



# Southern Lehigh School District

## Board of School Directors Meeting

June 9, 2008

The first monthly meeting of the Board of School Directors of the School District of Southern Lehigh was held at 7:39 p.m. on the above date (June 9, 2008) at Southern Lehigh High School, Center Valley, PA.

**PRESENT:** Stelts, Auteri, Dimmig, Eddinger, Gunkle, Miracle, Quigley, Rennie, Schubert

**ABSENT:** None

**OTHERS:** Liberati, Snell, Guerriere, Bartholomew, Kennedy, Churm, Christman, Takacs, Keister, Bergey, Scherzberg, Siegfried, Donahue, Farris, Harakal, Impink, Martin (Morning Call), and approximately 10 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** Quigley and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Miracle to approve the minutes of the May 19, 2008 meeting as copied and distributed to all Board members.

Minutes of  
5/19/08

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

**ABSENT: None**

### **VISITORS**

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

**MOVED BY** Schubert and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Rennie to approve the **CONSENT AGENDA** items as follows, excluding the appointment of Colleen West-Slotter as math teacher for the Summer Learning Academy for Math which was tabled -

Approved the bills list dated June 9, 2008 showing paid bills in the amount of \$375,368.93 and bills to be paid in the amount of \$349,965.45 for a total amount of \$725,334.38 for the General Fund, and paid bills in the amount of \$14,316.25 and bills to be paid in the amount of \$36,259.26 for a total amount of \$50,575.51 for the Construction Fund, and bills to be paid in the amount of \$570.30 for the Capital Reserve Sinking Fund;

Approval of  
Bills

Approve the addendum to the bills list dated June 9, 2008 showing bills to be paid in the amount of \$28,590.92 for the General Fund, and bills to be paid in the amount of \$19,699.47 for the Construction Fund, and bills to be paid in the amount of \$6,400.00 for the Capital Reserve Sinking Fund;

Approve the following existing district staff for seasonal employment from June 1, 2008 through May 31, 2009 -

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

Approve  
existing district  
staff for  
seasonal  
employment-  
Kovacs,  
Michael, Parker,  
Ragsdale,  
Werley, Yost

Approve the following returning seasonal staff from June 1, 2008 through May 31, 2009 -

Nathaniel Bell  
Rebecca Bell  
Kamille Freske  
Jennifer Krastin  
Abbie Sneckenburg  
Katelyn Chando

Approve  
returning  
seasonal staff-  
N. Bell, R. Bell,  
Freske, Krastin,  
Sneckenburg,  
Chando,  
Malone, Yost

Lucy Malone  
Christopher Yost;

Approve new seasonal staff (pending documentation)-  
Arnold, Beck, Cameron, Dorney, Godown, Grove, Kaplan, Kassel, Kennedy, McCarthy, Miller, Senters

Approve the following new seasonal staff from June 1, 2008 through May 31, 2009 (*pending completion of required documentation*) -

Kristin Arnold  
Brandon Beck  
Spencer Cameron  
Jocelynn Dorney  
Robert Godown  
Jeffrey Grove  
Elizabeth Kaplan  
Keith Kassel  
Stephen Kennedy  
Stephen McCarthy  
Cory Miller  
Kelly Senters;

Approve substitute teacher-Heffley

Approve the following substitute teacher –

Cynthia Heffley, Elementary/Special Education;

Approve mentor at a stipend not to exceed \$700.00-Gill

Approve the appointment of the following mentor at a stipend not to exceed \$700.00 -

Timothy Gill as a mentor for *Cynthia Heffley*;

Approve salary step adjustment effective 9/1/08-Kohler, Kleppinger, Searfoss

Approve the following salary step adjustment for the following staff, effective September 1, 2008 -

David Kohler, Bachelor's to Bachelor's +15  
Dana Kleppinger, Bachelor's +15 to Master's  
Adrienne Searfoss, Master's +15 to Master's +30;

Approve FMLA Leave-Searfoss, Bauer, Moser

Approve the following FMLA Leave for the following staff -

Adrienne Searfoss, Science Teacher, High School, from June 5, 2008 through June 16, 2008.  
Rebecca Bauer, 5<sup>th</sup> grade Teacher, Hopewell Elementary, from May 21, 2008 through June 13, 2008.  
Lisa Moser, Physical Education Teacher, Hopewell Elementary, from May 19, 2008 through June 13, 2008;

