

NORTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Regular Meeting Board Minutes

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Slatington, PA
November 11, 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 7:00 p.m. on Monday, October 14, 2024, in the Northern Lehigh Administration Building Board Room..

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

Members absent: Mrs. Rhonda Frantz (1)

Non-members present: Dr. Matthew Link, Ms. Jalah Cook, Ms. Olivia Schaffer, Dr. Lori Bali, Mr. Christopher Mann, Mrs. Michele Dotta, Mr. David Jones, Mr. David Hauser, Mr. Bryan Geist, Mr. Eric Hill, Mrs. Sherri Molitoris, Mr. James Schnyderite, Ms. Nichole Fink, Dr. Tania Stoker, Mr. Michael Strohl, Atty.Kristine Rodderick , Mr. Terry Ahner (Press) and BRCTV (Press).

VISITORS Approximately 2 visitors attended the meeting and seventy-four visitors viewed the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT Dr. Link commented that no one signed up for any public comments this evening.

APPROVE MINUTES Mr.Fedorcha made a motion, which was seconded by Mr.Christman that the minutes of the regular board meeting held on October 14, 2024, be approved and ordered filed.

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

NAY: None (0)
Motion carried.

SPECIAL BOARD REPORTS

Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit - Mrs. Husack provides an update from the CLIU, mentioning the Children's Foundation Christmas baskets, including basket auctions and the importance of supporting families during the holiday season. Mrs. Husack details the services provided by the IU, including three learning achievement schools and counseling services, and mentions the adoption of a cow named Matilda to help students learn about farming. Mrs. Husack highlights various programs and services offered by the IU, such as C & I programs, leadership and planning, school improvement supports, and professional learning opportunities. Mrs. Husack mentions the IU's STEM lending library, which provides free access to technology like 3D printers for classroom activities.

Lehigh Career & Technical Institute - Mr. Fedorcha announces the upcoming LCTI open house and thanks Dr. Link for attending a board meeting and being invited to the national convention.

Legislative Report - Mrs. Snyder updates the board on recent legislative updates, including the signing of laws related to diabetes education, tick protocol in schools, direct deposit for workers' comp payments, and structured literacy programs.

Lehigh Carbon Community College - Mr. Green provides an update on the Lehigh COVID Community

**SPECIAL
BOARD
REPORTS**

College budget, noting that the cumulative share will stay the same, with potential changes based on student numbers.

Committee Reports and/or Meetings

- Minutes of the Education Committee Meeting held on November 4, 2024, were distributed.
- Minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting held on November 4, 2024, were distributed.
- Minutes of the Technology/Buildings & Grounds Committee Meeting held on November 4,, 2024, were distributed.
- Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on November 4, 2024, were distributed.
- Minutes of the Extra & Co-Curricular Committee Meeting held on November 4, 2024, were distributed.

Student Representative's Report - Ms. Jayla Cook discusses upcoming events, including the theater club's play "Clue," the Power Puff game, and various activities and benchmarks for students. Ms. Olivia Schaffer covers sports updates, congratulating Emma Hill on her state championship and highlighting the achievements of fall athletes.

Solicitor's Report - Attorney Roddick commented nothing to report.

Assistant Superintendent's Report - Dr. Stoker presents data on school safety, social emotional learning, and school climate, starting with demographic data showing enrollment trends and racial and ethnic breakdowns. Dr. Stoker discusses the district's economically disadvantaged population, English language learners, special education, and gifted program numbers. Dr. Stoker highlights the district's foster care, homeless, and military-connected families, and mentions the CTC attendance rates. Dr. Stoker explains the Renaissance fundamentals survey, which assesses social, emotional, and mental health, and how it is used to determine programs and services for students.

Elementary and Middle School Data Analysis

Superintendent's Report - Dr. Link discusses the increase in disorderly conduct, including fights and extreme non-compliance, as well as criminal mischief and drug incidents. He explains that vapes are often categorized as tobacco, leading to high numbers in previous years. Dr. Link mentions that the Safe2Say platform has received 20 tips this year, with the highest frequency being smoking-related incidents. Bus patrol data is introduced, showing 39 notifications and 32 citations issued for drivers not following school bus stop sign laws. Dr. Link expresses surprise at the high number of bus patrol citations and mentions reviewing a few with Chief Jones. Mr. Christman inquires about the punishment for bus patrol violations, learning that it is a mandatory \$300 fine. Mr. Green suggests periodic updates on bus patrol citations to track progress and effectiveness. Dr. Link recognizes Veterans Day and thanks veterans for their service. He highlights National School Psychologist Week, praising the work of Mr. Jean Marks and Mr. Sydney Snyder in supporting students and staff. Dr. Link announces the annual board and administration holiday dinner on December 3.

