



Southern Lehigh School District

Board of School Directors Meeting

March 26, 2007

The second monthly meeting of the Board of School Directors of the School District of Southern Lehigh was held at 7:40 p.m. on the above date (March 26, 2007) in the Southern Lehigh High School, Center Valley, PA.

PRESENT: Miracle, Auteri, Bromwell, Corso, Eddinger, Quigley, Rennie, Schubert, Stelts
ABSENT: None
OTHERS: Liberati, Snell, Guerriere, Bartholomew, Kennedy, Churm, Christman, Metrick, Keister, Altieri, Bergey, Zuk, Pope, Limpar, Harakal, Lee, Madsen (Morning Call), Popichak (Saucon News), and approximately 7 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 Quigley and **2ND BY** Corso to amend the minutes of the Board meeting of March 12, 2007 to include the following discussion points:

That during open session, when asked by Mr. Quigley if Board President and Building Committee Chairman, Mr. Miracle, had assured the members of the Board that any payments to Mr. West and Mrs. Rauch in consideration of moving forward with the Intermediate School Building project would be conditional on final approval of the Intermediate School, that Mr. Miracle stated that no such assurance had been made to the Board members on the part of Mr. Miracle.

And furthermore, during open session, when asked by Mr. Quigley if School District Solicitor Attorney Bartholomew of the law firm Scoblionko, Scoblionko, Muir, Bartholomew and Melman had presented a conditional offer for consideration to Mr. West and Mrs. Rauch that he replied to Mr. Quigley and the Board that he had done so.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Quigley
"NO" - All but Quigley – Motion Defeated
ABSTAIN – Corso
ABSENT: None

MOVED BY Auteri and **2ND BY** Rennie to approve the minutes of the March 12, 2007 meeting as copied and distributed to all Board members.

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

VISITORS

Kelly Howsare asked the Board to reconsider their decision to require her to take a whole year off from teaching at Southern Lehigh School District instead of one semester, to accompany her husband to Rome, Italy where he will be teaching at American University.

The Board thanked Mrs. Howsare and said that there would be no discussion in open session since this is a personnel issue for an executive session.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Motion
Defeated to
amend
minutes of
3/12/07

Minutes of
3/12/07

Approval of Bills Approve the bills list dated March 26, 2007 showing paid bills in the amount of \$55,181.92 and bills to be paid in the amount of \$692,684.01 for a total of \$747,865.93 for the General Fund, and bills to be paid in the amount of \$11,770.00 for the Capital Reserve Sinking Fund;

Approve FMLA Leave-Sander Approve FMLA Leave for the following staff -
Anita Sander, German Teacher, Middle School, beginning March 7, 2007 through April 9, 2007;

Approve substitute teacher-Kennedy Approve the appointment of the following substitute teacher -
Christopher Kennedy, Business;

Approve student teacher placements-Flanley Approve the following student teacher placements -
Catherine Flanley, Science, Moravian College with *Edward Sinkler*, High School from March 12, 2007 through April 27, 2007;

Approve unpaid leave of absence-Tate Approve unpaid leave of absence for the following staff -
Elizabeth Tate, Instructional Assistant, Lower Milford Elementary School, on Tuesday, April 10, 2007;

Approve support staff-Dorney, McCleery Approve the appointment of the following support staff -
William Dorney, Substitute Custodian, at an hourly rate of \$11.70 (*pending receipt of required documentation*).
Juliet McCleery, Fitness Center Monitor, at an hourly rate of \$13.00. Ms. McCleery will fill the position created with the resignation of William Romeo;

Approve volunteer coaches for the 2006-2007 school year-Nye, Heurich, Pallone, Hogman, Sparango, Elliot Approve the following volunteer coaches for the 2006-2007 school year -
Peter Nye Boys' Lacrosse, Middle School
William Heurich Boys' Lacrosse, Middle School
Jonathan Pallone Baseball, High School (*pending receipt of required documentation*)
Jody Hogman Girls' Lacrosse, Middle School
Ashley Sparango Girls' Lacrosse, High School
Maureen Elliot Softball, High School.

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

CURRICULUM/STUDENT AND STAFF ACTIVITIES

Mr. Zuk, Ms. Pope and Ms. Limpar reported on student and staff activities at the High School, Middle School and the elementary schools respectively.

All three announced that PSSA assessments were completed last week with very few make-up assessments at the Middle and High Schools, and significant make-up assessments at the elementary schools due to high numbers of absences for illnesses. Ms. Pope reported that one of the three Middle School Odyssey of the Mind teams advanced to the State finals along with a High School team and a Liberty Bell team. The Pennsylvania southeast region competition was held March 17, 2007 at Southern Lehigh High School. The State competition will be held on April 14, 2007 in Altoona, PA.

