

NORTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Regular Meeting

Board Minutes

Slatington, PA

April 14, 2025

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 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 7:00 p.m. on Monday, March 10, 2025, in the Northern Lehigh Administration Building Board Room.

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

Members absent:(0)

Non-members present: Dr. Matthew Link, Dr. Tania Stoker, Ms. Olivia Schaffer Ms. Jalah Cook, Mr. Todd Breiner, Christopher Mann, Mrs. Michele Dotta, Mrs. Nichole Fink, Mr. David Hauser, Mr. Eric Hill, Mr. David Jones, Mrs. Sherri Molitoris, Mr. Scott Pyne, Atty. Nick Baikow, Mr. James Schnyderite, and Mr. Daniel Williams. Press: Times News and BRCTV

VISITORS Approximately 26 visitors attended the meeting

PUBLIC COMMENT Dr. Link noted 5 visitors wanted to speak regarding the agenda items and 1 visitor regarding a non agenda item.

APPROVE MINUTES Mr. Fedorcha made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Christman that the minutes of the regular board meeting held on March 10, 2025, be approved and ordered filed.

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

NAY: None (0)
Motion carried.

SPECIAL BOARD REPORTS **A. Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit** - Mrs. Husack noted reports on Project SEARCH, a program for adolescent students to prepare for the workforce. The program includes job training, transportation, and life skills, with 75% of students having disabilities. The administration team will visit Harrisburg to advocate for early education, behavioral health, and special education.

B. Lehigh Career & Technical Institute - Mr. Fedorcha notes LCTI's budget approval, common calendar, and student enrollment issues.

C. Legislative Report - Mrs. Snyder no report

D. Lehigh Carbon Community College -Mr. Green noted 12 of 13 districts have approved the budget.

E. Committee Reports and/or Meetings

- Minutes of the Education Committee Meeting held on April 7, 2025, were distributed.
- Minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting held on April 7, 2025, were distributed.
- Minutes of the Technology Committee Meeting held on April 7, 2025, were distributed.
- Minutes of the Buildings & Grounds Committee Meeting held on April 7, 2025, were distributed.
- Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on April 7, 2025, were distributed.
- Minutes of the Community Relations Committee Meeting held on April 7, 2025, were distributed.

F. Student Representatives to the Board Report - Ms. Jalah Cook provides updates on school events, including the annual spring play, Big Fish which was held for 3 days. She also spoke regarding the career fair that was held and the Junior/Senior Prom. Ms. Olivia Schaffer reports on the Skills Leadership USA conference held in Hershey and Spring Sports.

G. Solicitor's Report - Attorney Roddick Nothing to report.

H. Assistant Superintendent's Report: [Presentation for Employee Staffing Profiles](#)- Dr. Stoker and Dr. Link presented on staff profiles within the Northern Lehigh School District.

I. Business Manager's Report: [Preliminary Budget Presentation](#)

J. Superintendent's Report:

- Recognition of WSCMLV
- NLEF Scholarship Opportunities
- SADD Award
- Neffs National Bank EITC Donation
- Skills USA State Champion
- PES "Spring Into Service" Donations

K. An executive session will be held at 6:15 p.m. at the Northern Lehigh Administration Building Board Conference Room.

PERSONNEL

Mr.Christman made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Fedorcha, that the Board of Education approves a motion to approve personnel items A through N:

A. Retirement/Resignation

- a. Accept the resignation of Dr. Jennifer Butz from her position as Physical Education Teacher at Peters Elementary School, effective at the end of the work day on June 26, 2025.
- b. With regret, accept the retirement resignation of Stephanie Stilwell from her position as a Special Education Paraprofessional at Peters Elementary School, effective March 7, 2025. Mrs. Stilwell will be retiring from the Northern Lehigh School District after 19 years of service.

B. Appointment - Administrative

- a. Dr. MaryAnn Rush Wallace
Assignment: Director of Athletics and Student Activities
Salary: \$95,000
Effective: July 1, 2025

C. Appointment - Instructional Long Term Substitute

- a. Jennifer Julo
Assignment: Secondary English
Salary: \$150.00/day short term sub rate same position
30+ days

- Effective: On or about April 24, 2025
D. Appointment - Non-Instructional

1. Siobhan Walsh-Bonis
Assignment: Licensed Healthroom Attendant
Salary: \$27.18/hour
Effective: March 25, 2025
***60 Working Day Probationary Period**
2. Scott Levendusky
Assignment: Cook's Helper District Wide
Salary: \$14.50/hour
Effective: March 31, 2205
***60 Working Day Probationary Period**

E. Family Medical Leave of Absence

Approve the request of employee #6821 to take an intermittent family medical leave of absence, effective on or about April 12, 2025. Employee is requesting this intermittent leave for care of a family member, as needed.

