



## Southern Lehigh School District Board of School Directors Meeting

September 9, 2013

The first regular monthly meeting of the Board of School Directors of the School District of Southern Lehigh was held at 7:45 p.m. on the above date (September 9, 2013) at Southern Lehigh High School, Center Valley, PA.

PRESENT: Dimmig, Gunkle, McLoughlin, Lindsay, Lycett, Mohr, Quigley, Stelts

ABSENT: Hayes

OTHERS: Christman, Lewis, Melber, Millman, Kennedy, Buchman, Jordan, Bergey, Knoll, Miller, Siegfried, Davidson, McGinty, Hafner, Sinkler (SLEA), Long (SLEA), Popichak (PATCH), and approximately 80 other members of the community.

### **OPENING PROCEDURES**

Mr. Dimmig 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.

### **VISITORS**

Mr. Troy Silfies, Southern Lehigh Football Booster Club President, addressed the Board to seek approval to make an exception to Policy #918 and allow sponsorship yard signs to be posted along the football field end zone during home football games. Ms. Louanne Cantor, Southern Lehigh Football Booster Club Treasurer, explained to the Board that in addition to funding a planned 2015 preseason football team trip, funds raised by the booster club were used to purchase additional school weight room equipment. There was Board discussion and Mr. Quigley made the following motion:

**MOVED BY** Quigley and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Lindsay approve the use of sponsorship signs by the Southern Lehigh Football Booster Club at home football games with the stipulation that the approval is for the current 2013 football season.

There was additional Board discussion.

**VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried**

**"NO" – Gunkle, Mohr**

**ABSENT: Hayes**

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOVED BY** Gunkle and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Lycett to approve the minutes of the August 26, 2013 meeting and August 28, 2013 as distributed to all Board members.

**VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried**

**ABSENT: Hayes**

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

**MOVED BY** Gunkle and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Quigley to approve the **CONSENT AGENDA** items as follows -

Approve the bills list as of September 9, 2013 showing bills paid in the amount of \$14,915.54 and bills to be paid in the amount of \$225,681.54 for a total amount of \$240,597.08 for the General Fund and bills paid in the amount of \$ 2,290.82 and bills to be paid in the amount of \$76,044.15 for the Capital Reserve Sinking Fund;

The Administration recommends approval of the bills to be paid list as of September 9, 2013;

Accept the resignation of the following administrator-

Mark Covelle, Assistant Principal, Southern Lehigh High School, effective no later than 60 days after the resignation letter dated August 27, 2013;

Approve the following Substitute Teachers for the 2013-2014 school year-

<u>Nicole Rissmiller</u>	Elementary Ed
<u>Elaine Kloss</u>	Elementary Ed; Mental and/or Physical Handicapped; Middle Level Mathematics 7-9
<u>Janet Sniscak</u>	Elementary Ed
<u>Sharon Calhoun</u>	Elementary Ed
<u>Melanie Daniel</u>	Elementary Ed Pre-K-4; Special Ed N-12;

Approve unpaid leave of the following staff-

Anita Benedix, Social Studies Teacher, Southern Lehigh Middle School, for 1/4 day on December 6, 2013;

Approve the following school counseling internship placement from September 10, 2013 through May 9, 2014-

Allison McPeck, School Counseling, Kutztown University, with *Tamme Westbrooks*, Southern Lehigh High School;

Approve unpaid leave of the following staff-

Ann Higgins, Instructional Assistant, Southern Lehigh Middle School, on September 20, 2013.

Diane Price, Cafeteria Worker, Southern Lehigh High School, for October 17, 18, and 21, 2013.

Judith Lynch, Instructional Assistant, Joseph P. Liberati Intermediate School, for October 4, 2013 and January 7, 2014;

Approve the following staff-

Ellen Schmid, Instructional Assistant (29 hours/week), Joseph P. Liberati Intermediate School, an hourly rate of \$17.46, effective September 9, 2013.

Patricia Spitzer, Cafeteria Monitor, Liberty Bell Elementary School, an hourly rate of \$10.00, effective September 9, 2013.

Kathy Allwein, Licensed Health Room Nurse (7.5 hours/day), Liberty Bell Elementary School and Southern Lehigh Middle School, an hourly rate of \$20.00, effective September 4, 2013.

