



# Southern Lehigh School District

## Board of School Directors Meeting

June 8, 2009

The first monthly meeting of the Board of School Directors of the School District of Southern Lehigh was held at 7:33 p.m. on the above date (June 8, 2009) at Southern Lehigh High School, Center Valley, PA.

**PRESENT:** Stelts, Auteri, Dimmig, Eddinger, Gunkle, Miracle, Quigley, Schubert  
**ABSENT:** Hayes  
**OTHERS:** Liberati, Christman, Snell, Guerriere, Bartholomew, Kennedy, Engler, Lewis, Siegfried, Scherzberg, Jordan, Bergey, Covelle, Farris, Davidson, Mickley, Harakal, and approximately 27 other members of the community.

### **OPENING PROCEDURES**

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

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOVED BY** Miracle and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Gunkle to approve the minutes of the May 26, 2009 meeting as copied and distributed to all Board members.

Minutes of  
5/26/09

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

### **VISITORS**

Susan Martin read a letter containing information on offering virtual German language.

Dennis Melton shared comments on foreign languages and curriculum.

Sylvia Fowler spoke in support of keeping German language in the curriculum.

Denise Walkowicz spoke in support of German language.

Sean Ruppel spoke in support of expansion of immersion program and supported adding a Spanish teacher.

**MOVED BY** Gunkle and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Quigley to ask the administration to look at the information provided by Mrs. Martin for offering virtual languages in middle school and high school.

Administration  
to look at  
information  
regarding  
offering virtual  
languages in  
middle school  
& high school

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

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

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

Approve the bills list dated June 8, 2009 showing paid bills in the amount of \$17,182.26 and bills to be paid in the amount of \$320,760.34 for a total amount of \$337,942.60 for the General Fund, and bills to be paid in the amount of \$185,805.17 for the Construction Fund, and bills to be paid in the amount of \$770.00 for the Capital Reserve Sinking Fund;

Approval of  
Bills

Approve the Treasurer's Report and the Investment Report for the month of May, 2009;

Approve  
Treasurer's  
Report and  
Investment  
Report

Approve the second period of childrearing leave of the following staff -

Michelle Conrad, School Psychologist, Liberty Bell, for the first semester of the 2009-2010 school year;

Approve 2<sup>nd</sup>  
period of  
childrearing  
leave-Conrad

Accept retirement-McKee Accept the retirement of Mary Lou McKee, School Nurse, Southern Lehigh High School, effective August 10, 2009. Mrs. McKee has been employed with the district for 21 years;

Approve substitute teachers for the 2009-2010 school year-Brunner, McKee, Shoemaker Approve the following substitute teachers for the 2009-2010 school year -  
Doris Brunner, Math  
Mary Lou McKee, School Nurse  
Candace Shoemaker, Reading Specialist;

Approve extension of FMLA Leave-Tipton Approve the extension of FMLA Leave for Jessica Tipton, Learning Support Teacher, High School, from June 1, 2009 until the end of the 2008-2009 school year, according to the provisions of 29 CRF Part 825, Subpart F, Section 825.602;

Approve continued stipend for the 2009-2010 school year-Fairclough Approve the continued \$5,000 stipend for Karen Fairclough, for the 2009-2010 school year, for the position of Special Education Facilitator;

Approve staff (pending required documentation)-Reinhard Approve the appointment of the following staff (*pending receipt of required documentation*) -  
Shannon Reinhard, Full-Time Custodian, effective date to be determined. This is a new position due to opening of Intermediate School;

Approve existing district staff for seasonal employment from 6/1/2009 through 5/31/2010-Fluck, Kovacs, Michael, Parker, Ragsdale, Werley, Yost Approve the following existing district staff for seasonal employment from June 1, 2009 through May 31, 2010 -

Robert Fluck  
Janice Kovacs  
Lori Michael  
Shirley Parker  
Cathleen Ragsdale  
Robert Werley  
Lynn Yost;

Approve returning seasonal staff from 6/1/2009 through May 31, 2010-Beck, Bell, Dorney, Freske, Godown, Grove, Kaplan, Kassel, Kennedy, McCarthy, Senters, Yost Approve the following returning seasonal staff from June 1, 2009 through May 31, 2010 -

Brandon Beck  
Nathaniel Bell  
Jocelynn Dorney  
Kamille Freske  
Robert Godown  
Jeffrey Grove  
Elizabeth Kaplan  
Keith Kassel  
Stephen Kennedy  
Stephen McCarthy  
Kelly Senters  
Christopher Yost;

Approve new seasonal staff from 6/1/2009 through 5/31/2010-Buehler, Hassick, Marttila, Nemeth, Rivenbark, Rohrbach, Rupp, Ulmen Approve the following new seasonal staff from June 1, 2009 through May 31, 2010 -

Emily Buehler  
Ryan Hassick  
Michael Marttila  
Elizabeth Nemeth  
Fawn Rivenbark  
Eric Rohrbach  
Arlen Rupp  
Ryan Ulmen;

Approve continued stipend for the coordination of PowerSchool during the period of 7/1/2009 to 6/30/2010-Davis Approve the continued \$6,000 stipend for Melody Davis, Secretary, High School, for the coordination of the PowerSchool Student Information System on a District-wide basis during the period of July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010;

