

NORTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
Special Meeting
Board Minutes

Slatington, PA
June 24, 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 special meeting of the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors was called to order by the President, Mr. Mathias J. Green, at 5:33 p.m. on Monday, June 24, 2024, in the Administration Office Board Room.

ROLL CALL

Members present: Mr. Chad Christman, Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha, Mrs. Rhonda L. Frantz, Mr. Mathias Green, Jr., Mrs. Gale N. Husack, Mr. Robert L. Kern, Jr., Mrs. Donna M. Kulp, Mrs. Natalie Snyder, and Mrs. Angela Williams (9)

Members absent: (0)

Non-members present: Dr. Matthew Link, Mr. Eric Hill, Mrs. Sherri Molitoris, Atty. Atty. Kristine Roddick, and Mr. James Schnyderite.

VISITORS

Approximately 2 visitors attended the meeting, and fifty-one visitors viewed the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Dr. Link stated that no visitors signed up this evening for public comment.

APPROVE MINUTES

Mr. Fedorcha made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Christman that the minutes of the regular school board meeting held on May 30, 2024 be approved and ordered filed.

YEA: Mr. Christman, Mr. Fedorcha, Mrs. Frantz, Mrs. Husack, Mr. Kern, Mrs. Kulp, Mrs. Snyder, Mrs. Williams, and Mr. Green (9)

NAY: None (0)

ADOPTION OF GENERAL FUND FINAL BUDGET FOR 2024-2025

Dr. Link and Mrs. Molitoris gave their presentation on the Final General Fund Budget for the 2024-2025 school. This budget includes additional money for new staff, one-time purchase of equipment, and increased budget amounts for various district programs. including theater, music, and district department budgets.

Mr. Christmas asked to see the budget slide from a prior budget presentation related to ESSER funded positions that administration is now recommending retaining upon the conclusion of grant funding. Administration is recommending to continue 4 positions and the total cost for those positions in the 2024-2025 school district budget including benefits is \$474,200. Dr. Link stated that retaining these positions is absolutely critical to the work the district is doing to support students and staff.

Mr. Fedorcha commented that he understands, through conversations with Dr. Link, these positions are needed to continue to achieve student growth however, in the future he would caution the Board from using grant money to support positions that the district

may have to keep upon the conclusion of the funding which then become a district taxpayer expense.

Mr. Christman stated he is in agreement with 95% of the items listed as being added to the budget however. His recommendation would be to eliminate the administrative position being added into the budget.

Mr. Kern made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Frantz that the Board of Education adopts the general fund final budget of the Northern Lehigh School District for the 2024-2025 school year in the amount of \$40,324,052.00.

YEA: Mr. Fedorcha, Mrs. Frantz, Mrs. Husack, Mr. Kern, Mrs. Kulp, Mrs. Snyder, Mrs. Williams, and Mr. Green (8)

NAY: Mr. Christman (1)

Motion Carried.

**0% TAX
INCREASE**

Mr. Christman made a motion which was seconded by Mrs. Snyder that the Board of Education approve a 0% tax increase for the 2024-2025 school year.

Mr. Christman stated he believes the district is in a financial position to be able to approve a 0% tax increase which will help the district's taxpayers.

YEAH: Mr. Christman, Mrs. Kulp, Mrs. Snyder, and Mrs. Williams (4)

NAY: Mr. Fedorcha, Mrs. Frantz, Mrs. Husack, Mr. Kern, and Mr. Green (5)

Motion Defeated.

**2% TAX
INCREASE**

Mr. Fedorcha made a motion which was seconded by Mr. Kern that the Board of Education approve a 2% tax increase for the 2024-2025 school year.

Real estate tax rate on taxable real estate in the school district:

Lehigh County millage rate of 25.3731 (\$2.53731 per \$100 Assessed Valuation (100% MV) Northampton County millage rate of 75.6628 (\$7.56628 per \$100 Assessed Valuation (50% MV).

YEAH: Mr. Fedorcha, Mrs. Frantz, Mrs. Husack, Mr. Kern, Mrs. Kulp, Mrs. Snyder, and Mr. Green (7)

NAY: Mr. Christman and Mrs. Williams (2)

Motion Carried.

**ADDL TAX
MOTIONS
AND
HOMESTEAD/
FARMSTEAD
RESOLUTION**

Mrs. Kulp made a motion which was seconded by Mr. Fedorcha that the Board of Education approve the following additional tax motions and Homestead/Farmstead resolution for the 2024-2025 school year.

A \$5.00 Resident Per Capita Tax, taxable on 18 year olds and over based on Section 679 of the School Code of 1949. No change from 2022-2023.

Taxes under Act 511 with no changes from 2022-2023:

A 1% Earned Income Tax shared equally with coterminous municipalities.
A Realty Transfer Tax shared equally with the coterminous municipalities.
A \$5.00 Resident Per Capita Tax taxable on residents age 18 and over.
A \$5.00 Local Service Tax (formerly Emergency and Municipal Services Tax)

Approve the following 2024-2025 Homestead/Farmstead Resolution, as presented.

