

**Northwestern Lehigh School District
6493 RT 309, New Tripoli PA 18066
School Board Meeting
District Boardroom
Wednesday, February 19, 2025, 7:00 p.m.**

1. Opening Procedures

1.01 Call to Order

The February 19, 2025, Board Meeting of the Northwestern Lehigh School District Board of Directors was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Todd Hernandez.

1.02 Opening exercises included the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence

1.03 Roll Call

PR/AB

PR	John Casciano	PR	Todd Hernandez	PR	Todd Leiser
PR	Willard Dellicker	PR	Becky Hite	PR	Rachael Scheffler
PR	Joseph Fatzinger	PR	Lauren Hunsicker	PR	Jennifer Senavaitis

Also Present: Michael Ruano, Daniel Macaulay, Megan Orehek, Christina Griffiths, Laura Zemel, Andrea Coaxum, Tara Banninger, Krista Keys, Jill Berlet, Amy Wahl, Aileen Yadush, Matthew Givler, LeAnn Stitzel, Andrea Edmonds, Kevin Birocik, Christie Steigerwalt, Jennifer Holman, Troy Sosnovik, Stacy Eisenhard

1.04 Approval of Agenda

Moved: W. Dellicker

Seconded: J. Senavaitis

Vote: 9 Aye, 0 Nay

1.05 President welcomed guests

1.06 Courtesy of the Floor

Tara Banninger, Heidelberg Township, expressed her concern about what's been going on with the Department of Education, the threat of pulling federal funding, and wanted to see what our budget looks like if that happens. J. Holman said we have a slide presentation later tonight that will show details on where the district could be impacted.

1.07 Minutes

Approval of Minutes from the January 22, 2025 Board Meeting and the February 5, 2025 Workshop Meeting.

Moved: J. Fatzinger

Seconded: W. Dellicker

Vote: 9 Aye, 0 Nay

1.08 Recognition/Presentations

Megan Orehek & Christina Griffiths, from the Pennsylvania School Board Association, recognized Northwestern Lehigh School District for being a Great PA School.

1.09 Board President's Report

No report at the time.

1.10 Superintendent's Report

No report at the time.

2. Personnel

2.01 Approval is requested for the personnel items as attached:

J. Holman asked for approval of the attached personnel agenda.

NORTHWESTERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT MEMORANDUM

Office of Human Resources

TO: Northwestern Lehigh School Board
DT: February 19, 2025
RE: Personnel Action



February 19, 2025 Board Meeting

Approval is requested for the following personnel item(s):

A. RETIREMENTS/RESIGNATIONS:

1. Recommendation to accept the resignation of Kenneth DeAngelis as a Substitute Teacher, effective February 7, 2025.
2. Recommendation to accept the resignation of Douglas Rex as a Substitute Police Officer, effective February 13, 2025.
3. Recommendation to accept the resignation of Kristin Kardaseski as an Instructional Assistant, effective February 13, 2025.

B. OTHER ACTIONS:

1. Approval to grant tenure to Ethan Beeco, Teacher at Northwestern Lehigh High School, after completion of three (3) years of satisfactory service to the District per Administrative recommendation, effective February 21, 2025.
2. Recommendation to change the classification of David French from part time Van Driver to Substitute Van Driver, effective February 4, 2025.
3. Recommendation to add the classification of Prospective Substitute Teacher to Ben Dunstan, effective February 7, 2025.
4. Recommendation to add the classification of per diem Substitute Police Officer for James Tews effective February 18, 2025. James Tews will continue in his classification as a Security Officer.

Moved: W. Dellicker

Seconded: L. Hunsicker

Vote: 9 Aye, 0 Nay

2.02 Moravian University Affiliation Agreement

J. Holman asked for approval of the attached Moravian University Affiliation Agreement for a current student teacher, pending solicitor approval.

Moved: T. Leiser

Seconded: B. Hite

Vote: 9 Aye, 0 Nay

3. Curriculum/Building Issues

None at the time.

4. Policy

4.01 First Reading of the Following Policies

T. Sosnovik reviewed the five policies for first reading and said he has not received any additional comments or questions regarding these policies.

