



Southern Lehigh School District

Board of School Directors Meeting

July 13, 2009

The first monthly meeting of the Board of School Directors of the School District of Southern Lehigh was held at 7:32 p.m. on the above date (July 13, 2009) at Southern Lehigh High School, Center Valley, PA.

PRESENT: Stelts, Dimmig, Eddinger, Hayes, Quigley, Schubert

ABSENT: Auteri, Gunkle, Miracle

OTHERS: Liberati, Christman, Snell, Guerriere, Bartholomew, Kennedy, Engler, Takacs, Lewis, Jordan, Bergey, Andrulevich, Scherzberg, Farris, McGinty, Hafner, Harakal, Organski, and approximately 2 other members of the community.

OPENING PROCEDURES

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED BY Quigley and **2ND BY** Hayes to approve the minutes of the June 22, 2009 meeting as copied and distributed to all Board members.

Minutes of
6/22/09

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: Auteri, Gunkle, Miracle

VISITORS

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Approve the bills list dated July 13, 2009 showing paid bills in the amount of \$473,820.85 and bills to be paid in the amount of \$395,938.79 for a total amount of \$869,759.64 for the General Fund, and bills to be paid in the amount of \$208,968.97 for the Construction Fund;

Approval of
Bills

Approve the Treasurer's Report and Investment Report for the month of June, 2009;

Approve
Treasurer's
Report

Approve the following transfers with no change of 2009-2010 salaries -

Approve
transfers
(no change
of 2009-
2010
salaries)-
Tucker,
Walter,
Anderson

Russell Tucker, 5th Grade Teacher, Hopewell Elementary School, to Design 21 (21st Century Skills) Teacher, Intermediate School

Tara Walter, 2nd Grade Teacher, Hopewell Elementary School, to Design 21 (21st Century Skills) Teacher, Middle School

Kate Anderson, Reading Teacher, Middle School, to Academic and Assessment Strategies Teacher, Middle School;

Accept the resignation of the following staff -

Accept
resignation-
Marquette

Megan Marquette, Science Teacher, Southern Lehigh High School, effective August 1, 2009;

Approve the following mentor at a stipend of \$700.00 for the 2009-2010 school year -

Karen Fairclough as a mentor for *Nancy Becker*;

Approve
mentor-
Fairclough

Approve the following substitute teacher for the 2009-2010 school year -

Maryann Impink Elementary, English 7-12, Reading Specialist;

Approve
substitute
teacher for
2009-2010
school year-
Impink

Approve salary step adjustment for staff, effective 9/1/09- Becker, DeSanctis, Klinedinst, Ramunni, Solley, Miller

Approve a salary step adjustment for the following staff, effective September 1, 2009 -
Benjamin Becker, Music Teacher, Hopewell Elementary, Bachelor's +15 to Master's
Melanie DeSanctis, 4th Grade Teacher, Hopewell Elementary, Bachelor's +30 to Master's
Michelle Klinedinst, Business Teacher, High School, Bachelor's to Master's Equivalency
Maria Ramunni, 5th Grade Teacher, Hopewell Elementary, Master's +15 to Master's +45
Nicole Solley, 5th Grade Teacher, Lower Milford Elementary, Bachelor's +15 to Master's
Matthew Miller, Emotional Support Teacher, High School, Bachelor's to Bachelor's +15;

Approve unpaid leave for the 2009-2010 school year- Blum

Approve the unpaid leave for Karen Blum, Instructional Assistant, Liberty Bell Elementary School, for the 2009-2010 school year;

Accept resignation- Nelson, Kemp

Accept the resignation of the following staff -
Laura Nelson, 7 hour-Instructional Assistant, Lower Milford Elementary School, effective June 18, 2009
Wendy Kemp, Cafeteria and Recess Monitor, Lower Milford Elementary School, effective June 9, 2009;

Approve promotion- Michael, Berghold

Approve the promotion of the following staff -
Lori Michael, Part-time Cafeteria Employee, High School, to Kitchen Manager, Intermediate School, at an hourly rate of \$15.42 with an effective date in August to be determined.

