



**Southern Lehigh School District  
Board of School Directors Meeting Minutes  
Monday, March 25, 2024**

**Board of School Directors Meeting  
March 25, 2024  
Southern Lehigh High School  
High School Boardroom  
5800 Main Street  
Center Valley, PA 18034  
6:30 p.m.**

**School Board Meeting Minutes Monday, March 25, 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, Lynn Chromiak, Michael Mahon, Sean McGinty, Joshua Miller, Louis Pepe, Michael Rohrbach, Tamara Solometo, James Stulgis, 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 6:35 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. Lisa Maloney spoke on the topic of wrestling program expenditure.

- ii. Miranda Swatsky spoke on the topic of Liberty Trails.
- iii. Priya Sareen spoke on the topic of budget.
- iv. Steven Crossken spoke on the topic of girls wrestling.

### 3. MINUTES

- a. Executive Session Summary-
  - i. Attorney Moyer noted executive sessions occurred on the following dates for the following topics: negotiations committee met on March 13, 2024 and March 20, 2024 for contract negotiations. Full Board executive sessions occurred tonight, March 25, 2024 to discuss contract negotiations and personnel matters.
- b. Approval Board Minutes
  - i. **Motion to approve the Board Meeting Minutes of Monday, February 26, 2024 and Monday, March 11, 2024**
    - i. [February 26, 2024 School Board Meeting Minutes](#)
    - ii. [March 11, 2024 School Board Meeting Minutes](#)

Motion: Timothy Kearney, seconded by Christopher Wayock

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. District Update
  - i. Michael Mahon provided the following district updates: Thanks extended to Dr. Trinkle for obtaining a grant that will assist the district with mental health training programs and support for our students. Notation made regarding Timothy Kearney as the recipient of the PSEA legacy award. District procedures for the upcoming eclipse were addressed. Questions and comments occurred from the Board. Liberty Trails update provided.
- b. Student Representative Report
  - i. Lydia Derstine provided the following student report:
    - i. Student recognition: two LCTI students received medals at the PA DECA State Career Development Conference, first place notation of a 11th grade student at the 33rd Annual Lehigh Valley Science and Engineering Research Fair ,success of the SLHS Drama

department production of “The Addams Family”, Art and Literary Magazine held their annual Coffeehouse event, Mini-thon was held 3/23/24 raising over \$25,000 for the Four Diamonds Fund, updates on the Robotics team competitions were made. The following athletic accolades were made: Swimming season has wrapped up and Spring sports are presently underway. Upcoming SLHS events were shared at the conclusion of the presentation.

**5. CURRICULUM/STUDENT AND STAFF SERVICES**

- a. 2023-2024 Southern Lehigh School District Health and Safety Plan
  - i. **(No Action Required) Consideration and revision of the 2023-2024 Southern Lehigh School District Health and Safety Plan.**
    - i. [2023-2024 Southern Lehigh School District Health and Safety](#)
- b. Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit 21 Student Driver Education Program Agreement
  - i. **Motion to consider approving the CLIU 21 Student Driver Education Program Agreement for the effective date of July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025 per the attachment below.**
    - i. [CLIU 21 & SLSD Student Driver Education Program Agreement 7/1/24-6/30/25](#)

Motion: Candi Kruse seconded by Christopher Wayock

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

- c. Flexible Instructional Day Program Application and Board Affirmation Statement

**Motion to take items C & D together under category 5. curriculum/student and staff services**

Motion: Candi Kruse seconded by Eric Boyer

Motion carried

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

- i. **Motion to approve and affirm the Southern Lehigh School District Pennsylvania Department of Education Board Affirmation Statement for Flexible Instructional Days (FID). The Flexible Instructional Day (FID) application and subsequent approval will allow SLSD to use up to five FIDs per school year for the reasons noted in Section 1506 of the Public School Code (24 P.S. § 15-1506). If granted by PDE the approval would be for a three year period beginning at the start of 2024-2025 school year and concluding at the end of the 2026-2027 school year.**

- i. [SLSD FID 2024-2025 Board Affirmation Statement](#)

- d. Proposed Southern Lehigh Jump Start Camps

- i. **Motion to approve the Southern Lehigh Summer Jump Start Camps (tentatively) Grades 1 and 2 from (tentatively) July 29, 2024 through August 2, 2024 and August 5, 2024 through August 9, 2024 Students will be invited to participate in the following camps based upon review of data. The camps will be held (tentatively) at Liberty Bell Elementary School, for both Liberty Bell and Hopewell students.**

- i. [Jump Start Camp 2024](#)

## **6. SPECIAL EDUCATION AND STUDENT SERVICES**

- a. Special Education State Plan for the 2024-2027 school year

- i. **Motion to place the drafted Special Education State Plan for the 2024-2027 school years to a 28 day public inspection and comment period on our district website.**

