



Southern Lehigh School District

Board of School Directors Meeting

June 25, 2007

The first 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 (June 25, 2007) in the Southern Lehigh High School, Center Valley, PA.

PRESENT: Auteri, Bromwell, Eddinger, Rennie, Schubert, Stelts
ABSENT: Miracle, Corso, Quigley
OTHERS: Liberati, Snell, Guerriere, Bartholomew, Kennedy, Metrick, Keister, Bergey, Limpar, Madsen (Morning Call), Popichak (Saucon News) and approximately 3 other members of the community.

OPENING PROCEDURES

Ms. Bromwell led the Board and others attending the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Board met in Executive Session prior to the meeting to discuss legal and personnel issues.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED BY Auteri and **2ND BY** Rennie to approve the minutes of the June 11, 2007 meeting as copied and distributed to all Board members.

Minutes of
6/11/07

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: Miracle, Corso, Quigley

VISITORS

John Ferraro expressed a desire for his daughter, who is entering 6th grade, to be placed in a higher level math class so that she would be challenged. Mr. Liberati responded that a decision has not been made yet on Mr. Ferraro's daughter's math placement.

CONSENT AGENDA

MOVED BY Rennie and **2ND BY** Eddinger to approve the **CONSENT AGENDA** items as follows:

Approve the bills list dated June 25, 2007 showing paid bills in the amount of \$4,541.93 and bills to be paid in the amount of \$321,223.10 for a total of \$325,765.03 for the General Fund, and bills to be paid in the amount of \$5,955.52 for the Capital Reserve Sinking Fund;

Approval of
Bills

Approve the Treasurer's report for the month of May 2007;

Approve
Treasurer's
Report

The Administration recommends approval to correct the certification listed for Kelly Howsare, Substitute from *Elementary* to *English 7-12*;

Approval to
correct
certification
for K.
Howsare

The Administration recommends accepting the resignation of the following staff -

Emily Costa, 2nd Grade Teacher, Lower Milford Elementary School, effective August 27, 2007.

Accept
resignation-
Costa,
DeVivo

Holly DeVivo, Music Teacher, Liberty Bell Elementary School, effective August 31, 2007;

The Administration recommends accepting the resignation of the following staff -

Lori Kram, Custodian, Hopewell Elementary School, effective June 26, 2007;

Accept
resignation-
Kram

The Administration recommends approval of the appointment of the following staff -

Approve
appointment
of staff-
Fowler

Sylvia Fowler, Substitute Health Paraprofessional, an hourly rate of \$11.70.

Sylvia Fowler, Substitute Instructional Assistant, an hourly rate of \$13.65 (effective May 30, 2007).

VOICE VOTE: "YES" - Unanimous - Motion Carried
ABSENT: Miracle, Corso, Quigley

CURRICULUM/STUDENT AND STAFF ACTIVITIES

Ms. Limpar reported on student and staff activities at the elementary schools.

MOVED BY Auteri and **2ND BY** Rennie to approve Independent Study for the following High School students -

Casey Pahl, *Original Novel*
Erik Ritter, *Architectural Design and Drafting II*
Elizabeth Wukitch, *Photography*
Taylor Zilinek, *Journalism Editing*

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: Miracle, Corso, Quigley

MOVED BY Auteri and **2ND BY** Rennie to approve the attached revisions to the High School Handbook regarding *Attendance and Absences* with changes as discussed.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: Miracle, Corso, Quigley

BUSINESS AND FINANCE

MOVED BY Rennie and **2ND BY** Auteri to approve the enclosed Concurrent Enrollment Agreement with Lehigh Carbon Community College. The agreement sets out the terms and conditions of the Dual Enrollment Program offered by Southern Lehigh School District and Lehigh Carbon Community College in accordance with Article XVI of the Public School Code.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: Miracle, Corso, Quigley

MOVED BY Auteri and **2ND BY** Stelts to award the following bids for the 2007-2008 school year -

High School Art Supplies
 High School Science Supplies
 District Art Supplies

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: Miracle, Corso, Quigley

MOVED BY Rennie and **2ND BY** Auteri to approve the enclosed Right-of-Way Agreement with PPL. The agreement permits PPL to install an additional pole on District land near the pool at the Living Memorial Park.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: Miracle, Corso, Quigley

MOVED BY Auteri and **2ND BY** Stelts to award the renewal of the following District insurance policies for the 2007-2008 year as follows -

- *Package Policy (General Liability, Property and Fire, etc)* with Peerless Insurance Company at an annual premium of \$54,000, a decrease of \$385 from the current year.
- *School Leaders Errors and Omissions Policy (Employer's Liability for Directors, Employees and Volunteers)* with School Boards Insurance Co. of PA at an annual premium of \$22,939, a decrease of \$2,240 from the current year.
- *Umbrella Policy (Excessive Coverage above underlying policies)* with Old Republic Insurance Company at an annual premium of \$14,443, no change from the current year.

