



Southern Lehigh School District

Board of School Directors Meeting

May 7, 2007

The first monthly meeting of the Board of School Directors of the School District of Southern Lehigh was held at 7:31 p.m. on the above date (May 7, 2007) in the Southern Lehigh High School, Center Valley, PA.

PRESENT: Miracle, Auteri, Bromwell, Eddinger, Rennie, Schubert, Stelts
ABSENT: Corso, Quigley
OTHERS: Liberati, Snell, Guerriere, Bartholomew, Kennedy, Churm, Metrick, Keister, Christman, Altieri, Bergey, Zuk, Turner, Limpar, Harakal, Lee, and approximately 5 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** Stelts to approve the minutes of the April 23, 2007 meeting as copied and distributed to all Board members.

Minutes of
4/23/07

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

VISITORS

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Approve the bills list dated May 7, 2007 showing paid bills in the amount of \$4,426.45 and bills to be paid in the amount of \$394,177.60 for a total of \$398,604.05 for the General Fund;

Approval of
Bills

Approve the addendum to the bills list dated May 7, 2007 showing bills to be paid in the amount of \$58,476.87 for the General Fund;

Appoint Robert Guerriere as EIT Officer for the 2007-08 year. Mr. Guerriere has served in this capacity for approximately 6-1/2 years, as well as nearly two years as Finance Manager;

Appoint EIT
Officer-
Guerriere

Approve the enclosed resolution, which deals with the designation of depositories and the investment of District funds for the 2007-2008 school year;

Approve
designation of
depositories
for the 2007-
2008 school
year

Accept the nomination of Michael Eddinger to continue as Board Treasurer. The School Code requires that the Board Treasurer be elected annually in the month of May to serve a one-year term beginning July 1st. In the past, the Board has always asked the Treasurer who was elected the previous December to accept this nomination in May;

Accept Board
Treasurer-
Eddinger

Set the bonding coverage for the Board Treasurer, Board Secretary and Earned Income Tax Officer at \$50,000 for the 2007-2008 year;

Set bonding
coverage for
the Board
Treasurer,
Board
Secretary &
EIT Officer

Accept the resignation of the following staff -

Melissa Ulicny, Mathematics Teacher, High School, effective at the end of 2006-2007 school year;

Accept
resignation-
Ulicny

Approve the following substitute teachers -

Approve substitute teachers-Beidelman, Davis, Neal

Ellen Beidelman, Elementary
Becky Davis, Elementary
William Neal, Elementary/Special Education;

Correct retirement date-Pope

Correct the retirement date for R. Ann Pope, Principal, Middle School to August 21, 2007;

Approve unpaid LOA-Alhadeff, Howell, Price, Ragsdale, Romeo

Approve unpaid leave of absence for the following staff -

Janice Alhadeff, Instructional Assistant, Lower Milford Elementary School, ½ day (a.m.) on Tuesday, May 1, 2007.
Virginia Howell, Instructional Assistant, Liberty Bell Elementary School, Monday, May 14, 2007 through Friday, May 18, 2007.
Diane Price, Part-time Cafeteria Worker, High School, on Friday, April 20, 2007, Wednesday, May 9, 2007 through Friday, May 11, 2007 and Monday, May 14, 2007.
Cathy Ragsdale, Part-time Cafeteria Worker, High School, on Friday, May 25, 2007, Tuesday, May 29, 2007 through Friday, June 1, 2007.
Linda Romeo, Part-time Cafeteria Worker, Middle School, on Thursday, May 3, 2007;

Accept resignation-Shafer (Waldbieser)

Accept the resignation of following staff -

Jennifer Shafer (Waldbieser), Instructional Assistant, Liberty Bell Elementary School, effective May 11, 2007;

Approve staff-Fowler, Graham

Approve the following staff -

Sylvia Fowler, Substitute Supplemental Nurse, at an hourly rate of \$15.00.
Clare Graham, Substitute Cafeteria Worker, at an hourly rate of \$7.50;

Approve Varsity Club Advisor to the end of the 2006-2007 school year-Wlodek

Approve Jennifer Wlodek as the Varsity Club Advisor for the period April 23, 2007 to the end of the 2006-2007 school year. Ms. Wlodek will replace Justina Viola, on leave for the remainder of the school year. The stipend paid to Ms. Wlodek will be \$290.55, which represents the pro-rated portion of the \$1,423.00 stipend;

Approve coaches for the 2007-2008 school year-Toman, Cerco, Feifel, Bleiler, Fanger, Wied, Glassic, Stengel, Pochek, Manor, Nevill, Roncolato, Koch, Belke, Drabenstott, Greenawald, Latza, Taylor, Searfoss, Hagy, Mack, West, Elstner, Brunner, Haig, Wescoe-Schaninger, Cooper