Correct name of the 2009-2010 Assistant Swimming Coach from Michael Goldsmith to Matthew Goldsmith

Ruth Berghold, Assistant Kitchen Manager, Middle School, to Kitchen Manager, Liberty Bell Elementary School, at an hourly rate of \$15.42 with an effective date in August to be determined;

Correct the name of the 2009-2010 Assistant Swimming Coach from *Michael Goldsmith* to Matthew Goldsmith; (*This appointment appeared on the June 22, 2009 Board Agenda*)

Accept resignation of coach for the 2009-2010 school year- Marquette

Accept the resignation of the following coach for the 2009-2010 school year -
Megan Marquette Assistant HS Girls' Basketball;

Approve coaches for the 2009-2010 school year- Elstner, Fairclough, Mirth, Drabenstott, Haig, Glassic, Cooper

Approve the following coaches for the 2009-2010 school year -
Paulette Elstner Head MS Volleyball \$1,622
Karen Fairclough Assistant Field Hockey \$3,630
Kyle Mirth Assistant MS Football \$2,831.50
(This position will be shared with Stanley Sroka and another coach to be named as a 50/25/25 split.)
Andraea Drabenstott Head Girls' Tennis \$4,502
Colleen Haig Head HS Cheerleading \$3,692
Joseph Glassic MS Head Football \$5,663
Colleen Haig HS Competition Cheerleading \$2,000**
Anne Cooper HS Competition Cheerleading \$1,468**;
 **Shared position

Approve stipend changes for the following coaches for the 2009-2010 school year- Wied, Daley, Fanger

Approve stipend changes for the following coaches for the 2009-2010 school year -
Kenneth Wied Assistant Football \$4,530.40
Matthew Daley Assistant Football \$2,265.20
Carl Fanger Assistant Football \$4,530.40;

Approve the following Substitute Fitness Center Monitors for the 2009-2010 school year at an hourly rate of \$14.03 -

- Donald Harakal
- Wayne Langsdorf
- Lynn Kovacs
- Allison McPeck

Approve Substitute Fitness Center Monitors for the 2009-2010 school year- Harakal, Langsdorf, Kovacs, McPeck

Approve the appointment of the following volunteer coaches for the 2009-2010 school year -

- Jamie Elstner MS Volleyball
- Robert Edmond Football
- Kara Kernick HS Cheerleading.

Approve volunteer coaches for the 2009-2010 school year- Elstner, Edmond, Kernick

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: Auteri, Gunkle, Miracle

CURRICULUM/STUDENT AND STAFF ACTIVITIES

Mr. McGinty and Mr. Hafner reported on student and staff activities at the Intermediate School and the elementary schools.

Mr. McGinty reported that work has focused on the following in the past couple of months: 1) solidifying teacher and staff assignment to the IS with Central Office and building principals, 2) answering questions about packing and moving and guiding the arrival of equipment to the building with the massive support of support services and specifically Mrs. Mary Palmer, 3) working on entering the IS schedule into PowerSchool with the help of Mrs. Mel Davis, Mrs. Susan Natiello and our IU support personnel, 4) hiring, 5) meeting with vendors about equipment for the IS, and 6) answering questions and contacts from parents and newly registered parent contacts.

Mr. Hafner reported on the following –

- Liberty Trails is currently in its second week.
- Adopt a player was held last week at LPGA golf tournament at Saucon Valley Country Club.
- Kindergarten reading camp is set to get under way in a couple of weeks.

MOVED BY Quigley and **2ND BY** Dimmig to approve the enclosed Legal Services Consultation Agreement with Sweet, Stevens, Katz and Williams to provide special education services and training for the 2009-2010 school year.

Approve Legal Services Consultation Agreement with Sweet, Stevens, Katz & Williams to provide special education services & training for the 2009-2010 school year

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: Auteri, Gunkle, Miracle

MOVED BY Hayes and **2ND BY** Eddinger to approve adoption of the CLIU #21 policies and procedures under the federal requirements of 34 CFR PART 300. The IU-adopted policies and procedures are implemented to fulfill the requirements of 22 PA Code Chapter 14 and the regulatory requirements under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act-Part B.

