



Southern Lehigh School District

Board of School Directors Meeting

December 5, 2011

The first 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 (December 5, 2011) at Southern Lehigh High School, Center Valley, PA.

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

ABSENT: None

OTHERS: Christman, Melber, Millman, Bartholomew, Kennedy, Lewis, Siegfried, Davidson, Farris, Limpar, Jordan, Rich (PATCH), Peterson (Morning Call), and approximately 5 other members of the community.

OPENING PROCEDURES

Dr. McLoughlin led the Board and others attending the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

There was a moment of silence for the late Superintendent Joseph P. Liberati.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED BY Stelts and **2ND BY** Gunkle to approve the minutes of the November 21, 2011 meeting as distributed to all Board members.

VOICE VOTE: " YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried

ABSENT: None

VISITORS

MOVED BY Stelts and **2ND BY** Gunkle to elect William Hayes as Temporary Board President.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried

ABSENT: None

The temporary President asked the Board Secretary to read into the Minutes the names of the newly elected School Directors from the Certificates of Election. The Board Secretary stated that the newly elected School Directors listed on the Certificates were Jeffrey Dimming, Corinne Gunkle, James Lindsay, Jr., William Lycett, and John Quigley, all for a four year term. Mr. Hayes then administered the oath of office to the newly elected members.

The Temporary President then proceeded to the election of the offices of President and Vice-President for the forthcoming year and the election of the Treasurer through the month of June of the forthcoming year.

MOVED BY Quigley and **2ND BY** Gunkle to nominate Dr. Thomas McLoughlin as **Board President** for the forthcoming year.

MOVED BY Gunkle and **2ND BY** Mohr to close the nominations for Board President.

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

The Temporary President declared nominations to be open for the office of Vice-President for the forthcoming year.

MOVED BY Quigley and **2ND BY** Lycett to nominate Jeffrey Dimmig as **Vice-President** of the Board for the forthcoming year.

There was Board discussion and a second nomination occurred.

MOVED BY Dimmig and **2ND BY** Stelts to nominate Corinne Gunkle as **Vice-President** of the Board for the forthcoming year.

MOVED BY Stelts and **2ND BY** Quigley to close the nominations for Board Vice-President.

SECRET BALLOT: "Jeffrey Dimmig" – 6 votes - Motion Carried
"Corinne Gunkle" – 3 votes
ABSENT: None

The Temporary President declared nominations to be open for the office of Treasurer to complete the term of office expiring June 30, 2011.

MOVED BY McLoughlin and **2ND BY** Stelts to nominate Mrs. Corinne Gunkle as **Board Treasurer**.

MOVED BY Hayes and **2ND BY** Stelts to close the nominations for Board Treasurer.

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

Since there was no opposition to the candidates as nominated, the Temporary President directed the Secretary of the Board to cast a unanimous ballot for the nominees as designated.

Mr. Hayes congratulated the new officers and then turned over the meeting to the newly elected President, Dr. Thomas McLoughlin.

MOVED BY Hayes and **2ND BY** Stelts to approve the bonding of the Board Treasurer at \$50,000.

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

MOVED BY Quigley and **2ND BY** Gunkle to authorize the use of a facsimile signature plate of the President, Treasurer and Secretary when signing School District checks.

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

MOVED BY Quigley and **2ND BY** Gunkle to authorize the Board Secretary to execute and submit the standard resolutions, signature cards, and any other forms necessary to reflect the change in President and Treasurer with the District's depositories.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Approve the bills dated December 5, 2011 showing paid bills in the amount of \$7,281.03 and bills to be paid in the amount of \$267,504.08 for a total amount of \$ 274,785.11 for the General Fund;

Approve the following Substitute Teachers for the 2011-2012 school year-

Elaine Kloss, Elementary Ed, Special Ed, Mid-Level Math, Mid-Level English;

Approve FMLA Leave for the following staff-

Christopher Strobl, Math Teacher, Southern Lehigh Middle School, from December 7, 2011 through December 23, 2011.

Krista Sterner, Language Arts Teacher, Southern Lehigh Middle School with an anticipated effective date of December 5, 2011 through January 30, 2012;

Approve unpaid leave of the following staff-

Laura Sunners, Instructional Assistant, Liberty Bell Elementary School, on February 10 and 13, 2012.