Approve the following coaches for the 2007-2008 school year -

<u>John Toman</u>	Head Football
<u>Andrew Cerco</u>	Assistant Football
<u>Michael Feifel</u>	Assistant Football
<u>Derek Bleiler</u>	Assistant Football
<u>Carl Fanger</u>	Assistant Football
<u>Kenneth Wied</u>	Assistant Football
<u>Joseph Glassic</u>	Head Middle School Football
<u>Michael Stengel*</u>	Assistant Middle School Football
<u>Bert Pochek*</u>	Assistant Middle School Football
<u>Rodney Manor*</u>	Assistant Middle School Football
<u>Terrence Nevill</u>	Head Boys' Soccer
<u>Douglas Roncolato</u>	Assistant Boys' Soccer
<u>Rodney Koch**</u>	Assistant Boys' Soccer
<u>Paul Belke**</u>	Assistant Boys' Soccer
<u>Andrea Drabenstott</u>	Head Girls' Tennis
<u>Matthew Greenawald</u>	Head Golf
<u>Randall Latza</u>	Head Cross Country
<u>James Taylor</u>	Assistant Cross Country
<u>Adrienne Searfoss</u>	Head Field Hockey
<u>Devon Hagy</u>	Assistant Field Hockey
<u>Patricia Mack</u>	Assistant Field Hockey
<u>Donald West</u>	Head Girls' Volleyball
<u>Paulette Elstner</u>	Head Middle School Girls' Volleyball
<u>Doris Brunner</u>	Head Middle School Field Hockey
<u>Colleen Haig</u>	Head Cheerleading
<u>Colleen Haig**</u>	Competition Cheerleading
<u>Jennifer Wescoe-Schaninger**</u>	Competition Cheerleading
<u>Anne Cooper</u>	Head Middle School Cheerleading

*These three coaches will equally split one stipend.

**These two coaches will equally split one stipend.

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

CURRICULUM/STUDENT AND STAFF ACTIVITIES

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

Mr. Zuk reported that the High School Prom was held on Saturday.

There was Board discussion with Mr. Zuk about High School students seeing teachers prior to 7:15 a.m.

Mrs. Metrick, Mr. Zuk and Dr. Keister provided an update from the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics Conference that was held March 21-24, 2007.

MOVED BY Eddinger and **2ND BY** Rennie to direct the Administration to develop new punishments for unexcused absences in the High School that will not affect the student's grades.

Approve Administration to develop new punishments for unexcused absences

MOVED BY Stelts and **2ND BY** Schubert to call the motion.

VOICE VOTE (Stelts Motion): "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: Corso, Quigley

VOICE VOTE (Eddinger Motion): "YES" – All but Miracle
"NO" – Miracle – Motion Carried
ABSENT: Corso, Quigley

MOVED BY Schubert and **2ND BY** Rennie to direct the Administration to accept a note from a parent of a High School student excusing the student for a doctor's appointment.

Motion Amended to have the Administration look at the policy regarding excusing a student for a doctor's appointment

MOTION amended BY Schubert and **2nd BY** Rennie to have the Administration look at this policy, that now requires a note from the doctor indicating the time of the appointment, the time leaving the appointment and the doctor's telephone number, and try to make it more parent friendly.

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

MOVED BY Auteri and **2ND BY** Rennie to approve the Middle School and High School Handbooks for the 2007-2008 school year.

MOTION amended BY Auteri and **2nd BY** Rennie to approve only the Middle School Handbook for the 2007-2008 school year.

Motion amended to approve Middle School handbook for the 2007-2008 school year

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

BUSINESS AND FINANCE

MOVED BY Rennie and **2ND BY** Bromwell to approve a partial refund of \$40.26 in 2006-07 school property taxes to Linford C. Krauss Jr., Et. Al in connection with the overpayment of taxes on tax parcel ID 13 640121722658 1, pursuant to the letter dated March 2, 2007 from the County of Lehigh (enclosed.) The refund reflects a revised assessment, which the County made effective 9/1/06.

Approve partial refund- Linford C. Krauss Jr., Et. Al

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

MOVED BY Bromwell and **2ND BY** Rennie to appoint James A. Bartholomew, Esq., of the firm Scoblionko, Scoblionko, Muir, Bartholomew, and Melman, as District Solicitor for the 2007-08 year, pursuant to the letter dated April 27, 2007 from Atty. Bartholomew.

Appoint James A. Bartholomew, Esq. as District Solicitor for the 2007-2008 school year

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

Appoint France, Anderson & Basile to perform audit of SLSD and SL EIT Office for the 2006-2007 school year

MOVED BY Rennie and **2ND BY** Auteri to appoint France, Anderson and Basile to perform the audit of the financial records of Southern Lehigh School District and Southern Lehigh Earned Income Tax Office for the 2006-2007 school year.

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

Convert Preliminary Proposed Budget to Final Proposed Budget

MOVED BY Rennie and **2ND BY** Eddinger to convert the preliminary proposed budget, which was approved on February 12, 2007 to the final proposed budget for purposes of final approval pursuant to the provisions of Section 687 of the Public School Code.