Approve adoption of the CLIU #21 policies & procedures under the federal requirements of 34 CFR PART 300

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: Auteri, Gunkle, Miracle

MOVED BY Quigley and **2ND BY** Hayes to approve the new Teen Health Course 1 textbook. The textbook will be on display in the Administration Building for two weeks. Final adoption will be at the August 10, 2009 Board meeting.

Approve new Teen Health Course 1 textbook

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: Auteri, Gunkle, Miracle

BUSINESS AND FINANCE

MOVED BY Eddinger and **2ND BY** Dimmig to approve PlanCon Part K01, Project Refinancing Board Transmittal, for General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2009. GOB

Approve PlanCon Part K01, Project Refinancing Board Transmittal, for General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2009

Series of 2009 refunded GOB Series A of 2003 and GOB Series AA of 2004. PA Department of Education will issue a reimbursement rate once the enclosed transmittal is received.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: Auteri, Gunkle, Miracle

Approve the
Investment of
Funds

MOVED BY Eddinger and 2ND **BY** Quigley to approve the Investment of Funds as attached.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: Auteri, Gunkle, Miracle

Approve bid
awards for the
2009-2010 school
year-HS Art
Supplies, HS
Science Supplies

MOVED BY Eddinger and 2ND **BY** Dimmig to approve award of the following bids for the 2009-2010 school year –

High School Art Supplies \$3,930.19
High School Science Supplies \$13,669.69

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: Auteri, Gunkle, Miracle

Approve
agreement with
Weidenhammer
Systems
Corporation for
the 2009-2010
year

MOVED BY Hayes and 2ND **BY** Dimmig to approve the enclosed agreement with Weidenhammer Systems Corporation (WSC) for the 2009-2010 year for the current payroll, budgetary accounting and bidding software at a cost of \$5,980.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: Auteri, Gunkle, Miracle

Approve
contracts with
Weidenhammer
Systems
Corporation
which will enable
the District to
utilize WSC's Alio
suite of financial
applications,
pending final
approval by the
Solicitor

MOVED BY Schubert and 2ND **BY** Eddinger to approve the enclosed contracts with Weidenhammer Systems Corporation (WSC) which will enable the District to utilize WSC's Alio suite of financial applications for the Business Office and the Human Resources Office, *pending final approval by the Solicitor*. The contracts and an estimate of annual costs to utilize this software are enclosed. Actual cost for 2009-2010 is \$60,018. Estimated costs for 2010-2011 and 2011-2012 are \$19,453 and \$19,803 respectively.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: Auteri, Gunkle, Miracle

Approve property
tax refunds-
Rizzuto

MOVED BY Eddinger and 2ND **BY** Dimmig to approve property tax refunds to Joseph J. and Kimberly A. Rizzuto, 5021 Blue Church Road, Coopersburg, PA 18036, Parcel ID#22 641470745564 1, due to correction of assessment records, for the following years –

2008-2009	\$454.99
2007-2008	\$442.53
2006-2007	\$426.94

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: Auteri, Gunkle, Miracle

The Administration began a discussion on Act 32 of 2008, which mandates the consolidation of Earned Income Tax (EIT) on a countywide basis via a Tax Collection Committee (TCC), and how it will impact the District. It is anticipated that the Administration will recommend a delegate, an alternate delegate, and a second alternate delegate to the TCC at the August 10, 2009 Board meeting.

The Act is a result of a 2004 report published by the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) – a three year study that documented the fragmentation, complexity and inefficiency of the earned income collection system.

Under the current EIT system, 560 taxing authorities collect nearly \$1.9 billion in annual revenue for more than 2,900 local taxing jurisdictions. Pennsylvania currently has more taxing jurisdictions levying a local income tax than all other states combined. Due to inefficiencies in this system, it was estimated that as much as \$237 million is lost annually. These are revenues that should be available to municipalities and school districts under current tax rates.

Additionally, the current system creates a burden on employers that leads to an increase in the cost of conducting business within the Commonwealth. The administration of the tax is fragmented, confusing and often unfair to taxpayers.