Michelle Robinson, Tech Facilitator (27 hours/week), Liberty Bell Elementary School, an hourly rate of \$20.15, effective September 6, 2013.

Lindsey Horvath, Instructional Assistant (4 hours/day), Southern Lehigh High School, an hourly rate of \$17.46, effective August 26, 2013.

Jeanne Riley, Instructional Assistant (5.75 hours/day), Southern Lehigh High School, an hourly rate of \$17.46, effective August 28, 2013;

Approve the following Substitute Staff for the 2013-2014 school year-

Gloria Toner, Substitute Secretary, at an hourly rate of \$14.96

Gloria Toner, Substitute Instructional Assistant, at an hourly rate of \$15.31;

Approve the following extra-curricular advisors for the 2013-2014 school year, at the intramural rate of \$50.14\*\* per session-

Heather Toto Co-Advisor Yearbook, Middle School

Susan Grazio Co-Advisor Yearbook, Middle School

Blaze Meyers Co-Advisor Builders Club

Alison Bauer Co-Advisor Builders Club

Ronnette Mays MathCounts;

*\*\*This is the rate for the 2012-2013 school year.*

Approve the following Peak Program Staff for the 2013-2014 school year, at the intramural rate of \$50.14\*\* per session-

Brett Assise

Alison Bauer

Nancy Beitler

Anita Benedix

Holly Emmert

Lorraine Fransch

Devon Hagy

Tara McGinniss

Dana Kleppinger

Tina Lebrecht

Ronnette Mays

Susan MacIntyre

Michael Pauling

Corry Robbins

Virginia Rothenberger

Janet Solley

Christopher Strobl

Krista Sterner

Heather Toto

Tara Walter

Lynn Yocum;

*\*\*This is the rate for the 2012-2013 school year.*

Approve the following Dance Chaperones for the 2013-2014 school year, at an hourly rate of \$46.62 per event-

Ian Beitler

Nancy Beitler

Anita Benedix

Michael Bielobrk

Joseph Breisch

Erin Bromfield

Caryn Bronfenbrenner

Matthew Cooper

Meredith Dapsis

Megan Dellegrotti

Stephanie Donald

David Dougherty

Brian Dow

Lorraine Frasch

Robert Gaugler

Matthew Greenawald

Linda Gross

Kaytlyn Hackenberg

Devon Hagy

Ryan Haupt

Jeffrey Hershey

Joan Imms-Geiser

Rose Jacob

Leigh Kern

Cherise Kocis

Wayne Langsdorf

Tina Lebrecht

David Long

Kate Mack

Susan MacIntyre

Shannon Mauro

Ronnette Mays

Tara McGinniss

Jesse Mead

Blaze Meyers

Matthew Miller

Bonnie Organski

Michael Pauling

Jo Ann Peralta

Merrilyn Pysler

Katie Quartuch

Michelle Riley

Douglas Roncolato

Virginia Rothenberger

Troy Ruch

Stephen Schrader

Edward Sinkler

Louis Skrapits

Marlo Spritzer

Christopher Strobl

Cotie Strong

Jessica Swartz

Heather Toto

Justina Viola

Tara Walter

Teresa Ware

Matthew Wehr

Jennifer Wlodek-Evans

Lynn Yocum

Lee Zeisloft;

Approve Erin Jividen, Middle School Spring Musical Director for the 2013-14 school year at a stipend of \$900.

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

Michael Duane                      Football  
Nicholas Heiser-Koch              Football;

Approve the following athletic event workers for the 2013-2014 school year-

Mary Rockel  
Caitlyn Rockel  
Deborah Pulizzano  
Melody Davis  
Jeffrey Hershey  
Donald Harakal  
Lisa Kurtz  
Karen Himmelsbach  
Elaine Weiser  
Jesse Mead  
Stephanie Donald  
Allison McPeek  
Jon Walters  
Steven Barnes  
Wayne Langsdorf  
Jessica Swartz  
Kaytlyn Hackenberg  
Connie Manfredo  
Karen Shaffer  
Luke Shaffer  
Lynn Kovecses  
Robert Clark  
David Diaz  
Richard Mayer  
George Wagner  
Alan Rockel  
Kathleen Miller  
Jeremy Melber  
Bill Kennedy  
Diana Millman  
Gregory Martin

Maureen Elliott

Donald West, Jr

Michael Miller

Thomas J. Seidenberger

Michael Feifel

**VOICE VOTE: “YES” – Unanimous – Motion Carried**  
**ABSENT: Hayes**

## **CURRICULUM/STUDENT AND STAFF ACTIVITIES**

Mrs. Siegfried, Mr. Davidson, Mr. McGinty and Mr. Hafner reported on student and staff activities at the High School, Middle School, Intermediate School and the elementary schools.