- i. [Drafted Special Education State Plan for the 2024-2027 school years](#)

**Motion: Not needed since this is only to view the drafted Special Education State Plan for the 2024-2027 school years for the 28 day public inspection.**

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

b. CLIU#21 Intergovernmental Agreement for Special Education Services for the 2024-25 school year.

i. **Motion to approve the CLIU#21 Intergovernmental Agreement for Special Education Services for the 2024-25 school year.**

i. [CLIU#21 Intergovernmental Agreement for Special Education Services for the 2024-25 school year.](#)

Motion: Christopher Wayock, seconded by Candi Kruse

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

## **7. TECHNOLOGY**

## **8. BUSINESS AND FINANCE**

Louis Pepe provided a brief update regarding items listed under category 8. Business and Finance.

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

Motion: Candi Kruse seconded by Stephen Maund

Motion carried

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. Bills List
  - i. Motion to approve the attached bills list dated March 25, 2024
    - i. [March 25, 2024 Bills List Summary and Details](#)
- b. Treasurer's Report and Investment Report for the month of February, 2024
  - i. **Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report and Investment Report for the month of February, 2024**
    - i. [February, 2024 Treasurer's Report and Investment Report](#)

## 9. SUPPORT SERVICES

### **Motion to take items a through c together under category 9. Support Services**

Motion: Eric Boyer, seconded by Christopher Wayock

Motion carried

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. Public School Facility Improvement Grant Program Resolution for Liberty Bell Elementary School - Roof Project
  - i. **Motion to approve the resolution requesting a Public School Facility Improvement grant of \$2,000,250.00 from the Commonwealth Financing Authority to be used for Liberty Bell Elementary School - Roof Project.**
    - i. [Liberty Bell Elementary School - Roof Project](#)
- b. Public School Facility Improvement Grant Program Resolution for Liberty Bell Elementary School - Chiller Replacement
  - i. **Motion to approve the resolution requesting a Public School Facility Improvement grant of \$753,000.00 from the Commonwealth Financing Authority to be used for Liberty Bell Elementary School - Chiller Replacement.**
    - i. [Liberty Bell Elementary School - Chiller Replacement](#)
- c. Trash & Recycling Agreement
  - i. **Motion to approve renewal agreement for trash and recycling with Chrin Hauling, located at 635 Industrial Dr., Easton, PA 18042 effective July 1, 2024 at a base rate of \$36,239.70 for the 2024 - 2025**

school year and an increase of 4% for 2025-2026; and an increase of 3% for 2026-2027.

- i. [Chrin Hauling Waste and Recycling Extension Contract](#)

Note: Increases due to increase in tipping fees, labor rates and inflation.

## 10. HUMAN RESOURCES

Dr. Ethan Ake-Little provided a brief update regarding all items listed on the Human Resources report.

Motion: Christopher Wayock seconded by Melissa Torba

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

- i. [Human Resources Report](#)

## 11. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Education Committee: April 4, 2024 is the next scheduled meeting and what agenda items will be on the agenda were noted. Mid May is the anticipated time frame for the next meeting.
- b. Facilities Committee: next meeting is scheduled for April 2, 2024 at Liberty Bell Elementary.
- c. Policy Committee: Next scheduled meeting is April 3, 2024. Presently going over 120 policies. Will come back to the committee and Board after solicitor review. Questions and comments occurred. Clarification regarding how policy should move through the approval process noted by Michael Mahon.
- d. Technology Committee: Goal of committee stated. Summary of March 18, 2024 meeting made. Anticipated time frame for the next meeting will be within 3-4 weeks.
- e. CLIU: No report
- f. LCTI: No formal report made. 5th grade tours recently occurred. Over 5000 students attended from various schools.
- g. ACMC: Committee met on March 20, 2024. Deadlines for applications and approval process noted. PDE approved list of providers discussed.

*Eric Boyer left the meeting at 7:32 pm returned at 7:40 pm*

**12. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. None noted

**13. OTHER BUSINESS**

- a. The ballots for the elections of Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit Board members will be distributed to Board members. Ballots will be collected by the Board Recorder this evening and will be submitted to the CLIU #21 by May 24, 2024.
  - i. Questions and comments occurred by the Board.
- b. Updates were made regarding the following: Robotics, SLHS musical, Freddy Nominations, Freddy awards and the Senior Citizens Preview Night and Dinner for the SLHS Musical.

**14. FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

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

**15. VISITORS' COMMENTS**

- a. No visitor comments were made at this time.

**16. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**17. ADJOURNMENT**

- a. Emily Gehman adjourned the meeting at: 8:06 PM
  - i. Motion: Eric Boyer

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