



Southern Lehigh School District Board of School Directors Meeting

March 14, 2016

The first regular monthly meeting of the Board of School Directors of the School District of Southern Lehigh was held at 7:40 p.m. on the above date (March 14, 2016) at Southern Lehigh High School, Center Valley, PA.

PRESENT: Parsons, Dimmig, McLoughlin, Gehman, Gunkle, Lycett, Merkle, Sisselberger, Smith

ABSENT: None

OTHERS: Christman, Melber, Millman, Kennedy, Lewis, Bergey, Knoll, Takacs, Limpar, Buchman, Butz, Donahue, Sinkler (SLEA), Malinchak (Morning Call), and 15 other members of the community.

OPENING PROCEDURES

Mrs. Parsons led the Board and others attending the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Board met in Executive Session prior to this meeting to discuss personnel and legal matters.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED BY McLoughlin and **2ND BY** Gunkle to approve the minutes of the February 22, 2016 meeting as distributed to all Board members.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried

ABSENT: None

VISITORS

Mr. Arland Schantz, Zionsville resident, provided information from the American Farm Bureau Foundation recognizing *National Ag Day* on March 15.

CONSENT AGENDA

MOVED BY Gunkle and **2ND BY** Smith to approve the **CONSENT AGENDA** items as follows -

Approve the bills list dated March 14, 2016 showing paid bills in the amount of \$10,186.58 and bills to be paid in the amount of \$968,504.76 for a total amount of \$978,691.34 for the General Fund and bills paid in the amount of \$486,950.06 and bills to be paid in the amount of \$1,191,950.72 for the Construction Fund;

Approve the Treasurer's Report and Investment Report for the month of December, 2015;

Accept the resignation of Thomas Seidenberger, Joseph P. Liberati Elementary School teacher effective February 20, 2016. Mr. Seidenberger will be held until a replacement is found or for up to 60 days (April 20, 2016);

Approve the following substitute teacher for the 2015-2016 school year-

Nancy Becker Program Specialist ESL, English 7-12, K-6 Mental Physical Health;

Approve unpaid leave of Erin (Bromfield) Everett, Teacher, Southern Lehigh High School, April 29, 2016;

Approve the unpaid leave of the following staff-

Margaret Chiarella, Tech Facilitator, Liberty Bell Elementary School, February 19, 2016

Alice Palmieri, Instructional Assistant, Liberty Bell Elementary School, April 20-22 and 25, 2016

Rita Peay, Cafeteria Worker, Southern Lehigh Middle School, April 18-22, 2016

Irene Tyson, Instructional Assistant, Joseph P. Liberati Intermediate School, March 24, 2016 (6.5 hours);

Approve the Intermittent FMLA Leave of Jana Brown, Instructional Assistant, Southern Lehigh High School, effective March 8, 2016 through March 7, 2017, for up to a total of 12 weeks;

Accept the resignations of the following staff-

Pamela Kiriposki, Part-time Cafeteria Worker, Liberty Bell Elementary School, effective March 4, 2016

David Miller, Custodian, Southern Lehigh High School, effective March 11, 2016;

Approve the following staff-

Elizabeth Muller, Instructional Assistant, Joseph P. Liberati Intermediate School, an hourly rate of \$18.26, effective March 15, 2016. Ms. Muller will fill the position due to the resignation of *Laura Giordo*.

Andrew Shorb, Custodian, an hourly rate of \$20.24, effective March 15, 2016. Mr. Shorb will fill the position due to the promotion of *Arthur Werner*;

Approve the following substitute for the 2015-2016 school year-

Lillian Castillo-Torres, Substitute Instructional Assistant, an hourly rate of \$16.01;

Approve the following STEM/STEAM Summer Camp Staff, an hourly rate of \$43.44 for the 2015-2016 school year-

John McDonald

Kari Bennett

Robert Gaugler

Lynn Yocum

Brad Siesko;

Approve Tara Walter, instructor for the Chinese Summer Camp, an hourly rate of \$43.44 for the 2015-2016 school year;

Approve Charise Trilling, mentor for *Jacqueline Carlsen (Meder)*, ESL Teacher, Southern Lehigh High School, a stipend of \$700, effective April 11, 2016 through April 11, 2017;

Approve rescinding the appointment of Herbert Clarke, Assistant Boys Lacrosse coach. Mr. Clark was appointed at the February 8, 2016 school board meeting;

Approve the following coaches for the 2015-2016 school year-

<u>Brian Duffy</u>	Asst. Boys Lacrosse	\$3763
<u>Chelsea Rivenbark</u>	Track (Spring)	\$2369**
<u>Frank Rochon</u>	Track (Spring)	\$2369**

***Shared position and stipend;*

Approve the following volunteer coaches for the 2015-2016 school year-

<u>Herbert Clarke</u>	Boys Lacrosse
<u>Eric Stemple</u>	Boys Lacrosse.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: None

CURRICULUM/STUDENT AND STAFF ACTIVITIES

Southern Lehigh Middle School Update

Dr. Edward Donahue, Principal, provided a video presentation featuring activities recently held at the middle school.

