

NORTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
Regular Meeting
Board Minutes
Slatington, PA
September 9, 2024

To access the full audio/video recording of this meeting, visit NLSD.org, click on the District Office tab, then the School Board tab, and then the Agenda and Minutes tab.

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, at 7:10 p.m. on Monday, September 9, 2024, in the Administration Office Board Room.

ROLL CALL Members present: Mrs. Gale N. Husack, Mrs. Natalie Snyder, Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha, Mrs. Rhonda L. Frantz, Mr. Mathias Green, Jr., Mr. Robert L. Kern, Jr., Mrs. Donna M. Kulp, and Mrs. Angela Williams (8)

Members absent: (1) Mr. Chad Christman

Non-members present: Dr. Matthew Link, Dr. Tania Stoker, Mrs. Nichole Fink, Officer David Jones, Atty. Kristine Roddick, Dr. Lori Bali, Mr. David Hauser, Mr. Bryan Geist, Mr. Todd Briener, Mrs. Michele Dotta, Mr. Scott Pyne, Mr. James Schnyderite, Mr. Michael Strohl, Mr. Eric Hill, Mr. Christopher Mann, Miss Jalah Cook and Miss Olivia Schaffer.

VISITORS Approximately nine visitors attended the meeting, and one hundred nine visitors viewed the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT Dr. Link stated that two visitors signed up this evening for public comment.

APPROVE Mrs. Williams made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Fedorcha that the **MINUTES** of the regular school board meeting held on August 12, 2024 be approved and ordered filed.

YEA: Mrs. Gale N. Husack, Mrs. Natalie Snyder, Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha, Mrs. Rhonda L. Frantz, Mr. Mathias Green, Jr., Mr. Robert L. Kern, Jr., Mrs. Donna M. Kulp, and Mrs. Angela Williams (8)

NAY: None (0)

SPECIAL Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit – Mrs. Husack reported the IU held opening day at Parkland and Northern Lehigh, the new school year theme "Beyond All Limits," and the graduation of 32 students.

BOARD REPORTS

Lehigh Career and Technical Institute – Mr. Fedorcha stated LCTI approved a new Principal, Mr. Michael Strohl. Mr. Fedorcha is sad to see Mr. Strohl leave NLSD, however is grateful he will be moving to LCTI.

Legislative Report – No Report

Lehigh Carbon Community College – Mr. Green reported that Ann Bieber from the community college was chosen to serve on a statewide committee for reorganizing the skill of the schools. Mr. Green praised Bieber's appointment and looks forward to her input on the reorganization.

Committee Reports and/or Meetings

- ☐ Minutes of the Technology Committee Meeting held on September 3, 2024, were distributed.
- ☐ Minutes of the Buildings & Grounds Committee Meeting held on September 3, were distributed.
- ☐ Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on September 3, 2024, 2024, were distributed.
- ☐ Minutes of the Education Committee Meeting held on September 3, 2024, 2024 were distributed.
- ☐ Minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting held on September 3, were distributed.
- ☐ Minutes of the Community Relations Committee Meeting held on September 3, 2024, were distributed.

Student Report: Dr. Link introduced the Student representatives for the 2024-2025 school year. Senior Jalah Cook and Junior Olivia Schaffer.

Jalah Cook presented: The First Day of School was on August 26, with class meetings and assemblies to introduce new policies and systems. Lunch and Learn was introduced, with modified versions in the first three days and full implementation since.

Various student achievements and events are highlighted, including a Skills USA competition and a CFES meeting.

Olivia Schaffer presented: Spirit days are announced to kick off homecoming festivities, with specific themes for each day.

Sports updates are provided for boys and girls soccer, field hockey, football, and cross country.

Various special nights for each sport are mentioned, including senior nights and family night.

Assistant Superintendent's Report – Dr. Stoker presented the status of the remaining ESSER grant detailing expenditures for various programs and initiatives. Dr. Stoker details the events of New Teacher Week, including orientation for new teachers and IU participants.

The IU hosted state induction programs, with various activities and presentations. In-Service Week covered a variety of topics, including safety trainings, curriculum development, and positive behavior interventions.

[The first day of school is highlighted, with pictures and descriptions of activities at different schools](#)

Superintendent's Report – Dr. Link Introduced ELA and Land Tech to discuss the Baseball and Softball Complex Renovations.

Business Manager's Report - No Report

Mr. Green commented that an executive session was held at 6:00 p.m. in the Administration Office Conference Room to discuss legal/personnel issues.

