



**Southern Lehigh School District
Board of School Directors Meeting Minutes
Monday, April 22, 2024**

**Board of School Directors Meeting
April 22, 2024
Southern Lehigh High School
High School Boardroom
5800 Main Street
Center Valley, PA 18034
6:30 p.m.**

School Board Meeting Minutes Monday, April 22, 2024 pending approval.

Members present: Eric Boyer, Emily Gehman, Timothy Kearney (remote by phone), Nicole King, Candi Kruse (remote by phone, arrived at 7:02 pm after roll call, departed meeting at 7:58 pm) Stephen Maund, Mary Joy Reinartz, Melissa Torba, Christopher Wayock,

Members absent: None

Administrators present: Ethan Ake-Little, Andria Buchman, Lynn Chromiak, Holly DeNofa Michael Mahon, Louis Pepe, Melissa Petronio, Michael Rohrbach, Tamara Solometo, Christopher Summa, Karen Trinkle, Deanna Webb, Shannon Williams

Others present: Attorney Jessica Moyer (King, Spry, Herman Freund & Faul, LLC), Anne Marie Lobley

1. OPENING PROCEDURES

- a. Call to Order
 1. Emily Gehman called the meeting to order at: 6:37 pm
- b. Recording of Attendance
 - i. Present at time of roll call: Eric Boyer, Emily Gehman, Timothy Kearney (remote by phone), Nicole King, Stephen Maund, Mary Joy Reinartz, Melissa Torba, Christopher Wayock
 - ii. Absent at time of roll call: Candi Kruse
 - iii. Present after roll call: Candi Kruse at 7:02 pm (remote by phone)
- c. Pledge of Allegiance
 - i. Emily Gehman led the Board and others attending the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

2. VISITORS' COMMENTS

Notation: Candi Kruse joined the meeting by phone at 7:02 pm

- a. Comments will be limited to three minutes per speaker to provide input to the board on items that are before us, or may come for us for a vote.
 - i. Avani Shah spoke on the topic of Southern Lehigh Middle School Soccer
 - ii. Eric Lavinder spoke on the topic of SL middle school co-ed soccer
 - iii. Pat D'Amico spoke on the topic of previous board meeting
 - iv. Lisa Maloney spoke on the topic of funding for music programs
 - v. Priya Sareen spoke on the topic of budget
 - vi. Lisa Foley spoke on the topic of theater
 - vii. Donna Neff spoke on the topic of theater budget
 - viii. Betty Gangewere spoke on the topic of theater budget
 - ix. Julie Bird spoke on the topic of budget related for full day K
 - x. Ava Lindley spoke on the topic of budget
 - xi. Kristine Seasholtz spoke on the topic of theater

3. MINUTES

- a. Executive Session Summary-Board Solicitor
 - i. Solicitor Jessica Moyer noted the following executive sessions were held for the following reasons: 4/2/2024 Facilities Committee for the purpose of potential litigation, 4/8/2024 full Board, two held, one prior to Board meeting & one during meeting meeting to discuss a student issue on going, personnel matter and negotiations. 4/16/2024 Negotiations Committee for the purpose of contract negotiations and 4/22/2024 prior to the full board meeting for a personnel matter.
- b. Approval Board Minutes March 25, 2024 & April 8, 2024
 - i. **Motion to approve the Board Meeting Minutes of March 25, 2024 and April 8, 2024.**
 1. [March 25, 2024 School Board Meeting Minutes](#)
 2. [April 8, 2024 School Board Meeting Minutes](#)

Motion: Christopher Wayock, seconded by Nicole King

Motion carried

No discussion followed

Yea: Eric Boyer, Emily Gehman, Timothy Kearney, Nicole King, Candi Kruse, Stephen Maund, Mary Joy Reinartz, Melissa Torba, Christopher Wayock

Nay: None

Abstain: None

4. SUPERINTENDENT

- a. Student Representative Report

- i. Student Representatives Natalie Fauzio and Shannon Gordon presented the following: student achievements: LCTI, math leagues, scholastic scrimmage, journalism and the music department. Independent events: writing awards & athletics lacrosse cross out cancer game. Upcoming High School event and ceremony reminders closed out the Student Representative report.
- b. District Updates
 - i. Dual Enrollment
 - 1. Michael Mahon provided a brief update regarding the Dual Credit Agreement between Southern Lehigh School District and Cedar Crest College. Comments and questions occurred from the Board.
 - 2. Professional Staff Hiring Process
 - a. Projected Staffing Levels
 - i. Updates were provided regarding projected staffing levels. Questions and comments occurred by the Board.

Stephen Maund left at 7:52 returned at 7:56

- 3. Selection Process
 - a. Section process for hiring was outlined.
- ii. Board Committee Structure
 - 1. Proposed Board Committee Meeting structure was shared. Questions and comments occurred by the Board.

