Lehighton Area School District
1000 Union Street
Lehighton, PA 18235
Monday, December 2, 2024 at 7:00 PM
BOARD REORGANIZATION MEETING - MINUTES

1. Opening Exercises

A. Opening Exercises
Opening Exercises included the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

B. Call to Order
J. Glaush called the Board Reorganization Meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

C. Roll Call
PR/AB

PR	**Ms. Joy Beers**	**PR**	**Mr. Jeremy Glaush**	**PR**	**Ms. Heather Neff**
PR	**Mr. Richard Beltz**	**PR**	**Mr. Sean Gleaves**	**PR**	**Mrs. Kerry Sittler**
PR	**Ms. Barbara Bowes**		**VACANCY**	**PR**	**Ms. April Walker**

Also Present:
Mr. John W. Corby, Acting Superintendent
Mrs. Rebecca Karpowicz, Assistant Board Secretary
Ms. Janine Partenio, Recording Secretary

Fred Kemmerer, Brian Shaner, Kay Barry, Amy Herring, Walter Zlomsowitch, Duane Dellecker, Lory Frey, Michael Coulson, Midge Heiser, Noah Glaush, Dave Krause, Sue Howland, Jarrad Hedes.

D. Notice of the Organization Meeting
Assistant Board Secretary, R. Karpowicz read the following Notice of the Organization Meeting:
"The date of the Lehighton Area School District Reorganization Meeting was advertised in the Times news on December 12, 2023 and on November 27, 2024.

As required by Board Policy 005 and the Public School Code, all members of the Board of the Lehighton Area School District were given five days' notice by mail, by the secretary of the retiring Board, of the time and place of meeting for organization" . . .

Whereas the notice was mailed on Monday, November 25, 2024 that the Reorganization Meeting will be held on/at with a Workshop Meeting to follow:
Monday, December 2, 2024 at 7:00 PM - Lehighton Area School District - Administration Board Room - 1000 Union Street, Lehighton, PA 18235"

E. Public Comment
W. Zlomsowitch expressed concerns regarding the organization's leadership, specifically about the appointment of officers to the Board. He highlighted issues with certain Board Members over the past year and emphasized the importance of carefully considering candidates for the positions of President and Vice President. W. Zlomsowitch referenced past challenges with the current President, as well as a recent incident where J. Beers incorrectly stated that polling the Board over the weekend was legal, which he believed could result in a Sunshine Law violation. He urged the Board to seriously consider their votes for these key roles for the upcoming year.

2. Reorganization

A. Nominations For and Election of a Temporary President
The Board Assistant Secretary, R. Karpowicz was the presiding officer and called for nominations for a Temporary President. She announced that once all nominations had been accepted and the vote was taken, she would turn over the gavel to the Temporary President. She stated that any seated and sworn Board Member may nominate him/herself or any other seated and sworn Board Member for any position. Also, each Member may nominate, at most, one person for a given position. She mentioned once the call for nominations was made there was no need to be recognized and there was no need to obtain a second.

J. Beers nominated J. Glaush as the Temporary President.

K. Sittler nominated B. Bowes as the Temporary President.

MOTION to close nominations by J. Glaush, SECONDED by K. Sittler.

VOTE: YES - 8 NO - 0 ABSENT - 0 ABSTENTIONS - 0

Since there were multiple nominees, a Roll Call Vote was taken where each seated and sworn Board Member casted a vote for the nominee of their choice:

Ms. Heather Neff, Member	J. Glaush
Mrs. Kerry Sittler, Member	B. Bowes
Ms. April Walker, Member	B. Bowes
Ms. Joy Beers, Member	J. Glaush
Mr. Richard R. Beltz, Member	J. Glaush
Ms. Barbara Bowes, Member	J. Glaush
Mr. Sean Gleaves, Member	J. Glaush
Mr. Jeremy Glaush, Member	J. Glaush

J. Glaush - 6 B. Bowes - 2 ABSENT - 0 ABSTENTIONS - 0

J. Glaush was voted as the Temporary President.

B. Nominations For and Election of President
J. Glaush took over the role of presiding officer and presided over the election of the Board President to hold office for the ensuing year. J. Glaush called for nominations.

K. Sittler nominated B. Bowes as the Board President with a term of December 2, 2024 until the Reorganization Meeting in December of 2025.

S. Gleaves nominated J. Beers as the Board President with a term of December 2, 2024 until the Reorganization Meeting in December of 2025.

MOTION to close nominations by H. Neff, SECONDED by K. Sittler.

VOTE: YES - 8 NO - 0 ABSENT - 0 ABSTENTIONS - 0

Since there were multiple nominees, a Roll Call Vote was taken where each seated and sworn Board Member casted a vote for the nominee of their choice:

Ms. Barbara Bowes, Member	B. Bowes
Mr. Sean Gleaves, Member	J. Beers
Ms. Heather Neff, Member	J. Beers
Mrs. Kerry Sittler, Member	B. Bowes
Mr. Jeremy Glaush, Member	J. Beers
Ms. April Walker, Member	B. Bowes
Ms. Joy Beers, Member	J. Beers
Mr. Richard R. Beltz, Member	J. Beers

J. Beers - 5 B. Bowes - 3 ABSENT - 0 ABSTENTIONS - 0

J. Beers was voted as the Board President with a term of December 2, 2024 until the Reorganization Meeting in December of 2025.