**PUBLIC
COMMENT**

Dr. Jennifer Wentz, expresses concerns about the rehiring of the softball coach due to perceived discrimination against her daughter. Dr. Wentz details specific incidents where her daughter was not given playing time despite attending practices and games. She encourages the board to investigate further and questions the coach's ability to connect with the girls. Dr. Wentz emphasizes the need for the board to address her concerns and ensure fair treatment for all students.

**PERSON-
NEL**

Mr. Fedorcha requests Item G be removed from the agenda and tabled. Mr. Fedorcha made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Snyder, that the Board of Education approves the following personnel items all except Item G. Removed Dan Caruso, Head Softball Coach from the agenda.

Resignation-Retirement

With regret, accept the retirement resignation of Keith Utsch from his position as Maintenance staff employee, effective the end of the work day on or about March 11, 2025. the Northern Lehigh School District after 42 years of service.

Accept the resignation of Shawn Parisi from his position as second shift Maintenance staff employee, effective at the end of the day on September 7, 2024.

Accept the resignation of Michael Strohl from his position as assistant secondary principal, effective the end of the work day on Monday, October 28, 2024.

Accept the resignation of Skye March from her position as a special education paraprofessional employee at the high school, effective August 22, 2024.

Accept the resignation of Carl Silverstien as substitute guest teacher effective August 29, 2024.

Appointment - Non-Instructional

Alicia Deppe* **

Assignment: Cook's Helper High School
Salary: \$14.50/hour/5.5 hours per day
Effective: August 26, 2024

***Pending missing personnel file items**
****60 Working Day Probationary Period**

Kyley Weiner* **

Assignment: Cook's Helper Peters Elementary
Salary: \$14.50/hour/5 hours per day
Effective: August 26, 2024

***Pending missing personnel file items**
****60 Working Day Probationary Period**

Wesley Delans

Assignment: Special Education Paraprofessional Slatington
Elementary
Salary: \$16.39/hour 5.75 hours per day
Effective: August 26, 2024

***Pending missing personnel file items**
****60 Working Day Probationary Period**

Ashley Marlatt

Assignment: District-wide Licensed Practical Nurse
Salary: \$26.18/hour (4 days per week 7.25 hours per day)
Effective: September 3, 2024

***Pending missing personnel file items**
****60 Working Day Probationary Period**

Raysa Gonzalez

Assignment: Special Education Paraprofessional Slatington
Elementary
Salary: \$16.39/hour 5.75 hours per day
Effective: September 9, 2024

***Pending missing personnel file items**
****60 Working Day Probationary Period**

Kameryn Smith

Assignment: Special Education Paraprofessional Peters Elementary
Salary: \$16.39/hour 5.75 hours per day
Effective: September 10, 2024

***Pending missing personnel file items**
****60 Working Day Probationary Period**

Co-Curricular Rescind Appointment

Rescind the appointment of Skye March as Junior Class Advisor for the 2024-2025 school year approved on August 12, 2024 board agenda.

Rescind the appointment of Jason Graver as Middle School Jr. National Honor Society Advisor - Shared Stipend for the 2024-2025 school year approved on August 12, 2024 board agenda.

Co-Curricular Status Change 2024-2025

Blasia Dunham From: MS Jr. Nat'l Honor Society Advisor-Shared	\$379.00
To: MS Jr. Nat'l Honor Society Advisor	\$758.00

Renew Co-Curricular Appointment 2024-2025

Shelby Bailey	Middle School Co-Ed Soccer Coach	\$3,137.00
Robert Fahler Jr	Spring Intramural Boy's Basketball High School	\$1,010.00
Lisa Fisher	Junior Class Advisor	\$909.00
Scott Gerould	Assistant Track Coach	\$3,469.00
Rajeev Gupta	Middle School Track Coach	\$1,569.00
Dylan Hofmann	Assistant Track Coach	\$3,469.00
Gerald Kresge	Head Baseball Coach	\$5,664.00
Brian Landis	Assistant Baseball Coach (Shared Stipend)	\$1,734.50
Mike Lehtonen	Head Track Coach	\$5,664.00
Derek Long	Assistant Track Coach	\$3,469.00
John Potynski	Assistant Baseball Coach (Shared Stipend)	\$1,734.50
Joe Tout	Spring Intramural High School	\$1,010.00
Steve Turoscy	Assistant Baseball Coach (Shared Stipend)	\$1,734.50
Jake Waylen	Assistant Track Coach	\$3,469.00
Zachary Williams	MS Intramural Spring Net Sports	\$1,010.00

