



Southern Lehigh School District Board of School Directors Meeting

April 11, 2011

The first regular monthly meeting of the Board of School Directors of the School District of Southern Lehigh was held at 7:48 p.m. on the above date (April 11, 2011) at Southern Lehigh High School, Center Valley, PA.

PRESENT: Eddinger, Dimmig (left meeting at 9:18 p.m.), Gunkle, Hayes, Miracle, Mohr, Stelts

ABSENT: McLoughlin, Quigley

OTHERS: Liberati, Snell, Guerriere, Bartholomew, Kennedy, Takacs, Andrulovich, Scherzberg, Jordan, Covelle, Donahue, McGinty, Mickley, Harakal, Rizzo (The Morning Call) and approximately 27 other members of the community.

OPENING PROCEDURES

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED BY Miracle and **2ND BY** Gunkle to approve the minutes of the March 28, 2011 meeting as copied and distributed to all Board members.

Minutes of
3/28/2011

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

VISITORS

Carol Kozelnicky wanted to know if she could have a copy of the budget. Mr. Eddinger responded that the 2011-12 budget is still a working document and is therefore not available to the public. He said the preliminary budget will be adopted at the May 9 Board meeting and it will be available on the District website a few days prior to that meeting.

Tom Scozzafava informed the Board of the recent successes of the Intermediate School's Odyssey of the Mind team. Several members of the team were present. Mr. Scozzafava said the team finished a close second at a recent competition held at Southern Lehigh, which qualified them for the state competition. The team finished second at state's which qualified them for the world competition that will be held in Maryland. He asked the Board for financial support for the team to attend the world competition in Maryland. The team coach, Mr. Grabusky, was also present. Mr. Liberati said that there was money in the budget for purposes like this and the District had supported Odyssey of the Mind teams in the past.

MOVED BY Miracle and **2ND BY** Gunkle to approve funding of \$4,779 for the Intermediate School Odyssey of the Mind team to attend the world competition in Maryland.

Approve
funding for
the
Intermediate
School
Odyssey of
the Mind
team to
attend the
world
competition
in Maryland

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

Elizabeth Rich expressed her gratitude to the Board for allowing Patch.com to organize a "Meet the School Board Candidates Night" that will be held in the High School auditorium on either April 27 or April 28. The event will be run by The League of Woman Voters.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Approve the bills list dated April 11, 2011 showing paid bills in the amount of \$1,280.99 and bills to be paid in the amount of \$587,619.37 for a total amount of \$588,900.36 for

Approval of
Bills

the General Fund, and bills to be paid in the amount of \$885.00 for the Construction Fund;

Approve the retirement of the following staff –

Approve retirement-Adams, Breitenstein, Kline, Kinsey

Marilyn Adams, Librarian, Southern Lehigh High School, effective June 22, 2011. Mrs. Adams has been an employee of the district for 15 years.

Harold Breitenstein, Reading Teacher, Southern Lehigh Middle School, effective June 22, 2011. Mr. Breitenstein has been an employee of the district for 21 ½ years.

Leanora Kline, Special Education Teacher, Hopewell Elementary School, effective June 22, 2011. Mrs. Kline has been an employee of the district for 25 years.

Sylvia Kinsey, Librarian, Liberty Bell Elementary School, effective June 22, 2011. Mrs. Kinsey has been an employee of the district for 36 years;

Approve a second period of childrearing leave of the following staff for the 2011-2012 school year –

Approve 2nd period childrearing leave for the 2011-2012 school year-Conrad

Michelle Conrad, School Psychologist, Lower Milford and Liberty Bell Elementary Schools;

Approve the following substitute teachers for the 2010-2011 school year -

Approve substitute teachers for the 2010-2011 school year-Cochenour, Kennedy

Jennie Cochenour Elementary
Samuel Kennedy English;

Approve unpaid leave of the following staff -

Approve unpaid leave-Herman

Jordan Herman, Instructional Assistant, Southern Lehigh High School, from April 12, 2011 through April 15, 2011;

Approve the following intermittent FMLA leave of the following staff -

Approve intermittent FMLA-Miller

Judith Miller, Health Paraprofessional, Hopewell Elementary School, for a period of up to 5 days (*specific dates to be determined*);

Accept the resignation of the following staff -

Accept resignation-Sanchez

Wilma Sanchez, Cafeteria Monitor, Liberty Bell Elementary School, effective at the end of the day, April 15, 2011;

