



**Southern Lehigh School District  
Board of School Directors Meeting Minutes  
Monday, February 26, 2024**

**Board of School Directors Meeting  
February 26, 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 26, 2024 pending approval.**

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

**Members absent:** None

**Administrators present:** Ethan Ake-Little, Andria Buchman, Lynn Chromiak, Michael Mahon, Joshua Miller, Louis Pepe, Michael Rohrbach, Tamara Solometo, Christopher Summa, Karen Trinkle, Deanna Webb

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

**1. OPENING PROCEDURES**

- a. Call to Order
  - i. Emily Gehman called the meeting to order at: 6:48 pm
- b. Recording of Attendance
  - i. Present: Eric Boyer (remote), Emily Gehman, Timothy Kearney, Nicole King, Candi Kruse (remote), Stephen Maund, Mary Joy Reinartz, Melissa Torba, Christopher Wayock (remote)
  - 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. Gretchen Petersen spoke on the topic of full day full day kindergarten
- iii. Jennifer Kiprislis spoke on the topic of girls wrestling
- iv. Kira Wright spoke on the topic of sanctioning girls wrestling at Southern Lehigh
- v. Steven Crossken spoke on the topic of girls wrestling
- vi. Justin Jacobs spoke on the topic of full day kindergarten
- vii. Bryan Rizzo spoke on the topic of girls JH/HS wrestling
- viii. Kelly Coller spoke on the topic of full day kindergarten

### 3. MINUTES

#### a. Executive Session Summary-Board Solicitor

- i. Attorney Moyer noted that executive sessions were held on the following dates for the following topics: Facilities Committee Executive Sessions: 1/25/24, 2/6/24 regarding litigations. The Negotiations Committee executive sessions held on 1/23/24, 1/30/24, 2/7/24, 2/22/24 for contract negotiations. 2/12/24 -full Board executive session prior and post to workshop meeting regarding contract negotiations. 2/26/24 full Board executive session regarding personnel and contract negotiations.

#### b. Approval Board Minutes

**Motion to take all items listed under item b, category 3. Minutes together.**

Motion: Timothy Kearney, seconded by Nicole King

Motion Carried

Discussion occurred regarding correction needed for the 1/22/24 Minutes. Item 11 Appointments term for the SLPL Board terms should reflect a three year term, not two. Correction will be made by the Board Recorder.

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

- i. **Motion to approve the School Board Meeting Minutes of January 22, 2024 and February 12, 2024.**
  - 1. [January 22, 2024 School Board Meeting Minutes](#)
  - 2. [February 12, 2024 School Board Meeting Minutes](#)

### 4. SUPERINTENDENT

#### a. Student Representative

- i. Samuel Magallanes, President of the Class of 2024 provided a report on student recognitions, athletics recognitions and upcoming High School events.
- ii. District Update
  - 1. Michael Mahon provided the following District updates: Thanks extended to Mike Rohrbach for door access updates. The District is looking into and considering 988 on the back of ID's. The District Calendar for 24-25 is on the agenda tonight along with a contract under Human Resources for an improved screening process for employees and volunteers.
- iii. Girls Wrestling
  - 1. Michael Mahon provided the following update regarding Girls Wrestling: current participation numbers and their ability to compete, current district policy, cost for the district to fund Jr. High and Varsity Female Wrestling teams and how long it would take for the District to launch them. Board discussion occurred indicating support to have a motion added for this sport. Administration will work to get a motion for a District Jr. High & Varsity Girls Wrestling team on a Board agenda for discussion and vote aligning with our [District policy 123.2](#).

Stephen Maund left 7:41 pm returned 7:44 pm

- iv. 2024-2025 Southern Lehigh District Calendar
  - 1. Motion to approve the proposed 2024-2025 School District Calendar and, pursuant to Section 1502 of the Public School Code.**
    - a. [2024-2025 Southern Lehigh District Calendar](#)

Motion: Mary Joy Reinartz, seconded by Timothy Kearney

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

- 5. CURRICULUM/STUDENT AND STAFF SERVICES**
- 6. SPECIAL EDUCATION AND STUDENT SERVICES**

Dr. Karen Trinkle provided a brief update of the item listed under category 6, Special Education and Student Services.

