



Southern Lehigh School District

Board of School Directors Meeting

April 28, 2014

The second regular monthly meeting of the Board of School Directors of the School District of Southern Lehigh was held at 7:30 p.m. on the above date (April 28, 2014) at Southern Lehigh High School, Center Valley, PA.

PRESENT: Gunkle, Lycett, Dimmig, Hayes, Lindsay, McLoughlin, Merkle, Parsons, Quigley

ABSENT: None.

OTHERS: Christman, Melber, Lewis, Millman, Kennedy, Buchman, Bergey, Takacs, Jordan, Lilly, Davidson, Limpar, Farris, Sinkler (SLEA), Morning Call (Peterson), and approximately 19 other members of the community.

OPENING PROCEDURES

Mrs. Gunkle led the Board and others attending the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Board met in Executive Session prior to this meeting to discuss personnel and legal matters.

The Board recognized the following student groups-

Mr. He Kun, Chinese Language Guest Teacher introduced students who organized and performed at the recent Chinese Competition held at the high school. Christopher S. and Myrandah V. performed a song in Chinese and English.

Mrs. Anne Sikorski-Schneider, Art Teacher, introduced this year's high school art award recipients from Scholastic Key Awards, The Baum School of Art and the Rhode Island School of Design.

VISITORS

Mr. Lenny Skibicki, Lower Milford Township resident, addressed the Board with questions regarding the closure of Lower Milford Elementary School. Mrs. Gunkle referred him to the district website for this information.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED BY Quigley and **2ND BY** Lycett to approve the minutes of the April 14, 2014 meeting as distributed to all Board members.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried

ABSENT: None

CONSENT AGENDA

MOVED BY Quigley and **2ND BY** Parsons to approve the **CONSENT AGENDA** items as follows -

Approve the bills to be paid list as of April 28, 2014 showing bills paid in the amount of \$12,214.72 and bills to be paid in the amount of \$270,716.08 for a total amount of \$282,930.80 for the General Fund and bills to be paid in the amount of \$175.60 for the Construction Fund;

Approve the Treasurer's Report and Investment Report for the month of March, 2014;

Accept the resignation of Jessica Gordon, English Teacher, Southern Lehigh High School, effective last teacher day of the 2013-2014 school year;

Approve the appointment of Peter Slay, Long-term Substitute School Psychologist, Liberty Bell Elementary School, at Masters +45, Step 10, an annual salary of \$62,517**. Mr. Slay fills the vacant position due to the childrearing leave of Michelle Conrad;

***The salary listed is for the 2013-2014 school year and the 2014-2015 salary will be determined after the start of the school year.*

Approve the Intermittent FMLA leave of the following staff-

Megan Hallman, Grade 6 Language Arts Teacher, Joseph P. Liberati Intermediate School, effective March 24, 2014 for a period not to exceed 12 weeks;

Accept the retirement of Mrs. Janet Solley, Grade 7 Reading Teacher, Southern Lehigh Middle School, effective June 18, 2014. Mrs. Solley has been a district employee for 24 ½ years;

Approve unpaid leave of the following staff-

Heidi Kelly, Custodian, Southern Lehigh High School, for May 27, 2014;

Approve the following volunteer coach for the 2013-2014 school year-

Shelby Wilson Softball.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: None

Mrs. Gunkle recognized the retirement of Mrs. Janet Solley for her years of service to the district.

CURRICULUM/STUDENT AND STAFF ACTIVITIES

Mr. Lilly, Dr. Donahue, Mr. McGinty and Mrs. Mickley reported on student and staff activities at the High School, Middle School, Intermediate School and the elementary schools.

High School report –

- 4/28 - Trip to Chinatown for the Chinese classes
- 4/29 – Jazz Concert in HS Auditorium, 7 PM
- 4/30 – College Fair, Emmaus HS, 6 PM
- 5/1 – Visit to Pascack Valley High School, NJ (10 years as a 1-to-1 school)
- 5/3 – Next round of SAT testing
- 5/12 – AP and Keystone Exams begin

Middle School report –

- 4/17 - Chinese speech competition
- 4/29, 30 - Science PSSA
- 4/22 - Earth Day Celebration
- 5/5 - PA-CTE Presentation, State Capitol Building
- 5/7, 8 - Constitution Center Field trip
- 5/8 - 6th grade visit to the Middle School

Intermediate School report –

- PSSA Science testing begins tomorrow for 4th grade. This is the last section of the PSSA for JPLIS students in 2013-2014 school year.
- 4/28 - 5th grade visited the Adventure Aquarium
- 5/8 - 6th grade will visit the Middle School
- 5/12 - Kit's interactive theater assembly
- PVAAS roster verification preview window opened today. Teachers will verify rosters on May 7.

