



Southern Lehigh School District

Board of School Directors Meeting

February 12, 2007

The first monthly meeting of the Board of School Directors of the School District of Southern Lehigh was held at 7:44 p.m. on the above date (February 12, 2007) in the Southern Lehigh High School, Center Valley, PA.

PRESENT: Miracle, Auteri, Bromwell, Quigley, Rennie, Schubert, Stelts

ABSENT: Corso, Eddinger

OTHERS: Snell, Guerriere, Bartholomew, Kennedy, Churm, Christman, Metrick, Keister, Altieri, Bergey, Siegfried, Turner, Limpar, Harakal, Lee, Twardowski, Madsen (Morning Call), Popichak (Saucon News), and 8 other members of the community.

OPENING PROCEDURES

Mr. Miracle led the Board and others attending the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Board met in Executive Session prior to the meeting to discuss legal and personnel issues.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED BY Bromwell and **2ND BY** Rennie to approve the minutes of the January 22, 2007 meeting as copied and distributed to all Board members.

Minutes of
1/22/07

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: Corso, Eddinger

VISITORS

CONSENT AGENDA

MOVED BY Rennie and **2ND BY** Schubert to approve the **CONSENT AGENDA** items as follows:

Approve the bills list dated February 12, 2007 showing paid bills in the amount of \$322,291.16 and bills to be paid in the amount of \$589,114.67 for a total of \$911,405.83 for the General Fund, and bills to be paid in the amount of \$9,392.23 for the Construction Fund;

Approval of
Bills

Approve the addendum to the bills list dated February 12, 2007 showing bills to be paid in the amount of \$27,254.25 for the General Fund;

Approve the Treasurer's Report for the month of January 2007;

Approve
Treasurer's
Report

Approve the following substitute teachers -

Donna Anthony, Elementary
Christine Dobos, English
Cristy Shoemaker, Elementary;

Approve
substitute
teachers-
Anthony,
Dobos,
Shoemaker

Approve salary step adjustments, effective February 1, 2007, for the following staff -

Mark Covelle, Language Arts Teacher, High School, B +15 to Masters.
Emily Costa, 2nd grade Teacher, Lower Milford, B +15 to Masters.
Brooke Ruch, Learning Support Teacher, Hopewell Elementary, B +15 to Masters.
Justina Viola, Mathematics Teacher, High School, Masters to Masters +15;

Approve salary
step
adjustments
effective
2/1/07-Covelle,
Costa, Ruch,
Viola

Approve the following student teacher placements -

Approve
student
teacher
placements-
Adams,
DeMatteo,

Stephanie Adams, English, Muhlenberg College with *Heather Toto* at Middle School from March 21, 2007 through May 10, 2007.

Patricia DeMatteo, English, DeSales University with *Sheila Alder-Curtis* at High School from January 15, 2007 to April 20, 2007.

Gregory Dieter, Elementary, DeSales University with *Rochelle Adam* at Hopewell Elementary from January 16, 2007 to March 2, 2007.

Emily Klein, Psychology/Elementary, Moravian College with *Ronald Hari* at Liberty Bell Elementary from March 12, 2007 to April 27, 2007.

Valerie Korsak, Psychology/Elementary, Moravian College with *Carol Horvath* at Liberty Bell Elementary from March 12, 2007 to April 27, 2007.

Jennifer Rizk, Elementary/Sociology Spanish Minor, Moravian College with *Kathleen Malek* at Liberty Bell Elementary from March 12, 2007 to April 27, 2007.

Jason Saxe, Mathematics, Muhlenberg College with *Matthew Greenawald* at High School from March 21, 2007 to May 10, 2007.

Cameron Smith, Spanish, Muhlenberg College with *Patricia Combs* at High School from March 21, 2007 to May 10, 2007.

Melissa Williams, Science, DeSales University with *Joseph Helinski* and *Patricia Smiley* from January 15, 2007 to April 20, 2007;

Accept the resignation of the following staff -

Juliet McCleery, Instructional Assistant, High School, effective January 12, 2007;

Approve unpaid leave of absence for the following staff -

Antonia Demonte, Part-time Cafeteria Worker, Liberty Bell Elementary School, Tuesday, February 20, 2007 to Friday, February 23, 2007.

