

**NORTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Board Minutes**

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**Slatington, PA**  
**January 12, 2026**

**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, January 12, 2026, in the Northern Lehigh Administration Building Board Room..

**ROLL CALL** Members present: Mrs. Crystal Bilby, Mr. Gary Fedorcha,, Mrs. Gale Husack, Mrs. Donna Kulp, Mr. Mathias Green, Jr., Mrs. Natalie Snyder, Mrs. Joyce Thompson, and Mr. Timothy Weaber (8)

Members absent: Mrs. Angela Williams (1)

Non-members present: Dr. Matthew Link, Ms. Madilynn Husack, Ms. Olivia Schaffer, Dr. Lori Bali, Mr. Christopher Mann, Mrs. Michele Dotta, Mr. David Jones, Mr. Daniel Williams, Dr. MaryAnn Rush Wallace, Mr. Eric Hill, Mrs. Sherri Molitoris, Mr. Nick Krajcic, Ms. Nichole Fink, Mr. Todd Breiner, Ms. Nicole Del Gotto, Mr. Scott Pyne, Atty.Kristine Rodderick, and BRCTV (Press).

**VISITORS** Approximately 4 visitors attended the meeting.

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

**APPROVE MINUTES** Mrs. Snyder made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Bilby that the minutes of the board meetings held on December 8, 2025 and January 5, 2026 be approved and ordered filed.

YEA: Mrs. Crystal Bilby, Mr. Gary Fedorcha,, Mrs. Gale Husack, Mrs. Donna Kulp, Mr. Mathias Green, Jr., Mrs. Natalie Snyder, Mrs. Joyce Thompson, and Mr. Timothy Weaber (8)

NAY: None (0)  
Motion carried.

**SPECIAL BOARD REPORTS**

Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit - Mrs. Husack provides an update from the CLIU, mentioning the posting of a new holiday video on the CLIU21 website. The CLIU21 2026-2027 proposal shows no increase for Northern Lehigh School District.

Lehigh Career & Technical Institute - Mr. Fedorcha announced the reorganization meeting occurred in December. Dr. Link will be the Superintendent of Record for LCTI.

Legislative Report -No report

Lehigh Carbon Community College - Mr. Green mentions no report due to meeting being held in a few days.

**SPECIAL BOARD REPORTS**

Committee Reports and/or Meetings

- Minutes of the Education Committee Meeting held on January 5, 2026, were distributed.
- Minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting held on January 5, 2026, were distributed.
- Minutes of the Technology Committee Meeting held on January 5, 2026, were distributed.
- Minutes of the Building & Grounds Committee Meeting held on January 5, 2026, were distributed.
- Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on January 5, 2026, were distributed.
- Minutes of the Extra & Co-Curricula Committee Meeting held on January 5, 2026, were distributed.

Student Representative's Report - Ms. Olivia Schaffer and Ms. Madilynn Husack provided updates on various school activities, including sports, academic achievements, end of the semester academic activities, and upcoming events including the Blood Drive sponsored by Student Council and end of the semester testing.

Solicitor's Report - No report

Business Manager's Report - Distribution of CLIU General Operating Budget 2026-2027

Superintendent's Report - Dr. Link introduced the ESports team advisors. A detailed explanation of the ESports team was given as well as the introduction of a team member. There was a lengthy discussion on the origin of the team, the growth and the current status. Dr. Link also spoke on the Science Fair held at Slatington Elementary.

Assistant Superintendent's Report: Dr. Stoker announced the recognition of School Board Director month and in honor of this, books in honor of each board member will be donated to the libraries in the Northern Lehigh School District. Dr. Stoker thanked the board members. The librarians graciously accepted the donation of books.

[Mid Year Data Review](#)

Executive Session

An executive session was held this evening at 6:15 p.m.

Public CommentPERSONNEL

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

A. Resignation/Retirement

Accept the resignation of Megan Farkas from her position as Special Education Paraprofessional at Northern Lehigh High School, effective December 10, 2025.

