



Southern Lehigh School District

Board of School Directors Meeting

February 22, 2010

The second regular monthly meeting of the Board of School Directors of the School District of Southern Lehigh was held at 7:43 p.m. on the above date (February 22, 2010) at Southern Lehigh High School, Center Valley, PA.

PRESENT: Gunkle, Dimmig, Eddinger, Hayes, McLoughlin, Miracle, Mohr, Quigley, Stelts

ABSENT: None

OTHERS: Liberati, Guerriere, Bartholomew, Kennedy, Lewis, Engler, Bergey, Giarratana, Zuk, Donahue, Farris, Mickley, Organski, and approximately 4 other members of the community.

OPENING PROCEDURES

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED BY Hayes and **2ND BY** Quigley to approve the minutes of the February 8, 2010 meeting as copied and distributed to all Board members.

Minutes of
2/8/2010

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

VISITORS

CONSENT AGENDA

MOVED BY Miracle and **2ND BY** Quigley to approve the **CONSENT AGENDA** items as follows -

Approve the bills list dated February 22, 2010 showing paid bills in the amount of \$343,811.71 and bills to be paid in the amount of \$650,449.94 for a total amount of \$994,261.65 for the General Fund, and bills to be paid in the amount of \$182,450.87 for the Construction Fund;

Approval of
Bills

Approve the following coach for the 2009-2010 school year –

Eric Stemple Boys' Lacrosse, Assistant \$2,935.00;

Approve
coach for
the 2009-
2010 school
year-
Stemple

Approve the following volunteer coach for the 2009-2010 school year -

Terrence Nevill Girls' Soccer.

Approve
volunteer
coach for
the 2009-
2010 school
year-Nevill

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

CURRICULUM/STUDENT AND STAFF ACTIVITIES

Mr. Zuk, Dr. Donahue, Mrs. Farris and Mrs. Mickley reported on student and staff activities at the High School, Middle School, Intermediate School, and the elementary schools.

Mr. Zuk reported the following –

- 3rd quarter progress reports to be mailed at end of week.
- The Junior Class is running a Ping Pong Tournament February 25th 5:30 p.m. at the high school.
- Student council is planning a dance on Thursday March 4th to raise money for Haitian orphans.
- Also in the morning of March 4th the HS looks forward to the Board visitation.

Dr. Donahue reported the following –

- Tuesday, Feb 9: PTG Meeting
- Wednesday Feb 10: 8th grade 4-Sight test
- Friday, February 19: MAGPIE Virtual Conference
- Friday, February 19: Winter Dance
- Saturday, February 20: MS Film Festival
- Monday, February 22: Honors Drawing
- Tuesday, February 23: Parents' meeting for incoming 7th graders
- Thursday, March 4: Board Visitation (PM)
- Monday, March 8: Anti-Bullying Survey
- Tuesday, March 9: PTG
- Thursday, March 11: Band Concert
- Friday, March 12: Spring Dance

Mrs. Farris reported the following –

- The final amount raised through the various fundraising programs including hearts for Haiti, hats for Haiti, and houses for Haiti was \$ 3,331. This amount was presented to the Red Cross on Friday, February 19th during a school-wide assembly that also served as a kick-off to our Spartan of the Week program. The Spartan of the week program is designed to recognize students and their positive behaviors, and will also include community service programs like Read-On, and Jump ropes for hearts.
- 4-Sight assessments for 5th and 6th grade students will be administered this week. NaNoWriMo students are in the final stages of editing and anticipate sending in their work to be published by the end of this week. The 1st edition of the school newspaper is complete and nearing its distribution.

Mrs. Mickley reported the following –

- Mid-year assessment letters were sent home on February 19th. These letters update parents on children's mid-year assessment scores on reading and math local assessments.
- Teachers of kindergarten and first grade, along with some instructional assistants, are attending Kid Writing Training on February 23rd.
- Liberty Bell is having a nutrition assembly on Wednesday, February 24th.
- 1st Grade Spanish Immersion is having an Open House on March 2nd, 9:30 to 10:00 a.m. for any parent who is considering the program for next year.
- Spring music programs will be held in early March. Hopewell's concert is on March 2nd; Liberty Bell's concert is on March 4th; Lower Milford's concert is on March 9th. Each begins at 7:00 p.m.
- Hopewell Family Social is March 4th at 7 PM at Hopewell.
- We are preparing for the March 5th teacher in-service. Topics include PDE's new Standards Aligned System, writing, and technology.