F. Elementary Summer Band Camp

Approve a tuition fee of \$30.00 per student for a one-week elementary summer band program and also approve a stipend for summer band program director Steven Jonkman. Mr. Jonkman's stipend will be equal to the amount collected for student participation but will not exceed. The summer elementary band program will run Monday August 11, 2025 until Friday August 15, 2025.

G. 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:

Earl Loch (Driver)
Joann Berger (Aide)
Cindy Laub (Driver)
Sheri Rhodes (Driver)
Ronald Leibowitz (Driver)
Roy Kistler (Driver)

H. Classroom Volunteers

Approve the following unpaid volunteer for the 2024-2025 school year:

Karen Haberern

I. Co-Curricular Volunteer 2024-2025

Motion to appoint the following Co-Curricular volunteers for the 2024-2025 school year:

Noel Powell Assistant Track & Field Coach

J. Co-Curricular Appointment 2025-2026

Motion to appointment the following Co-Curricular positions for the 2025-2026 school year:

Patricia Jones Middle School Field Hockey Coach \$3,168.00

K. Co-Curricular Volunteer 2025-2026

Motion to appoint the following Co-Curricular volunteers for the 2025-2026 school year:

Amber Cieri Assistant Field Hockey Coach

L. 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:

Ben Wysocki - Guest Teacher
Michael Adams - Social Studies & English as a Second Language

M. Substitute - Non-Instructional

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

Stella Bowers - Peters Elementary School Only

- N. Approve the Superintendent to appoint qualified personnel to vacant positions during the period of time from April 15, 2025 through the next regularly scheduled board Meeting.

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

NAY: None (0)

Motion carried.

POLICY

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

1. Approve school board policy #005 - Organization, as presented after the second reading. (Attachment #7)
2. Approve school board policy # 121 - Field Trips, as presented after the second reading. (Attachment #8)
3. Approve school board policy #234 - Pregnant/Parenting/Married Students, as presented after the second reading. (Attachment #9)
4. Approve school board policy #247 - Hazing, as presented after the second reading. (Attachment #10)
5. Approve school board policy #249 - Bullying/Cyberbullying, as presented after the second reading. (Attachment #11)
6. Approve school board policy #308 - Employment Contract/Board Resolution, as presented after the second reading. (Attachment #12)
7. Approve school board policy #317.1 - Educator Misconduct, as presented after the second reading. (Attachment #13)
8. Approve school board policy #336 - Personal Necessity Leave, as presented after the second reading. (Attachment #14)
9. Approve school board policy #339 - Uncompensated Leave, as presented after the second reading. (Attachment #15)
10. Approve school board policy #823 - Opioid Antagonist (formerly Naloxone), as presented after the second reading. (Attachment #16)
11. Approve school board policy #824 - Maintaining Professional Adult/Student Boundaries, as presented after the second reading. (Attachment #17)

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

NAY: None (0)

Motion carried.

CONFER- ENCES

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

- A. Jamie Farber- A/CAPA Data Workshop - May 11-13, 2025 - Dubois, PA - Registration: \$250 - Lodging: \$278 - Travel: \$420.40 - Meals: \$80 - Total Approximate Cost: \$902.28 - Funding: Split between Assistant Superintendent Budget and Director of Technology Budget
- B. Nichole Fink- Orientation to School Food Service Operations - April 29-30, 2025 - Harrisburg, PA - Registration: \$0 - Lodging: \$0 - Travel: \$218.40 - Meals: \$0 - Total Approximate Cost: \$218.40 - Funding: Food Services Department Budget
- C. Tania Stoker- PAFPC Annual Conference - May 13-14, 2025 - Hershey, PA - Registration: \$550 - Lodging: \$210 - Travel: \$109.90 - Meals: \$80 - Total Approximate Cost: \$949.90 - Funding: Assistant Superintendent PD Budget

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

NAY: None (0)
Motion carried.

**CURRIC-
ULUM AND
INSTRUC
TION**

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

CLIU 2025-2026 Facilities Plan Committee Report

Approve the following resolution to adopt the 2025-2026 Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit Facilities Plan Committee Report. (**Attachment #18**)

RESOLVED: It is recommended that the Northern Lehigh School District Board of Directors approve the 2025-2026 Facilities Plan Committee Report that was approved by the CLIU Facilities Plan Committee on February 11, 2025 and the CLIU 21 Board of Directors on March 17, 2025. In addition, the Board reaffirms its commitment to the original construct of the Facilities Planning, approved November 1, 1989, which consists of a series of prioritized inquiries to be considered in determining future locations of the CLIU and school district special education classes.