Co-Curricular Volunteers 2024-2025

Derek Remaley	Assistant Football Coach
Alexandra Powell-Rentschler	Assistant MS Soccer Coach
Heidi Eckhart	Assistant Band Advisor
Amanda Lindenmoyer	Assistant Band Advisor
Andrea Rudolph	Assistant Band Advisor
Erica Szwast	Assistant Band Advisor
Derek Minnich	Assistant Band Advisor
Megin German	Assistant Band Advisor
Earl Fenstermaker Jr	Assistant Band Advisor
Ann Vas Dias	Assistant Band Advisor

Krise Transportation, Inc. 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 2024-2025 school year:

Joshua Sebelin	Alexander Kowar	Mercedes Fitzgerald
----------------	-----------------	---------------------

Salary Adjustments

Acknowledge the following teacher who has completed the requirements per the Collective Bargaining Agreement that would entitle them to a salary increase for the 2024-2025 school year:

Allison Chruscial
From: Step 16 Masters

To: Step 16 Masters+24

Derrick Reinert

From: Step 6 Bachelors

To: Step 6 Bachelors+24

Game Workers 2024-2025

Motion to appoint the following individuals as a Game Worker for the 2024-2025 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 2024-2025 Supplemental Personnel Salary Schedule:

Emma Thomson

MaryJo King

Department Leaders 2024-2025

Motion to approve the following Department Leaders for the 2024-2025 school year:

Susan Beil	Special Education - District Wide	\$1,800.00
Allison Chruscial	Student Services - District Wide	\$1,800.00
Christopher Bennett	Business and Technology - District Wide	\$1,800.00
Stephen Shuey	Fine Arts - District Wide	\$1,800.00
Jennifer Butz	Health/Physical Education/Family & Consumer Science - District Wide	\$1,800.00
Blasia Dunham	Assessment and Data - District Wide	\$1,800.00
Susanne Hegedus	ELA/Social Studies - Elementary	\$1,800.00
Amanda Beer	ELA/Social Studies - Elementary	\$1,800.00
Jamie Bigley	Mathematics/Science - Elementary	\$1,800.00
Elissa Fry	Mathematics/Science - Elementary	\$1,800.00
Krystle Willing-Tiedeman	ELA - Secondary	\$1,800.00
Amanda Bariana	Mathematics - Secondary	\$1,800.00
Gabryella Wilder	Science - Secondary	\$1,800.00
Nick Sander	Social Studies - Secondary	\$1,800.00

Clerical/Classroom Volunteers

Approve the following unpaid volunteer district-wide for the 2024-2025 school year.

Magaret Blose

Sharon Karpiszin

Janey McKelvey

Substitute - Non-Instructional

Motion to appoint the following individuals as substitute workers for the 2024-2025 school year at the 2024-2025 substitute rate as approved on the Supplemental Personnel Salary Schedule:

Shawn Green - Secretary & Cafeteria

Substitute - Instructional

Motion to renew the appointment of the following individuals as substitute teachers for the 2024-2025 school year at the 2024-2025 substitute rate as approved on the Supplemental Personnel Salary Schedule:

Rick Guth - Social Studies
 Martin Koeller - Guest Teacher
 Darla Stewart - Guest Teacher

Approve the Superintendent to appoint qualified personnel to vacant positions during the period of time from September 9, 2024 through the next regularly scheduled board Meeting.

YEA: Mrs. Gale N. Husack, Mrs. Natalie Snyder, Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha, Mrs. Rhonda L. Frantz, Mr. Mathias Green, Jr., Mr. Robert L. Kern, Jr., Mrs. Donna M. Kulp, and Mrs. Angela Williams (8)

NAY: None (0)

Dr. Link took a moment to thank and recognize Keith Utsch for his extensive years of service to NLSD. He also recognized Mr. Strohl for being hired as LCTI and how he will be missed at NLSD.