Upcoming activities include:

- 3/31 – Course Selection Meeting-6th grade parents
- 4/1 – Career Day
- 4/12-15 – PSSA ELA
- 4/19-21 – PSSA Math
- 4/25-26 – PSSA Science
- 4/28 – Academic Showcase

MOVED BY Gunkle and **2ND BY** Merkle to approve the following student trip requests-

Southern Lehigh High School Technology Student Association to attend the Pennsylvania Technology Student Association State Conference, April 13 to 16, 2016 at Seven Springs Mountain Resort, Champion, PA.

Southern Lehigh High School Swim Team to participate in the 2015-2016 PIAA Girls and Boys Swimming and Diving Championships, March 17-19, 2016 at Bucknell University, Lewisburg, PA.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: None

MOVED BY Gunkle and **2ND BY** Merkle to approve the following research proposal request-

Mr. James Feuerstein, a Doctoral candidate at Marywood University to conduct a research project with gifted students in grades six, seven and eight. The study is entitled *Predicting Underachievement in Middle School Gifted Students Utilizing the School Attitude Assessment Survey-Revised*. Participation is voluntary.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: None

MOVED BY Gunkle and **2ND BY** McLoughlin to approve the Settlement Agreement and Release for Student #031601.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: None

MOVED BY Gunkle and **2ND BY** Merkle to approve the Maxim Healthcare School Staffing Agreement (pending Solicitor's review) for nursing services for Student #031602.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: None

MOVED BY Gunkle and **2ND BY** McLoughlin to approve the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit #21 Special Education Services Agreement for the 2016-2017 school year.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: None

MOVED BY Gunkle and **2ND BY** McLoughlin to approve six 1-week long STEM and STEAM Summer Camps for Southern Lehigh School District students, grades 4 through 9, during the weeks of June 27 through July 1, 2016 and July 11 through 15, 2016.

VOICE VOTE: “YES” – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: None

MOVED BY Gunkle and **2ND BY** Merkle to approve a summer Chinese language/culture camp for Southern Lehigh School District students entering grades 2 and 3, from June 20 through 24, 2016.

VOICE VOTE: “YES” – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: None

BUSINESS AND FINANCE

SUPPORT SERVICES

MOVED BY Gunkle and **2ND BY** Merkle to award the Middle School Asphalt and Concrete project to Semmel Excavating, Inc., 5000 Springside Court, Allentown, PA 18104 in the amount of \$99,870. The project includes replacement of concrete around the main entrance and asphalt in the parent drop off loop. The project is scheduled during the summer of 2016.

VOICE VOTE: “YES” – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: None

New Hopewell Elementary School Furniture Discussion

Mr. Todd Bergey, Director of Support Services discussed options for furniture fit-out costs for the new Hopewell Elementary School as presented during the February 22, 2016 Facilities Committee Report. A budget needs to be approved in March to ensure summer delivery of furniture for the start of the 2016-2017 school year. Following the last board meeting, a survey (traditional desks vs. 21st century learning models, including tables) was sent to elementary teachers for input. Based on the outcome of the survey, the recommendation was made for flexibility of furniture options. The recommendation also includes purchasing new teacher furniture at a cost of \$30,000 and new reception area furniture at a cost of \$1700 resulting in a total request of \$60,000 for the furniture budget at the new school.

MOVED BY McLoughlin and **2ND BY** Sisselberger to approve a budget of \$60,000 for furniture fit-out costs as needed for the New Hopewell Elementary School.

VOICE VOTE: “YES” – Parsons, McLoughlin, Gehman, Gunkle, Lycett, Merkle, Sisselberger, Smith – Motion Carried
“NO” – Dimmig
ABSENT: None

PERSONNEL

MOVED BY Gunkle and **2ND BY** Merkle to approve the appointment of the following certificated staff-

Matthew Hummel, Health and Physical Education Teacher, Southern Lehigh High School, at Bachelor’s Step 14, an annual salary of \$47,807 (pro-rated), effective March 15, 2016. Mr. Hummel is currently a long-term substitute and will fill the position of *Wayne Langsdorf*.

Jacqueline Carlsen (Meder), ESL Teacher, Southern Lehigh High School, at Step 12, an annual salary of \$48,633 (pro-rated), effective April 11, 2016. Mrs. Carlsen (Meder) will fill the position due to the retirement of *Nancy Becker*.

**VOICE VOTE: “YES” – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: None**

REPORTS

Mr. Merkle reported that the new Hopewell Elementary building project is on schedule and Mr. Bergey provided pictures indicating the progress to date.

Policy Committee

Mr. Lycett reported that the committee met prior to this meeting and discussed background checks.

Private Funding of Sports Facilities Committee

Mr. Lycett reported that the committee met on March 9 to discuss plans to support the philanthropic program to raise private funds for school facilities. Emails were sent to several groups, including booster clubs and youth sports organizations requesting support to fund 50% (\$17,500) of the total cost of the feasibility study. To date, \$3400 has been received. A suggestion to change the name of the committee was made, which resulted in the following motion.