### High School report –

- The new block schedule is going very smoothly and students are transitioning nicely.
- Last week over 600 laptops were distributed to students who have signed up to take them home this year.
- Today, students started their Spartan Block offerings with 390 different offerings for students to choose from. This runs as a schedule within a schedule with the students choosing 6 different options in the 6 day cycle.
- Open House is scheduled on Monday, September 16 to share the new schedule and Spartan Period offerings with our parents.

### Middle School report –

#### Academic

- National Junior Honor Society has begun meeting to establish student tutoring dates and times.
- Activity sign-ups are complete for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students.
- PEAK Activities beginning
- 9/25, 27 - PUTT U – trip for 7<sup>th</sup> grade students.

#### Social

- 9/11 - Patriot Day
- 9/13 - MS dance
- 9/17 - Open House

### Intermediate School report –

- 9/10 - Open House - 7:00 PM- 8:30 PM
- 9/18 - Pictures
- Overall it's been a smooth start to the school year.
- 6th grade bag- a- book project: Students take a book from the summer reading list and make a bag with an illustration from the book, a brief description, and 3 items that are symbolic of the book. Students present these projects in class.
- 4th graders are creating their “All About Me” projects. This project takes on the look of a newspaper article and features each student.
- 5th grade student are using “NewsELA” to read-up on current events, and build reading comprehension with wide variety of nonfiction text.

- Elementary schools –
- 9/11 - Hopewell's Open House - 6:30 P.M.
- 9/12 - Liberty Bell's Open House - 7:00 P.M.
- 9/19 - Lower Milford's Open House - 7:00 P.M.
- 9/11 - Liberty Bell's students and staff will be wearing Red, White, and Blue for Patriot's Spirit Day.
- We would like to thank the board and Liberty Bell PTA for funding the new playground equipment. It has been a big hit and the students have really been responsible when using it.
- 9/28 - Liberty Bell will be holding the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Liberati Mini-Golf Classic at Putt-U. Over \$3,400 was raised last year for the Joseph P. Liberati Scholarship fund awarded to a graduating senior.

**MOVED BY** Gunkle and 2<sup>ND</sup> **BY** McLoughlin to approve the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit Special Education Services Agreement for the 2013-2014 school year.

**VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried**  
**ABSENT: Hayes**

Introduction and welcome of Mr. He Kun and Mr. Feiyu Peng, Chinese Scholar BCIU teachers who are teaching middle and high school students during the 2013-2014 school year.

Mr. Ken Jordan, Director of Elementary Education and Instructional Technology, provided a video presentation of the 2012-2013 District Mini Grants.

### **BUSINESS AND FINANCE**

**MOVED BY** Gunkle and 2<sup>ND</sup> **BY** Stelts to approve the following school property tax refund-

Calvary Bible Fellowship Church, Parcel ID# 05 6423493645161, \$2,869.51 in 2009-10 taxes

**VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried**  
**"ABSTAIN" - Lindsay**  
**ABSENT: Hayes**

**MOVED BY** Gunkle and 2<sup>ND</sup> **BY** Stelts to approve Sweet, Stevens, Katz & Williams as school solicitor for the 2013-2014 school year.

**VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried**  
**ABSENT: Hayes**



## **SUPPORT SERVICES**

**MOVED BY** Gunkle and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Stelts to approve Change Order #001 to Budget Renovations and Roofing, 342 S. 5th Street, Shamokin, PA 17872. The change order represents a “deduct” in the amount of \$3,000 for unused materials in the Middle School Gym Roof Project. The change order reduces the contract amount from \$80,972 to \$77,972.

**VOICE VOTE: “YES” – Unanimous – Motion Carried**  
**ABSENT: Hayes**

## **PERSONNEL**

Acknowledge attainment of tenure at the completion of the 2012-2013 school year of the following staff:

Tammy Weaver

Anthony Italiani, Jr.