Mrs. Kulp praised the Board and the High School for the creation of the German Club

POLICY

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

Board Policy First Reading

Approve school board policy #714 - Naming Rights, as presented after the first reading. ([Attachment #7](#))

Approve school board policy #803 - School Calendar, as presented after the first reading. ([Attachment #8](#))

Board Policy Second Reading

Approve school board policy #334.1 - Benevolence Sick Leave Bank - Employees, as presented after the second reading. ([Attachment #9](#))

Approve school board policy #618 - Special Purpose Funds - Finances, as presented after the second reading. ([Attachment #10](#))

German Club Final Application

Approve the final club/activity application for the German Club. The Northern Lehigh Education Association recommended stipend for the advisor of this club, Nick Sander, is \$600.00 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. ([Attachment #11](#))

YEA: Mrs. Gale N. Husack, Mrs. Natalie Snyder, Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha, Mrs. Rhonda L. Frantz, Mr. Mathias Green, Jr., Mr. Robert L. Kern, Jr., Mrs. Donna M. Kulp, and Mrs. Angela Williams (8)

NAY: None (0)

CONFER- ENCES

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

Nichole Fink - Orientation to School Food Services Fall 2024 - Sponsored by PennState - October 9-10, 2024 - PaTTAN Harrisburg, PA - Registration: \$0 - Travel: \$206.36 - Lodging: \$0 - Meals: \$0 - Other: \$0 - Total Approximate Cost: \$206.36 - Funding: Food Service Budget. ([Attachment #12](#))

Jamie Farber - Fall Child Accounting Conference - Attendance/Child Accounting Professional Association (ACAPA) Fall Conference - November 6-8, 2024 - Hershey, PA - Registration: \$370 - Travel: \$101.84 - Lodging: \$606.50 - Meals: \$120 - Other: \$0 - Total Approximate Cost: \$1,198.34 - Funding: Assistant Superintendent's Professional Development Budget. ([Attachment #13](#))

Manuel Gonzalez - American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) - November 22-24, 2024 - Philadelphia, PA - Registration: \$415 -

Travel: \$67 - Lodging: \$600 - Meals: \$0 - Other: \$120 - Total Approximate Cost: \$1,202 - Funding: Title III Budget. ([Attachment #14](#))

Tania Stoker - EF Tours Global Leadership Development Program - Panama - October 10-14, 2024 - Amend original conference approval from May 2024 to include lodging for one night at an additional cost of approximately \$55 - Funding: Assistant Superintendent's Professional Development Budget.

YEA: Mrs. Gale N. Husack, Mrs. Natalie Snyder, Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha, Mrs. Rhonda L. Frantz, Mr. Mathias Green, Jr., Mr. Robert L. Kern, Jr., Mrs. Donna M. Kulp, and Mrs. Angela Williams (8)
NAY: None (0)

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

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

Approve to authorize the Superintendent and High School Principal to execute a letter of agreement for the 2024-2025 academic year with the Center for Humanistic Change, Inc. to provide Student Assistance Program (SAP) Liaison services. The Student Assistance Teams in our school district will use these services. ([Attachment#15](#))

Approve to allow administration to continue membership in the Lehigh University School Study Council at a fee of \$1,500.00 for the 2024-2025 school year, to be paid from the Superintendent's budget.

Approve administration to enter into an agreement with Apple Tree Educational Associates, LLC to provide bilingual school psychologist services to assist the Special Education Department, per the attached agreement to be funded through the Special Education Department. ([Attachment #16](#))

Approve the final agreement with CLIU #21 for Title II Non-Public Administration and Services for the 2024-2025 school year in the amount of \$5,050 to be funded through Federal Programs (Title II) funds. ([Attachment #17](#))

Approve the final agreement with CLIU #21 for Title IV Non-Public Administration and Services for the 2024-2025 school year in the amount of \$716 to be funded through Federal Programs (Title IV) funds. ([Attachment #18](#))

Approve the final agreement with CLIU #21 for Title I Non-Public Services for the 2024-2025 school year in the amount of \$2,698 to be funded through Federal Programs (Title I) funds. ([Attachment #19](#))

YEA: Mrs. Gale N. Husack, Mrs. Natalie Snyder, Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha, Mrs. Rhonda L. Frantz, Mr. Mathias Green, Jr., Mr. Robert L. Kern, Jr., Mrs. Donna M. Kulp, and Mrs. Angela Williams (8)
NAY: None (0)

OLD - BUSINESS:

No old business to report

Public: Comment :

Mrs. Frank took a moment to introduce herself as the President of the Northern Lehigh Education Association. She shared a few stories and expressed how excited she is to work with the board to and represent NLEA.