B. Appointment - Non-Instructional

Ashley Smith

Assignment: Slatington Elementary School Administrative Assistant

Salary: \$35,570 prorated for the remainder of the 2025-2026 school year

Effective: January 5, 2026

**\*Pending verification of missing personnel items**

**\*\*60 Working Day Probationary Period**

C. Assistant Athletic Director

Approve to appoint, retroactively as of December 29, 2025, Greg King as Assistant Athletic Director for the 2025-2026 school year at a stipend of \$4,500.00 prorated for the remainder of the school term. The Assistant Athletic Director will assist the Director of Athletics and Student Activities in all Athletic Director duties and responsibilities and will be responsible for athletic fundraising activities. The Assistant Athletic Director during the years of July 2026 through June 2027 will receive a salary increase equal to the approved percentage listed in the approved Collective Bargaining Agreement Article X - Supplemental Contracts.

D. Family Medical Leave of Absence

1. Approve the request of employee #7591 to take family medical leave of absence days intermittently beginning in January, 2026 to care for a family member. The employee will be using accrued paid sick days when unable to work.
2. Approve the request of employee #6658 to take a 12 week family medical leave of absence

for their own medical issues, effective January 27, 2026. Employee is requesting to use sick and/or personal days prior to their medical leave of absence. Employee plans to return to work upon release from their physician.

E. Co-Curricular Status Change 2025-2026

Mikayla Tanzos	From: HS Band Director	\$5,909.00
	To: HS Band Director (Shared Stipend-Jazz Ensemble)	\$5,459.00

F. Co-Curricular Appointment 2025-2026

Steven Jonkman	HS Band Director (Shared Stipend-Jazz Ensemble)	\$450.00
Winterford "Jay" Ohland	MS ACE Advisor	\$816.00

G. Co-Curricular Volunteers 2025-2026

Olivia Horninger Asst. Girls Wrestling Coach

H. Salary Adjustment Department Lead

Per the resignation of Christopher Bennett, approve to adjust the stipend amount for Department Leader for Business and Technology District Wide approved at the September 8, 2025 board agenda from \$1,800.00 to \$900.00 for work completed during the first half of the 2025-2026 school year.

I. Salary Adjustment - Mid Year

Acknowledge the following teacher who has completed the requirements per the Collective Bargaining Agreement that would entitle them to a salary increase for the 2025-2026 school year:

Katelyn Hugo From: Step 6B  
To: Step 6B+24

J. Approve the Superintendent to appoint qualified personnel to vacant positions during the period of time from January 12, 2026 through the next regularly scheduled board meeting.

YEA: Mrs. Crystal Bilby, Mr. Gary Fedorcha,, Mrs. Gale Husack, Mrs. Donna Kulp, Mr. Mathias Green, Jr., Mrs. Natalie Snyder, Mrs. Joyce Thompson, and Mr. Timothy Weaber (8)

NAY: None (0)  
Motion carried.

**POLICY**

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

Guitar Club Initial Application

Approve the initial club/activity application for the Northern Lehigh Guitar Club. The Northern Lehigh Education Association recommended stipend for the advisor of this club, George Hegedus, is \$200.00 for the 2025-2026 school year. Upon approval by the Board, the approved stipend will be added to the Collective Bargaining Agreement, as per policy #122. ([Attachment #7](#))

YEA: Mrs. Crystal Bilby, Mr. Gary Fedorcha,, Mrs. Gale Husack, Mrs. Donna Kulp, Mr. Mathias Green, Jr., Mrs. Natalie Snyder, Mrs. Joyce Thompson, and Mr. Timothy Weaber (8)

NAY: None (0)  
Motion carried.