[611 - Purchases Budgeted](#)

[612 - Purchases Not Budgeted](#)

[613 - Cooperative Purchasing](#)

[614 - Payroll Authorization](#)

[615 - Payroll Deductions](#)

4.02 Second Reading and Final Approval of the Following Policies:

T. Sosnovik said he has received no additional questions or comments regarding these policies.

[815 - Acceptable Use Of Technology](#)

[815.3 - Mobile Device Policy - Employees](#)

[815.5 - Social Media](#)

[815.6 - Artificial Intelligence](#)

[237 - Mobile Device Policy - Student](#)

Moved: W. Dellicker

Seconded: T. Leiser

Vote: 9 Aye, 0 Nay

4.03 Recommendation to rescind the following policies:

T. Sosnovik asked for the Board's approval to rescind the following three policies.

[815.1-Use of District Owned Technology](#)

Moved: J. Fatzinger

Seconded: J. Casciano

Vote: 9 Aye, 0 Nay

5. Operations

5.01 Ironton - SIP Trunks

T. Sosnovik said this is for our SIP Trunks, which provides our telephone services.

Moved: W. Dellicker

Seconded: L. Hunsicker

Vote: 9 Aye, 0 Nay

6. District Finances

6.01 Agreement in Lieu of FAPE

A. Edmonds said this is for a specific liability and lack of providing the provision of FAPE for a student in a cyber program.

Moved: W. Dellicker

Seconded: J. Casciano

Vote: 9 Aye, 0 Nay

6.02 Audited Financial Statement as of June 30, 2024

Moved: W. Dellicker

Seconded: J. Senavaitis

Vote: 9 Aye, 0 Nay

6.03 2025-2026 CLIU Budget

Approval of the Resolution for the 2025-2026 Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit 21 General Operating Budget of \$1,725,610 with a district contribution of \$38,069.

6.04 2025-2026 LCCC Budget

Approval of the Resolution for the 2025-2026 Lehigh Carbon Community College Operating Budget in the amount of \$47,799,464 and Debt Service/Leases and Capital Budget in the amount of \$10,015,307 with a district contribution of \$155,884 for the Operating Budget and \$71,010 for the Debt Service/Leases and Capital Budget.

6.05 2025-2026 LCTI Budget

Approval of the Resolution for the 2025-2026 Lehigh Career and Technical School General Operating Budget of \$33,499,540 and Academic Center Budget of \$2,720,871 with a district contribution of \$1,926,896.90 for the General Operating Budget and \$94,709 for the Academic Center.

The following motion approved agenda items 6.03 through 6.05:

Moved: R. Scheffler

Seconded: B. Hite

Vote: 9 Aye, 0 Nay

6.06 CLEAR Proposal

T. Sosnovik said this is a proposal to assist us in our central registration efforts.

Moved: J. Senavaitis

Seconded: J. Fatzinger

Vote: 9 Aye, 0 Nay

6.07 Reports

C. Steigerwalt recommended the Board receive the following Reports for December:

**NORTHWESTERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
TREASURER'S REPORT AS OF
DECEMBER 31, 2024**

GENERAL FUND (10)				
Balance-December 1, 2024	\$	39,910,969.52		
Receipts	\$	5,002,601.54		
Disbursements	\$	(4,834,039.85)		
Balance-December 31, 2024	\$	40,079,531.21		
CAPITAL RESERVE (32)				
Balance-December 1, 2024	\$	4,080,697.31		
Receipts	\$	6,369.95		
Disbursements	\$	-		
Balance-December 31, 2024	\$	4,087,067.26		
2022 Projects (38)				
Balance-December 1, 2024	\$	306,156.66		
Receipts	\$	253.20		
Disbursements	\$	-		
Balance-December 31, 2024	\$	306,409.86		
FOOD SERVICE (51)				
Balance-December 1, 2024	\$	481.10		
Receipts	\$	82,433.14		
Disbursements	\$	(84,375.35)		
Balance-December 31, 2024	\$	(1,461.11)		
	FUND	AMOUNT	RATE	MATURITY
New Tripoli Bank				
Certificate Deposit (CD)	General (10)	\$ 7,000,000	4.65%	05/07/25
Certificate Deposit (CD)	General (10)	\$ 6,000,000	4.65%	06/11/25
Certificate Deposit (CD)	General (10)	\$ 5,000,000	4.76%	05/29/25
Certificate Deposit (CD)	General (10)	\$ 5,000,000	4.14%	04/25/25