Ms. Pope also said that teachers, Lynn Yocum and Ricki Stein made a presentation March 16, 2007 in New York City at the National Arts Educators national convention. They showed a PowerPoint and discussed the after school PEAK activity they run that combines art and writing. Through a partnership with the Lehigh Valley Arts Council, they bring in professional artists, poets and storytellers. The program has run for three years so far.

Ms. Limpar reported that the elementary schools held a "Go for the Green" Wellness initiative on March 14, 2007 to promote healthy eating. All food on the plates consisted of green vegetables and green fruits.

Mr. Miracle read a letter received from Victor B. Pituch, Tournament Director for Odyssey of the Mind of Southeastern Pennsylvania. Mr. Pituch thanked the Board for providing a

first class facility and a support team “second to none” in hosting the Regional Competition on March 17, 2007 at the High School. He also commended the Board for supporting the Odyssey of the Mind program that provides a platform in education for our youth to develop life-long skills.

Mr. Liberati also added that support services personnel, cafeteria personnel and administrators had done a tremendous job making the tournament a success.

MOVED BY Bromwell and **2ND BY** Rennie to approve Southern Lehigh High School Technology Student Association students who qualified to attend the Pennsylvania Technology Student Association Conference, Champion, PA from Wednesday, April 18, 2007 through Saturday, April 21, 2007.

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

MOVED BY Bromwell and **2ND BY** Corso to approve Southern Lehigh High School Technology Education Students to attend the Spring Technology Conference at California University of Pennsylvania, California, PA on Wednesday, April 25, 2007 and Thursday, April 26, 2007.

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

BUSINESS AND FINANCE

MOVED BY Bromwell and **2ND BY** Stelts to approve the enclosed Investment of Funds for the General Fund Account.

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

SUPPORT SERVICES

PERSONNEL

MOVED BY Stelts and **2ND BY** Auteri to approve the appointment of the following staff -

Patricia Fite, Learning Support Teacher, High School, at Bachelor’s, Step 5, an annual (pro-rated) salary of \$42,313, effective March 27, 2007. Ms. Fite will fill the position created with the resignation of Ryan Miller.

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

REPORTS

Lehigh Career & Technical Institute

Mr. Miracle said that the Joint Operating Committee would be meeting on Wednesday, March 28, 2007.

Building Committee

Mr. Miracle reported that the committee had met on March 21 with Bob Breslin, Architect, who handed out an updated timetable for the proposed construction of the Southern Lehigh Intermediate School. The School District has commenced advertising for bids.

Education Committee

Mr. Liberati said that the most convenient time to meet was Thursday mornings from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. Three meetings have been scheduled for April 19, May 24 and August 23, 2007. Mrs. Auteri said that she would not be available for the August 23 meeting. It will be decided later whether to reschedule the August 23 meeting.

Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit

Ms. Bromwell announced that the auditor’s report has been received and it was satisfactory with no findings.

e-appoint Ms. Bromwell as the School District representative to serve on the Board of Directors of the CLIU #21

DJOURNMENT

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Liberati reported that a new School District Strategic Plan is due in September 2008 to the Pennsylvania Department of Education. He explained that this normally is an 18-month process if outside consultants are brought in to prepare the Plan. Mr. Liberati preferred to do it in-house and said it could be completed in approximately 8 months. The Board concurred with Mr. Liberati about preparing the Plan in-house by using District professional staff.

Mrs. Christman presented a synopsis of her March 15, 2007 report on "Initial Assessment of Technology in the District and Recommendations". With regards to the District website, she said it has the potential to be one of the most powerful communication tools available to us, and save the District significant funds by reducing printed materials through the use of electronic communications and documents. The District has applied for e-Rate funding (40% reimbursement), has completed the legal bidding process, and has selected a third party host website. She said the District is in the process of designing the site, and plan to migrate all current information on the current site to the new site in the months ahead before unveiling the new, improved website. The Board was very pleased with Mrs. Christman's report and had the following suggestions:

- Back-up of data was not in the report, but it is recommended
- Explore the mining of PowerSchool to extract useful data
- Have Mrs. Christman review the technology planned for the new Intermediate School.

OLD BUSINESS**NEW BUSINESS****OTHER BUSINESS**

MOVED BY Schubert and **2ND BY** Stelts to re-appoint Ms. Bromwell as the School District representative to serve on the Board of Directors of the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit #21 for the term July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2010. Ms. Bromwell's current term expires on June 30, 2007.

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

COMMUNICATIONS**VISITORS' COMMENTS**

Arland Schantz asked the Board if the Pennsylvania Department of Education had approved the School District's Act 1 exceptions. Mr. Liberati said that the deadline to receive the notice from Pennsylvania Department of Education was March 20, 2007. He said that he had not seen the notice, but it is probably in his mail.

The Board took a brief recess at 8:49 p.m.

The Board met in executive session at 8:54 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 9:08 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

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

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

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

ATTEST: _____ Board Secretary