Heidi Kelly, Part-time Custodian, Central Office/EIT Office, Friday, January 26, 2007 and Monday, January 29, 2007;

Approve the following support staff -

Kelli Guttman, 3-hour Part-time Cafeteria Worker, High School at an hourly rate of \$10.74. Ms. Guttman will fill the vacant position created with the transfer of Karen Himmelsbach to the open 4-¼ hour position, High School.

Rose Marie Keller, Accounts Payable Clerk, Central Office, at a pro-rated annual salary of \$29,220.38. Ms. Keller will fill the position created by the promotion of Andrea Scherzberg to Accountant.

Mary Nolden, Substitute Secretary, at an hourly rate of \$11.70.

Mary Nolden, Substitute Instructional Assistant, at an hourly rate of \$13.65.

Mary Nolden, Substitute Health Paraprofessional, at an hourly rate of \$11.70 (pending receipt of required paperwork).

VOICE VOTE: "YES" - Unanimous - Motion Carried
ABSENT: Corso, Eddinger

CURRICULUM/STUDENT AND STAFF ACTIVITIES

Mrs. Siegfried, Mrs. Turner and Ms. Limpar reported on student and staff activities at the High School, Middle School and the elementary schools respectively.

Mrs. Siegfried announced the following:

- On January 31, High School students that attend LCTI competed in a skills competition at Agricultural Hall.
- Mid-Term exams took place 1/26-1/29.
- PSSA writing assessments for Juniors would be completed this week.
- The annual Snowball Dance was held last weekend.

There was Board discussion on mid-term examinations.

Mrs. Turner reported that the Middle School mid-term exams were completed and they were now analyzing the results. PSSA writing assessment for 8th Grade is going on now.

Ms. Limpar also reported that PSSA writing assessment for 5th Grade is proceeding this week.

The School Board honored Michael Twardowski, a community member, for his positive attitude and volunteerism for the School District. Most recently, Mr. Twardowski volunteered many hours on the Director of Technology search committee.

MOVED BY Bromwell and **2ND BY** Stelts to approve Independent Study for the following students -

Independent Study in *Creative Writing* for Nicholas Galante for further development of writing skills and organizing ideas into full stories.

Independent Study in *Ceramics* for Robin Scales for further development of knowledge and experience with different ceramic methods.

Independent Study in *Multimedia* for Amanda Sroka for further exploration of various art media.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" - Unanimous - Motion Carried
ABSENT: Corso, Eddinger

MOVED BY Bromwell and **2ND BY** Rennie to approve the request for the following school trip -

Southern Lehigh High School Choral Program to participate in the 2007 Music in the Parks Festival at Six Flags Great Adventure, Jackson, NJ on Friday, May 11, 2007.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" - Unanimous - Motion Carried
ABSENT: Corso, Eddinger

The request for the following school trip was tabled for further review - Southern Lehigh High School Lacrosse Team to participate in the Dan Nolan Memorial Tournament, Williamsburg, VA from Thursday, April 26, 2007 through Saturday, April 28, 2007.

BUSINESS AND FINANCE

MOVED BY Rennie and **2ND BY** Stelts to approve appointment of France, Anderson, Basile and Company, P.C. to provide audits for the School District and the Earned Income Tax Office for fiscal years ending June 30, 2007, June 30, 2008 and June 30, 2009, pursuant to the enclosed proposal.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" - Unanimous - Motion Carried
ABSENT: Corso, Eddinger

MOVED BY Bromwell and **2ND BY** Rennie for approval of and permission to submit enclosed PlanCon K for the General Obligation Bond Series 2007. This form is required due to the recent refunding of a portion of the General Obligation Bond Series A of 2002.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" - Unanimous - Motion Carried
ABSENT: Corso, Eddinger

MOVED BY Stelts and **2ND BY** Rennie to approve the preliminary 2007-2008 General Fund Budget of \$46,324,848, with a property tax millage rate of 43.00, an increase of 1.90 mills.