Approve the following coach for the 2010-2011 school year –

Approve coach for the 2010-2011 school year-Tilley

Amanda Tilley Asst. Girls' Lacrosse \$1,080**
***This stipend represents a 33/66 split with Natalie Deacon, who was previously approved as assistant coach at the February 14, 2011 Board meeting with a full stipend of \$3,240. Ms. Deacon's adjusted stipend will be \$2,160;*

Approve the following volunteer coaches for the 2010-2011 school year -

Approve volunteer coaches for the 2010-2011 school year-Martin, Nagle, Rochon

Enos Martin MS Track & Field Club
Kathleen Nagle MS Track & Field Club
Frank Rochon MS Track & Field Club;

Approve the following mentor at a stipend** not to exceed \$700.00 for the 2010-2011 school year –

Approve mentor for the 2010-2011 school year-Killino

Scott Killino as a mentor for *John McDonald*
***The stipend will be shared 50/50 with Richard Colelli who was previously approved at the March 28, 2011 Board meeting;*

Approve the following Summer Math Lab Teachers at an hourly rate of \$37.40 –

Approve Summer Math Lab Teachers-Malik, Bromfield

Paul Malik
Erin Bromfield.

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

CURRICULUM/STUDENT AND STAFF ACTIVITIES

Mr. Covelle, Dr. Donahue, Mr. McGinty and Mrs. Mickley reported on student and staff activities at the High School, Middle School, Intermediate School, and the elementary schools.

High School report –

- Student Council held a fundraiser dance for the Bo Tkach Memorial on 4/9/11
- PSSA Testing is completed
- Report Cards mailed April 8
- Teacher Appreciation Luncheon held April 1
- Administration has been participating in Sapphire Training – counselors have upcoming additional training

Middle School report –

- Student Black-Light Dance, Friday, March 18
- Spring Spirit Day, Friday, April 11
- Course Information Night for Parents, Thursday, March 31
- PSSA testing completed, Monday, April 11
- Parent-Teacher Group, Tuesday, April 12
- LV Arts Council; “Growing Up Artfully” April 4- April 30 Penn State, CV Campus
- Choir/Orchestra Concert, Thursday, April 28
- Middle School Musical; “School House Rock-Live” Thursday & Friday, May 5 & 6
- Career Day, Wednesday, May 11
- Sixth Grade Visit to MS, Thursday, May 12
- Spring Pep Rally, Friday, May 13
- National Junior Honor Society Induction Ceremony, Thursday, May 26

Intermediate School report –

- Third MP report cards were sent out Friday, April 8. PSSA assessments, with the exception of our make-ups have concluded for the year. The IS is planning on hosting 3rd grade students for their visit on May 23 and June 7. The IS is moving closer to implementing a School-Wide Positive Behavior Support Plan (SWPBS) and some staff will attend training at the IU on April 19.
- Students in Mr. Fluck’s class are working on a math project involving stock market investments. The financial advisors assigned to manage the imaginary \$100,000 have already posted a net profit of \$2,300.
- Mrs. Hallman’s Language Arts classes have been working on Clerihew poetry. Students chose Mrs. Farris and Mr. McGinty to write about together. According to our poets: Mrs. Farris has very fine hair’ous, and Mr. McGinty has breath so very minty.

Elementary schools –

- Elementary Parent Conferences are being held this week.
- Kindergarten registration is being held this week. A Parent Workshop for parents of in-coming kindergarten students will be presented by our kindergarten teachers on the evening of April 28. A visitation day for next year’s kindergarten students will be held on May 5.
- Liberty Bell’s 3rd Grade students visited the Southern Lehigh Public Library on Friday, April 8, to learn about their summer programs as well as the other resources it has to offer to the students.
- Hopewell had its 3rd grade concert last Tuesday, featuring Chorus, recorders and instrumental music students. Thirty-one students participated in strings; Mrs. Limpar extends kudos to Doug Bolasky for bringing those 31 students together.
- Liberty Bell’s 3rd Grade Spring Performance will be held on April 19 at 7:00 PM.
- Lower Milford’s Spring Performance will be held on May 5 at 7:00 PM.
- Hopewell’s second grade was featured in an article in the Morning Call last week. The article highlighted student use of i-pads and our district’s technology program.