Mr. Christman thanks local fire companies and the community for their support during recent wildfires.

Business Manager's Report - Mrs. Molitoris reported the auditors' numbers are expected by the next few days, with the single audit scheduled for November 25.

Discussion - Dr. Link acknowledges the importance of bus patrol and its role in providing data for safety improvements. Mr. Green emphasizes the need for regular updates on bus patrol to monitor its impact. Dr. Link mentions that infractions occur in all districts, but not all have bus patrol.

Executive Session

Executive session was held this evening at 6:00 p.m.

Public Comment

No one signed up to speak.

PERSONNEL

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

Retirement-Resignation

Accept the resignation of Quiana Caro from her position as Personal Care Assistant at Slatington Elementary School, effective at the end of the day on November 1, 2024.

With regret, accept the retirement resignation of Kellie Bechtel from her position as Maintenance staff employee, effective the end of the work day on or about January 31, 2025. Ms. Bechtel will be retiring from the Northern Lehigh School District after 5 years of service.

Accept the resignation of Ingrid Duran from her position as ESL paraprofessional (K-12), effective at the end of the day on November 22, 2024.

Appointment - Non-Instructional

Sara Krasencis*

Assignment:

Peters Elementary School Cafeteria Monitor

Salary:

\$14.72/hour

Effective:

October 25, 2024

*60 Working Day Probationary Period

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, scorekeepers, and box truck driver. Rate of pay is consistent with the rates approved on the 2024-2025 Supplemental Personnel Salary Schedule:

Keith Utsch - Box Truck Driver

Wilbert Scott - Game Worker

Substitutes - Instructional

Motion to appoint the following individual as a substitute teachers for the 2024-2025 school year at the 2024-2025 substitute rate as approved on the Supplemental Personnel

Salary Schedule:

John Ilgenfritz - Guest Teacher

Substitute - Non-Instructional

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

Kay O'Donnell
Brenda Hahn

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

Kevin Hoffman

Classroom Volunteers

Approve the following unpaid volunteers for the 2024-2025 school year.

Katja Bender
Rebekah Heeres
Robin Yurgartis
Sarah Wasnieski
Amanda Kromer
Holly Kearns
Megan Schoenauer
Alexa Vreeland
Samantha Stephen
Sherry Miller
Starlet Tarano
Corinne Hoffman
Pamela Roth
Noel Powell

Co-Curricular Appointments 2024-2025

Jason Reinhard	Assistant Girls Softball Coach	\$3,469.00
Earl Fenstermaker	Assistant Girls Softball Coach	\$3,469.00

Co-Curricular Volunteer 2024-2025

Justin Herzog	Assistant Wrestling Coach
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Krise Transportation Bus Drivers and Aides

Motion to approve the following bus drivers and aides from Krise Transportation to transport Northern Lehigh School District students for the 2024-2025 school year:

Michelle Smith
Dorothy Nierer

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

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

NAY: None (0)
Motion carried.

POLICY

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

Board
Policy
Second

Approve school board policy # 200 - Enrollment in District,
Approve school board policy # 202 - Attendance of Nonresident Students, after the first
Approve school board policy # 217 - Graduation Requirements
Approve school board policy # 254 - Educational Opportunity for Military Children-NEW
Approve school board policy # 810 - Transportation
Approve school board policy # 903 - Public Participation in Board Meetings
Approve school board policy # 807 - Opening Exercises/Flag Displays
Approve school board policy # 805 - Emergency Preparedness and Response
Approve school board policy # 805.1 Relations With Law Enforcement Agencies
Approve school board policy # 805.2 School Security Personnel
Approve school board policy # 909 Municipal Government Relation
Approve school board policy # 826 HIPPA Compliance

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

NAY: None (0)
Motion carried.

