NLSF Fund Balance. (Attachment #15)

Special Education Plan As per the recommendation of administration and the special education plan committee, approve the Special Education Plan beginning July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2027, as presented.

IXL As per the recommendation of the administration and the Education Committee, approve the attached agreement with IXL subscriptions for Slatington Elementary School beginning immediately, through September 2025 as an instructional and assessment tool, at a cost of \$8,500 funded through the Slatington Elementary School Budget.

Read180 As per the recommendation of the administration, approve to renew the Read 180 and Math 180 service contract for special needs students for the 2024-2025 school year at a cost of \$19,187.00. Funding through Medical Access.

YEA: Mrs. Rhonda Frantz, Mr. Mathias Green, Jr., Mrs. Gale N. Husack, Mr. Robert L. Kern, Jr., Mrs. Donna M. Kulp, and Mrs. Angela Williams (6)

NAY: None (0)
Motion carried.

**NEW
BUSINESS**

Mrs. Husack made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Kern, that the Board of Education approves the following new business item:

As per the recommendation of the administration and Buildings & Grounds Committee, approve to allow Drum Corps International to utilize the High School, Fields, Field House, and Stadium Complex, on August 2-3, 2024 for Boston Area Crusaders to practice and prepare for their competition in Allentown the evening of August 3, 2024. Their rehearsal in Bulldog Stadium is open to the local community at no cost to spectators.

Approve Arabic translation services with Manarah Islamic Academy, in Whitehall, PA, at Northern Lehigh School District's extracurricular rate per hour.

As per the recommendation of administration, approve the letter of agreement with Lehigh University for grant application to the mental health service professional program in the U.S. Department of Education to address the shortage of highly qualified school psychologists in Pennsylvania. There is no cost to the district.

Approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement between The Northern Lehigh School District and Northern Lehigh Educational Support Personnel Association, effective July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2028.

Approve a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Northern Lehigh Education Association for the High School Lunch and Learn Program, as attached.

As per the recommendation of administration and the Buildings and Grounds Committee, authorize administration to apply for the Public School Facility Improvement Grant and to submit a letter of comm

YEA: Mrs. Rhonda Frantz, Mr. Mathias Green, Jr., Mrs. Gale N. Husack, Mr. Robert L. Kern, Jr.,
Mrs. Donna M. Kulp, and Mrs. Angela Williams (6)

NAY: None (0)

Motion carried.

FINANCIAL

Mrs. Kulp made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Williams that the Board of Education approves the following financial items A through F:

Financial
Reports

- A. Approve the Following Financial Reports:
1. NLSD Investments for the month of March 2024
 2. General Fund Account month of March 2024
 3. Cafeteria Fund Account month of March 2024
 4. NLMS Student Activities/Clubs Accounts month of March 2024
 5. NLHS Student Activities/Clubs Account month of March 2024
 6. NLHS Student Scholarship Account month of March 2024

FINANCIAL

(cont.)

List of Bills

- B. Approve the Following List of Bills:
1. General Fund months of March and April, 2024
 2. Cafeteria Fund months of March and April, 2024
 3. Capital Construction months of March, 2024

CLIU #21

- C. Authorize administration to sign the Linkage Agreement between Northern Lehigh School District and Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit #21 for a term of five years at no cost to the district.

CSIU
eService

- D. Authorize administration to sign the CSIU eService Rates contract for Accounting, Payroll and Personnel software services for the 2024-2025 school year.

Summer
Workers

- E. As per the recommendation from the administration and Buildings and Grounds Committee, approve to allow administration to advertise and hire five (5) student summer workers and one (1) supervisor. The rate for student summer workers will not exceed \$12.50 per hour and the rate for the supervisor will not exceed \$15.00 per hour

School Police
Vehicle
Purchase

- F. As per the recommendation of the administration, approve to authorize proper officials to purchase one school district police vehicle, a 2024 Dodge Charger, at a cost of \$49,912.50, per the attached COSTARS eligible quote. Funding will be through the 2023-2024 school district budget.

Behavioral
Health Assoc.
License

- G. Approve to authorize proper officials to enter into an agreement between the Northern Lehigh School District and Behavioral Health Associated License Private Academic School for the purpose of furnishing regular education or special education programs for the students for the 2024-2025 school year.

CLIU Tech Pool
Agreement

- H. Allow administration to sign the CLIU Technology Pool Consortium Agreement for the 2024-2025 school year, cost not to exceed \$768.00.

NLHS Furniture Purchase I. As per the recommendation from the administration and the Education Committee, approve to authorize administration to purchase furniture and supplies for the Northern Lehigh High School, not to exceed \$12,000, funding will be through the 2023-2024 high school budget.

YEA: Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha, Mr. Mathias Green, Jr., Mrs. Gale N. Husack, Mr. Robert L. Kern, Jr., Mrs. Donna M. Kulp, Mrs. Natalie Snyder, and Mrs. Angela Williams (7)

NAY: None (0)

Motion carried.

LEGAL

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

Expulsion
Hearing
Waiver
#2890129

The Board agrees to expulsion hearing waiver for Student #2890129. 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.

YEA: Mrs. Rhonda Frantz, Mr. Mathias Green, Jr., Mrs. Gale N. Husack, Mr. Robert L. Kern, Jr., Mrs. Donna M. Kulp, and Mrs. Angela Williams (6)

NAY: None (0)

Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Green commented I have no correspondence, do you have anything?

Mrs. Husack commented no, sir.

INFORMATION

Minutes of the Lehigh Carbon Community College Board of Trustees meetings held on February 1, 2024.

Minutes of the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit 21 Board of Directors meeting held on January 24, 2024.

Minutes of the Lehigh Career & Technical Institute Joint Operating Committee meeting held on February 28, 2024.

RECOGNITION OF GUESTS

Mr. Green commented any guests that would like to be recognized this evening? Anyone?

Mr. Green commented I just want to throw this out, it's early, but I think, let me just check here. Give me one second, I apologize. In July, we don't have a regular meeting. I would like to call a meeting in July to do the superintendent's annual evaluation. I guess I'm looking around, July 4th is on a Thursday, that's a big week. I guess if you can let me know whether you prefer July 1st, the first Monday, or July 8th, the second Monday. If you have a conflict, I understand that. I'm just trying to give a little bit of advance notice and try and get as many people here for that as we can. Take a look at your calendar, if you have a problem with either the 1st or the 8th, please let me know before we call the meeting. Thank you.

ADJOURNMENT

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

YEA: Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha, Mr. Mathias Green, Jr., Mrs. Gale N. Husack, Mr. Robert L. Kern, Jr., Mrs. Donna M. Kulp, Mrs. Natalie Snyder, and Mrs. Angela Williams (7)

NAY: None (0)

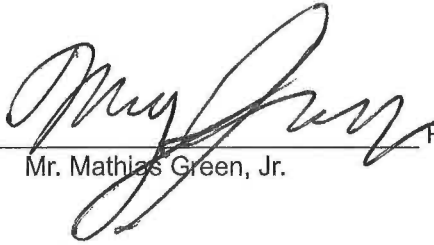
Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Gale N. Husack
Secretary

ATTEST:



Mr. Mathias Green, Jr.

President