Approve
SLHS Speech
& Debate
Team trip,
Washington,
DC & SLHS
Band & Jazz
Band trip,
Baltimore,
MD

MOVED BY Miracle and **2ND BY** Gunkle to approve the following student trip requests -

Southern Lehigh High School Speech and Debate Team to participate in the *National Catholic Forensic League Grant National Tournament*, Washington, DC from May 27, 2011 through May 30, 2011.

Southern Lehigh High School Band and Jazz Band to participate in the *Trills and Thrills Festival* in Baltimore, Maryland on May 13, 2011 and May 14, 2011.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried

ABSENT: McLoughlin, Quigley

BUSINESS AND FINANCE

Approve
salaries for
the 2011-12
school year
(salaries
identical to
salaries in
the 2010-11
school year)-
Liberati,
Christman,
Snell,
Kennedy

MOVED BY Miracle and **2ND BY** Gunkle to approve the salaries of the following administrators for the 2011-12 school year. The salaries are identical to the salaries in the 2010-11 school year –

Joseph Liberati, Superintendent \$144,344.00

Leah Christman, Asst. Superintendent \$124,819.34

James Snell, Dir. of Business & Personnel Svcs. \$127,149.74

William Kennedy, Human Resources Administrator \$ 90,986.93

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried

ABSENT: McLoughlin, Quigley

Approve
authorizing
the Solicitor
to enter into
a Stipulation
of Settlement
on the real
estate tax
assessment
appeal filed
by Calvary
Bible
Fellowship
Church

MOVED BY Miracle and **2ND BY** Gunkle to approve authorizing the Solicitor to enter into a Stipulation of Settlement on the real estate tax assessment appeal filed by Calvary Bible Fellowship Church, 602-628 W. Fairmont Street, Coopersburg, PA (Parcel ID# 05-642349364516-1 and Case No. 2010-C-4423). The tax exemption will be retroactive to December 4, 2009, the date of the certificate of occupancy to use the building as a church and will ultimately result in the refund of 2009-10 school real estate taxes in the amount of \$2,816.68.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried

ABSENT: McLoughlin, Quigley

2011-2012 BUDGET DISCUSSION –

Mr. Snell presented a 5-year budget that was revised since the Budget Seminar on March 12. The 5-year budget at March 12 included the Governor's proposed cuts to education subsidies.

Revisions to the 5-year budget included the following for 2011-2012.

The good news -

- The reduction in the state's reimbursement for social security from 50% to our aid ratio rate of about 17%-18% would apply only to employees hired after 1994.
- Overall increase in health care costs lowered to 6.0% from 8.5%.
- Cumulative decrease of \$84,000 in support for LCCC, CLIU and LCTI.
- Increase in real estate tax revenue of about \$150,000 - \$160,000 due to Avantor moving its headquarters to Stabler Center in late summer/early fall.
- A slight increase in real estate transfer tax.

The bad news –

- A reduction in the growth of real estate tax base from 2% to 1%.
- A slight decrease in delinquent tax collection.
- A decrease in the estimated Act I index for the next few years.

In summary for 2011-2012 budget, Mr. Snell said that only \$56,000 in variances (things that break our way) remain from the original target of \$500,000, and no further spending reductions are required to meet Board parameters established at the September 13, 2010 Board meeting.

Accept
spending
cuts from the
chart below,
except for
instituting a
Pay-to-
Participate
fee of \$50 for
MS sports

MOVED BY Eddinger and **2ND BY** Stelts to accept all spending cuts from the chart below that received a 9 to 0 vote, or an 8 to 1 vote on March 12, and thus be eliminated from the proposed 2011-12 budget, except for instituting a Pay-to-Participate fee of \$50 for Middle School sports.

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

MOVED BY Miracle and **2ND BY** Gunkle to institute a \$25 Pay-to-Participate fee for Middle School sports in 2011-12.

Institute a \$25 Pay-to-Participate fee for MS sports in 2011-12

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

From the chart below the following motions were made –

MOVED BY Stelts and **2ND BY** Dimmig to cut from the proposed 2011-12 General Fund budget – Mobile Ag Lab, \$3,800.

Cut from the proposed 2011-12 General Fund budget-Mobile Ag Lab, \$3,800

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – All but Miracle
"NO" - Miracle – Motion Carried
ABSENT: McLoughlin, Quigley

MOVED BY Dimmig and **2ND BY** Stelts to cut from the proposed 2011-12 General Fund budget - HS Stationary Lab Replacement, \$45,000.