**CONFER-  
ENCES**

NONE

**CURRIC-  
ULUM AND  
INSTRUC-  
TION**

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

- A. Approve to authorize the Assistant Superintendent to execute a letter of agreement for 2026 with Mr. Kalim Sayed to provide professional development sessions for the administrative team, English Language Development Program and faculty district-wide regarding Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs). Funding will be from the Title III budget. ([Attachment #8](#))

**B. Mentor for Administrative Support Staff**

Approve the following support staff assistants as mentors in accordance with the Northern Lehigh School District Administrative Support Staff Agreement:

<u>Mentor</u>	<u>New Employee</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
Karen Beltz	Ashley Smith	\$200.00

YEA: Mrs. Crystal Bilby, Mr. Gary Fedorcha,, Mrs. Gale Husack, Mrs. Donna Kulp, Mr. Mathias Green, Jr., Mrs. Natalie Snyder, Mrs. Joyce Thompson, and Mr. Timothy Weaber (8)

NAY: None (0)  
Motion carried.

**NEW-BUSINESS**

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

- A. Approve the resolution in support of School Board Director Recognition Month as presented. ([Attachment #9](#))
- B. Approve the 2025-2026 school year resolution for the Ready To Learn Block Grant Tax Equity Supplement for spending during the 2026-2027 school year. ([Attachment #10](#))
- C. Per the recommendation of administration, approve agreements with Lifetouch Schools at no costs to the district per the attachments. ([PE Agreement](#)) ([SE Agreement](#)) ([MS Agreement](#)) ([HS Agreement](#))

YEA: Mrs. Crystal Bilby, Mr. Gary Fedorcha,, Mrs. Gale Husack, Mrs. Donna Kulp, Mr. Mathias Green, Jr., Mrs. Natalie Snyder, Mrs. Joyce Thompson, and Mr. Timothy Weaber (8)

NAY: None (0)  
Motion carried.

**FINANCIAL**

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

- A. Approve the Following [Financial Reports](#):
  1. NLSD Investments for the month of November and December, 2025 (audited)
  2. General Fund Account for the month of July - December 2025 (audited)
  3. Cafeteria Fund Account for the month of November and December 2025 (audited)
  4. NLHS Student Scholarship Account for the months of November and December 2025
  5. NLHS Student Activities/Clubs Account for the month of November and December 2025
  6. NLMS Student Activities/Clubs Accounts for the month of November and December 2025
- B. Approve the Following List of [Bills](#):
  1. General Fund months of December 2025 and January 2026
  2. Cafeteria Fund months of December 2025 and January 2026
  3. Capital Construction months of December 2025 and January 2026
- C. Approve abatement/exoneration requests of per capita taxes, for the residents that fall within the guidelines, as presented. ([Attachment #11](#))
- D. Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit 2026-2027 Budget  
Approve a resolution regarding the 2026-2027 Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit Operational and Program Services budget. Total expenditures equal \$1,786,006.00 an increase of \$60,396 over the 2025-2026 budget. Northern Lehigh's share is proposed to be \$16,855, a decrease of \$699 from the 2025-2026 budget. ([Attachment #12](#))
- E. Per the recommendation of the administration and the Technology/Buildings and Grounds Committee, approve the five (5) year E-Rate Service Agreement with PenTeleData for Point to Point connectivity between Northern Lehigh School District and Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit #21 in the amount of \$1,100.00 per month. This contract will run from 7/1/2026 through 6/30/2031 ([Attachment#13](#))
- F. Per the recommendation of the administration and the Technology/Buildings and Grounds Committee, approve the five (5) year E-Rate Service Agreement with PenTeleData for Dark Fiber Point to Point