Cont. Approval
 of District
 Insurance
 policies-
 Umbrella Policy,
 Blanket Policy
 for PTA's,
 PTO's, Booster
 Clubs

- *Blanket Policy for PTA's, PTO's, Booster Clubs, etc. with Peerless Insurance Company at an annual premium of \$501, no change from the current year.*

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: Miracle, Corso, Quigley

MOVED BY Rennie and **2ND BY** Stelts to renew the District's existing student accident and athletic insurance for 2007-2008 through Mid Penn Insurance Associates of Shamokin Dam, PA with ACE American Insurance Company providing the policies as summarized below and in the enclosure -

Interscholastic Sports, Intramurals, and Club Sports - \$6585.00 per year, paid by District (a premium reduction of 8.35%)

Voluntary Student Accident Coverage, School Time Only - \$30.00 per year

Voluntary Student Accident Coverage, 24-Hour Coverage - \$116.00 per year

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: Miracle, Corso, Quigley

MOVED BY Schubert and **2ND BY** Stelts to adopt the enclosed resolution authorizing installment payments of real estate. Act 1 of Special Session 2005/2006 requires that each school district implement installment payments for real estate taxes. The law substantially dictates the provisions for the installments and further stipulates that each school district shall, prior to July 1, 2007, enact a resolution that establishes for the implementation of installment payments. Attorney Bartholomew has drafted a resolution that is modeled after the sample that was provided by PSBA.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: Miracle, Corso, Quigley

MOVED BY Rennie and **2ND BY** Schubert to approve participation in Trust, Trust Agreement, and Trustee for Lehigh Schools Consortium. The Lehigh Schools Consortium is composed of eight of the nine school districts in Lehigh County, Lehigh Career & Technical Institute, Lehigh Carbon Community College, and Carbon-Lehigh Intermediate Unit. The Consortium has elected to self-insure the dental benefits that are currently being provided to the employees of the member schools. As a result of this decision, the Board is being asked to take action as follows: "The Board of Directors of the Southern Lehigh School District approve participation in the Lehigh Schools Consortium Trust, approve the Trust Agreement (enclosed), and approve James J. Snell as the Trustee on behalf of the District." The trust agreement is modeled after a standard trust agreement provided by our benefits consultant, Elite Brokerage. It was modified and approved by the solicitor for CLIU, Atty. Michael Connelly, of Sweet, Stevens, Katz and Williams. The decision to self-insure our dental benefits is expected to generate annual savings for the District of approximately \$60/employee with dental coverage, or more than \$18,000 per year.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: Miracle, Corso, Quigley

SUPPORT SERVICES

The Administration has approved payment application #17 of Chevron Energy Solutions Company and final release of \$37,893.00 from Citi Capital North America, Inc.

MOVED BY Rennie and **2ND BY** Auteri to award the Water Purification and Sewage Treatment and Annual Maintenance Services RFP to the lowest responsible respondent, Applied Water Management Group, 453 Boot Road, Downingtown, PA 19533, in the amount of \$37,445.00 for a two year agreement.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: Miracle, Corso, Quigley

PERSONNEL

MOVED BY Auteri and **2ND BY** Stelts to approve the following staff -

Approve staff-
 Uholik,
 Bjelobrck

Kelly Uholik, Reading Specialist, Southern Lehigh Middle School, at Bachelor's +15, Step 4, an annual salary of \$43,622. Mrs. Uholik will fill the position created by the transfer of Molly Brundage.

Michael Bjelobrk, Learning Support Teacher, Southern Lehigh High School, at Master's, Step 5, an annual salary of \$50,735. Mr. Bjelobrk will fill the position created by the resignation of Megan Ambrogi.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: Miracle, Corso, Quigley

REPORTS

Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit

Ms. Bromwell reported that the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit budget was approved.

Building Committee

Dr. Stelts announced that it was decided to change the name of the committee to *Facilities Committee*.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Liberati handed out a list of Board meeting dates covering January through August 2008. He also handed out a current Mini-Grant Review, and said he is working on an appropriate dollar amount for the 2007-2008 school year.

Attorney Bartholomew announced that last week the School District received the building permit for the Intermediate School from Upper Saucon Township.

Facilities Report

Mr. Liberati said that Mr. Miracle would like to talk about planning a ground breaking ceremony for the Intermediate School.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

MOVED BY Rennie and **2ND BY** Auteri to have the Administration determine all the costs incurred by the School District with regards to the requirements of Act 1 of 2006 Special Session.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Rennie, Schubert, Bromwell
"NO" – Auteri, Stelts, Eddinger – Motion Defeated
ABSENT: Miracle, Corso, Quigley

OTHER BUSINESS

MOVED BY Auteri and **2ND BY** Eddinger to approve the renumbering *only* of the enclosed list of policies.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: Miracle, Corso, Quigley

COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Liberati received a letter dated June 18, 2007 from Lehigh County Commissioner, Andy Roman, requesting an audience with the School Board to discuss the possibility of property tax relief for deployed military personnel similar to the recently passed Lehigh County ordinance entitled the American Heroes Grant. After Board discussion, they were not interested in having Mr. Roman attend a Board meeting to discuss this issue.

VISITORS' COMMENTS

Arland Schantz commented on the tax savings for the Act 4 preserved farms.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY Rennie and **2ND BY** Auteri to adjourn the meeting.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" - Unanimous - Motion Carried
ABSENT: Miracle, Corso, Quigley

The meeting was adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

ATTEST: _____ Board Secretary