

NORTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Regular Meeting Board Minutes

Slatington, PA
December 3, 2024

To access the full audio/video recording of this meeting, visit [NLSD.org](https://www.nlstd.org) click on the District Office tab, then the School Board tab, and then the Agenda and Minutes tabs.

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 7:21 p.m. on Monday, December 3, 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. Natalie Snyder, Mr. Chad Christman (7)

Members absent: Mr. Gary Fedorcha and Mrs. Angela Williams (2)

Non-members present: Dr. Tania Stoker, Ms. Jalah Cook, Ms. Olivia Schaffer, Mr. Todd Breiner, Dr. Lori Bali, Mrs. Michele Dotta, Mr. Bryan Geist, Mr. David Jones, Mr. David Hauser, Mr. Eric Hill, Mr. Eugene Marks, Mrs. Sherri Molitoris, Mr. Christopher Mann, Mr. Scott Pyne, Mr. James Schnyderite, Mr. Dan Williams Atty. Kristine Roddick and Mr. Terry Ahner (Press).

VISITORS Approximately 1 visitor attended the meeting

PUBLIC COMMENT Mr. Green commented there is no public comment this evening.

APPROVE MINUTES Mrs. Husack made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Christman that the minutes of the regular board meeting held on November 11, 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. Natalie Snyder, Mr. Chad Christman (7)

NAY: None (0)
Motion carried.

Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit - Mrs. Husack reports on the early intervention program, highlighting its success with 2700 students participating last year. The program is now offered in three locations with 14 classrooms, including a new facility at White Hall Copley. Mrs. Husack discusses the operating budget for the 2025-2026 calendar year, noting a slight change and the streamlining of budget items. The board is informed that the budget process will now focus solely on C & I and Ed technology, with no significant impact on Northern Lehigh's budget.

SPECIAL BOARD

Lehigh Career & Technical Institute - Mr. Fedorcha was absent

Lehigh Carbon Community College - Mr. Green reports on the preliminary budget for Corporate and Community College, noting a slight decrease in the sponsor share.

Legislative Report - Mrs. Snyder commented I have no report tonight.

Student Representative's Report - Ms. Jayla Cook and Ms. Olivia Schaffer provide updates on upcoming student events, including holiday festivities and volunteer opportunities. Ms. Cook mentions the availability of the latest issue of the school newspaper at various locations. Ms. Schaffer highlights upcoming events such as pre-assessment sessions, benchmark testing, and the Ring of Honor ceremony.

Solicitor's Report - An update is provided on an amicus curie brief filed in a case involving the School District of Philadelphia and Esperanza Academy. The court ruled in favor of the district, potentially impacting pending cases involving different charter schools.

Assistant Superintendent's Report - Dr. Stoker announces the annual data presentation scheduled for January 13, inviting the public to attend. Dr. Stoker announces awards for Mr. Scott Pine, Northern Lehigh Middle School, and Northern Lehigh High School for their achievements and contributions.

(cont.)

Business Manager's Report - Mr. Green acknowledges the extensive report from the business manager and thanks her for her efforts.

Superintendent's Report - Dr. Link absent

Executive
Session

Executive session was held this evening at 6:20 p.m. this evening in the administration board . conference room.

PERSONNEL

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

A. Retirement/Resignation

1. Accept the resignation of Leanne Devito from her position as Cook's Helper at Peters Elementary School, effective at the end of the day on November 19, 2024.
2. Accept the resignation of Crystal Schaller from her position as Cook's Helper at Slatington Elementary School, effective at the end of the day on or about December 16, 2024.

B. After-School Program Positions - Funding through Title III for Adult Evening ESL Classes

Raysa Gonzalez	Paraprofessional	Hourly Rate
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C. 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:

Winterford "Jay" Ohland
Jeffrey Berger
Heather Rehrig
Scott Snyder
Tina Yocum

D. 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:

Melanie Templeton

E. Classroom Volunteers

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

Holly Sander

F. Co-Curricular Volunteers 2024-2025

Justin Herzog	Assistant Wrestling Coach
Andrew Arnold	Assistant Wrestling Coach
Francine Mesce	Asst Boys Basketball Coach

- G. Approve the Superintendent to appoint qualified personnel to vacant positions during the period of time from December 3, 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. Natalie Snyder, Mr. Chad Christman (7)

NAY: None (0)
Motion carried.

POLICY

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

Board Policy
Second

POLICY

A. Board Policy Second Reading

1. Approve school board policy # 200 - Enrollment in District, as presented after the second reading. ([Attachment #1](#))
2. Approve school board policy # 202 - Attendance of Nonresident Students, as presented after the second reading. ([Attachment #2](#))
3. Approve school board policy # 217 - Graduation Requirements, as presented after the second reading. ([Attachment #3](#))
4. Approve school board policy # 254 - Educational Opportunity for Military Children - **NEW**, as presented after the second reading. ([Attachment #4](#))
5. Approve school board policy # 810 - Transportation, as presented after the second reading. ([Attachment #5](#))
6. Approve school board policy # 903 - Public Participation in Board Meetings, as presented after the second reading. ([Attachment #6](#))
7. Approve school board policy # 807 - Opening Exercises/Flag Displays, as presented after the second reading. ([Attachment #7](#))
8. Approve school board policy # 805 - Emergency Preparedness and Response, as presented after the second reading. ([Attachment #8](#))
9. Approve school board policy # 805.1 Relations With Law Enforcement Agencies, as presented after the second reading. ([Attachment #9](#))
10. Approve school board policy # 805.2 School Security Personnel, as presented after the second

reading. ([Attachment #10](#))

11. Approve school board policy # 909 Municipal Government Relation, as presented after the second reading. ([Attachment #11](#))

12. Approve school board policy # 826 HIPPA Compliance, as presented after the second reading. ([Attachment #12](#))

YEA: Mrs. Rhonda Frantz, Mr. Mathias Green, Jr., Mrs. Gale N. Husack, Mr. Robert L. Kern, Jr., Mrs. Donna M. Kulp, and Mrs. Natalie Snyder, Mr. Chad Christman (7)

NAY: None (0)
Motion carried.

