



# Southern Lehigh School District

## Board of School Directors Meeting

April 10, 2012

The first regular monthly meeting of the Board of School Directors of the School District of Southern Lehigh was held at 7:34 p.m. on the above date (April 10, 2012) at Southern Lehigh High School, Center Valley, PA.

**PRESENT:** McLoughlin, Gunkle, Hayes, Lindsay, Lycett, Mohr, Quigley (left the meeting at 9:32), Stelts  
**ABSENT:** Dimmig  
**OTHERS:** Christman, Melber, Lewis, Millman, Bartholomew, Kennedy, Buchman, Bergey, Jordan, Siegfried, Donahue, McGinty, Limpar, Takacs, Rich (Patch.com), Rizzo (Morning Call), and approximately 32 other members of the community.

### **OPENING PROCEDURES**

Dr. McLoughlin led the Board and others attending the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOVED BY** Stelts and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Quigley to approve the minutes of the March 26, 2012 meeting as distributed to all Board members.

**VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried**  
**ABSENT: Dimmig**

### **VISITORS**

Mr. Jim Dickey, Mr. Brian Merkle, Mr. Ben Snyder and Mrs. Kathie Parsons addressed the Board and spoke separately about their opinions on the proposed leasing of computers for the District.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

**MOVED BY** Stelts and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Quigley to approve the **CONSENT AGENDA** items as follows -

Approve the total bills paid in the amount of \$16,000.00 and bills to be paid in the amount of \$352,923.29 for a total amount of \$368,923.29 for the General Fund as of April 10, 2012;

Approve the Treasurer's Report and Investment Report for the month of February, 2012;

Accept the following resignation of the following certificated staff-

Rebecca Harries, School Psychologist, Southern Lehigh Middle School, effective the end of the 2011-2012 school year

Molly Brundage, Reading Specialist, Southern Lehigh Middle School, effective the end of the 2011-2012 school year;

Approve the retirement of the following staff-

Joan Ligon, French Teacher, Southern Lehigh High School, effective last teacher day of 2011-2012 school year. Mrs. Ligon has been an employee of the district for 17 years.

Approve a second period of childrearing leave of the following staff for the 2012-2013 school year-

Jennifer Edwards, Health and Physical Education Teacher, Southern Lehigh High School, for the first semester of the 2012-2013 school year

Wendy Bonsall, Special Education Teacher, Lower Milford Elementary School, for the entire 2012-2013 school year;

Approve the following substitute teacher for the 2011-12 school year-

Anastasia Wrobel Elementary, ESL, Spanish K-12, ML English 7-9;

Approve the appointment of the following substitute staff for the 2011-2012 school year-

Kaylena Radcliff, Substitute Instructional Assistant, an hourly rate of \$15.31

Maureen Army, Substitute Instructional Assistant, an hourly rate of 15.31

Maureen Army, Substitute Cafeteria Monitor, an hourly rate of \$9.45;

Approve the following intermittent FMLA leave of the following staff-

Elizabeth Tate, Technology Facilitator, Joseph P. Liberati Intermediate School, beginning March 26, 2012 through March 25, 2013 for a period not to exceed 12 weeks cumulative;

Accept the retirement of the following staff-

Patricia Grabus, Learning Support Instructional Assistant, Joseph P. Liberati Intermediate School, effective June 18, 2012. Ms. Grabus has been an employee of the district for 9 years.

Approve unpaid leave of the following staff-

Ellen Beidelman, Instructional Assistant, Lower Milford Elementary School, for April 26 and 27, 2012;

Approve the following ancillary employee for the 2011-2012 school year-

Kristen Englehardt Peak Program \$48.55 per session;

Accept the resignation of the following coach-

Bernard Matthew Walsh, Head Boys' Lacrosse, effective April 4, 2012;

**VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried**  
**ABSENT: Dimmig**

### **CURRICULUM/STUDENT AND STAFF ACTIVITIES**

Mrs. Siegfried, Dr. Donahue, Mr. McGinty and Ms. Limpar reported on student and staff activities at the High School, Middle School, Intermediate School and the elementary schools.

High School report –

- High School Spring Newsletter posted online, please read for many updates and articles on what has been happening at the HS
- April 2 - Assembly on Texting
- April 4 - Staff Appreciation Luncheon given by the HS Parent Advisory Council
- April 11 - HS Hosting a Blackboard Conference - Mack/Spritzer presenters
- April 16-18 PSSA Writing Test to be given to Juniors
- April 19 - Graduation Project Presentations (10th grade)

Middle School report –

## Academic

- 4/16-18 - PSSA Writing
- 4/23-24 - PSSA Science

## Events

- 4/11 - Activity Sign-Ups
- 4/25 - Parent Presentation- "Transition to Middle School"
- 4/26 - Choir/Orchestra Concert
- 4/27 - Arabic Day
- 5/3 - Envirothon
- 5/4, 5 - MS Musical, "Annie Jr", 7PM
- 5/9 - NJHS Induction Ceremony
- 5/8, 10 - Constitution Center trip (8<sup>th</sup> grade)
- 5/11 - Band Adjudication, Hershey, PA
- 5/25 - Field Day
- 5/25 - Luau
- 5/31 - Talent Show
- 5/31 - Yearbook Distribution

Intermediate School report –

- 6<sup>th</sup> grade students in Mr. Fluck's math class have begun their stock market activity. Students invest \$100,000 for their clients while applying concepts they have learned this year. We hosted Dr. Brad Barnhorst from the Business department at DeSales University to kick off the activity. He shared some of his knowledge and background in finance with our students and gave some free advice to our young brokers.
- Spring conferences picked- up today and will continue through the end of the week.