## **REPORTS**

### Policy Committee

Mr. Lindsay reported that the committee met today and discussed several policies.

### Superintendent's Report

Mrs. Christman reported the following-

- On 8/28, water began flooding into the Middle School due to 4.6” of rain that fell in less than an hour. Thanks to the efforts of custodial and professional staff, damage was kept to a minimum.
- Congratulations to Mrs. Spritzer and the HS newspaper staff for earning a Silver rating from the Pennsylvania School Press Association.
- SLEF is sponsoring the Triabiathlon on Saturday, October 5, 2013.
- The entire Superintendent's Report is available on the district's website.

### LCTI

Mr. Quigley attended the 8/28 meeting.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

The Board continued the discussion on the findings of the Demographic Study and Life/Cost Analysis of Lower Milford and Hopewell Elementary Schools as presented at the Special Board meeting on August 28, 2013.

Mr. Dimmig extended an opportunity for public comments with instructions for speakers to sign-in and limit their comments to 5 minutes.

Ms. Lori Berta suggested keeping all three elementary schools open to provide flexibility and the option to push grades to other buildings.

Mr. Darin Jellison introduced himself as a Lower Milford parent and architect with experience in school projects. He suggested the option of grading to expand an addition to Lower Milford and an in-depth study of how other district buildings can be modified.

Ms. Kristen Jellison attended the August 28, 2013 board meeting and concerned about 50 minute bus ride times. She also reminded the Board that Lower Milford is the primary emergency shelter for Lower Milford Township.

Ms. Michelle Burns attended the August 28, 2013 board meeting and concerned about "possible board action" on today's agenda. She offered the suggestion that by keeping all three elementary schools open, there is flexibility to push grades to other buildings.

Ms. Diane Foster attended Southern Lehigh Schools and spoke in support of Lower Milford Elementary school and in favor of a smaller, neighborhood school.

Mr. Jim Reilly attended the August 28, 2013 board meeting and asked if full day kindergarten a consideration.

Ms. Amanda Robbins concerned about the length of bus ride times and consideration of routes.

Mr. Robert Burns spoke in favor of a smaller size school.

There was additional Board and audience discussion. Mr. Dimmig requested order from the audience and reminded all in attendance that no decisions have been made and that there would be no Board action at this meeting.

Mr. Bergey reviewed a map indicating student population.

There was discussion on the potential timeline for taking action based on the findings of the demographic study and life/cost analysis of Lower Milford and Hopewell Elementary schools. The Board requested additional information and options from Administration for possible presentation at the September 23, 2013 school board meeting.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

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

#200\* Pupils: Enrollment of Students

*\*Policy No. 200 is replacing Policy 201 Pupils: Admission of Students and Policy 202 Pupils: Eligibility of Resident and Nonresident Students.*

**VOICE VOTE: "YES" - Unanimous - Motion Carried**  
**ABSENT: Hayes**

**MOVED BY** Quigley and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Lycett to approve a first reading of the following revised policies-

#117 Programs: *Homebound Instruction*

#222 Pupils: *Tobacco*

#323 Administrative Employees: *Tobacco*

#423 Professional Employees: *Tobacco*

#523 Classified Employees: *Tobacco*

**VOICE VOTE: "YES" - Unanimous - Motion Carried**  
**ABSENT: Hayes**

(Mrs. Gunkle left the meeting at 10:48 and returned at 10:55.)

**MOVED BY** Quigley and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Stelts to approve the Penn Foundation Behavioral Health Services Agreement (Employee Assistance Program) from September 1, 2013 through August 31, 2018.

**VOICE VOTE: "YES" - Unanimous - Motion Carried**  
**ABSENT: Hayes**

**MOVED BY** Stelts and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Gunkle to approve (*pending solicitor's review*) of the lease agreement with Upper Bucks YMCA for use of the facility for practice and home swim meets for the Southern Lehigh High School Swim Team from October 1, 2013 through March 31, 2018.

**VOICE VOTE: "YES" - Unanimous - Motion Carried**  
**ABSENT: Hayes**

**VISITORS**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOVED BY** McLoughlin and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Lycett to adjourn the meeting.

**VOICE VOTE: "YES" - Unanimous - Motion Carried**  
**ABSENT: Hayes**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 p.m.

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_ Board Secretary