Dr. McLoughlin initiated a discussion about eliminating the use of class ranking or changing the class ranking away from an individual ranking to a group ranking such as top 5%, top 10%, or top 25%. He was not in favor of retaining the individual class ranking method currently used by the District. There was Board discussion, both pro and con, not only on the use of class ranking, but also on the presentation, rigor, content and the AP exam for AP courses. Mr. Liberati stated that the process is underway for changes at the High School effective with the 2011-12 school year. Mr. Liberati said he would check with Parkland School District on the particulars of how and when they eliminated class ranking and report back to the Board.

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

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

BUSINESS AND FINANCE

Representatives from Lehigh Carbon Community College (LCCC) were present to answer questions about the LCCC budget for 2010-2011. In attendance were Don Snyder, LCCC President; Ken Mohr, the District's LCCC representative; and Joe Volk, LCCC trustee-at-large and District resident.

MOVED BY Miracle and **2ND BY** Quigley to approve the proposed budget for Lehigh Carbon Community College for 2010-2011.

Approve proposed budget for LCCC for 2010-2011

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

MOVED BY Miracle and **2ND BY** McLoughlin to approve the proposed General Fund and Academic Center School Budgets for Lehigh Career and Technical Institute for 2010-2011.

Motion defeated to approve proposed General Fund and Academic Center School Budgets for LCTI for 2010-2011

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Dimmig, Quigley
"NO" – All but Dimmig and Quigley – Motion Defeated
ABSENT: None

MOVED BY Miracle and **2ND BY** Quigley to approve the following purchases of natural gas which were pre-authorized by the Administration on Friday, February 19, 2010 pursuant to the contract with Compass Energy that was approved by the Board on August 24, 2009 –

Approve purchases of natural gas which were pre-authorized by the Administration

- Balance of projected need for 2009-10 at a unit cost of \$6.06/dth, which is the same unit cost as the initial purchase on August 26, 2009.
- Increased District's purchase of projected need for 2010-11 from 40% (purchased August 26, 2009 at the unit cost of \$6.65/dth) to 70%, with the latest portion purchased at a unit cost of \$5.98/dth.
- Initial purchase of 40% of projected need for 2011-12 at the unit cost of \$6.37/dth.
- Initial purchase of 25% of projected need for 2012-13 at the unit cost of \$6.51/dth.

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

SUPPORT SERVICES

PERSONNEL

MOVED BY Miracle and **2ND BY** Quigley to approve the transfer of William Neal, Instructional Assistant to Extended Term Substitute Kindergarten Teacher effective Monday, February 22, 2010 at a salary of \$223.27 per day. Mr. Neal will fill the position temporarily vacated by Margaret Hudock.

Approve transfer from IA to Extended Term Sub. Kindergarten Teacher-Neal

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

REPORTS

Act 93 Committee

Mr. Miracle said the committee is meeting with Act 93 representatives on a new agreement.

Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit

Mrs. Mohr reported that Dr. Elaine Eib will be the new Director effective April 2010.

Facilities Committee

Mrs. Gunkle reported the following –

- The result of an inspection of Hopewell kitchen by the state turned out good. The kitchen was “very clean”.
- The grounds and maintenance staff did an excellent job of removing snow about 2 weeks ago after a big snow storm.
- The water run-off problem at the Intermediate School is being worked on.

Superintendent’s Report

Mr. Liberati’s report included the following –

- Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit had provided an overview on starting a cyber charter school for participating school districts for the start of the 2010-11 school year. An advisory board would be created to administer the program. Annual costs per student to Districts are estimated to be \$4,800 for secondary and \$5,600 for elementary.
- Lower Macungie Elementary School may become a location for a new alternative school to open in September that would be available to Districts in Lehigh and Northampton counties.

Mr. Bergey introduced recently hired Food Service Director, Gina Giarratanna to the Board.

Strategic Plan Report

Mr. Liberati handed out the Strategic Plan Report.

NEW BUSINESS

Approve 1st reading of policies #335, #435, #535, and #504

MOVED BY Miracle and 2ND BY McLoughlin to approve a first reading of the following policies -

- #335 Administrative Employees: *Family and Medical Leave Act*
- #435 Professional Employees: *Family and Medical Leave Act*
- #535 Classified Employees: *Family and Medical Leave Act*
- #504 Classified Employees: *Recruitment and Selection*

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

VISITORS

The Board took a brief recess at 9:19 p.m.

The Board met in executive session at 9:22 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 9:24 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY Quigley and 2ND BY Miracle to adjourn the meeting.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 9:24 p.m.

ATTEST: _____ Board Secretary