Candi Kruse left the meeting at 7:58 pm and did not return.

- c. Graduation
 - i. **Motion to approve May 31, 2024 as the commencement date with graduation ceremonies scheduled for 6:30PM at Stabler Arena on the campus of Lehigh University.**

Motion: Stephen Maund, seconded by Eric Boyer

Motion carried

Discussion occurred.

Yea: Eric Boyer, Emily Gehman, Timothy Kearney, Nicole King, Stephen Maund, Mary Joy Reinartz, Melissa Torba, Christopher Wayock

Nay: None

Absent: Candi Kruse

Abstain: None

5. CURRICULUM/STUDENT AND STAFF SERVICES

Motion to take items a through g together under category 5. Curriculum/Student and Staff Services

Motion: Timothy Kearney, seconded by Melissa Torba

Motion carried

Discussion occurred

Yea: Eric Boyer, Emily Gehman, Timothy Kearney, Nicole King, Stephen Maund, Mary Joy Reinartz, Melissa Torba, Christopher Wayock

Nay: None

Absent: Candi Kruse

Abstain: None

- a. Dual Credit Agreement SLSD & Cedar Crest College
 - i. **Motion to approve the Dual Credit Agreement between Cedar Crest College and Southern Lehigh School District per the attachment pending solicitor review.**
 - 1. [SLSD & CCC Dual Credit Agreement](#)
- b. 2024-2025 Elementary Student Parent Handbook
 - i. **Motion to approve the SLSD 2024-2025 Elementary Student Parent Handbook**
 - 1. [2024-2025 Elementary Student Parent Handbook](#)
- c. 2024-2025 JPLIS Student Handbook
 - i. **Motion to approve the SLSD 2024-2025 JPLIS Student Handbook**
 - 1. [2024-2025 JPLIS Student Handbook](#)
- d. 2024-2025 Middle School Code of Conduct
 - i. **Motion to approve the SLSD 2024-2025 Middle School Code of Conduct**
 - 1. [2024-2025 Middle School Code of Conduct](#)
- e. 2024-2025 SLHS Handbook
 - i. **Motion to approve the SLSD 2024-2025 SLHS Handbook**
 - 1. [2024-2025 SLHS Handbook](#)
- f. 2024-2025 MS Athletic Code of Conduct
 - i. **Motion to approve the 2024-2025 SLSD**
 - 1. [2024-2025 MS Athletic Code of Conduct](#)

- g. 2024-2025 HS Athletic Code of Conduct
 - i. **Motion to approve the 2024-2025 SLSD HS Athletic Code of Conduct**
 - 1. [2024-2025 HS Athletic Code of Conduct](#)

Motion to take items h through k together under category 5. Curriculum/Student and Staff Services.

Motion: Timothy Kearney, seconded by Christopher Wayock

Motion carried

Discussion occurred

Yea: Eric Boyer, Emily Gehman, Timothy Kearney, Nicole King, Stephen Maund, Mary Joy Reinartz, Melissa Torba, Christopher Wayock

Nay: None

Absent: Candi Kruse

Abstain: None

- h. AP Physics & AP Psychology Textbook Renewals
 - i. **Motion to approve the renewals of textbooks for AP Physics and Psychology per the attachments below**
 - 1. [AP Physics Textbook Renewal Contract](#)
 - 2. [AP Psychology Textbook Renewal Contract](#)
- i. Title I Curricular Resources
 - i. **Motion to approve the Title I Curricular Resources per the attachment below**
 - 1. [Title 1 Quote Benchmark Education Company Estimate STEPs](#)
- j. K-12 Art Curriculum Materials
 - i. **Motion to approve the K-12 Art Curriculum Materials per the attachment below.**
 - 1. [K-12 Art Curricular Materials Quote](#)
- k. Book Creator Supplemental Digital Resource
 - i. **Motion to approve Book Creator as a supplemental digital resource to be used with Wit and Wisdom per the attached quote.**
 - 1. [Book Creator Quote - Southern Lehigh School District](#)

6. SPECIAL EDUCATION AND STUDENT SERVICES

Motion to take items a through d together under category 6. Special Education and Student Services

Motion: Eric Boyer, seconded by seconded Emily Gehman

Motion carried

Discussion occurred

Yea: Eric Boyer, Emily Gehman, Timothy Kearney, Nicole King, Stephen Maund, Mary Joy Reinartz, Melissa Torba, Christopher Wayock