- connectivity between Slatington Elementary School and Peters Elementary School in the amount of \$1,098.00 per month. This contract will run from 7/1/2026 through 6/30/2031 ([Attachment#14](#))
- G. Per the recommendation of the administration and the Technology/Buildings and Grounds Committee, approve the four (4) year VMware Subscription License Agreement with Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit #21. Year 1 will be prorated from February 1, 2026 to June 30, 2026 at a cost of \$2,199.84 . Year 2 through year 4 (July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2029) cost will be \$5,280 per year ([Attachment#15](#))
- H. Per the recommendation of administration and the Buildings and Grounds Committee, approve a contract with ASL Refrigeration Inc. for the replacement of two chillers at Northern Lehigh High School at a cost of \$336,900, to be funded through capital reserve. ([Attachment #16](#))
- J. Per the recommendation of administration and the Buildings and Grounds Committee, approve the installation of a new scoreboard by Digital Scoreboards including curriculum, and Gold Level 5-Year Onsite Labor Warranty at a cost not to exceed \$180,000, to be funded through capital reserve, and reimbursed over five years by the Northern Lehigh Educational Foundation. ([Attachment #18](#))
- K. Approve to designate Fund Balance ending June 30, 2025 as follows:

**Committed Fund Balance:**

Health Insurance	\$ 942,369.00
PSERS Increases	<u>\$1,000,000.00</u>
<b>Total Committed:</b>	<b>\$1,942,369.00</b>

**Assigned Fund Balance:**

Assigned Current Yr Usage	\$ 1,320,874.00
Technology (Incls 1:1 Insurance)	1,455,311.00
Replacement Equipment	2,364,518.00
Long Range Maintenance	2,758,144.00
Future Debt Service Payments	2,200,000.00
Future Curriculum Needs	650,000.00
Capital Reserve Fund Transfers	3,000,000.00
Slatington Elementary SA	12,005.21
Peters Elementary SA	29,769.07
Refreshment Stand:	<u>29,612.81</u>
<b>Total Assigned:</b>	<b>\$13,820,234.09</b>

**Unassigned Fund Balance:** **\$ 2,472,505.70**

**Restricted Fund Balances:**

High School Scholarship:	\$ 173,297.21
Slatington Elementary:	<u>1,142.38</u>
<b>Total Restricted Fund Balances:</b>	<b>\$ 174,439.59</b>

**Nonspendable:** **\$ 157,213.50**

**Total Fund Balance:** **\$18,566,761.88**

YEA: Mrs. Crystal Bilby, Mr. Gary Fedorcha,, Mrs. Gale Husack, Mrs. Donna Kulp, Mr. Mathias Green, Jr., Mrs. Natalie Snyder, Mrs. Joyce Thompson, and Mr. Timothy Weaber (8)

NAY: None (0)  
Motion carried.

**FINANCIAL**

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

- I. Per the recommendation of administration, approve the contract with Keystone Sports Construction for the synthetic turf replacement at a cost of \$495,969.01 and track surface overlay at a cost of \$341,778.18, to be funded through the capital reserve fund. ([Attachment #17A](#)) ([Attachment #17B](#))

YEA: Mrs. Crystal Bilby, Mr. Gary Fedorcha,, Mrs. Gale Husack, Mrs. Donna Kulp, Mr. Mathias Green, Jr., Mrs. Natalie Snyder, Mrs. Joyce Thompson, and Mr. Timothy Weaber (8)

NAY: None (0)  
Motion carried.

**LEGAL** None

**CORRESPONDENCE** No correspondence.

**INFORMATION**

- A. Minutes of the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit 21 Board of Directors meeting held on [November 17, 2025](#).
- B. Minutes of the Lehigh Carbon Community College Board of Trustees meeting held on [November 6, 2025](#).
- C. Minutes of the Lehigh Career & Technical Institute Joint Operating Committee meetings held on [October 22, 2025](#) and [November 24, 2025](#).
- D. Mr. Green announced that on February 2, 2026 there will be an Executive Session beginning at 5:00PM to go over the Superintendents Mid-Year Evaluation

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

YEA: Mrs. Crystal Bilby, Mr. Gary Fedorcha,, Mrs. Gale Husack, Mrs. Donna Kulp, Mr. Mathias Green, Jr., Mrs. Natalie Snyder, Mrs. Joyce Thompson, and Mr. Timothy Weaber (8)

NAY: None (0)  
Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Gale Husack  
Secretary

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_ President  
Mr. Matthias J. Green, Jr.