By reducing the number of collectors from 560 to 69, the local tax collection system will be streamlined and more efficient. Overhead will be reduced and tax revenues will be transferred more efficiently and expediently. Uniform forms and procedures required by the legislation will add to consistent and uniform collection.

Finally, enacted tracking, auditing and oversight requirements will provide accountability and add financial safeguards needed to restore integrity and transparency to the system.

As the custodian of the Tax Register, the official source of earned income tax withholding information for employers, the Governor's Center for Local Government Services in the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) receives numerous inquiries from employers, taxpayers, municipalities, school districts, tax collectors and legislative offices about the collection of the EIT.

In 2001, as a result of numerous questions and concerns brought to DCED's attention in its custodial role, DCED formed a work group to study EIT Collection and make recommendations for improving the system. Based on that work and input from stakeholders, DCED released an analysis of the issue with recommendations in a September 2004 report entitled Pennsylvania's Earned Income Tax Collection System, An Analysis with Recommendations. Since then, DCED staff has given presentations across the State on this issue to legislative committees, employers, municipal and school associations, tax preparers and tax collectors.

Based on its report, feedback from legislators and stakeholders, DCED concluded that the income tax system needed to be reformed. Besides consolidation, reforms necessary included uniform withholding, forms and regulations; more accountability and financial safeguards and better oversight and enforcement.

DCED determined that consolidation of local income tax collection at the county level is a viable option because collection is already consolidated on a county-wide basis in 13 counties, and nearly a reality in another 24 counties.

DCED worked with legislative staff, the local government associations, the business community, other stakeholders and the House Senate Finance Committee to craft legislation to reform and consolidate EIT Collection. This legislation was offered in the 2007-2008 legislative session by a bipartisan group of sponsors in House Bill 1550 and Senate Bill 1063. The goals of the legislation were to stem the loss of local tax revenues; make the system more employer friendly, fairer and less formidable for taxpayers, and to create as much uniformity and clarity in the system as possible.

Summary of EIT Collection Reform and Consolidation

The final version of the Earned Income Tax Collection Consolidation Act, Act 32 of 2008, when fully implemented, will result in a more efficient and consistent collection system. It will also make it easier for employers to fulfill their responsibilities, while making it more user friendly for taxpayers and recovering significant lost revenue for municipalities and school districts. The Act provides for consolidated collection, tax collection committees, the appointment of tax collectors, uniform withholding, distribution, appeals boards, violations by tax collectors, changes to the Tax Register, other administrative issues, audit and bond requirements, compliance tools and the transition from the old system to countywide collection.

SUPPORT SERVICES

MOVED BY Hayes and **2ND BY** Eddinger to approve the enclosed resolution authorizing submission of the Mandate Waiver Application, dated July 13, 2009 for the purchase of electricity during the remaining portion of 2009 and during the 2010 calendar year, with the provision for annual extensions. A copy of the Mandate Waiver Application, including the Client Services Agreement to be entered into with Provident Energy Consulting LLC, 107 Chesley Drive, Suite 2, Media, PA 19063, if the waiver is approved, is enclosed for the Board's information.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: Auteri, Gunkle, Miracle

Approve resolution authorizing submission of the Mandate Waiver Application, dated 7/13/09 for the purchase of electricity

Approve award of the HVAC and Electric bids for the "HVAC Alterations Liberty Bell Elementary School" to HSA Mechanical and W.J. & R. Electrical Inc.

MOVED BY Eddinger and **2ND BY** Quigley to approve award of the HVAC and Electric bids for the "HVAC Alterations Liberty Bell Elementary School" to the following contractors –

Mechanical base bid - \$80,444 to HSA Mechanical, 4764 Chapmans Rd., Allentown, PA 18104.

Electrical base bid - \$4,500 to W.J. & R. Electrical Inc., 1253 Newport Ave., Northampton, PA 18067.

It was reported to the Board that roof penetration repair will be completed by current Liberty Bell contractor Alan Kunsman to keep roof under warranty at an estimated cost of \$2,250.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: Auteri, Gunkle, Miracle

Approve Change Order 1 to Alan Kunsman Roofing & Siding, Inc.