Accept resignation-Turner

Accept the resignation of Patrice Turner, Assistant Principal, Southern Lehigh Middle School, with a tentative effective date of June 30, 2008;

Accept resignation-Bickel

Accept the resignation of the following staff effective June 2, 2008 -

Jessica Bickel, Substitute Custodian;

Approve unpaid leave-Himmelsbach, Klucsarits

Approve unpaid leave of the following staff -

Karen Himmelsbach, Part-Time Cafeteria Worker, High School, Monday, October 6 through Friday, October 10, 2008.  
Francine Klucsarits, 3 hour Instructional Assistant, Hopewell Elementary School, September 2, through September 5, 2008;

Approve staff (pending documentation)-Llewellyn, Herman, Walkowicz

Approve the following staff (*pending receipt of required documentation*) -

Cynthia Llewellyn, Substitute Secretary, at an hourly rate of \$12.16.  
Jordan Herman, 7-hour Instructional Assistant, High School, at an hourly rate of \$14.74, effective August 26, 2008. This position created with the resignation of *Lisa Collins*.  
Denise Walkowicz, Substitute Instructional Assistant, at an hourly rate of \$14.18.  
Cynthia Llewellyn, Substitute Instructional Assistant, at an hourly rate of \$14.18;

Accept change of date of resignation-Dusome

Accept the change of date of resignation (*approved at the May 19, 2008 board meeting*) for Ella Dusome from June 16, 2008 to June 12, 2008;

Approve the appointment of the following High School Summer Math Lab teachers at an hourly rate of \$33.26 plus an additional amount of \$350.00 for curriculum planning -

Paul Malik and Erin Bromfield (*enrollment up to 24 students*)

Joseph Breisch and Ryan Haupt (*if enrollment numbers over 24 students*);

Tabled the appointment of the following Middle School Math teacher for the Summer Learning Academy for Math at an hourly rate of \$33.26 -

Colleen West-Slotter;

Approve the appointment of Matthew Wehr, Music Teacher, High School for the 2008 High School Fall Play Director at a stipend of \$1,994.00;

Approve the following staff to tutor Special Education students during the summer 2008 at an hourly rate of \$33.26. (*This expense is funded by the IDEA program*) -

Theresa Ware

Beth Roba

Rebekah Dech

Lisa Lowry

Brian Hines

Leanora Kline

Julie Vogl

Robert Werley

Robert Fluck

Janet Miltenberger

Susan Shimer;

Approve Ryan Haupt, Math Teacher, High School, to instruct PSSA preparation classes at an hourly rate of \$33.26.

**VOICE VOTE: "YES" – All but Quigley & Dimmig**  
**"NO" – Quigley, Dimmig – Motion Carried**  
**ABSENT: None**

**CURRICULUM/STUDENT AND STAFF ACTIVITIES**

Mrs. Siegfried, Dr. Donahue and Mrs. Farris reported on student and staff activities at the High School, Middle School and the elementary schools.

Mrs. Siegfried reported that High School Graduation ceremonies will be on Friday, June 13, 2008.

Dr. Donahue announced that the Middle School Odyssey of the Mind team placed 4<sup>th</sup> at the recent World Competition.

[Mr. Schubert left the meeting room]

**MOVED BY** Quigley and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Miracle to approve the following student team travel request –

The *Southern Lehigh High School Girls' Basketball Team* to attend Keystone State Girls Basketball Team Camp, Albright College, Reading, PA from Thursday, July 31, 2008 through Monday, August 4, 2008.

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

**MOVED BY** Rennie and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Quigley to approve the request from the parents of student #165880 and student #174060 to complete the 2007-2008 school year.

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

**MOVED BY** Miracle and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Quigley to approve the 2008-2009 Mini-Grants.