Elementary schools –

- 4/29 - Spanish Immersion Ticket will be distributed tomorrow evening, with official sign-ups on 4/30
- 5/1 - Kindergarten Visitation at Hopewell, Liberty Bell and Lower Milford will be held from 9:15 AM – 10:15 AM
- 5/2 - Lower Milford will celebrate Earth Day
- 5/5-5/9 - Lower Milford students and families will observe Screen Free Week
- 5/5 - Lower Milford 3rd grade will visit Burnside Plantation
- 5/5 - Hopewell PTA is sending all students to see a play; "The Tortoise and the Hair and the Ugly Duckling Fables" at Zoellner Center for the Arts at Lehigh University
- 5/6 - Liberty Bell 3rd Grade will visit Longwood Gardens and participate in activities related to their botany unit
- 5/ 8 - Liberty Bell 2nd Grade will visit the Ice House Theatre in Bethlehem
- 5/9 - Lower Milford's PTA will have a Mother-Son night

MOVED BY Quigley and **2ND BY** McLoughlin to approve the Special Education Plan Report for July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2017.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: None

MOVED BY Quigley and **2ND BY** McLoughlin to approve Homebound Instruction for student #041402.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: None

MOVED BY Quigley and **2ND BY** McLoughlin to approve Independent Study in Photography II for the 2014-2015 school year for student #041403.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: None

BUSINESS AND FINANCE

2014-2015 Preliminary Budget Presentation

Mr. Jeremy Melber, Director of Business Services, presented the district's 2014-2015 Preliminary Adoption of the 2014-2015 General Fund Budget. He presented to the Board the YTD income from local revenue sources, and explained that the district should finish the year off with roughly 1% more than budgeted. He then showed the Board the breakdown of the last 5 years and the following 5 years of revenue and expenses, and showed the effect of the fund balance of the same time period. Mr. Melber also explained the designated parts of the fund balance, and how each was calculated. There is no proposed tax increase in the 2014-2015 preliminary budget.

Presented budget included the following recommendations-

- Additional staffing:
 - Assistant Principal, High School
 - .5 Spanish Teacher, High School
 - .5 Family Consumer Science/Business Teacher, High School
- Discontinue the printing of the district calendar

MOVED BY Merkle and **2ND BY** Lycett to approve the 2014-2015 Preliminary Adoption of 2014-2015 General Fund Budget, including recommendations with no tax increase:

- 15.37 mills
- \$58,377,508 Budget

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Gunkle, Lycett, Hayes, McLoughlin, Merkle, Parsons, Quigley – Motion Carried
"NO" – Dimmig, Lindsay
ABSENT: None

SUPPORT SERVICES

MOVED BY Parsons and **2ND BY** Merkle to approve award of the Lower Milford Shingle Roof Replacement to RT General Construction, 111 Buck Road, Huntington Valley, PA 19006 for the vase bid amount of \$203,750 plus a potential square foot sheathing allowance of \$3750.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: None

There was Board discussion.

PERSONNEL

REPORTS

Facilities

Mrs. Gunkle reported the following from the April 16, 2014 meeting-

- Construction Manager RFP- April 29, 2014 proposals due
- Chiller/Energy Conservation ESCO Project going well
- Middle School Security Cameras-reviewing quotes
- Liberty Bell Asphalt estimates received
- High School sign (along 309) replacement anticipated to cost \$200,000

Education Committee

Mr. Hayes reported the following discussed at today's meeting-

- Textbook recommendations (Social Studies and English)
- Class Rank College Survey
- Update on student recommendations

Turf Committee

Mr. Lycett reported the following from the April 22, 2014 meeting-

- First meeting of newly organized committee
- Coaches, parent groups invited to meeting
- Possibility of fundraising through the Southern Lehigh Education Foundation

Budget and Finance Committee

The committee met on Wednesday, April 23 and recommendations included in the 2014-2015 preliminary budget presented this evening.

Superintendent's Report

Mrs. Christman reported the following-

- Met with Representative Simmons to discuss some of the challenges faced at SLSD and in education in Pennsylvania
- Hosted an event with Edinboro University's aspiring principal and superintendent programs.
- Clarity surveys underway district-wide to measure technology throughout the district.
- Chinese summer camp in July for 2nd and 3rd graders planned
- The entire Superintendent's Report is available on the district's website.

Strategic Plan and Middle States Report

Mrs. Lewis reported the following-

- Students utilizing QR codes in the classroom
- The entire Strategic Plan and Middle States Report is available on the district's website.

OLD BUSINESS

MOVED BY Quigley and **2ND BY** McLoughlin to approve a second and final reading reading of the following revised policy-

#918 Community: *Commercial Activities*

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: None

NEW BUSINESS

MOVED BY Quigley and **2ND BY** Lycett to approve a first reading of the following new policy-

#237 Electronic Devices

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: None

MOVED BY Lycett and **2ND BY** Quigley to a first reading of the following revised policies-

#209.1 Pupils: Food Allergy Management

#214.1 Pupils: Infectious Diseases

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: None

MOVED BY McLoughlin and **2ND BY** Merkle to table the approval of the proposed School Board Meeting dates for September, 2014 through August, 2015.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: None

COMMUNICATIONS

VISITORS

MOVED BY Quigley and **2nd BY** McLoughlin to adjourn the meeting.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" - Unanimous - Motion Carried
ABSENT: None

The meeting was adjourned at 9:36 p.m.

ATTEST: _____ Board Secretary