- 6<sup>th</sup> grade students participated in a facilitated dissection of a porcine heart. A group of about 15 parents with a background in a variety of medical fields assisted students with the dissection.
- Report cards were sent home with students on Friday, 6 April. Included with the report card was an invitation to students to submit work to be included with the picture of Mr. Liberati to be displayed in the building.

#### Elementary schools –

- Liberty Bell is celebrating Earth Day during the week of April 13<sup>th</sup>. Some of the activities being celebrated are:
  - Waste-free lunch day will analyze how much trash is saved as compared to a regular lunch day.
  - Brown and Green Spirit Day.
  - Students will be decorating grocery bags for Giant and Weis with Earth Day themed drawings. The bags will then be returned to the stores to be used for bagging.
- 4/17 – Liberty Bell's 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Spring Performance-Tuesday, April 17<sup>th</sup>-7:00 P.M.- A mixed arrangement of music and songs for the evening.
- 3/29 - Hopewell's 3<sup>rd</sup> grade concert. Third graders put on a nice presentation of choral music, recorders and instrumental selections for parents.
- The Weller Center of Easton put on a school wide assembly called "Kids in Motion" to promote and encourage an active and healthy lifestyle. Excellent assembly!
- 3/30 - 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter report cards were sent home.
- Elementary Parent conferences are taking place this week.
- Kindergarten registration for next year is taking this week.
- Lower Milford has two student assemblies planned: "Hot and Cold" assembly will be presented by the Franklin Institute on 4/19 and a "Rain Forest Reptiles" assembly will be presented on 5/2.
- 4/19 - Lower Milford's PTA Night at Red Robin and also at the Nestle Toll House Café, with Lower Milford staff scooping ice cream.

#### **BUSINESS AND FINANCE**

**MOVED BY** Gunkle and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Stelts to approve PlanCon Part K for the refund of the Series of 2007 General Obligation Bonds, and the issuance of the Series of 2011 General Obligation Bonds.

**VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried**  
**ABSENT: Dimmig**

**MOVED BY** Gunkle and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Stelts to approve the bond resolution for the refinancing of Series AA General Obligation Bond of 2002 as long as net present savings exceed 3%.

**VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried**  
**ABSENT: Dimmig**

A presentation was made by Mr. Ken Jordan, Director of Elementary Education and Instructional Technology and high school teachers (J. Breisch, P. Collins, R. Haupt) regarding the use of computers for instruction. Additional information was also presented comparing costs of different models of computers. There was Board discussion.

**MOVED BY** Stelts and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Gunkle to approve the Apple Lease for 2000 laptop computers.

**VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Stelts, Gunkle, Mohr, McLoughlin, Hayes – Motion Carried**  
**"NO" – Lindsay, Lycett, Quigley**  
**ABSENT: Dimmig**

(Mr. Quigley left the meeting at 9:32 p.m.)

## **SUPPORT SERVICES**

### **PERSONNEL**

### **REPORTS**

#### **Lehigh Career & Technical Institute**

Mr. Hayes reported the following:

- The District 11 Skills USA Championship was held recently at LCTI. Congratulations to 10 high school students for placing 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> in the competition.

#### **Superintendent's Report**

Mrs. Christman reported the following:

- A group of high school students under the supervision of Mr. Krial, social studies teacher, are starting a Cycling Club.
- The Robotics Club recently qualified for the Mid-Atlantic Region Robotics Championship to be held at Temple University April 12-14. The team is currently ranked at 17 out of 99 teams in the region.
- May 7<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for students to be up-to-date with required immunizations to attend school.
- A copy of the Assessment Data Report for last year has been provided to each Board member and is posted on the website under Curriculum.
- The Middle School was selected to host a Guest Arabic Teacher for the 2012-2013 school year through the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs at the US State Department and Teachers of Critical Language Program. This will be the last year we will be eligible for the program.

- Notices have been sent out to the community to secure host families for 3 guest foreign teachers for the 2012-2013 school year.
- A document, *Education or Indoctrination?*, was received and has been shared with each Board member concerning claims against social studies textbooks. None of these textbooks are used in the District.
- A summer Geometry course will be offered for acceleration to interested student by the High School Math Department at no cost. The course is targeted to currently on-level math students who did not meet requirements to accelerate in the intermediate or middle levels. This will provide students the opportunity to accelerate in order to reach higher math courses including Calculus, AP Calculus, AP Statistics or College Algebra.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**MOVED BY** Gunkle and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Stelts to table the proposed School Board Meeting dates for September, 2012 through August, 2013 until April 23, 2012.

**VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried**  
**ABSENT: Dimmig, Quigley**

**MOVED BY** Gunkle and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Stelts to approve the agreement with Orthopaedic Specialists (OAA) for athletic trainer services for the District for the school years 2012-2013 through 2016-2017 at the annual costs as specified in the attached proposal.

**VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried**  
**ABSENT: Dimmig, Quigley**

**COMMUNICATIONS**

**VISITORS**

Mrs. Mary Ann Vought and Mr. Donald Vought addressed the Board regarding their concerns over computers and education.

Mrs. Kathie Parsons concerned about an email that was sent to Board members and distribution procedures were discussed.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOVED BY** McLoughlin and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Stelts to adjourn the meeting.

**VOICE VOTE: "YES" - Unanimous - Motion Carried**  
**ABSENT: Dimmig, Quigley**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_ Board Secretary