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

Mr. Snell and Attorney Bartholomew initiated a discussion about the impact of Act 1 upon the District's Act 50 Property Tax Deferral Program. The eligibility of claimants for tax deferral under Act 50 was based upon household income eligibility limitations set forth in the Senior Citizens Rebate and Assistance Act. Act 1 amended the provisions of the Senior Citizens Rebate and Assistance Act and provided substantial increases in the amount of household income allowable to eligible claimants and increased the amount of allowable rebate of real property taxes. The implementation by the School District of the Act 50 Tax Deferral Program was aimed at providing tax relief to persons with limited financial resources and was not intended to include persons with household incomes who are now potentially eligible under Act 1.

There was Board discussion about the effect of rescinding the Act 50 Tax Deferral Program on the persons currently in the program. The Administration will provide more information at the next Board meeting.

SUPPORT SERVICES

Administration approved payment application #16 to Chevron Energy Solutions

For your information, the Administration has approved payment application #16 to Chevron Energy Solutions Company and release of \$20,062.00 from Citi Capital North America, Inc.

PERSONNEL

Approve staff- Flamm (contingent upon childrearing leave of C. Pachence)

MOVED BY Bromwell and **2ND BY** Stelts to approve the following staff -

Terry Flamm, Long-Term Substitute, Special Education, Middle School, at B+30, Step 6, an annual salary of \$46,881 for the 2007-2008 school year. (*This is contingent upon the anticipated childrearing leave of Colleen Pachence.*)

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

Approve that the District compensate J. Viola for lost wages during deployment to Iraq. Board to re-evaluate the status of the leave and compensation paid to Justina in 2008, subject to a letter prepared by Attorney Bartholomew.

MOVED BY Eddinger and **2ND BY** Schubert to approve that the District compensate Justina Viola, HS Math Teacher and Dept. Chairperson, for lost wages due to her deployment to Iraq as a member of the United States Army as follows: The amount of \$1,000 per month, pro-rated to reflect partial months, for the period from April 23, 2007, until April 23, 2008. It is intended that the Board re-evaluate the status of Ms. Viola's leave and the compensation paid to her in 2008, when more information will be available concerning her return, subject to a letter prepared by Attorney Bartholomew (attached). This additional compensation is made with the understanding that such an action is outside the effect of the current Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Southern Lehigh Education Association, and will not set any precedent within or outside of that Agreement, in the case of Ms. Viola or any other employee.

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

REPORTS

Lehigh Career & Technical Institute

Mr. Miracle announced that a budget was generated for the Academic Center.

Building Committee

Mr. Miracle stated that the committee would be meeting on May 9 to review the bids received for the Intermediate School construction.

Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit

Ms. Bromwell said that there would be an open house at CLIU on May 16, from 5-8 p.m.

Budget & Finance Committee

Mr. Eddinger reported that there would be a budget familiarization presentation on May 21 at 5 p.m. at Central Office. All Board members were invited.

Attorney Bartholomew announced that final budget adoption was planned for the June 11, 2007 Board meeting and not on May 21, 2007.

Final Budget adoption planned for the June 11, 2007 Board meeting

Policy Committee

Mrs. Rennie read the following statement:

“Following careful and extensive consideration and deliberation, the Policy Committee recommends that the District does not charge a fee for activities other than the currently stipulated High School sports activity fees. Although there are no Pennsylvania court decisions declaring across-the-board activity fees to be illegal, there is serious question whether such fees violate the right of students to a free public education. It is clear that sports activities at the Varsity level require considerable financial commitment from the school district; some examples of these costs being transportation, multiple coaching stipends, equipment, officials, field construction and maintenance, and athletic trainers. Costs for extracurricular and co-curricular activities have not been found to have the same financial impact upon the District’s budget. This being the case, the Policy committee recommends no change in the current practice.”

Policy Committee recommends no change in current practice regarding fee for activities

Library Committee

Mr. Schubert reported that 85 year old Severn Fayerson, owner of Baldwin Brass in Reading and a Holocaust survivor, wrote a book and will be giving 3 talks, one of which will be at DeSales University. The proceeds from the talks and book signings will be donated to the Southern Lehigh Library.

Superintendent’s Report

Facilities Report

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

OTHER BUSINESS

MOVED BY Bromwell and **2ND BY** Auteri to approve the first reading of the following policies -

- 218.3 Pupils: Behavior Support
- 248 Pupils: Unlawful Harassment
- 348 Administrative Employees: Unlawful Harassment
- 448 Professional Employees: Unlawful Harassment
- 548 Classified Employees: Unlawful Harassment

Approve first reading of policies-#218.3, #248, #348, #448, #548

VOICE VOTE: “YES” – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: Corso, Quigley

COMMUNICATIONS

VISITORS’ COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

ADJOURNMENT

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

VOICE VOTE: “YES” - Unanimous - Motion Carried
ABSENT: Corso, Quigley

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 p.m.

ATTEST: _____ Board Secretary