CONFER- ENCES

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

- | | |
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| S. Molitoris | Sherri Molitoris - 70th Annual PASBO Conference - March 11 - 14, 2025 - Hershey Lodge - Hershey, PA - Registration: \$349, Lodging: \$656, Travel: \$98.25, Meals \$180 - Total Approximate Cost: \$1,283.25 - Funding: Business and Human Resources Professional Development Budgets |
| S. Hegedus. | Susanne Hegedus - 2024 Innovate and Integrate: MTSS & PBIS Advanced Implementation Forum - November 13-14, 2024 - Hershey Lodge - Hershey, PA - Registration: \$105, Lodging: \$0, Travel: \$0, Meals \$120 - Total Approximate Cost: \$225 -. Funding: Peters Elementary School Budget |
| J. Bashore | Janet Bashore - 2024 Innovate and Integrate: MTSS & PBIS Advanced Implementation Forum - November 13-14, 2024 - Hershey Lodge - Hershey, PA - Registration: \$105, Lodging: \$192, Travel: \$100.50, Meals: \$0 - Total Approximate Cost: \$517.50 - Funding: Peters Elementary School Budget |
| S. Mengel | Suzanne Mengel - 2024 Innovate and Integrate: MTSS & PBIS Advanced Implementation Forum - 2024 Innovate and Integrate: MTSS & PBIS Advanced Implementation Forum- |

November 14-15 2024- Registration: \$105- Lodging: \$192 Travel: \$0- Meals \$120- Total
Approximate Cost: \$417- Funding: Slatington Elementary School Budget

J. Butz. Pennsylvania Society of Health and Physical Education Conference- November 7-8, 2024
Spooky Nook in Manheim, PA-Registration: \$0, Lodging: \$0, Travel: \$100.98, Meals:\$0 - Total
Approximate Cost: \$100.98 - Funding: Peters Elementary School Budget

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

NAY: None (0)
Motion carried.

**CURRIC-
ULUM AND
INSTRUC-
TION**

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

Approve to authorize administration to execute an amendment to the PA-ETEP Agreement to include
services for all staff for the 2024-2025 school year at a total cost of \$867.00 to be funded out of the
Assistant Superintendent's budget. .

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

NAY: None (0)
Motion carried.

**NEW
BUSINESS**

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

As per the recommendation of the Buildings and Grounds Committee, approve administration to
advertise the Request For Bids for the Northern Lehigh High School Asbestos Flooring Abatement
Project.

Authorize the superintendent to sign the agreement between Northern Lehigh School District and
Intermediate Until 1- Pennsylvania Training & Technical Assistance Network (PaTTAN) Agreement for
the district to provide a paid externship to eligible, master's level students to serve as a
speech-language pathologist extern for the 2024-2025 school year. There is no cost to the district for
this externship

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

NAY: None (0)
Motion carried.

FINANCIAL

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

**Financial
Reports**

Approve the Following Financial Reports:

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

6. NLHS Student Activities/Clubs Account month of October, 2024, 2024 (Unaudited)

List of Bills

Approve the Following List of Bills:

1. General Fund months of October & November, 2024
2. Cafeteria Fund months of October & November, 2024
3. Capital Construction months of October & November, 2024

Abatement/
Exoneration

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

Otter AI

As per the recommendation of the administration, purchase the business edition subscription of Otter.ai for the recording and transcribing of monthly school board meetings at a cost of \$720.00 per year, funded through the school board budget.

Approve the resolution directing Lehigh County Tax Claim Bureau not to collect delinquent taxes on behalf of Northern Lehigh School District as presented.

Approve the resolution directing Northampton County Tax Claim Bureau not to collect delinquent taxes on behalf of Northern Lehigh School District as presented

FINANCIAL**(cont.)**

As per the recommendation from the Buildings and Grounds Committee, approve the purchase of a Scag Cheetah zero turn mower and catcher kit through Whitehall Turf Equipment at a COSTAR approved cost not to exceed \$15,946.00

Approve to pay for PSBA twenty-four hour accident insurance for administrators at a cost of \$26.50 per administrator for 2024, to be paid from the Superintendent's budget

Contract

As per the recommendation of administration and the Building and Grounds Committee, authorize administration to enter into an agreement with BP Energy Retail Company, LLC. for the sale and delivery of electricity at a fixed rate of .05608/kwh for a term of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2027

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

NAY: None (0)
Motion carried.

LEGAL

The legal item was pulled from the agenda and was not voted on.

CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence.

INFORMATION

Minutes of the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit 21 Board of Directors meeting held on September 16, 2024.

Minutes of the Lehigh Carbon Community College Board of Trustees meeting held on September 5, 2024.

Minutes of the Lehigh Career & Technical Institute Joint Operating Committee meeting held on September 25, 2024.

**ADJOURN-
MENT**

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

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

NAY: None (0)
Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Gale Husack
Secretary

ATTEST: _____ President
Mr. Matthias J. Green, Jr.