MOVED BY Lycett and **2ND BY** Smith to change the name of the Private Funding of Sports Facilities Committee to Private Fundraising for Facilities Committee.

**VOICE VOTE: “YES” – Parsons, Dimmig, McLoughlin, Gunke, Lycett, Merkle, Sisselberger, Smith – Motion Carried
“NO” – Gehman
ABSENT: None**

LCTI

Mrs. Smith reported the following:

- LCTI is going through an accreditation process
- Award of Bosch Grant

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Christman reported the following-

- Girls Varsity Basketball had an outstanding season, including two state playoff games
- Girls Swimming/Diving Team won the District XII AA Girls' Championship for the 7th consecutive year
- Meistersingers performed on March 1 at the Capital Rotunda in Harrisburg as part of the *Music in Our Schools* month program
- The entire Superintendent's Report is available on the district's website.

OLD BUSINESS

MOVED BY Gunkle and **2ND BY** Merkle to approve a second and final reading of the following revised policy-

#111 Programs: *Lesson Plans*

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: None

Ms. Christine Brady, Emmaus resident, spoke in support of all day intervention kindergarten.

Proposal for All Day Intervention Kindergarten Pilot

Dr. Leah Christman, Superintendent, presented 2 options for approval of a pilot all-day intervention kindergarten program for the 2016-17 school year.

- Option #1- 1/2 day additional class at Hopewell Elementary to serve 12-15 students at a cost of \$60,445.00 (.5 teacher plus one 4-hour Instructional Assistant salaries)
- Option #2- 1/2 day additional class at Hopewell Elementary and one additional class at Liberty Bell elementary to serve 24-30 students at a cost of \$166,200 (1.5 teachers plus two 4-hour Instructional Assistants salaries).

There was board discussion.

MOVED BY Gunkle and **2ND BY** Lycett to approve Option 2 (1/2 day additional class at Hopewell Elementary School and one additional class at Liberty Bell Elementary School to serve 24-30 students at a cost of \$166,200) of the proposed pilot all day intervention kindergarten program for the 2016-17 school year

ROLL CALL VOTE: "YES" – Parsons, McLoughlin, Gehman, Gunkle, Lycett, Sisselberger – Motion Carried
"NO" – Dimmig, Merkle, Smith
ABSENT: None

NEW BUSINESS

MOVED BY Gunkle and **2ND BY** Lycett to approve the bylaws for the Southern Lehigh High School Boys Lacrosse Booster Club and the Southern Lehigh Girls Lacrosse Booster Club.

VOICE VOTE: “YES” – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: None

MOVED BY Gunkle and **2nd BY** Lycett to approve the request for student #031603 to complete the 2015-2016 school year in accordance with provisions of Policy #200.

VOICE VOTE: “YES” – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: None

MOVED BY Gunkle and **2nd BY** Lycett to nominate Kathleen Parsons as the representative to be placed on the 2016 Ballot for the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit #21 Board of Directors for the term July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2019. Mrs. Parsons is the current Board member serving in this position.

VOICE VOTE: “YES” – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: None

MOVED BY Gunkle and **2nd BY** Sisselberger to appoint Kenneth Mohr, Jr. as a trustee to the Lehigh Carbon Community College Board of Trustees to represent the district for the term July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2022. Mr. Mohr is the current trustee.

VOICE VOTE: “YES” – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: None

MOVED BY Gunkle and **2nd BY** Merkle to make an exception for siblings of students enrolled in the Spanish Immersion program to extend the deadline from March 1, 2016 to March 31, 2016.

There was board discussion, resulting in the following motion.

MOVED BY Gunkle and **2nd BY** Merkle to withdraw the motion to make an exception for siblings of students enrolled in the Spanish Immersion program to extend the deadline from March 1, 2016 to March 31, 2016.

VOICE VOTE: “YES” – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: None

COMMUNICATIONS

VISITORS

Mr. Michael Anderson, Coopersburg resident, distributed a packet of information to board members.

Mr. Arland Schantz, Zionsville resident, asked for clarification on the district's portion of funding of the feasibility study of the Private Funding of Sports Facilities Committee as presented at the February 22, 2016 board meeting.

There was board discussion, which prompted the following motion.

MOVED BY Dimmig and **2nd BY** McLoughlin that funds for the Private Funding of Sports Facility feasibility study will not be disbursed until the equal amount of \$17,500 is raised by the Southern Lehigh Education Foundation and a contract presented to the board for approval.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: None

Mrs. Mary deCastro, Center Valley resident, read a letter regarding the Coaches Code of Conduct.

There was board discussion, which prompted the following motion.

MOVED BY Dimmig and **2nd BY** Lycett to amend the Coaches Code of Conduct to include acceptable celebratory gestures.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: None

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY Smith and **2nd BY** Gehman to adjourn the meeting.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: None

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

ATTEST: Diana S. Millman, Board Secretary