- A. Approve to authorize proper officials to enter into an agreement for one Northern Lehigh School District student with special needs to attend Hogan Learning Academy LLC in accordance with the promises and covenants contained in the agreement. This agreement is effective August 18, 2025 and terminates on August 14, 2026. (**Attachment #19**)
- B. Induction Program Rescind Motion
Rescind the appointment of Jennifer Butz as a helping teacher for the 2025-2026 school year as approved on the August 12, 2024 board agenda.
- C. Induction Program
Approve the following teachers as helping teachers in the Northern Lehigh School District Induction Program for the 2025-2026 school year:
- | Helping Teacher | Inductee | Stipend |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|----------|
| Gabryella Wilder | Katie Cappuccino (yr 2) | \$800.00 |
| Allyson DeHart | Jessica Jackovitz (yr 2) | \$800.00 |
| Kara Richardson | Josephine Flugger (yr 2) | \$800.00 |
| Brittany Warner-Maidman | Kathleen O'Donnell (yr 2) | \$400.00 |
| Sidney Snyder | Kathleen O'Donnell (yr 2) | \$400.00 |
| Allyson DeHart | Krista Petrulsky (yr 2) | \$800.00 |
| Amanda Bariana | Bryan Skrapits (yr 2) | \$800.00 |
| Gabryella Wilder | Bryan Skrapits (yr 2) | \$200.00 |
| Stephen Jonkman | Mikayla Vangelo (yr 2) | \$800.00 |
| Nick Sander | Caitlyn Wilder (yr 2) | \$800.00 |
- D. As per the recommendation of the administration, approve the agreement with CIU #20 for administrative costs and Title I instructional services to non-public institutions for the remainder of the 2024-2025 school year in the amount of \$898. (**Attachment #20**)
- E. As per the recommendation of the administration, approve the Foster Care Transportation Plan with Lehigh County Children and Youth, as is required under Federal Programs for the 2025-2026 school year. (**Attachment #21**)
- F. Approve administration to enter into an affiliation agreement with Lehigh Carbon Community College (LCCC) in order to provide our students with greater options to earn concurrent high school/college credit. The term of the Dual Credit Affiliation Agreement between Northern Lehigh School District and Lehigh Carbon Community College will be for five years from the effective date of the agreement. (**Attachment #22**)

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

NAY: None (0)
Motion carried.

**NEW
BUSINESS**

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

Approve the recommendation from the administration, that graduation be set for Friday,

June 6, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. in Bulldog Stadium, with rain dates of Saturday, June 7, 2025 or Sunday, June 8, 2025, at a time to be determined.

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

NAY: None (0)

Motion carried.

FINANCIAL

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

Approve the Following Financial Reports:

1. NLSD Investments for the month of March 2025
2. General Fund Account month of March 2025
3. Cafeteria Fund Account month of March 2025
4. NLMS Student Activities/Clubs Accounts month of March 2025
5. NLHS Scholarship Account month of March 2025
6. NLHS Student Activities/Clubs Account month of March 2025

Approve the Following List of Bills:

1. General Fund months of March and April, 2025
2. Cafeteria Fund months of March and April, 2025
3. Capital Construction month of March, 2025

Authorize administration to sign the CSIU eService Rates contract for Accounting, Payroll and Personnel software services for the 2025-2026 school year. **(Attachment #23)**

As per the recommendation from the administration and Buildings and Grounds Committee, approve to allow administration to advertise and hire five (5) student summer workers and one (1) supervisor. The rate for student summer workers will not exceed \$12.50 per hour and the rate for the supervisor will not exceed \$15.00 per hour.

Approve to allow administration to enter into an agreement with Behavioral Health Associates License Private Academic School for the purpose of furnishing regular education or special education programs to students during the 2025-2026 school year. **(Attachment #24)**

Approve to allow administration to enter into an agreement with Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit #21 to continue the Student Driver Education Program at no cost to the district, effective July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026. **(Attachment #25)**

Approve to allow administration to enter into a 3-year agreement with PTS, Pediatric Therapeutic Services for student speech therapy, occupational therapy and social worker services beginning July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2028. **(Attachment #26)**

As per the recommendation from the administration and Buildings and Grounds Committee, allow administration to enter into an agreement with Miller Sports Construction to refinish the Middle School and High school gym floors. **(Attachment #27) (Attachment #28)**