C. Nominations For and Election of Vice President
The President, J. Beers, took over the role of presiding officer and oversaw the nomination and election of the Vice President. J. Beers called for nominations for Vice President.

H. Neff nominated R. Beltz as the Board Vice President with a term of December 2, 2024 until the Reorganization Meeting in December of 2025.

K. Sittler nominated B. Bowes as the Board Vice President with a term of December 2, 2024 until the Reorganization Meeting in December of 2025.

MOTION to close nominations by J. Glaush, SECONDED by K. Sittler.

VOTE: YES - 8 NO - 0 ABSENT - 0 ABSTENTIONS - 0

Since there were multiple nominees, a Roll Call Vote was taken where each seated and sworn Board Member casted a vote for the nominee of their choice:

Mr. Richard R. Beltz, Member	R. Beltz
Ms. Barbara Bowes, Member	B. Bowes
Mr. Sean Gleaves, Member	R. Beltz
Ms. Heather Neff, Member	R. Beltz
Mrs. Kerry Sittler, Member	B. Bowes
Mr. Jeremy Glaush, Member	R. Beltz
Ms. April Walker, Member	B. Bowes
Ms. Joy Beers, Member	R. Beltz

R. Beltz - 5 B. Bowes - 3 ABSENT - 0 ABSTENTIONS - 0

R. Beltz was voted as the Board Vice President with a term of December 2, 2024 until the Reorganization Meeting in December of 2025.

D. CCTI JOC Representative Alternate
R. Karpowicz determined that there was a seat open for appointment for the CCTI JOC Alternate. She stated the current appointee was Mr. Sean Gleaves. J. Beers mentioned that H. Neff was the current CCTI Representative and she asked if S. Gleaves would like to remain as the Alternate. He agreed. B. Bowes mentioned that H. Neff was unable to attend some of the meetings and S. Gleaves was unable to attend as well. She wondered if anyone else was interested in the position. J. Glaush nominated S. Gleaves for the position.

MOTION by J. Glaush, SECONDED by K. Sittler, for the appointment of Sean Gleaves as an Alternate Representative for the CCTI JOC for the Term of December 2, 2024 until the Reorganization meeting in December 2025.

VOTE: YES - 6 NO - 2 ABSENT - 0 ABSTENTIONS - 0

B. Bowes and A. Walker Voted No.

E. Advisory Committee Appointments
The following are the current advisory Committees that will need Board Member representation:

Advisory Committees:
Wellness Advisory Council
Title I Advisory Committee
Career & Counseling Advisory Council
Comprehensive Plan Committee

J. Beers noted that committee appointments did not need to be finalized immediately and suggested revisiting the topic in January, giving members a month to consider their involvement. B. Bowes expressed interest in joining the Title I Advisory Committee, as she was now retired and available during the day. J. Corby recommended that members think about their preferred committees and email J. Beers with their choices. J. Glaush pointed out that B. Bowes previously served on the Title I Committee. B. Bowes confirmed but stated she could not attend meetings due to her work schedule. J. Beers requested that B. Bowes email her regarding her interest, and B. Bowes stated she would first contact M. Figura, who currently handled Title I and the Comprehensive Plan, to gather more information first. J. Beers also encouraged anyone else interested in committee positions to email her.

F. Signature Stamp
MOTION by S. Gleaves, SECONDED by A. Walker, to authorize the use of the existing signature stamp until a new one is prepared, if needed.

VOTE: YES - 7 NO - 0 ABSENT - 0 ABSTENTIONS - 1

K. Sittler abstained due to lack of information.

G. Board Meeting/Workshop Meeting Dates for 2025
MOTION by J. Glaush, SECONDED by S. Gleaves, to approve the Board Meeting and Workshop Meeting dates for the 2025 Calendar year.

VOTE: YES - 8 NO - 0 ABSENT - 0 ABSTENTIONS - 0

3. Communications

A. Comments from the Board

K. Sittler inquired about who would run the meeting if both J. Beers and Vice President, R. Beltz, were absent. J. Beers mentioned that, due to her personal situation with Greg's mother now in a nursing home, she planned to be in town more frequently in 2025. J. Glaush suggested that, in the President and Vice President's absence, the Superintendent could ask someone to run the meeting, offering his own experience as a solution. B. Bowes added that the person must be elected by the Board to run the meeting. J. Corby clarified that, in such cases, the responsibility may fall to the Board Secretary. J. Glaush reiterated his willingness to help if needed.

B. Comments from the Superintendent

None at the time

C. Public Comment

None at the time.

D. Adjournment

MOTION by J. Glaush, SECONDED by K. Sittler, to adjourn the Meeting.

VOTE: YES - 8 NO - 0 ABSENT - 0 ABSTENTIONS - 0

The December 2, 2024 Board Reorganization Meeting was adjourned at 7:17 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rebecca Karpowicz, Assistant Board Secretary
By Janine Partenio, Recording Secretary