



**Southern Lehigh School District
Board of School Directors
School Board Meeting Minutes
February 12, 2024**

**Southern Lehigh School District
School Board Meeting
February 12, 2024
Southern Lehigh High School
High School Boardroom
5800 Main Street
Center Valley, PA 18034
6:30 p.m.**

School Board Meeting Minutes Monday, February 12, 2024 pending approval.

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

Members absent: None

Administrators present: Ethan Ake-Little, Andria Buchman, Michael Mahon, Louis Pepe, Michael Rohrbach, Tamara Solometo, Christopher Summa, Karen Trinkle

Others present: Anne Marie Lobley

1. OPENING PROCEDURES

- a. Call to Order
 - i. Meeting was called to order by Emily Gehman at: 6:31 pm
- b. Recording of Attendance
 - i. Present: Eric Boyer, Emily Gehman, Timothy Kearney, Nicole King, Candi Kruse, 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. Steven Crossken spoke on the topic of Southern Lehigh Girls Wrestling
- ii. Juile Bird spoke on the topic of full day Kindergarten

3. SUPERINTENDENT UPDATES

- a. Michael Mahon provided the following District updates: SL Girls Wrestling thoughts acknowledged. First Bocce Ball competition was held at Upper Perkiomen School District last week. Thanks extended to all overseeing and coaching this new sport. Southern Lehigh Education Foundation social gathering held last week. Foundation is committed to supporting dual enrollment and also working on developing an application for teachers to apply for support for innovative classroom ideas. The teacher application is in seed stage and will come back to the Board. Safety drills for all levels of local law enforcement will be taking place on District grounds February 21, 2024. Notification will be sent to the community indicating this is only a drill. Brief report on federal grants will be made this evening by Dr. Trinkle.

4. REVIEW OF FEDERAL GRANTS

- a. Dr. Karen Trinkle provided an update regarding federal grants. Currently we are applying for three grants through PCCD. All grants are centered around school safety and behavioral health. Conditions for qualifying for the three grants were noted. All three are due to PCCD by 2/29/24. PCCD is targeting a release date of April for the grants. Presentation closed with gratitude to Dr. Trinkle for work on these grants.

5. REVIEW OF PROPOSED FACILITY PROJECTS

- a. Eric Boyer noted the Facilities Committee met on February 6, 2024. Details regarding the Liberty Bell Roof and Liberty Bell Chillers were reviewed and discussed. The Committee recommended both projects to move forward for vote at the end of this month. Grant opportunities will be pursued. Continuing to collect information regarding the High School library. First week of April will be the next Facilities Committee Meeting. Meeting locations will change to different district buildings. Please check announcements on the website for locations and times. Louis Pepe provided information on where these projects stand in District priority levels.
 - i. [Liberty Bell Elementary Roof](#)
 - ii. [Liberty Bell Elementary Chillers](#)

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Education
 - i. First meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 27, 2024. Meeting will focus on curriculum, where we are at now, and thoughts on where we could be with a primary focus on immediate needs for Spanish Immersion and grades 6 & 7 Social Studies.
- b. APMC
 - i. No reports made.
- c. Policy
 - i. Committee met on February 7, 2024. No policies were discussed or reviewed. Meeting included a presentation by Dr. Ake-Little along with a

review of the policy life cycle and how we will cycle through them. Next meeting will be held March 6, 2024. Policies will continue to come to the Board for review and vote.

- d. Technology
 - i. Committee is new to the district. Purpose of these meetings noted. The first meeting was held on January 30, 2024. Review of current hardware and ongoing projects done. Next meeting is February 22, 2024 at 4:15 in the Administrative Building Conference room.
- e. LCTI
 - i. Skills USA occurred on January 24, 2024. Eight SLSD students were chosen by their teachers to participate. Tours at LCTI will be held on October 14, 2024. Future educator program noted. Budget ongoing and within ACT levels should be coming soon for SLSD Board approval.
- f. CLIU
 - i. No meeting was scheduled for February, no update to provide.

7. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Board discussion occurred regarding the visitor comment on Jr.High and Varsity Girls Wrestling. Need to look at [Board policy 123.2](#) to see how this would align. Administration will look into this and it will be brought back to the next meeting for further Board discussion.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

- a. Update provided regarding the fifth and sixth grade band performance at a recent Phantoms game. Gratitude extended to faculty and administration to make this such a success.

9. VISITORS' COMMENTS

- a. Comments will be limited to three minutes per speaker to provide input to the board.
 - i. No visitor comments occurred at this time

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- a. The Board went into Executive Session post this meeting.

11. ADJOURNMENT

- a. Adjourn
 - i. Emily Gehman motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:13 pm
 - 1. The full Board motioned to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Anne Marie Lobley

Executive Assistant to the Superintendent and Board Meeting Recorder