Approve substitute staff for the 2009-2010 school year-Schrader Approve the following substitute staff for the 2009-2010 school year -  
Linda Schrader, Substitute Secretary, at an hourly rate of \$13.12;

Approve coaches for the 2009-2010 school year (stipend amounts may change effective 9/1/2009 dependent upon the collective bargaining process) Approve the appointment of the following coaches for the 2009-2010 school year. (*The current stipend amounts may change effective September 1, 2009 dependent upon the collective bargaining process.*) -

<u>Anne Cooper</u>	Assistant HS Cheerleading	\$2,134
<u>Megan Marquette</u>	Assistant HS Girls' Basketball	\$4,584

<u>Lee Zeisloft</u>	Assistant HS Girls' Basketball	\$4,584
<u>Jorelle Reid</u>	Assistant HS Girls' Basketball	\$4,584
<u>Justin Kocis</u>	Head MS Girls' Basketball	\$3,359;

Cont. approval of coaches for the 2009-2010 school year- Cooper, Marquette, Zeisloft, Reid, Kocis

Approve the appointment of Robert Clark as Assistant to the Athletic Director (Fall Season) at a stipend of \$3,333.33 for the 2009-2010 school year.

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

Approve Assistant to the Athletic Director (Fall Season) for the 2009-2010 school year- Clark

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

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

Mr. Covelle thanked the Board for hosting the Board Awards ceremony last week. He also reported that the senior awards will take place at 7:00 pm on Thursday, and graduation will be 6:30 pm on Friday.

Mrs. Farris reported on the following –

- The SLIS PTG is recently in the process of it's first ever Intermediate T-Shirt sale. The money raised from their efforts will help to pay the application fees for this group's incorporation and seeking tax exempt status. The shirts sold briskly at the Liberty Bell Festival on Friday night, and Mrs. Holloran sold t-shirts at the Hopewell festival the same night and the overwhelming positive response was the same. Remaining T-shirts are on sale in the elementary school lobbies this week.
- Students in grade 3, 4 and 5 will be treated to a virtual tour of the Intermediate School on the dates of June 8 at HW, June 9 at LB, and June 10 at LM schools. The Virtual Tour was created by me and Mr. McGinty, our new Asst. Principal. Our special thanks are extended to Mr. John Zelenak for his camera and media work for this project.
- IS Teacher committee meetings have been ongoing this month.
- Coursework matters, testing, and individual student programming meetings and issues have been regular and routine pieces of business over the past month.

Mr. Davidson reported on the following –

#### Academic Events

1. Completed Finals – Reading, Language Arts, Social Studies
2. Upcoming Finals – Math (6/9), Science (6/11)
3. Ellis Island – 5/26 successful field trip

#### Social Events

1. 6/1 Field Day –
2. 6/5 8<sup>th</sup> grade Luau –
3. 6/12 grade level picnics

Mrs. Mickley reported on the following –

Teacher data teams have completed analysis of end-of-year assessment data as well as DIBELS data for math and reading.

Class lists and schedules are being worked on with input from teachers to best address students' needs for next year.

Hopewell and Liberty Bell both held festivals on Friday night - they were a huge success despite the rain. Lower Milford had a year-end family celebration at the Grand Movie Theater in Sellersville.

Mrs. Farris is presenting an Intermediate School virtual tour assembly at each of the elementary schools this week. Students are very excited about being part of history at SLSD and being the first students in the new school.

Numerous special events for kindergarten, farewells to grades 3, 4, and 5, volunteer recognition, and other year-end events are being held.

We are beginning the packing and moving process.

Approve the 2009-2010 Elementary School Student Handbook

**MOVED BY** Miracle and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Gunkle to approve the 2009-2010 Elementary School Student Handbook.

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

Approve resolution that the Board expels Student #914700 permanently, waiving the Student's rights to a formal expulsion hearing

**MOVED BY** Miracle and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Gunkle to approve Resolution: That the Board expels Student #914700 permanently, subject to the terms and conditions of a letter signed by the Student and the Student's parent, waiving the Student's rights to a formal expulsion hearing.

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

Approve the 2009-2010 Mini-Grants

**MOVED BY** Gunkle and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Miracle to approve the 2009-2010 Mini-Grants.

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

Approve participation in the University of Virginia Study, *What Works in Gifted Education*

**MOVED BY** Miracle and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Auteri to approve participation in the University of Virginia Study, *What Works in Gifted Education*.

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

## **BUSINESS AND FINANCE**

Approve necessary budgetary transfers to close out the accounting records for the fiscal year

**MOVED BY** Miracle and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Gunkle to approve the necessary budgetary transfers to reflect 2008-2009 transactions and auditor's adjusting entries and close out the accounting records for the fiscal year.

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

## **SUPPORT SERVICES**

Approve award of the Trash & Recycling Service Bid to Waste Management

**MOVED BY** Miracle and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Quigley to approve award of the Trash and Recycling Service Bid to Waste Management, 400 Progress Dr., Telford, PA 18969. The contract reflects a yearly cost of \$45,750 for the first two years and a third year cost of \$48,040 for the period July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2012.