Moved: T. Leiser

Seconded: R. Scheffler

Vote: 9 Aye, 0 Nay

6.08 Approval of the following bills as listed for payment:

1. Fund 10 General Fund
2. Fund 32 Capital Reserve
3. Fund 37 Capital Projects
4. Fund 51 Food Service Fund
5. Fund 58 Tiger Concession
6. Procurement Card – December purchases totaling \$6,688.74/January purchases totaling \$9,784.70

Moved: W. Dellicker

Seconded: J. Fatzinger

Vote: 9 Aye, 0 Nay

7. Other Reports

7.01 Enrollment Report

NORTHWESTERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
ENROLLMENT REPORT
2024-2025

[illegible]

7.02 Foundation Report

L. Stitzel updated the Board on upcoming events.

7.03 Committee Reports as follows:

- Intermediate Unit
 - No report at the time.
- Lehigh Career & Technical Institute
 - No report at the time.
- Lehigh Carbon Community College
 - President's Desk attached.
- Recreation Commission
 - T. Hernandez said they are asking for volunteers for the Night in the Country event in August.

8. Old Business

8.01 Federal Funding Summary

C. Steigerwalt reviewed federal funding with the Board and the impact it has at Northwestern Lehigh.

Pennsylvania Education Funding

PDE receives multiple federal funding streams to support school districts. These funds are distributed through formula grants, competitive grants, and special programs.

Key Federal Funding Programs

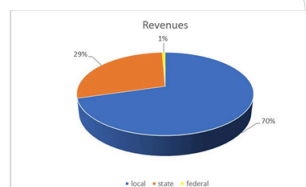
- Title I - Supports schools with high low-income student populations to improve academic achievement.
- Title II - Funds teacher and principal professional development and recruitment.
- Title IV - Enhances well-rounded education, school conditions, and technology use.
- IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act) - Provides special education funding for students with disabilities.
- Child Nutrition Programs - Includes National School Lunch Program (NLSP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP)

Northwestern Lehigh Federal Funding

Federal Funds represent approximately 1% of total General Fund revenue.

Federal Funds 2024-25

- Title I - \$237,552
- Title II - \$40,576
- Title IV - \$20,706
- IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act) - \$403,562
- Child Nutrition Programs - \$496,255 (2023-24)



Federal formula funds (like IDEA and Title I) are forward-funded and would not be impacted. Source ([AASA - January 28, 2025](#))

9. New Business

T. Leiser said he believes it may be helpful at a future meeting to see how much money is going outside the walls of the district for educational services.

J. Senavaitis said she believes it would also be helpful to identify and describe what programs we offer here at Northwestern Lehigh and how it impacts our students.

10. Communications

10.01 Courtesy of the Floor

Tara Banninger, Heidelberg Township, said she appreciated the slideshow and feels better about where we stand as a district but is still concerned with what's happening in general.

10.02 Communications / Notes for the Board from John Casciano, Secretary

None at the time.

10.03 Administrative / Building Sharing

K. Keys shared events happening at Northwestern Elementary.

J. Berlet shared events happening at Weisenberg Elementary.

A. Wahl shared past and future events happening at the Middle School.

A. Yadush shared events happening at the High School.

M. Givler shared that they had a School Club Roundup hosted by Mr. Smoyer.

K. Birosik said he will be taking a group of High School students to DeSales University to tour their digital forensics' lab, the David Pencil Crime Lab, and see a presenter to show them what it's like in the forensics field.

T. Sosnovik congratulated the Northwestern Lehigh School community for being recognized as a Great PA School.

10.04 Board Member Sharing

R. Scheffler recognized Tony Sibilla at Penn Sports Radio for all he does to bring sports into the homes of our community.

L. Hunsicker shared that a spectator at a basketball game acknowledged how great the Northwestern Lehigh community is.

10.05 Meeting Announcements

A Workshop Meeting was held on February 5, 2025 at 7:00 PM in the Boardroom.

A Workshop Meeting will be on March 5, 2025 at 7:00 PM in the Boardroom

An Executive Session for Personnel will be on March 5, 2025 after the Workshop Meeting in the Boardroom

A Board Meeting will be March 19, 2025 at 7:00 PM in the Boardroom.

11. Adjournment

Upon motion by T. Leiser, seconded by J. Senavaitis, the meeting was adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John Casciano, Secretary
By S. Eisenhard, Assistant Secretary