CONFERENCE

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

Michele Dotta - PA Department of Education Conference - February 5-7, 2024 - Hershey, PA-
Registration: \$297.00 - Lodging: \$341.88 - Travel: \$105.86 - Meals: \$140.00 - Total
Approximate Cost: \$884.74 Funding: Special Education Budget ([Attachment #13](#))

YEA: Mrs. Rhonda Frantz, Mr. Mathias Green, Jr., Mrs. Gale N. Husack, Mr. Robert L. Kern, Jr., Mrs. Donna M. Kulp, and Mrs. Natalie Snyder, Mr. Chad Christman (7)

NAY: None (0)
Motion carried.

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

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

Approve to authorize proper officials to execute an Affiliation Agreement between Northern Lehigh School District and Cedar Crest College for a teacher preparation program. This program allows students at Cedar Crest College to complete their field experience in our district in order for them to complete their hours needed for graduation. The agreement will cover the period of November 20, 2023 through November 19, 2028. ([Attachment #14](#))

YEA: Mrs. Rhonda Frantz, Mr. Mathias Green, Jr., Mrs. Gale N. Husack, Mr. Robert L. Kern, Jr., Mrs. Donna M. Kulp, and Mrs. Natalie Snyder, Mr. Chad Christman (7)

NAY: None (0)
Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

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

As per the recommendation of administration, approve to advertise a Request For Proposals for Insurance Brokerage Services for the district beginning in the 2025-2026 school year.

YEA: Mrs. Rhonda Frantz, Mr. Mathias Green, Jr., Mrs. Gale N. Husack, Mr. Robert L. Kern, Jr., Mrs. Donna M. Kulp, and Mrs. Natalie Snyder, Mr. Chad Christman (7)

NAY: None (0)

Motion carried.

FINANCIAL

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

Approve the Following [Financial Reports](#):

1. Cafeteria Fund Account month of July-October 2024 (audited)

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

2. General Fund months of November & December, 2024
3. Cafeteria Fund months of November & December, 2024
4. Capital Construction months of November & December, 2024

Approve abatement/exoneration requests of per capita taxes, for the residents that fall within the guidelines, as presented. ([Attachment #15](#))

Act 1 Tax Levy Resolution

Approve the Act 1 Tax Levy Resolution indicating the district will not increase real estate taxes above the adjusted index for the 2025-2026 fiscal year which is 5.5%. ([Attachment #16](#))

As per the recommendation of the administration, approve a contract with BerkOne Act 80 reporting at a cost of \$860.00 for the 2024 submission. ([Attachment #17](#))

Approve to designate Fund Balance ending June 30, 2024 as follows:

Committed Fund Balance:

Health Insurance	\$ 509,128.00
PSERS Increases	<u>\$1,809,115.00</u>
Total Committed:	\$2,318,243.00

Assigned Fund Balance:

Assigned Current Yr Usage	\$ 1,079,534.00
Technology (Incls 1:1 Insurance)	1,465,311.00
Replacement Equipment	2,519,518.00
Long Range Maintenance	2,766,468.00
Future Debt Service Payments	2,400,000.00
Future Curriculum Needs	650,000.00
Capital Reserve Fund Transfers	1,996,332.00
Slatington Elementary SA	11,775.42
Peters Elementary SA	31,238.27
Refreshment Stand:	<u>40,914.46</u>
Total Assigned:	\$12,961,091.15

Unassigned Fund Balance: **\$ 2,419,444.22**

Restricted Fund Balances:

High School Scholarship:	<u>\$ 173,297.21</u>
Total Restricted Fund Balances:	\$ 173,297.21

Nonspendable: **\$ 171,799.08**

Total Fund Balance: **\$18,043,874.66**

YEA: Mrs. Rhonda Frantz, Mr. Mathias Green, Jr., Mrs. Gale N. Husack, Mr. Robert L. Kern, Jr., Mrs. Donna M. Kulp, and Mrs. Natalie Snyder, Mr. Chad Christman (7)

NAY: None (0)
Motion carried.

LEGAL

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

Expulsion Hearing Waiver Approval. The Board agrees to the expulsion hearing waiver for Student #3190107. 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.

Expulsion Hearing Waiver Approval. The Board agrees to the expulsion hearing waiver for Student #2890097. 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.

CORRESPONDENCE

None to report

INFORMA- Minutes of the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit 21 Board of Directors meeting held on [October 21, 2024](#).

Minutes of the Lehigh Carbon Community College Board of Trustees meeting held on [October 10 2024](#).

Minutes of the Lehigh Career & Technical Institute Joint Operating Committee meeting held in October 2024 will be approved at the December 11, 2024 meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

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

YEA: Mrs. Rhonda Frantz, Mr. Mathias Green, Jr., Mrs. Gale N. Husack, Mr. Robert L. Kern, Jr., Mrs. Donna M. Kulp, and Mrs. Natalie Snyder, Mr. Chad Christman (7)

NAY: None (0)
Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Gale Husack
Secretary

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