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

## **PERSONNEL**

Approve staff for the 2009-2010 school year (pending required documentation)- McNabb, Wechtler

**MOVED BY** Miracle and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Gunkle to approve the following staff for the 2009-2010 school year (*pending receipt of required documentation*) -

Brynne McNabb, School Psychologist, Intermediate School, at Master's +30, Step 1, an annual salary of \$52,123. (*This amount may change due to salary negotiations in process.*) Ms. McNabb will fill the vacant position created with the retirement of Jan Weinberger, School Psychologist.

Kathleen Wechtler, Learning Support Teacher, Intermediate School, at Master's, Step 5, an annual salary of \$51,831. (*This amount may change due to salary negotiations in process.*) Ms. Wechtler will fill the vacancy created with the resignation of Colleen Pachence.

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

Approve increase in hours for L. Posbergh & J. Zamichieli to share a daily 7 hour (1:1) Instructional Assistant position for the 2009-2010 school year

**MOVED BY** Miracle and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Auteri to approve the increase in hours for Lynn Posbergh and Jane Zamichieli who currently share a daily 3 hour (1:1) Instructional Assistant position. For the 2009-2010 school year they will share a daily 7 hour (1:1) Instructional Assistant position at Hopewell Elementary School. This is necessary due to the student's promotion from Kindergarten to First Grade.

**VOICE VOTE: “YES” – Unanimous – Motion Carried**  
**ABSENT: Hayes**

## **REPORTS**

### Lehigh Career & Technical Institute

Mr. Miracle reported that the Joint Operating Committee met last Wednesday where Mr. Eddinger was elected Treasurer. He said attendance issues at the academic center have been addressed with attendance mentoring to monitor the attendance. Several Southern Lehigh students won awards at the annual national awards night.

### Education Committee

Mrs. Gunkle gave the following report on the last Education Committee meeting -

**09-10 Mini-grant recommendations** – The mini-grant proposals were discussed. The administrations recommendations were explained and the rationale for why the grants were selected.

**Review of the Elementary Handbook** – Changes made to the handbook reflect recommendations that were made at other levels and modifications resulting from the changed grade configuration of our 3 elementary buildings.

**Elementary Writing Program** - A presentation was given by Janet Miltenberger, the reading specialist at Liberty Bell and the K – 12 Department Leader for Language Arts, on the new writing resource that we are looking to implement at the K – 6 level. The administration is recommending that we implement Step up to Writing as an integrated part of our Language Arts curriculum.

**Status of MS Language Registrations** – The registration statistics for the language registrations were discussed. To date there is still a low number of students who have gone through the registration process so the statistics are incomplete.

**Curriculum work and resources needed for Intermediate School and Middle School** – Due to the changes across the district we will be working on many different curriculum areas over the summer. This may result in the need to come to the board for textbook approval during the summer months.

**Information regarding PSSA Prep course at Middle School** – This will be a new course that will be required for 8<sup>th</sup> grade students who are not performing at a proficient level on the PSSA. It will be delivered in a 2 mini-cycle format. Class size will be small so that individualized instruction will be possible. The curriculum for this course is in the process of being written.

**STAR (Skills Through Advanced Research) Course** – This 8<sup>th</sup> grade course will be focused on study skills, reading and comprehension.

**Applied Technology** – This 8<sup>th</sup> grade course will focus on technology concepts, systems and operations.

### Superintendent's Report

Mr. Liberati apprised the Board that the Football Boosters may be interested in supporting a 9<sup>th</sup> grade football club team with a maximum cost to the district of \$1,100 for the year for 5 home games. There was Board discussion relating to how club sports become school sanctioned sports, and what the effect will be on athletic fields by adding another club sport. He will report back to the Board after meeting with the Football Boosters.

There was much Board discussion on class sizes, PSSA math scores, and Spanish/German speaking teachers.

**MOVED BY** Gunkle and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Auteri to reconsider hiring a native Spanish speaking teacher for the Intermediate School to replace a retiring teacher who will teach in English and also teach in Spanish for immersion students.

**VOICE VOTE: “YES” – Gunkle and Schubert**  
**“NO” – All but Gunkle and Schubert – Motion Defeated**  
**ABSENT: Hayes**

Motion defeated to reconsider hiring a native Spanish speaking teacher for the Intermediate School to replace a retiring teacher

**NEW BUSINESS**

Approve, as amended, a 1<sup>st</sup> reading of policy #105, #201 and #907

**MOVED BY** Auteri and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Quigley to approve, as amended, a first reading of the following policies -

#105 *Curriculum Development*

#201 *Admission of Students*

#907 *School Visitors (as amended by deleting the last paragraph)*

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

**VISITORS**

Mr. Arland Schantz thanked the Board for utilizing the Mobile Ag Science Lab from the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau.

ADJOURNMENT

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOVED BY** Miracle and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Quigley to adjourn the meeting.

**VOICE VOTE: "YES" - Unanimous - Motion Carried**  
**ABSENT: Hayes**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:04 p.m.

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

Pending Approval