[Mr. Schubert returned to meeting room]

Approve appointment of HS Summer Math Lab teachers-Malik, Bromfield, Breisch, Haupt

Tabled appointment of MS Math teacher for Summer Learning Academy for Math-West-Slotter

Approve High School Fall Play Director for 2008—Wehr

Approve staff to tutor Special Education students during the summer of 2008-Ware, Roba, Dech, Lowry, Hines, Kline, Vogl, Werley, Fluck, Miltenberger, Shimer

Approve R. Haupt at the HS to instruct PSSA preparation classes

Approve SLHS Girls' Basketball Team to attend a Basketball Team Camp-Reading, PA

Approve student #165880 and student #174060 to complete 2007-2008 school year

Approve 2008-2009 Mini-Grants

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

**BUSINESS AND FINANCE**

Mr. Snell gave a PowerPoint presentation for final adoption of the 2008-2009 General Fund Budget. The budget highlights included the following:

- New Staffing
- Elimination of Per Capita Tax
- Introduction of State Money from Gaming
- Additional money for Technology
- New Debt Service for Intermediate School
- Increased funding for GASB 45
- Fuel and Energy cost increases
- A tax increase of 1.35 mills (a 3.17% increase) to 43.95 mills
- A \$6.05 Real Estate tax increase for average homeowner after State Tax Relief

Mr. Snell also handed out documents that summarized the following:

- School Board's action on 4/21/08 to adopt the proposed final budget
- Recommended changes to 2008-2009 budget from proposed final adoption to present
- Refinement of revenue and expenditure projections for 2007-2008 fiscal year
- Summary of revenue, expenditures, and fund balance from 2006-2007 to 2012-2013

Adopt 2008-2009 Budget Resolutions, which reflects a 1.35 mill tax increase

**MOVED BY** Miracle **and 2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Rennie to adopt the following 2008-2009 Budget Resolutions, which reflects a 1.35 mill tax increase –

There was lengthy Board discussion on the budget including different scenarios on the amount of millage increase.

Amend motion to adopt the 2008-2009 Budget Resolutions to reflect a 1.2 mill tax increase

**MOVED BY** Miracle **and 2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Rennie to amend their motion to adopt the following 2008-2009 Budget resolutions to reflect a **1.2 mill** tax increase -

That this Board of School Directors hereby officially adopts the School District of Southern Lehigh **2008-2009 Fiscal School Year Budget**, commencing with July 1, 2008, and ending with June 30, 2009, as recommended. A copy of PDE-2028, Final General Fund Budget, Fiscal Year July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009 that was preliminarily adopted at an official meeting of the Board of School Directors held Monday, April 21, 2008 is included in the Board packet.

**WHEREAS**, the estimated Receipts from Local Sources of \$38,772,234 as set forth in the School District of Southern Lehigh Fiscal School Year Budget for the year 2008-2009 officially adopted this 9th day of June, 2007, includes a tax on the assessed valuation of real estate.

**VOICE VOTE: "YES" – All but Eddinger, Quigley & Dimmig**  
**"NO" – Eddinger, Quigley, Dimmig – Motion Carried**  
**ABSENT: None**

Approve Designation of Fund Balance for 2008-2009

**MOVED BY** Miracle **and 2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Rennie to approve the designation of fund balance for the 2008-2009 General Fund Budget as indicated in the attached schedule.

**VOICE VOTE: "YES" – All but Eddinger, Quigley & Dimmig**  
**"NO" – Eddinger, Quigley, Dimmig – Motion Carried**  
**ABSENT: None**

**MOVED BY** Miracle **and 2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Rennie to adopt the following 2008-2009 Budget Resolution –

Real Estate Millage set at 43.8 mills on the dollar

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED**, that the millage on the assessed valuation of real estate located within the confines of Southern Lehigh School District (based upon 50% of the appraised valuation in compliance with Lehigh County Board of Commissioners resolution adopted May 30, 1974, as revised), as required in the officially adopted **2008-2009 Fiscal School Year Budget**, be set at 43.8 mills on the dollar (\$4.38 per each \$100 of assessed valuation) to provide an estimated income of \$32,204,735 for the fiscal year commencing with July 1, 2008, and ending with June 30, 2009.