Mr. Miracle asked for comments from the audience. Mr. Nick Antich asked if all the Stabler Land development was included in the revenue estimates for 2007-2008. Mr. Snell responded yes. Mr. Antich mentioned that school taxes have increased over 80% in the last 8 years.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – All but Bromwell and Quigley
"NO" – Bromwell, Quigley – Motion Carried
ABSENT: Corso, Eddinger

SUPPORT SERVICES

The Administration has approved payment #13 of Chevron Energy Solutions Company and release of \$209,570 from Citi Capital North America, Inc.

MOVED BY Bromwell and **2ND BY** Rennie to approve change order #2 for the Liberty Bell Kitchen/Grounds storage addition in the amount of \$2,813.30 to Nimaris Construction L.P. for relocating existing plumbing vent as required to allow for installation of new door

approve change order #2 for the Liberty Bell Kitchen/Grounds storage addition

award the electrical van bid Sands Auto Group

101-A, extending asphalt path to align with revised curb cutout location, and spray painting reused aluminum railing system to match adjacent railings.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" - Unanimous - Motion Carried
ABSENT: Corso, Eddinger

MOVED BY Quigley and **2ND BY** Rennie to award the electrical van bid to Sands Auto Group, 501 N West End Blvd., Quakertown, PA in the amount of \$34,491.00.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" - Unanimous - Motion Carried
ABSENT: Corso, Eddinger

PERSONNEL

REPORTS

Lehigh Career & Technical Institute

Mr. Miracle reported that 130 LCTI students participated in the Skills USA competition, with 51 winning medals. The state competition will be held at LCTI this year. He also announced that Southern Lehigh had 2 students earn student of the month last month.

Policy Committee

There was Board discussion on a \$50 student activity fee. Mrs. Auteri said the committee is still discussing an activity fee, but the fee may be illegal because School Districts are suppose to provide a free education. School Districts may assess an activity fee for activities not academic in nature such as Theater and Lacrosse. This is still an ongoing discussion item with the Policy Committee.

Southern Lehigh Education Foundation

Mrs. Rennie reported that the Education Foundation is having a fundraising event called "Ladies Night at The Melt Restaurant" at the Promenade Shops on March 21, 2007.

Superintendent's Report

In Mr. Liberati's absence, Mr. Snell gave the following report:

- Leah Christman has started her new Southern Lehigh position as Director of Technology.
- The 2007-2008 budgets for Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit, Lehigh Career & Technical Institute, and Lehigh Carbon Community College are ready for our adoption. He asked the Board if they would like to have representatives from these institutions attend the next Board meeting. The Board was not interested in having any representatives come to the next meeting, but would prefer the following Board meeting if there are any questions the Board may have.
- A copy of a recent newspaper display ad from Parkland School District announcing a public hearing/adoption of a referendum question per Act 1 was handed out to the Board members. Mr. Snell asked the Board for their input on placing a similar display ad for Southern Lehigh's upcoming Act 1 public hearing/adoption of a referendum question on February 26, 2007. The School District is currently running a legal notice in the newspaper for 3 weeks, has the notice on the School District website, and would be posting the public hearing on the High School sign on Route 309 during February 20-26. The Board consensus was to have Attorney Bartholomew draft a display ad similar to Parkland's for placement in the Morning Call newspaper, and to also post the announcement through out the community at places like the post offices and the Southern Lehigh Public Library.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

MOVED BY Rennie and **2ND BY** Bromwell to name the new Grade 4-6 School as the Southern Lehigh Intermediate School.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" - Unanimous - Motion Carried
ABSENT: Corso, Eddinger

Name the new
Grade 4-6 School
as the Southern
Lehigh
Intermediate
School

OTHER BUSINESS

COMMUNICATIONS

VISITORS' COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY Bromwell and **2ND BY** Quigley to adjourn the meeting.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" - Unanimous - Motion Carried
ABSENT: Corso, Eddinger

The meeting was adjourned at 9:14 p.m.

ATTEST: _____ Board Secretary