Cut from the proposed 2011-12 General Fund budget-HS Stationary Lab Replacement, \$45,000

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – All but Mohr
"NO" - Mohr – Motion Carried
ABSENT: McLoughlin, Quigley

MOVED BY Miracle and **2ND BY** Stelts to cut from the proposed 2011-12 General Fund budget – HS 1 mobile cart, \$41,500.

Cut from the proposed 2011-12 General Fund budget-HS 1 mobile cart, \$41,500

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – All but Mohr
"NO" - Mohr – Motion Carried
ABSENT: McLoughlin, Quigley

MOVED BY Stelts and **2ND BY** Dimmig to cut from the proposed 2011-12 General Fund budget - MS Reduce Pete and C attendance, \$1,900.

Cut from the proposed 2011-12 General Fund budget-MS Reduce Pete & C attendance, \$1,900

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

MOVED BY Stelts and **2ND BY** Dimmig to cut from the proposed 2011-12 General Fund budget - MS Digital Tools, \$15,000.

Cut from the proposed 2011-12 General Fund budget-MS Digital Tools, \$15,000

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

MOVED BY Dimmig and **2ND BY** Stelts to cut from the proposed 2011-12 General Fund budget - MS IU Tech Wizards, \$1,500.

Cut from the proposed 2011-12 General Fund budget-MS IU Tech Wizards, \$1,500

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

MOVED BY Stelts and **2ND BY** Dimmig to cut from the proposed 2011-12 General Fund budget - MS 1 mobile cart, \$41,500.

Cut from the proposed 2011-12 General Fund budget-MS 1 mobile cart, \$41,500

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

MOVED BY Stelts and **2ND BY** Dimmig to cut from the proposed 2011-12 General Fund budget - \$\$ for digital tools, \$33,700.

Cut from the proposed 2011-12 General Fund budget-\$\$ for digital tools, \$33,700

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

MOVED BY Stelts and **2ND BY** Dimmig to cut from the proposed 2011-12 General Fund budget - District-wide \$\$ for software, \$25,000.

Cut from the proposed 2011-12 General Fund budget-District-wide \$\$ for software, \$25,000

**VOICE VOTE: “YES” –Eddinger, Dimmig, Hayes, Stelts
 “NO” – Miracle, Mohr, Gunkle – Motion Carried
 ABSENT: McLoughlin, Quigley**

Elected to *not* consider items as Keep in budget and Not Supported as cuts for the 2011-12 General Fund budget as noted in chart

MOVED BY Miracle and **2ND BY** Mohr to **not** consider items listed as Keep in budget, and Not Supported as cuts for the 2011-12 General Fund budget from the chart below.

**VOICE VOTE: “YES” – All but Dimmig
 “NO” - Dimmig – Motion Carried
 ABSENT: McLoughlin, Quigley**

Item	Amount	Yes /Consider Cut	No/ Do NOT Cut	Notes
District-wide reduce \$\$ for software	\$ 25,000	5	4	
Elem- reduce \$\$ for digital tools	\$ 33,700	5	4	
MS Eliminate 1 mobile cart	\$ 41,500	6	3	These items were voted on as one item on March 12- Admin was asked to separate
MS Eliminate IU Tech Wizards	\$ 1,500	6	3	
MS Digital Tools	\$ 15,000	6	3	
MS Reduce Pete and C attendance	\$ 1,900	6	3	
HS Eliminate 1 mobile cart	\$ 41,500	6	3	
HS Eliminate Stationary Lab Replacement	\$ 45,000	6	3	Voted as one item on March 12
Mobile Ag Lab	\$ 3,800	7	2	
Teach Me Tutoring	\$ 72,000	8	1	
IS Eliminate 1 mobile cart	\$ 41,500	8	1	These items were voted on as one item on March 12
IS Eliminate IU Tech Wizards	\$ 600	8	1	
IS reduce Pete and C attendance	\$ 1,900	8	1	
Reduce \$\$ to Capital Projects	\$100,000	8	1	
Institute a Pay to anticipate at MS	\$ 8,000	8	1	
8 year Curriculum Cycle for purchases	\$ 62,130	9	0	
Reduce \$\$ for Curriculum Writing Contracts	\$ 10,000	9	0	
Building Conferences funds	\$ 13,000	9	0	
CO- reduce \$\$ for desktop replacement	\$ 9,000	9	0	
Reduce Paper usage district-wide	\$ 5,000	9	0	
HVAC Temperatures changed by 2 degrees	\$ 25,000	9	0	
Postpone funding GASB 45	\$350,000	9	0	
Increase building use fees for revenue	??	Willing to consider- assigned to Policy Comm.		
Allow Advertising for revenue	??	Willing to consider- assigned to Policy Comm.		
Promote Cyber option for revenue	\$ 70,000	Proceed- We cannot predict revenue		
Secure Access Funds for revenue	\$100,000	Proceed- We cannot predict revenue		
Eliminate funding in Curr. Budget for AP Conf./training	\$ 6,000	Keep in budget		
Eliminate on the road training	\$ 32,000-114,000	Keep in budget		
Increase pay for participation at HS	\$ 17,500	Not Supported		
Institute an Activity fee at HS	\$100,000	Not Supported		
Stop subsidizing SAT prep course	\$ 8,625	Not Supported		
Stop subsidizing Liberty Trails	\$ 15,117	Not Supported		
Eliminate salaries for summer programs	\$ 9,000	Not Supported		
Eliminate \$\$ for Middle States	\$ 15,000	Not Supported		
Eliminate mini-grants	\$ 40,000	Not Supported		
Eliminate transportation for 3rd grade Library and Music	\$ 950	Superintendent should handle		
Reassign Lower Milford	\$500,000	Not Supported		