**VOICE VOTE: "YES" – All but Eddinger, Quigley & Dimmig**  
**"NO" – Eddinger, Quigley, Dimmig – Motion Carried**  
**ABSENT: None**

**MOVED BY** Miracle and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Rennie to repeal the School District Resolutions which previously imposed Per Capita Taxes of \$5.00 each upon residents of the School District under the provisions of Section 6908 of the Local Tax Enabling Act and Section 679 of the Public School Code.

Repeal the School District Resolutions (2) which previously imposed Per Capita Taxes of \$5.00 each upon residents of the School District

**VOICE VOTE: "YES" – All but Eddinger, Quigley & Dimmig**  
**"NO" – Eddinger, Quigley, Dimmig – Motion Carried**  
**ABSENT: None**

**MOVED BY** Miracle and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Rennie to adopt the following 2008-2009 Budget Resolutions –

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED**, that this Board of School Directors hereby re-enacts the enabling resolution providing for the levying and assessing of a 1% tax upon the transfer of real property, or of any interest therein, situated within the School District of Southern Lehigh, under the authority of Act 511 of 1965, known as "The Local Tax Enabling Act", with said tax to provide an estimated income of \$600,000; and,

Re-enact 1% Real Estate Transfer Tax

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this Board of School Directors hereby re-enacts the enabling resolution providing for the levy of 1% tax on the earned income of residents of the School District of Southern Lehigh levied under the authority of Act 511 of 1965, known as "The Local Tax Enabling Act", with said tax to provide an estimated income of \$3,350,000; and.

Re-enact 1% Earned Income Tax

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this Board of School Directors hereby re-enacts the enabling resolution providing for the levy of an Local Services Tax in the amount of Five (\$5.00) Dollars on individuals engaged in any occupation, trade or profession within the corporate limits of the School District under the authority of Act 511 of 1965, P.L. 1257, as amended, known as "The Local Tax Enabling Act," with said tax to provide an estimated income of \$25,000.

Re-enact \$5.00 Local Services Tax

**VOICE VOTE: "YES" – All but Eddinger, Quigley & Dimmig**  
**"NO" – Eddinger, Quigley, Dimmig – Motion Carried**  
**ABSENT: None**

**MOVED BY** Miracle and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Rennie to adopt the following 2008-2009 Budget Resolution –

**RESOLVED**, by the Board of School Directors of Southern Lehigh School District, that homestead and farmstead exclusion real estate tax assessment reductions are authorized for the school year beginning July 1, 2008, under the provisions of the Homestead Property Exclusion Program Act (part of Act 50 of 1998) and the Taxpayer Relief Act (Act 1 of 2006), as attached.

Homestead & Farmstead Exclusion Real Estate Tax Assessment Reductions are authorized for the school year beginning 7/1/08

The following amounts are available for homestead and farmstead real estate tax reduction for the school year beginning July 1, 2008:

- Gambling tax funds - \$618,434.06
- Philadelphia tax credit reimbursement funds - \$21,554.51
- Aggregate amount available - \$639,988.57
- Homestead property number – 5,578
- Farmstead property number – 60
- Homestead/farmstead combined number – 5,638
- Real estate tax reduction calculation - \$113.66
- Homestead/farmstead exclusion - \$2,595.00

**VOICE VOTE: "YES" – All but Eddinger, Quigley & Dimmig**  
**"NO" – Eddinger, Quigley, Dimmig – Motion Carried**  
**ABSENT: None**

Motion Defeated to enter into the minutes that M. Eddinger was in favor of approving the Budget but not in favor of approving a tax increase of 1.2 mills

**MOVED BY** Quigley and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Dimmig to have it entered into the minutes of the meeting that Mr. Eddinger was in favor of approving the 2008-2009 General Fund Budget, but was not in favor approving a tax increase of 1.2 mills.

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

Approve necessary budget transfers and close out the accounting records for the 2007-2008 fiscal year

**MOVED BY** Rennie and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Miracle to approve the necessary budgetary transfers to reflect 2007-2008 transactions and auditor's adjusting entries and close out the accounting records for the fiscal year.

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

Approve the Standing Orders for the School Nurses for the 2008-2009 school year

**MOVED BY** Miracle and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Auteri to approve the Standing Orders for the School Nurses for the 2008-2009 school year. The Standing Orders have been pre-approved by Dr. Shoenberger and are included with board materials.