Motion: Mary Joy Reinartz, seconded by Melissa Torba

Motion Carried

No 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

a. Maxim Educational Institution Agreement

i. **Motion to approve the Maxim Educational Institution Agreement for 1:1 nursing services for a student with special education needs for the remainder of the 23-24 school year.**

1. [Maxim Education Institution Agreement 2023-2024 School Year.](#)

## **7. TECHNOLOGY**

## **8. BUSINESS AND FINANCE**

Louis Pepe provided a brief update of all items listed under category 8. Business and Finance and items listed under category 9. Support Services.

a. Bills List

i. **Motion to approve the attached bills list dated February 26, 2024.**

1. [February 26, 2024 Bills List Summary and Details](#)

**Motion to take items a, b and c together under category 8. Business and Finance**

Motion: Christopher Wayock, seconded Stephen Maund

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

- b. Treasurer's Report and Investment Report for the month of January, 2024
  - i. **Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report and Investment Report for the month of January, 2024.**
    - 1. [January, 2024 Treasurer's Report and Investment Report](#)
- c. Property Tax Refunds
  - i. **Motion to approve the property tax refunds per the attachment.**
    - 1. [Property Tax Refunds - February, 2024](#)
- d. 2024-2025 Budget Update to include Lehigh Career and Technical Institute(LCTI) Budget for action
  - i. Louis Pepe, Director of Business Services, will discuss the Draft Annual Budget for the district and the General Fund and Academic Center Budgets for Lehigh Career and Technical Institute (LCTI) per the attachments listed below.
    - 1. Southern Lehigh School District 2024-2025 Draft Budget Update
      - a. In line with our budget, current process and where we stand done by Mr. Pepe
    - 2. **Motion to approve the General Fund and Academic Center Budgets for Lehigh Career and Technical Institute (LCTI) for 2024-2025. The 2024-2025 Budget represents a 4.8% increase in contribution for Southern Lehigh.**
      - a. [LCTI 2024-2025 General Operating and Academic](#)
      - b. [Center School Budgets for 2024-2025](#)

Motion: Stephen Maund, seconded by Timothy Kearney

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

## **9. SUPPORT SERVICES**

Louis Pepe provided a brief overview for all items listed under category 9. Support Services.

- a. El Associates - Liberty Bell Elementary School Chiller Replacement
  - i. **Motion to approve the proposal dated February 2, 2024, for professional services submitted by El Associates, 2001 N. Front St.,**

**Bldg #3, Harrisburg, PA 17102 for Liberty Bell Elementary School Chiller Replacement on a lump sum fee of \$99,500. Professional Services include Design, Bidding, and Construction Administration.**

1. [Liberty Bell Elementary School Chiller Replacement Proposal](#)

**Please note: Funding for this project will be through the Capital Reserve.**

**Motion to take items a, b & c together under category 9. Support Services**

Motion: Stephen Maund, seconded by Eric Boyer

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

- b. EI Associates - Liberty Bell Elementary School Roof Project
  - i. **Motion to approve the proposal dated February 2, 2024, for professional services submitted by EI Associates, 2001 N. Front St., Bldg #3, Harrisburg, PA 17102 for Liberty Bell Elementary School Roof Project on a lump sum fee of \$162,500. Professional Services include Design, Bidding, and Construction Administration.**
    1. [Liberty Bell Elementary School Roof Project Proposal](#)**Please note: Funding for this project will be through the Capital Reserve.**
- c. Specialized Student Transportation Agreement with Normans Bus Service
  - i. **Motion to approve Specialized Student Transportation Agreement with Normans Bus Service in accordance with bid: SLSD Proposal #2023-01 for Contracted Specialized Student Transportation board approved January 22, 2024**
    1. [Specialized Student Transportation Agreement](#)

## **10. HUMAN RESOURCES**

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

**Motion to take items a and b together under category 10. Human Resources**

Motion: Stephen Maund, 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

- a. Human Resources Report
  - i. **Motion to approve the following personnel items presented in the Human Resources Report.**
    1. [Human Resources Report February 2024](#)
- b. ACT 168 Software Agreement
  - i. **Motion to approve the Act 168 Software Agreement between Southern Lehigh School District and Lancaster-Lebanon Intermediate Unit 13.**
    1. [Act 168 Software Agreement](#)

#### **11. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- a. Education Committee: first meeting tomorrow at 4:15 pm. Overview of curriculum will be made, curriculum for Spanish immersion and social studies for grades 6 & 7 will be discussed.
- b. Policy Committee next meeting March 6, 2024.
- c. ACMC discussed deadlines on forms and online class approval guidelines and lists.

#### **12. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. The following new business items were noted:none

#### **13. OTHER BUSINESS**

- a. The following other business items were noted by Timothy Kearney: HS Spring Musical Tickets are on sale now by QR Code. Information regarding Teen Works through the United Way was shared. Special Olympics Unified Schools was noted for year round opportunities. Acknowledgement made regarding Bocce as a Unified Sport at SLSD. Governor's budget proposal noted regarding cyber reform for cyber schools.

#### **14. FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

- a. [Field Trip Requests](#)
- b. [Conference Requests](#)

#### **15. VISITORS' COMMENTS**

- a. No visitor comment occurred at this time.

#### **16. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**17. ADJOURNMENT**

- a. Emily Gehman adjourned the meeting at 8:10 pm
  - i. Motion by Nicole King

*Respectfully submitted by Anne Marie Loble*

*Executive Assistant to the Superintendent and Board Meeting Recorder*