



**Southern Lehigh School District
Board of School Directors
School Board Meeting Minutes
October 14, 2024**

**Southern Lehigh School District
School Board Meeting
October 14, 2024
Southern Lehigh High School
Boardroom
5800 Main Street
Center Valley, PA 18034
6:30 p.m.**

School Board Meeting Minutes Monday, October 14, 2024 pending approval.

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

Members absent: Eric Boyer, Mary Joy Reinartz

Administrators present: Andria Buchman, Eric Fluck, Michael Mahon, Louis Pepe, Michael Rohrbach, Tamara Solometo, Karen Trinkle

Others present: Anne Marie Lobley

1. OPENING PROCEDURES

- a. Call to Order
 - i. Meeting was called to by Emily Gehman at 6:33 pm
- b. Recording of Attendance
 - i. Present: Emily Gehman, Timothy Kearney, Nicole King (remote by phone), Candi Kruse, Stephen Maund, Melissa Torba, Christopher Wayock
 - ii. Absent: Eric Boyer, Mary Joy Reinartz
- 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. No visitor comments were made at this time.

3. SUPERINTENDENT UPDATES

- a. Michael Mahon provided the following District updates: The Southern Lehigh Education Foundation (SLEF) Board was in the district today to award six teacher innovative grants, totaling \$15,000. Recognition was extended to Coach Adrienne Searfoss for her 400th win this past week.

4. CURRICULUM/STUDENT AND STAFF SERVICES

5. SPECIAL EDUCATION AND STUDENT SERVICES

6. TECHNOLOGY

- a. Berks County Intermediate Unit Technical Support Contract
 - i. **Motion to approve the attached contract with Berks County Intermediate Unit for technical support services.**
 - 1. [BCIU and SLSD Consultation Services Agreement 2024-2025 School Year](#)

Motion: Timothy Kearney, seconded by Candi Kruse

Motion carried

Additional information provided by Michael Mahon regarding Berks IU and their expertise in Infinite Campus. Service agreement will be mainly used for Special Education assistance but can be used for other areas of Infinite Campus that we might need assistance with.

Yea: Emily Gehman, Timothy Kearney, Nicole King, Candi Kruse, Stephen Maund, Melissa Torba, Christopher Wayock

Nay: None

Absent: Eric Boyer, Mary Joy Reinartz

Abstain: None

Comments occurred post the vote regarding Infinite Campus.

7. BUDGET AND FINANCE

8. SUPPORT SERVICES

9. HUMAN RESOURCES

Motion to take items a and b together under category 9. Human Resources

Motion: Candi Kruse, seconded by Timothy Kearney

Motion carried

No discussion occurred

Yea: Emily Gehman, Timothy Kearney, Nicole King, Candi Kruse, Stephen Maund, Melissa Torba, Christopher Wayock

Absent: Eric Boyer, Mary Joy Reinartz

Abstain: None

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

- 1. [Human Resources Report](#)

- Both a & b**

- Motion: Kruse, second TK**

- Vote: All yes except MJR and EB**

- Comment on 113.2 & 113.3 typos**

- b. Policy First Reading
 - i. **Motion to approve the first readings of policies: 113.2, 113.3, 113.5, 610, 611, 612 and 818.**

- 1. [Policy First Reading](#)

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Education Committee: Time movement to 4:30 did not impact attendance at this meeting. Interviews with firms for all day kindergarten feasibility study will be held with the committee and Board on Tuesday, October 22, 2024. Recommendation will be coming to the full Board for vote on October 28, 2024. Presentation summary was then provided from the October 7, 2024 meeting. In conclusion it was noted that the PA STEELS (Pennsylvania Science, Technology, Engineering, Environmental Literacy and Sustainability) alignment was discussed, specifically when the alignment is required (2025-2026 academic year) and how this will impact state testing requirements for specific grades.
- b. Facilities: Louis Pepe provided the following update from the October 1, 2024 meeting: High School HVAC update and conclusion of project discussed. Liberty Bell chillers and Liberty Bell and Middle School roof pre-bid meetings discussed. Bids for the Middle School and Liberty Bell roofs were scheduled for October 16th; however, they will be pushed back to October 30th to provide additional time for our Architects to address requests for information from walk-throughs. Liberty Bell chiller bids will continue on the timeline as scheduled. HS Library project update made. Development of a steering committee is the next step. Louis Pepe noted that the capital reserve is what we will be looking at to fund these projects. Middle School tennis court project discussed. Looking at modifications to a quote in kind received. \$300,000 would be the rough budget for this project. Prioritization and need for this would come to the full board for

recommendation. Liberty Bell boiler noted. Update concluded noting that an executive session was held on the same date as the facility meeting.

- c. Policy: Emily Gehman noted that the policies on agenda this evening were discussed at the October 2, 2024 meeting.
- d. Technology: Nothing to report. Working on surveys that will be going out regarding devices.
- e. ACMC: October 10, 2024 meeting was canceled. Next meeting the committee will be looking at changes to some of the approval forms.
- f. LCTI: Timothy Kearney noted that a report was sent to the board regarding the last meeting. Upcoming events were shared for LCTI. Graduation for LCTI will be May 27th at PPL Center. Stephen Maund noted that the November 14th Open House is a great event to attend to see what LCTI offers if you have not attended it.

11. NEW BUSINESS

- a. No new business was discussed.

12. OTHER BUSINESS

- a. The following other business items were discussed
 - i. Thanks extended to Emily Gehman and Melissa Torba for attending the PSBA Conference. Emily Gehman noted that Michael Mahon was one of the presenters at the conference.
 - ii. Timothy Kearney noted the latest rankings by NICHE. SLSD was recognized as having the best teachers in the Lehigh Valley and came in 9th for the state. Soccer night and Homecoming were great events.
 - iii. Melissa Torba extended congratulations to the golf team for winning the Colonial League and Districts.

13. FOR INFORMATION ONLY

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

14. VISITORS' COMMENTS

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

15. ADJOURNMENT

- a. Adjourn
 - i. Meeting was adjourned by Emily Gehman at: 6:54 pm
 - 1. Motion: Christopher Wayock

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