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

### **SUPPORT SERVICES**

Accept proposal for Telecommunication Maintenance Services- Communications Systems Inc.

**MOVED BY** Miracle and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Rennie to accept the proposal for Telecommunication Maintenance Services to the lowest responsible respondent, Communications Systems Inc., 415 North Third Street, Allentown, PA 18102, in the amount of \$4,880.00 for a one year agreement and \$95.00 per hour for mechanical contracting services.

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

Award Science Classroom Conversion to- Michael Serfass Construction (General Contractor), Landmark Services (Electrical, HVAC & Plumbing)

**MOVED BY** Miracle and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Auteri to award the Science Classroom Conversion to the following Contractors –

General Contractor - Michael Serfass Construction, 1710 Lotus Drive, Orefield, PA 18069 in the amount of \$21,420.00

Electrical - Landmark Services, 924 Marcon Blvd., Allentown, PA 18109 in the amount of \$9,990.00

HVAC - Landmark Services, 924 Marcon Blvd., Allentown, PA 18109 in the amount of \$60,000.00

Plumbing - Landmark Services Services, 924 Marcon Blvd., Allentown, PA 18109 in the amount of \$36,000.00

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

Approve Change Order/C.O.R. #15 to Penn Builders for the removal & reconstruction of the main entrance of the new Intermediate School road

**MOVED BY** Rennie and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Auteri to approve Change Order/C.O.R. #15 to Penn Builders in the amount of \$73,923.00 for the removal and reconstruction of the main entrance from Preston Lane to the north radius of the new Intermediate School road.

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

### **PERSONNEL**

Approve public statement issued regarding investigation of B. Neefe, Softball Coach

**MOVED BY** Miracle and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Quigley to approve a public statement be issued regarding the outcome of the investigation of Brian J. Neefe, Softball Coach, on behalf of the School District, as discussed during the Executive Session held immediately prior to this evening's meeting.

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

Attorney Bartholomew read the following statement,

"Under usual circumstances, any matter concerning School District personnel is considered to be confidential and is not discussed in public. In this particular case, Mr.

Neefe, the employee involved in the investigation, has waived his right to confidentiality and has specifically authorized the School District to make a public statement regarding the outcome of the investigation. Since Mr. Neefe has given the School District permission to comment about this matter, we make the following public statement on behalf of the School District concerning the investigation:

*The School District has completed its investigation of the complaints which were made against Brian Neefe, Softball Coach. The investigation included interviews of Mr. Neefe, the assistant coach, and athletic trainer; interviews of the complaining parents and their daughters; and interviews of all other team players and their parents. Our findings are (i) that there is no basis to conclude that Mr. Neefe's conduct placed any players at risk of injury or harm beyond those normally associated with participation in the sport of softball and (ii) that he committed no acts of misconduct.*

The School District will make no further public comment about this situation and considers the matter to be closed."

**MOVED BY** Miracle and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Auteri to approve to transfer the assignment of the following staff –

Approve transfer of staff-Keating, Fairclough, Covelle (pending documentation)

Brian Keating, Learning Support Teacher, High School, to Social Studies Teacher, High School, effective the 2008-2009 school year with no salary change. Mr. Keating will fill the position for one year during the Childrearing Leave of *Jennifer Wlodek-Evans*.

Karen Fairclough, .5 Learning Support Teacher and .5 Special Education Facilitator, High School, to Full-Time Special Education Facilitator, effective the 2008-2009 school year, at M+15, Step 6, \$54,549, plus a \$5,000.00 stipend. This is a new full-time position. (For the 2006-2007 and 2007-2008 school years, the Special Education Facilitator was a .5 position. *Janelle Rush*, who held the .5 position in 2007-2008, will return to the position of Special Education teacher in 2008-2009 at M+15, Step 8, an annual salary of \$56,787.)

Mark Covelle, Dean of Students, High School, to Assistant High School Principal, at a salary of \$80,000 (pending documentation) and effective July 1, 2008. Mr. Covelle will fill the vacant position created with the transfer of *Dr. Edward Donahue*.