NEW - BUSINESS:

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

Approve a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Northern Lehigh Education Association for Personal Days, as attached. ([Attachment #20](#))

Approve to authorize administration to execute the Pixellot Extension Addendum effective August 1, 2024 through July 31, 2029 at no cost to the district. ([Attachment #21](#))

Approve to designate and authorize the following to sign summary offense notices for district students for the 2024-2025 school year, after consultation with the superintendent:

Chief David Jones – Safety and Security Coordinator/School Police Chief
SPO Mark Nicosia – School Police Officer
SPO Mark Thomas – School Police Officer
SPO Scott Prebosnyak – School Police Officer
Mr. James Schnyderite – Peters Elementary School Principal
Mr. Todd Breiner – Slatington Elementary School Principal
Mr. David Hauser – Middle School Principal
Dr. Lori Bali – High School Principal
Mr. Michael Strohl – High School & Middle School Assistant Principal

YEA: Mrs. Gale N. Husack, Mrs. Natalie Snyder, Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha, Mrs. Rhonda L. Frantz, Mr. Mathias Green, Jr., Mr. Robert L. Kern, Jr., Mrs. Donna M. Kulp, and Mrs. Angela Williams (8)

NAY: None (0)

FINANCIAL

Mrs. Frantz made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Williams, that the Board of Education approve the following Financial Items:

Approve the Following [Financial Reports](#):

1. NLSD Investments for the month of August, 2024. (Unaudited)
2. General Fund Account months of August, 2024 (Unaudited)
3. Cafeteria Fund Account months of August, 2024 (Unaudited)
4. NLHS Student Activities/Clubs Account month of August, 2024 (Unaudited)
5. NLMS Student Activities/Clubs Account month of July and August, 2024. (Unaudited)

Approve the Following List of [Bills](#):

1. General Fund months of August & September, 2024
2. Cafeteria Fund months of August & September, 2024
3. Capital Construction months of August & September, 2024

Approve abatement/exoneration requests of per capita taxes, for the residents that fall within the guidelines, as presented. ([Attachment #22](#))

Per the recommendation of administration and the building and grounds committee, authorize administration to purchase two nine passenger vans at a cost not to exceed \$118,000.00 total. ([Attachment #23](#))

Per the recommendation of administration and the building and grounds committee, authorize administration to purchase High School Auditorium Rigging, with installation, at a cost not to exceed \$200,000.00. ([Attachment #24](#))

Approve pest control services at Peters Elementary School at a cost of \$9,848.00. ([Attachment #25](#))

Per the recommendation of administration and the building and grounds committee, approve the change order for the baseball and softball complex renovation to include softball outfield underdrain alternate, flagpole installation, and complete renovation of the softball outfield including regrading, sodding of softball and baseball outfields, and relocation of each field's scoreboard at an additional cost of \$218,855.95. ([Attachment #26](#))

Approve the 2024-2025 Northern Lehigh School District Salary Schedule as presented.
[\(Attachment #27\)](#)

YEA: Mrs. Gale N. Husack, Mrs. Natalie Snyder, Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha, Mrs. Rhonda L. Frantz, Mr. Mathias Green, Jr., Mr. Robert L. Kern, Jr., Mrs. Donna M. Kulp, and Mrs. Angela Williams (8)
NAY: None (0)

LEGAL Mr. Fedorcha made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Kern, that the Board of Education approve the following Legal Item:

Approve the settlement agreement for student #3190232.

**CORR-
ESPON-
DENCE** No correspondences to report.

**INFORM-
ATION** Minutes of the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit 21 Board of Directors meetings held on July 15, 2024 were distributed

Minutes of the Lehigh Carbon Community College Board of Trustees meetings held on July 11, 2024 were distributed.

Minutes of the Lehigh Career & Technical Institute Joint Operating Committee meeting held on June 26, 2024 were distributed.

Mr. Green recognized Trisha Trescot for being voted into the Lehigh Valley Softball. Mr. Green also reflected on the district's innovative initiatives, such as full-day kindergarten and class combination, and praised the Lunch and Learn program.

**ADJOURN-
MENT** Mrs. Husack made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Kulp, that the regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh School District Board of School Directors to adjourn at 7:56 p.m.

YEA: Mrs. Gale N. Husack, Mrs. Natalie Snyder, Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha, Mrs. Rhonda L. Frantz, Mr. Mathias Green, Jr., Mr. Robert L. Kern, Jr., Mrs. Donna M. Kulp, and Mrs. Angela Williams (8)
NAY: Nonr (0)

Respectfully submitted,

Gale N. Husack
Secretary

ATTEST: _____ President
Mathias J. Green, Jr.