



**Southern Lehigh School District
Board of School Directors
School Board Meeting Minutes
April 8, 2024**

**Southern Lehigh School District
School Board Meeting
April 8, 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 8, 2024 pending approval.

Members present: Eric Boyer, Emily Gehman, Timothy Kearney, Nicole King, Candi Kruse (remote by phone), Stephen Maund, Mary Joy Reinartz, Melissa Torba, Christopher Wayock

Members absent: None

Administrators present: Ethan Ake-Little, Andria Buchman, Michael Mahon, Benjamin McConnell, Louis Pepe, Christopher Summa, Karen Trinkle

Others present: Anne Marie Lobley

1. OPENING PROCEDURES

- a. Call to Order
 - i. Emily Gehman called the meeting to order at: 6:37 pm
- b. Recording of Attendance
 - i. Present: Eric Boyer, Emily Gehman, Timothy Kearney, Nicole King, Candi Kruse (remote by phone), Stephen Maund, Mary Joy Reinartz, Melissa Torba, Christopher Wayock
 - ii. Absent: None
- 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

- 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. Russell Shnitser spoke on the topic of girls wrestling
- ii. John Lyons spoke on the topic of girls wrestling program
- iii. Jennifer Lyons spoke of the topic of girls wrestling program
- iv. Jenna Trumbauer spoke on the topic of girls wrestling
- v. Bryan Rizzo spoke on the topic of girls wrestling support
- vi. Lucia Crossken spoke on the topic of girls wrestling
- vii. Gia Kiprislis spoke on the topic of girls wrestling
- viii. Steven Crossken spoke on the topic of girls wrestling
- ix. Lisa Foley spoke on the topic of theater
- x. James Krakowski spoke on the topic of girls wrestling
- xi. LIsa Maloney spoke on the topic of wrestling
- xii. Paul Deebel spoke on the topic of academic competitions
- xiii. Rick Frable spoke on the topic of girls wrestling

Eric Boyer left at 7:09 pm returned 7:12 pm

Stephen Maund left at 7:11 pm and returned 7:14 pm

3. SUPERINTENDENT UPDATES

Michael Mahon provided presentations on the following topics:

a. Presentations

i. **2023-2024 Strategic Objectives Update**

1. Michael Mahon provided updates regarding the 2023-2024 District Strategic Objectives presented in September 2023. He noted progress can be found in green on the presentation slides provided this evening. The following updates were made: language arts initiative, additional curricular initiatives, curricular materials, public reporting of achievement data, dual enrollment, CLEP exams, Student Services multi year review, SLEF, SLHS Library, Technology, Human Resources, Facilities, Negotiations and internal controls and efficiencies. Presentation concluded with evidence of progress. Questions and comments occurred by the Board.

ii. **2024-2025 Budgetary Considerations**

1. Michael Mahon provided a brief presentation regarding the 2024-2025 budgetary considerations noting that Mr. Pepe will provide a formal presentation regarding the budget at our April 22, 2024 meeting. Highlights from the presentation this evening were: budgetary preparation, roles and responsibilities of administration in this process, resource allocation considerations that can affect the budget, District approach to starting salary placement and how this affects the budget. Questions and comments from the Board concluded this presentation.

4. CURRICULUM/STUDENT AND STAFF SERVICES

Discussion among Board members occurred prior to the below motions being taken. Motion to table was proposed by Eric Boyer. Notation was made that a motion to table would not move forward since full discussion needs to occur first. Budgeting questions were addressed by Louis Pepe. Michael Mahon provided insight on the topic.

a. Girls Jr. High Wrestling Team

i. **Motion to approve the creation of a district-funded girls junior high wrestling team to begin competition in the 2024-2025 school year.**

Motion: Christopher Wayock, seconded by Mary Joy Reinartz

Motion carried

Call to question by Christopher Wayock

Discussion occurred

**Emily Gehman noted that the meeting would move to recess for an executive session.
Time: 9:17 pm.**

Meeting resumed at 9:33 pm

Vote called

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

b. Girls Varsity Wrestling Team

i. **Motion to approve the creation of a district-funded girls varsity wrestling team to begin competition in the 2024-2025 school year.**

Motion: Christopher Wayock, seconded by Mary Joy Reinartz

Motion carried

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Board discussion occurred post the vote.

5. BUDGET AND FINANCE

- a. No agenda items or discussions.

6. HUMAN RESOURCES

Dr. Ethan Ake-Little provided a brief update on the items included in the Human Resources report.

- a. **Motion to approve the following personnel items presented in the Human Resources Report.**

- i. [Human Resources Report](#)

Motion: Christopher Wayock and Mary Joy Reinartz

Motion carried

Discussion occurred

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Facilities

- i. Eric Boyer noted that the Facilities Committee met on April 2, 2024. Bidding process for electric and gas was discussed along with maintenance equipment for the stadium turf. The 4/22/24 Board agenda will have one agenda item to vote on regarding maintenance equipment for the stadium turf. The HVAC project at the High School will begin once the school year is completed. Air Conditioning will be shut down over the summer months at the High School with a target to have it back up when the teachers return in August. The High School Library was also discussed along with Administrative guidelines for community use of the stadium.

b. Policy

- i. Emily Gehman noted that we will have first readings on the April 22, 2024 Board agenda. Discussion occurred regarding club sports and PIAA sanctioned sports.

c. Technology

- i. No update made.

d. Education

- i. Timothy Kearney noted that a meeting was held on April 4, 2024 Discussion included student handbooks and athletic codes of conducts which will be placed on the April 22, 2024 Board agenda. All day Kindergarten was also discussed. RFP and RFQ process for all day K explained along with potential for a field study. Discussion for all day K will continue at the next meeting on May 14, 2024.
 - e. **LCTI**
 - i. Presentation will be sent to Board members from Timothy Kearney that was made at the last LCTI meeting. Updates provided from the last meeting, noting that all schools approved the LCTI budget. Next meeting is April 24, 2024.
 - f. **ACMC**
 - i. Timothy Kearney noted the next meeting will be held on April 17, 2024.
 - g. **CLIU 21**
 - i. No update provided
- 8. NEW BUSINESS**
 - a. No new business was noted.
- 9. OTHER BUSINESS**
 - a. The following other business items were discussed: Robotics update made, National Library is this week, thanks extended to our District Librarians. Comments made regarding the successful dismissals of our students during the eclipse today.
- 10. VISITORS' COMMENTS**
 - a. Comments will be limited to three minutes per speaker to provide input to the board.
 - i. Paul Deebel spoke on the topic of policy 123.2
- 11. ADJOURNMENT**
 - a. Adjourn
 - i. Emily Gehman adjourned the meeting at: 9:59 pm
 - 1. Motion Christopher Wayock

Respectfully submitted by Anne Marie Loble

Executive Assistant to the Superintendent and Board Meeting Recorder