Elizabeth Tate, Technology Facilitator, Southern Lehigh Intermediate School, on January 20, 2012;

Approve the temporary increase in hours for Laura Sunners, Instructional Assistant, from 3 hours to 4 hours to provide direct services to Student #15080 at the hourly rate of \$16.50 effective October 24, 2011;

Approve Brooke Ruch as a mentor for Stacey Kuntzman at a stipend not to exceed \$700 (pro-rated) for a term of up to one calendar year;

Approve the following subject area leaders for the 2011-2012 school year at a shared stipend (pro-rated) effective December 6, 2011-

Patricia Smiley Science 9-12 \$1,600.50 plus \$250

Joseph Helinski Science 9-12 \$1,600.50 plus \$250;

Approve the following coach for the 2011-2012 school year-

Matthew Swartz MS Boys' Basketball Asst. \$2,464;

Approve the following volunteer coaches for the 2011-2012 school year-

Joseph Deutsch MS Boys' Basketball

Todd Miller MS Boys' Basketball;

VOICE VOTE: " YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried

ABSENT: None

CURRICULUM/STUDENT AND STAFF ACTIVITIES

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

High School report –

- The High School has instituted Homework Free breaks in response to the documentary "Race to Nowhere". The High School staff has pledged to give students free breaks for Thanksgiving, Winter Break and Presidents' Weekend.
- 11/22 HS Choral Concert
- 12/8 Progress reports to be mailed for the 2nd quarter

Middle School report –

Academic

- 12/6 PTG meeting
- 12/8 Progress letters to be mailed
- 12/20 MS Chorale and Orchestra Concert 7 PM
- 12/22 MS Choral and Orchestra in school

PEAK Activities:

- 12/1 Chinese Cultural Experience (2:35-3:45)
- 12/7 Gingerbread Houses (2:35-3:45)
- 12/8 Ice Skating (2:35-5:45)
- Cardio Room 12/8, 12/12 & 12/14
- 12/16 Holiday Dance

Intermediate School report –

- In addition to the activities already listed in our calendar and/or reported in the Laconian, the following events have or will occur this month at the Intermediate School.
- 12/1 - The PTG held a fund-raiser at Barnes & Noble bookseller. It was a wonderful event.
- 12/3 - the 6th grade chorus and Jr. Meister singers performed at the annual Coopersburg Tree Lighting ceremony. If any of you were there, you know they were outstanding.
- 12/15 - The combined Instrumental Music and Choral Holiday concert will be held at 7:00PM in the gymnasium.

Elementary schools –Hopewell:

- On November 21st Hopewell School celebrated it's 41st birthday and showed school spirit by wearing Hopewell School t-shirts and having memorabilia on hand from when the school was dedicated in November 1970.
- This past Saturday the PTA sponsored Hopewell's annual Breakfast with Santa, students made hand-made ornaments and had an opportunity to decorate the tree in our lobby. We offered a holiday marketplace with 20 outside vendors, a little shopper's shop and pictures with Santa. A good time was had by all.
- This Thursday, 12/8, all three elementary cafeterias will be recognized with the Healthier US Schools award for making healthy changes to school lunch menus.
- On Friday, December 23, Hopewell students are looking forward to celebrating PJ Stuffy Day, wearing their pajamas to school, singing holiday songs and listening to the "Night before Christmas."

Lower Milford:

- 12/6, Lower Milford's PTA will hold a Holiday Social from 6-8 PM.
- 12/7, Lower Milford will hold "Second Grade Reading Club" with reading activities, crafts, and a book for each student presented by the PTA.

Liberty Bell:

- 12/21 Hosting Kit's Interactive Theater with a show sponsored by our PTA, "The Mrs. Claus Holiday Celebration."
- 12/9 Mr. Markley will be leading the 3rd Graders in his annual fall production. This fall's play is titled *Paleodreams*. The show times are 2:00 P.M. and 7:00 P.M. All are welcome to attend.
- The PTA held their annual Holiday Shoppe this past Friday evening. It was a huge success as many families came out to have pizza with Santa and do a little shopping!

- 12/23, LB will be having PJ Stuffy Day as well as having its traditional holiday sing-along before departing for Winter Break.

Keystone Achievement Awards

Mrs. Christman presented achievement awards to each of the building principals in attendance that were received from Pennsylvania Department of Education for Adequate Yearly Progress. All district schools received recognition for two consecutive years, 2009-2010 and 2010-2011.