As per the recommendation from the administration and Buildings and Grounds Committee, allow administration to enter into an agreement with Keystone Sports Construction to perform maintenance on the synthetic turf. **(Attachment #29)**

As per the recommendation from the administration and Buildings and Grounds Committee, allow administration to enter into an agreement with Skylight Doctors to replace the leaking skylights at Slatington Elementary. **(Attachment #30)**

As per the recommendation of the administration, approve the sponsor to sponsor agreement for meal services for the after school SHINE program between Lehigh Carbon Community College and Northern Lehigh School District at no cost to the district from October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026. **(Attachment #31)**

Approve to allow administration to sign the agreement for the CLIU Overdrive Consortium for the 2025-2026 school year to provide e-books, audiobooks and other digital content at a cost of \$2,275. This will be funded out of the library budgets in the schools. **(Attachment #32)**

YEA: Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha, Mrs. Rhonda Frantz, Mr. Mathias Green, Jr., Mrs. Gale N. Husack,

Mr. Robert L. Kern, Jr., Mrs. Donna M. Kulp, Mrs. Natalie Snyder, Mr. Chad Christman and Mrs. Angela Williams (9)

NAY: None (0)

Motion carried.

Mrs. Kulp made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Snyder, that the Board of Educational approves the following item:

ADOPTION OF THE PROPOSED FINAL BUDGET FOR 2025-2026

It is recommended that the Board of Education adopts the proposed general fund final budget of the Northern Lehigh School District for the 2025-2026 school year in the amount of \$42,993,231. The preliminary budget is adopted with a 3% millage rate for Lehigh County and a 3% millage rate for Northampton County.

YEA: Mrs. Donna M. Kulp, Mrs. Natalie Snyder, (2)

NAY: Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha, Mrs. Rhonda Frantz, Mr. Mathias Green, Jr., Mrs. Gale N. Husack, Mr. Robert L. Kern, Jr., Mr. Chad Christman and Mrs. Angela Williams (7)

Motion denied.

Mr. Fedorcha made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Kern, that the Board of Educational approves the following item:

ADOPTION OF THE PROPOSED FINAL BUDGET FOR 2025-2026

It is recommended that the Board of Education adopts the proposed general fund final budget of the Northern Lehigh School District for the 2025-2026 school year in the amount of \$42,993,231. The preliminary budget is adopted with a 26.2543 millage rate for Lehigh County and a 78.4733 millage rate for Northampton County.

YEA: Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha, Mrs. Rhonda Frantz, Mr. Mathias Green, Jr., Mrs. Gale N. Husack, and Mr. Robert L. Kern, Jr., (5)

NAY: None Mrs. Donna M. Kulp, Mrs. Natalie Snyder, Mr. Chad Christman and Mrs. Angela Williams (4)

Motion carried.

Mrs. Husack made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Fedorcha, that the Board of Educational approves the following item:

ADOPTION OF THE LEGAL NOTICES FOR PER CAPITA TAXES FOR 2025-2026

Legal Notice

Authorize the Secretary to publish a Legal Advertisement notifying every resident or inhabitant within the territorial limits of the school district of Northern Lehigh attaining eighteen (18) years of age, and every resident or inhabitant in said school district to notify the proper Per Capita Tax Enumerator within twelve (12) months of his or her becoming a resident or inhabitant, in accordance with the School Laws of Pennsylvania, Section 680, as amended June 16, 1972, Act 138. The assessors to contact are as follows:

BOROUGH OF WALNUTPORT

Annette Lacko – Borough Secretary/Treasurer
Walnutport Borough Building
417 Lincoln Ave. Walnutport, PA 18088
610-767-1322, ext. 101

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP

Joan Jones - LST Tax Clerk
Washington Township Municipal Building
7951 Center St., Emerald, PA 18080

610-767-8108

BOROUGH OF SLATINGTON

Roy Hambrecht - Borough Manager
125 South Walnut Street
Slatington, PA 18080

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

NAY: None (0)

Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE NONE

INFORMATION

- A. Minutes of the Lehigh Carbon Community College Board of Trustees meetings held on [February 6, 2025](#).
- B. Minutes of the Lehigh Career & Technical Institute Joint Operating Committee meeting held on [February 26, 2025](#). [LCTI 205-2026 Calendar](#)
- C. Minutes of the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit 21 Board of Directors meeting held on [January 29, 2025](#).

RECOGNITION OF GUESTS

ADJOURNMENT

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

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

NAY: None (0)

Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Gale N. Husack
Secretary

ATTEST: _____ President
Mr. Mathias Green, Jr.