Nay: None

Absent: Candi Kruse

Abstain: None

- a. 2024-2025 CLIU Special Education Facilities Plan
 - i. **Motion to approve the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit #21 2024-2025 Facilities Plan Committee Report per the attachment below.**
 1. [CLIU Proposed Facilities Plan Committee Report & Resolution 24-25](#)
- b. Special Education State Plan for the 2024-2027 school years
 - i. **Motion to approve the SLSD Special Education State Plan for the 2024-2027 school years**
 1. [SLSD Special Education State Plan 2024-2027](#)
- c. Southern Lehigh School District Chapter 339 Plan
 - i. **Motion to approve Southern Lehigh School Districts Chapter 339 Plan per the attachment below.**
 1. [Southern Lehigh School Districts Chapter 339 Plan](#)
- d. SLSD & Dr. Christopher Liang Student Services Evaluation Agreement
 - i. **Motion to approve the contract/agreement between Southern Lehigh School District and Dr. Christopher Liang for the evaluation of Student Services pending solicitor review.**
 1. [SLSD & Dr. Christopher Liang Student Services Evaluation Agreement](#)

7. TECHNOLOGY

- a. CLIU Technology Pool Agreement
 - i. **Motion to approve the CLIU Technology Pool Legal Services Consultation Agreement using Sweet, Stevens, Katz & Williams, LLP ("SSKW") as legal counsel for Southern Lehigh School District during the 2024-2025 school year (July, 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025). Rate to be determined as outlined on page two of the agreement based on the amount of school entities who participate.**
 1. [CLIU & SLSD Technology Pool Legal Services Consultation Agreement](#)

Motion: Nicole King seconded Stephen Maund

Motion carried

No discussion followed

Yea: Eric Boyer, Emily Gehman, Timothy Kearney, Nicole King, Stephen Maund, Mary Joy Reinartz, Melissa Torba, Christopher Wayock

Nay: None

Absent: Candi Kruse

Abstain: None

8. BUSINESS AND FINANCE

- a. The Director of Business Services will present the [2024-2025 PRELIMINARY BUDGET](#) for consideration.

Presentation highlighted the following: budget timeline, Act 1 index explained, budgeting practices, realty transfer tax trend explained, 24-25 budget breakdown noted, investments explained such as technology and curriculum. Budgetary facts noted, budget vs actual explained. Strategic management of resources noted with a breakdown of fund balance as of 6/30/23. Current capital projects reviewed. Questions, comments and discussion occurred during and at the conclusion of the 2024-2025 preliminary budget presentation.

Emily Gehman left at 8:28 pm returned at 8:30 pm

Motion to take items b through d under category 8. Business and Finance

Motion: Eric Boyer seconded Christopher Wayock

Motion carried

Discussion followed

Yea: Eric Boyer, Emily Gehman, Timothy Kearney, Nicole King, Stephen Maund, Mary Joy Reinartz, Melissa Torba, Christopher Wayock

Nay: None

Absent: Candi Kruse

Abstain: None

- b. Bills List
 - i. **Motion to approve the attached bills list dated April 22, 2024.**
 - 1. [April 22, 2024 Bills List Summary and Details](#)
 - c. Treasurer's Report and Investment Report for the month of March, 2024
 - i. **Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report and Investment Report for the month of March, 2024.**
 - 1. [March, 2024 Treasurer's Report & Investment Report](#)
 - d. Broker of Record for Property and Casualty Insurance
 - i. **Motion to approve Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Services, LLC. 100 Matsonford Road - Bldg. 3, Suite 100 Radnor, PA 19087 as our exclusive insurance broker with respect to our Commercial Insurance Program for the 2024-2025 school year.**
 - 1. [Letter of Engagement - Arthur J. Gallagher](#)
- 9. SUPPORT SERVICES**
- a. Purchase of Turf Equipment for High School Stadium
 - i. **Motion to approve purchase of Pioneer Athletics proposal for LitterKat | Synthetic Turf Sweeper for turf field maintenance in the amount of \$9,471.79 under the COSTARS State Contract # 014-E22-264 as attached.**
 - 1. [LitterKat | Synthetic Turf Sweeper Quote](#)

Note: Additional Quote obtained from Turf Equipment on LitterKat Greens Groomer (sweeper) - through COSTARS - \$10,989.25

- ii. **Motion to approve purchase of Pioneer Athletics proposal for GreensGroomer | Synthetic Turf Groomer for turf field maintenance in the amount of \$6,949.97 under the COSTARS State Contract # 014-E22-264 as attached.**

- 1. [GreensGroomer | Synthetic Turf Groomer Quote](#)

Note: Additional Quote obtained from Turf Equipment on Toro Bullseye FieldSweep (groomer) 660 with towable Manual lift Kit - through COSTARS - \$12,983.65

Motion to take both items Ai and Aii together under category 9. Support Services

Motion: Christopher Wayock seconded Nicole King

Motion carried

No discussion followed

Yea: Eric Boyer, Emily Gehman, Timothy Kearney, Nicole King, Stephen Maund, Mary Joy Reinartz, Melissa Torba, Christopher Wayock

Nay: None

Absent: Candi Kruse

Abstain: None

10. HUMAN RESOURCES

Dr. Ethan Ake-Little provided a brief overview regarding all items listed under category 10. Human Resources.