MOVED BY Gunkle and **2ND BY** Stelts to approve the following student school trip: Southern Lehigh Competition Cheerleading Squad to participate in the UCA National High School Cheerleading Championships, from Friday, February 10, 2012 through Monday, February 13, 2012 in Orlando, FL.

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

BUSINESS AND FINANCE

2012-2013 Budget Presentation

Mr. Melber presented the current 5 year budget which must be submitted to PDE by June 30, 2012.

- Reflects two administrative staff reductions.
- 12% increase in health insurance costs, but reflects no change to budget since rates remain the same.
- Possible bond recall next year for an additional savings.
- Budget hearings to be held with principals and department heads beginning in January.
- Transportation RFP bids to be open January 5.
- Charter school costs continue to increase with approximately 30 out of 100 students now identified with special education needs
- Copiers purchased and monthly expenses have been removed from building budgets.
- Board eliminated putting money into GASB 45 and will discuss options for funding.

The presented budget is a working document and will be available on the district's website.

MOVED BY Stelts and **2ND BY** Gunkle to approve the enclosed resolution to limit any real estate tax increase for 2012-13 to the Act 1 index and to comply with Section 687 of the Public School code as it pertains to budget adoption for 2012-2013.

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

SUPPORT SERVICES

PERSONNEL

REPORTS

Lehigh Career & Technical Institute

No report.

Education Committee

No report.

Superintendent’s Report

Mrs. Christman thanked the many people who stepped forward to offer assistance during this difficult week, including the CLIU Flight Team, Lehigh University, Superintendents from surrounding districts, and also the Salisbury High School Principal. Additionally, Mrs. Christman thanked those who participated and coordinated the “Celebration of Life” held at the High School on December 4th in honor of the late Joseph Liberati.

On December 8th, all three elementary cafeterias will be recognized with the Healthier US Schools award for making healthy changes to our school lunch menus.

Tickets are still available for the December 14th Chinese dance show, “Silk Road”, performed by the Gansu Dance at the High School. Donations from the Chamber of Commerce and outside donations will help defray costs of dinner for the performers.

December 23rd is a 1/2 day before the Winter Break. This information is posted on website and a Blackboard message will also be sent.

The December Facilities Committee meeting may be cancelled.

OLD BUSINESS

MOVED BY Stelts and **2ND BY** Gunkle to approve a second and final reading of the following policy-

#210 Pupils: *Use of Medication*

VOICE VOTE: “YES” – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: None

NEW BUSINESS

MOVED BY Gunkle and **2ND BY** Mohr to appoint Leah Christman, Assistant Superintendent as Acting Superintendent of the School District effective immediately for a term not longer than one (1) year, with full authority to perform the duties of Superintendent pending the filling of the vacancy created by the passing of the late Superintendent Joseph P. Liberati.

VOICE VOTE: “YES” – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: None

MOVED BY Stelts and **2ND BY** Gunkle approve the Memorandum of Understanding for Emergency Evacuations for Hopewell Elementary School.

VOICE VOTE: “YES” – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: None

MOVED BY Stelts and **2ND BY** Mohr to rename the Southern Lehigh Intermediate School as the Joseph P. Liberati Intermediate School with details to be discussed and finalized with the Facilities Committee.

VOICE VOTE:“ YES” – Unanimous - Motion Carried
ABSENT: None

VISITORS

None.

The Board took a brief recess at 9:21 p.m. to discuss a personnel matter.
The Board met in executive session at 9:25 pm.
The meeting reconvened at 9:47 p.m.

MOVED BY Stelts and **2ND BY** Hayes to pay remaining vacation and personal days and to interpret the Superintendent’s contract such that family health care benefits would be paid just as if Mr. Liberati had retired.

There was Board discussion and a roll call vote called.

ROLL CALL VOTE: “YES” – Stelts, Gunkle, Hayes, Mohr, Lindsay – Motion Carried
ABSTAIN- Dimmig, Lycett, Quigley, McLoughlin
ABSENT: None

MOVED by Stelts and **2nd BY** Gunkle to adjourn the meeting.

VOICE VOTE: “YES” - Unanimous - Motion Carried
ABSENT: None

The meeting was adjourned at 10:01 p.m.

ATTEST: _____ Board Secretary