MOVED BY Eddinger and **2ND BY** Quigley to approve Change Order 1 to Alan Kunsman Roofing & Siding, Inc. The change represents an "add" in the amount of \$12,660.00 for removal of existing fascia Transite panels (\$4,200.00) and installation of new replacement aluminum fascia with starter cleat (\$8,460.00) on the Liberty Bell Roof Project.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: Auteri, Gunkle, Miracle

PERSONNEL

Approve staff for the 2009-2010 school year (pending receipt of required documentation)- Mays

MOVED BY Schubert and **2ND BY** Hayes to approve the following staff for the 2009-2010 school year (*pending receipt of required documentation*) -

Ronnette Mays, Math Teacher, Middle School, at Bachelor's, Step 13, an annual salary of \$43,042. Mrs. Mays will fill the position created with the retirement of *Doris Brunner*.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: Auteri, Gunkle, Miracle

Approve changing the hours from .75 FTE to Full-time status-Lebrecht, Csaszar, Hoff, Schiavone

MOVED BY Eddinger and **2ND BY** Dimmig to approve changing the hours from .75 FTE to Full-time status for the following teachers -

Tina Lebrecht, Music Teacher, Intermediate School and Middle School at a salary of \$60,313.

Vanessa Csaszar, Art Teacher, Lower Milford and Hopewell Elementary Schools, at a salary of \$79,281.

Gretchen Hoff, Health and Physical Education, Lower Milford and Liberty Bell Elementary Schools, at a salary of \$58,685.

Heidi Schiavone, Library Science Teacher, Intermediate School at a salary of \$79,281.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: Auteri, Gunkle, Miracle

Approve establishing the 2009-2010 hourly rate at \$17.05- Lentz

MOVED BY Hayes and **2ND BY** Schubert to approve establishing the 2009-2010 hourly rate at \$17.05 for Tina Lentz, Student Support Secretary.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: Auteri, Gunkle, Miracle

REPORTS

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Liberati reported on two items related to the new Intermediate School which will officially open for school on September 8, 2009.

- A ribbon cutting ceremony will be scheduled (to be determined)
- A public open house will be scheduled for late September/early October

Mr. Liberati also reported that the District was one of three districts statewide that was contacted by Pam Kolega, of the PA Department of Education, to see if the District was interested in accepting up to 5 students from Ecuador for 4 to 5 weeks. There will be no funding from the State and District students will be eligible to go to Ecuador for 4 to 5 weeks.

MOVED BY Quigley and **2ND BY** Eddinger to accept offer to accommodate up to 5 students from Ecuador for 4 to 5 weeks.

Accept offer to accommodate up to 5 students from Ecuador for 4 to 5 weeks

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: Auteri, Gunkle, Miracle

Facilities Report

Mr. Liberati reported on the following –

- The visitors bleachers are being erected
- The Central Office roof replacement is completed
- Should have certificate of occupancy from Upper Saucon Township for the Intermediate School tomorrow
- The curriculum office has been physically changed into 2 offices
- Support Services Department has been relocated from Central Office to the Middle School
- Modular classrooms at the elementary schools will be removed

NEW BUSINESS

MOVED BY Schubert and **2ND BY** Quigley to approve the annual renewal of the agreement between the Southern Lehigh School District and Pottsgrove School District for the purpose of the Radiological Emergency Response Plan for incidents at the Limerick Generating Station.

Approve the annual renewal of the agreement between SLSD and Pottsgrove School District for the purpose of the Radiological Emergency Response Plan

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: Auteri, Gunkle, Miracle

MOVED BY Schubert and **2ND BY** Eddinger to approve the amount of \$10,000 be allocated for use during the 2009-2010 school year for tuition reimbursement that will not result in graduate increment.

Approve \$10,000 be allocated for use during the 2009-2010 school year for tuition reimbursement that will not result in graduate increment

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: Auteri, Gunkle, Miracle

VISITORS

ADJOURNMENT

ADJOURNMENT

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

VOICE VOTE: "YES" - Unanimous - Motion Carried
ABSENT: Auteri, Gunkle, Miracle

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

ATTEST: _____ Board Secretary