Motion to take items a through c under category 10. Human Resources

Motion: Nicole King seconded Eric Boyer

Motion carried

Discussion followed

Yea: Eric Boyer, Emily Gehman, Timothy Kearney, Nicole King, Stephen Maund, Mary Joy Reinartz, Melissa Torba, Christopher Wayock

Nay: None

Absent: Candi Kruse

Abstain: None

- a. Human Resources Report
 - i. **Motion to approve the following personnel items presented in the Human Resources Report.**
 1. [Human Resources Report April 2024](#)
- b. 2024-2025 Vacancies
 - i. **Motion to authorize the superintendent to fill vacant positions for the 2024-2025 school year with acknowledgement of all hirings being listed for board action in subsequent meetings.**
- c. Indiana University of Pennsylvania Affiliation Agreement
 - i. **Motion to approve the affiliation agreement between Indiana University of Pennsylvania and Southern Lehigh School District.**
 1. [Indiana University of Pennsylvania Affiliation Agreement](#)
- d. District Policies
 - i. **Motion to approve first reading of policies 105, 106, 107 and 108.**
 1. **First Reading of polices: 105, 106, 107 and 108**
 - a. [Policies first Reading](#)

Motion: Mary Joy Reinartz seconded Christopher Wayock

Motion carried

Discussion followed

Yea: Eric Boyer, Emily Gehman, Timothy Kearney, Nicole King, Stephen Maund, Mary Joy Reinartz, Melissa Torba, Christopher Wayock

Nay: None

Absent: Candi Kruse

Abstain: None

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. **Facilities:** No report provided
- b. **Education:** Next meeting is scheduled for May 14, 2024 at 4:15 pm in the Administration Building Conference Room.
- c. **Technology:** Did not meet this month, looking to schedule the next meeting in May. Potential agenda items for May meeting discussed.

- d. **Policy:** No report provided
- e. **LCTI:** Notation was made for the next scheduled meeting this week.
- f. **CLIU:**Upcoming charity golf outing occurring in June, reach out to Emily Gehman if you would like details. Notation made regarding the Facilities improvements for the CLIU which was on tonight's agenda for vote.
- g. **ACMC:** Four approvals were noted along with a review of language for first year employee approvals. May meeting will occur in person
- h. **SLPL:** Update requested to be made at a future meeting.

12. NEW BUSINESS

- a. School Sponsored Athletic Teams and Clubs: CoEd Soccer
 - i. Discussion occurred regarding School Sponsored Athletic Teams and Clubs, specifically CoEd Middle School Soccer. Information gathered from the Athletics Department regarding CoEd Middle School Soccer was noted including what the initial start up cost and ongoing costs would be if approved as a SLSD sport. Discussion occurred among the Board.

Motion to add Spring Middle School CoEd Soccer for the 2024 2025 school year to be a school sponsored sport.

Motion: Christopher Wayock, second, Melissa Torba

Discussion occurred

After Solicitor and Superintendent input since this requires an expenditure of District funds request to not vote on this for this evening but consider adding to the next Board meeting agenda.

Motion amended to the following:

Motion to add a motion to the May 13, 2024 School Board Meeting Agenda for Spring Middle School CoEd Soccer to be a school sponsored sport starting in the 2024-2025 school year.

Yea: Eric Boyer, Emily Gehman, Timothy Kearney, Nicole King, Stephen Maund, Mary Joy Reinartz, Melissa Torba, Christopher Wayock

Nay: None

Absent: Candi Kruse

Abstain: None

13. OTHER BUSINESS

- a. LCCC-Trustee-at-Large

- i. The ballots for the Lehigh Carbon Community College trustee-at-large seat have been distributed to Board members and will be collected by the Board Recorder and submitted to the college no later than May 17, 2024
- ii. Timothy Kearney provided general updates.

14. FOR INFORMATION ONLY

- a. [Field Trip Requests](#)
- b. [Professional Development Conference Requests](#)
- c. [Graduate Study](#)

15. VISITORS' COMMENTS

- a. Renee DAmico spoke on the topic of upcoming Board agenda
- b. Kristen Stepanczuk spoke on the topic of budget staffing school counselor
- c. Paul Deebel spoke on the topic of Administration

16. EXECUTIVE SESSION

17. ADJOURNMENT

- a. Emily Gehman adjourned the meeting at: 10:11 pm
 - i. Motion: Christopher Wayock

*Respectfully submitted by Anne Marie Loblely
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent and Board Meeting Recorder*