YEA: Mr. Christman, Mr. Fedorcha, Mrs. Frantz, Mrs. Husack, Mr. Kern, Mrs. Kulp, Mrs. Snyder, Mrs. Williams, and Mr. Green (9)

NAY: None (0)

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

Retirement S. Green With regret, accept the retirement resignation of Shawn Green from his position as the Peters and Slatington Elementary Schools librarian, effective July 1, 2024. Mr. Green will be retiring from the Northern Lehigh School District after 24 years of service.

Resignation M. Wynne Accept the resignation of Michelle Wynne from her position as a Special Education Teacher at Slatington Elementary School effective June 14, 2024.

E. Hannon Accept the resignation of Elizabeth Hannon from her position as a High School Social Studies Teacher effective June 17, 2024.

A. Reinert Accept the resignation of Allyson Reinert from her position as a district-wide Licensed Practical Nurse effective June 20, 2024.

Admin Transfer Instructional G. Dieter	Gregory Dieter Assignment: Salary: Effective:	Professional Employee Life Skills Support High School No Change in Salary August 20, 2024
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Admin Transfer Support Staff I. Duran	Ingrid Duran From: To: Salary: Effective:	Special Education Instructional Paraprofessional ELDP Instructional Paraprofessional No Change In Salary August 20, 2024
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Appointment Instructional Madeline Henderson	Madeline Henderson* Assignment: Salary: Effective: *Pending Verification of Missing Personnel File Items	Professional Employee Slatington Elementary Reading Specialist \$65,375 (Step 3M 2024-2025 CBA Salary Schedule) August 20, 2024
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Kimberly Phillips	Kimberly Phillips* Assignment: Salary: Effective: *Pending Verification of Missing Personnel File Items	Professional Employee Emotional Support High School \$68,875 (Step 8M+ 2024-2025 CBA Salary Schedule) August 20, 2024
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KinderQuest Program Positions – Funding through ESSER III Grant Motion to approve to employ the following individuals to the listed position for the summer KinderQuest Program:

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Rate</u>
	Ingrid Duran	Paraprofessional	Hourly Rate

Co-Curricular Volunteers 2024-2025	David Carroll Randy Utsch	Summer Band Programs Summer Band Programs
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Marching Band Camp Advisor
D. Carroll

Approve a stipend in the amount of \$1,000 for David Carroll for one week of marching band camp in August 2024 in the absence of the new band director. Funding will be through ESSER III.

Appoint Personnel

Approve the Superintendent to appoint qualified personnel to vacant positions during the period of time from June 11, 2024 through the next regularly scheduled board Meeting.

YEA: Mr. Christman, Mr. Fedorcha, Mrs. Frantz, Mrs. Husack, Mr. Kern, Mrs. Kulp, Mrs. Snyder, Mrs. Williams, and Mr. Green (9)
 NAY: None (0)

**CURRIC-
ULUM AND
INSTRUC-
TION**

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

TSI Plan

Approve the Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) Plan for the 2024-2025 school year for Northern Lehigh High School, as presented.

YEA: Mr. Christman, Mr. Fedorcha, Mrs. Frantz, Mrs. Husack, Mr. Kern, Mrs. Kulp, Mrs. Snyder, Mrs. Williams, and Mr. Green (9)
 NAY: None (0)

FINANCIAL

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

Computer Lease
American Capital

Upon final approval of the 2024-2025 Budget, approve a lease from American Capital, 2015 Ogden Avenue, Suite 400, Lisle, IL 60532 for \$50,000 per year with a lease term of 36 months and a one (\$1) dollar buyout option at the end of the lease agreement. The lease will be used to purchase chromebooks and projectors.

Cafeteria Equipment Purchase

Upon final approval of the 2024-2025 Budget, approve to purchase cafeteria equipment through the use of General Fund Fund Balance. Equipment will consist of one NLHS dishwasher w/Installation at a cost not to exceed \$77,000, one PES dishwasher w/Installation at a cost not to exceed \$64,000, and one NLMS Steamer w/Installation not to exceed \$24,000.

Johnson Controls Fire Alarm Monitoring And Inspection

Per the recommendation of administration, approve the contracts with Johnson Controls for fire monitoring protection at a cost of \$2,275 effective July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2029 and the fire alarm inspection at a cost of \$11,658 effective July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027 and increasing to \$12,178 from July 1, 2027 through June 30, 2029.

YEA: Mr. Christman, Mr. Fedorcha, Mrs. Frantz, Mrs. Husack, Mr. Kern, Mrs. Kulp, Mrs. Snyder, Mrs. Williams, and Mr. Green (9)
 NAY: None (0)

**ADJOURN-
MENT**

Mrs. Kulp made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Fedorcha, that the special meeting of the Northern Lehigh School District Board of School Directors is adjourned at 6:02 p.m.

YEA: Mr. Christman, Mr. Fedorcha, Mrs. Frantz, Mrs. Husack, Mr. Kern, Mrs. Kulp, Mrs. Snyder, Mrs. Williams, and Mr. Green (9)

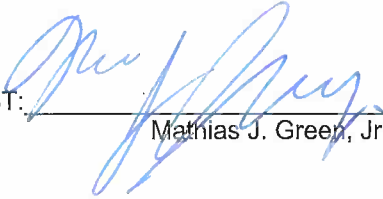
NAY: None (0)

Respectfully submitted,



Gale N. Husack
Secretary

ATTEST:



President

Mathias J. Green, Jr.