Mr. Snell said that the Business Office will now prepare a preliminary budget for approval at the May 9, 2011 Board meeting with the cuts just approved, and will also produce a revised 5-year budget.

[Mr. Dimmig left the meeting at 9:18 p.m.]

Approve \$10,000 for the 2011-12 school year for the purposes of tuition reimbursement for pre-approved postgraduate courses that do not count for purposes of graduate increment for the SLEA group

MOVED BY Stelts and **2ND BY** Miracle to approve \$10,000 for the 2011-12 school year in accordance to the current Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Southern Lehigh Education Association (Appendix B, Part II, Section III (a), Paragraph #8) that requires that the Board annually designate an amount of money for the purposes of tuition reimbursement for individual pre-approved postgraduate courses that do not count for purposes of graduate increment (column movement).

**VOICE VOTE: “YES” – Unanimous – Motion Carried
 ABSENT: McLoughlin, Quigley, Dimmig**

SUPPORT SERVICES

PERSONNEL

MOVED BY Stelts and **2ND BY** Miracle to approve the following certificated staff for the 2011-12 school year -

Tessa Taylor, Long-Term Substitute School Psychologist, Southern Lehigh Middle School, at Master's +30, Step 13, an annual salary of \$57,776, effective August 23, 2011. Ms. Taylor will fill this position during the childrearing leave of *Rebecca Harries* and is the Long-term Substitute for this position during the 2010-11 school year.

Approve certificated staff for the 2011-12 school year- Taylor, Bauer

Alison Bauer, Long-Term Substitute Reading Teacher, Southern Lehigh Middle School, at Master's, Step 13, an annual salary of \$54,476, effective August 23, 2011. Ms. Bauer will fill this position during the childrearing leave of *Molly Brundage* and is the Long-term Substitute for this position during the 2010-11 school year.

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

REPORTS

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Liberati told the Board that Sean McDermott, a sophomore student at Kutztown University, has requested permission to do a thesis study at Southern Lehigh School District on 8th grade and 11th grade performance on PSSA's. Mr. Liberati saw a lot of value in this.

MOVED BY Miracle and **2ND BY** Stelts to approve the thesis study by Sean McDermott of 8th grade and 11th grade performance on PSSA's.

Approve thesis study by Sean McDermott of 8th grade & 11th grade performance on PSSA's

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

The Board requested a list of current class sizes with comparisons to prior years. Mr. Liberati said that he would have that information available fairly quickly and would send it to them.

Facilities Report

Mr. Liberati also handed out a 4-page brochure from Turner Construction that featured a picture of the Intermediate School on the cover.

NEW BUSINESS

MOVED BY Stelts and **2ND BY** Gunkle to approve the proposed School Board Meeting dates for September, 2011 through August, 2012.

Approve the proposed School Board Meeting dates for September, 2011 through August, 2012

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

VISITORS

The Board took a brief recess at 9:32 p.m.

The Board met in executive session at 9:35 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 9:43 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY Stelts and **2ND BY** Miracle to adjourn the meeting.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 9:43 p.m.

ATTEST: _____ Board Secretary