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

**MOVED BY** Rennie and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Auteri to approve the following staff for the 2008-2009 school year –

Approve staff for the 2008-2009 school year-Heffley

Cynthia Heffley, Long-Term (Category E) Elementary Learning Support Substitute Teacher, Liberty Bell Elementary School, at B, Step 1, an annual salary of \$41,456.00. Ms. Heffley will fill the position created by the leave of absence of Rebekah Dech from the beginning of the 2008-2009 school year through March 6, 2009.

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

**MOVED BY** Eddinger and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Miracle to employ Morag Christie-Churm for the purpose of providing services regarding special education matters relating to the School District following her retirement at a rate of \$65 per hour limited to 25 total days in full or half-day increments for a maximum cost not exceeding \$13,000.

Employ M. Christie-Churm following her retirement regarding special education matters (maximum cost not to exceed \$13,000)

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

**MOVED BY** Miracle and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Rennie to approve the following administrative staff –

Nathan Davidson, Assistant Principal, Southern Lehigh Middle School, or Assistant High School Principal (failing the transfer of Mark Covelle) at a salary \$80,000 (pending completion of required documentation) and effective July 1, 2008.

Approve administrative staff-Davidson (pending required documentation)

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

Approve  
promotion-  
Stoneback

**MOVED BY** Miracle and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Rennie to approve the promotion of Jeremy Stoneback, Custodian, Hopewell Elementary School, to Head Custodian, Hopewell Elementary School, at an hourly rate of \$20.07, effective June 10, 2008.

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

## **REPORTS**

### Lehigh Career & Technical Institute

Mr. Miracle reported that he and Mr. Eddinger, the District's newly appointed representative to the LCTI Joint Operating Committee, attended a LCTI Board meeting last week.

Mr. Eddinger commented that LCTI students now win many awards statewide compared to 12 years ago when Dr. Hornberger arrived at LCTI and they were not winning any awards. Mr. Eddinger also recognized Mr. Miracle for his 12 years of outstanding service on the LCTI Board, and mentioned that Mr. Miracle is well respected by his peers.

### Education Committee

Mrs. Auteri and Mrs. Gunkle spoke about the Intermediate School Task Force Culture and Academic Recommendations that were distributed to the Board.

A positive school environment or culture built on mutual respect and beneficial interactions impacts student learning. The task force valued a culture that is supportive and focused on high expectations for all students and expects collaboration as the "way we do business." The following recommendations were listed:

- Create learning neighborhoods/communities
- Create shared teacher leadership, collegial relationships
- Establish an environment to support the developmental and diverse needs of students and emphasizes relationships between students and teachers
- Establish a safe and orderly environment
- Create a school-wide behavior plan
- Parent/Community partnerships

Success in today's world demands that students need "different core of knowledge" embodied in the 21<sup>st</sup> century skills. Observation of model schools reveals that these districts emphasize relationships, along with a relevant and rigorous curriculum for all students. The following recommendations were listed:

- Implement a modified schedule for 4-6 grades
- Work with the International Center for Leadership in Education to determine essential standards on which we should focus through the Curriculum Matrix and the National Essential Skills Study
- No ringing 'bells' for schedule/class changes
- Provide Professional Development for Quadrant D and possibly for teachers assigned to new content
- Support World Language recommendations for Spanish Immersion through grade six
- Related Arts recommendations to be submitted by others

### Superintendent's Report

Mr. Liberati reported that work is continuing on the data report with regards to the assessments results. The Mathematics Department is currently analyzing the data and it will be presented to the Board in about 2 weeks.

### Facilities Report

Mr. Liberati apprised the Board of on-going efforts to secure additional office space for Central Office staff. The only available space at Central Office is the staff development meeting room, which he does not want to give up by converting into offices.

The following options are being investigated:

- Installation of a modular building at Central Office
- Leasing office space at 3900 Schoolhouse Ln. (white building on Rt. 309 at Center Valley Parkway). 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> floors are vacant
- Leasing office space at Lehigh Valley College

**OLD BUSINESS**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**VISITORS**

**ADJOURNMENT**

ADJOURNMENT

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

**VOICE VOTE: "YES" - Unanimous - Motion Carried**  
**ABSENT: None**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:59 p.m.

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