



Southern Lehigh School District

Board of School Directors Meeting

November 25, 2013

The second regular monthly meeting of the Board of School Directors of the School District of Southern Lehigh was held at 7:36 p.m. on the above date (November 25, 2013) at Southern Lehigh High School, Center Valley, PA.

PRESENT: Dimmig, Gunkle, McLoughlin, Hayes, Lindsay, Mohr, Stelts

ABSENT: Lycett, Quigley

OTHERS: Christman, Lewis, Melber, Millman, Kennedy, Buchman, Jordan, Takacs, Bergey, Siegfried, Davidson, McGinty, Mickley, Hafner, Wehr (SLEA), Rizzo (Morning Call), and approximately 10 other members of the community.

OPENING PROCEDURES

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

The Board met in Executive Session prior to this meeting to discuss personnel and legal matters.

The High School Meistersingers under the direction of Mr. Matthew Wehr performed three songs from their upcoming winter concerts.

The Board recognized long-time volunteers, Mrs. Pearl Sepnefski and Mrs. Winifred Giroux for their service to Liberty Bell Elementary School

Outgoing Board members were recognized for their years of service and dedication to the district. Dr. Elizabeth Stelts served for 12 years and Mrs. Dorothy (Patti) Mohr for 4 years.

VISITORS

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED BY Gunkle and **2ND BY** Stelts to approve the minutes of the November 11, 2013 meeting as distributed to all Board members.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried

ABSENT: Lycett, Quigley

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Approve the bills list as of November 25, 2013 showing bills paid in the amount of \$2,826.29 and bills to be paid in the amount of \$290,640.95 for a total amount of

\$293,467.24 for the General Fund and bills to be paid in the amount of \$728.88 for the Capital Reserve Sinking Fund;

Approve the Treasurer's Report and Investment Report for the month of October, 2013;

Approve approval of the following student teacher placements (*pending receipt of required documentation*)-

Douglas Kaetz-Pieren, Music, Moravian College, with *Benjamin Becker*, Joseph P. Liberati Intermediate School, from January 14, 2014 through February 25, 2014.

Marleen Mendez, Elementary Ed, DeSales University, with *Melissa Greenawald*, Lower Milford Elementary School, from March 10, 2014 through April 25, 2014;

Approve the following substitute teacher for the 2013-2014 school year-

Leonard Burkhart Health and Physical Educ. K-12; Social Studies 7-12;

Approve the following substitute staff for the 2013-2014 school year (*pending receipt of required documentation*)-

Santo Farina, Substitute Custodian, an hourly rate of \$14.41

Victor Vardaro, Substitute Custodian, an hourly rate of \$14.41

Kara Kernick, Substitute Instructional Assistant, an hourly rate of \$15.31;

Approve the following staff (*pending receipt of required documentation*)-

Deneen Carreras, Coordinator of Payroll and Benefits, Administration Building, an annual salary of \$44,500 (prorated), effective December 3, 2013.

Stephen Ohocinski, Multi-media Technician, Technology Department, an annual salary of \$37,500 (prorated), with an anticipated effective date November 26, 2013;

Approve FMLA leave of the following staff-

Karen Rabenold, Health Paraprofessional, Joseph P. Liberati Intermediate School, beginning November 13, 2013 for a period not to exceed 12 weeks.

Cheryl Schaedler, Part-time Cafeteria Worker, Joseph P. Liberati Intermediate School, beginning November 13, 2013 for a period not to exceed 12 weeks.

Approve Leanora Kline, for Homebound Instruction, an hourly rate of \$41.23, for the 2013-2014 school year;

Approve unpaid leave of the following staff-

Ann Lamb, Health Paraprofessional, Southern Lehigh High School, from January 6, 2014 through January 10, 2014.

Terri Nair, Licensed Personal Care Assistant, Lower Milford Elementary School, from January 6, 2014 through January 10, 2014.

Susan Covey, Assistant Lead Cafeteria Worker, Southern Lehigh High School, on December 18-20, 2013; January 2, 3, 6-10, 2014.

Nicole Landis, Central Accounts Secretary, Southern Lehigh High School, on

February 24-28, 2014;

Approve the following Athletic Event Workers for the 2013-2014 school year-

Lee Kandt

Stephen Yates;

Approve the following coaches for the 2013-14 school year-

Erik Carl HS Asst. Boys Basketball \$1919.50**

Rosemary Grube MS Head Girls Basketball \$3926

***Shared position and stipend.*

Approve the following volunteer coaches for the 2013-14 school year-

Patrick Tannous Boys Basketball

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried

ABSENT: Lycett, Quigley

CURRICULUM/STUDENT AND STAFF ACTIVITIES

Mrs. Siegfried, Mr. Davidson, 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 –

- 11/21 - High school parent teacher conferences were held with approximately 390 conferences held.
- The Orchestra and Choral holiday concert will be held tomorrow evening in the auditorium at 7:00 p.m.
- Mrs. Siegfried met with those students who will be retaking Keystone Exams beginning on December 4 - 11. Retakes will be administered one module a day, each module for 90 minutes. Literature and Biology will be done online and Algebra I will be done paper/pencil. Teacher proctors will be completing a 40 minute online training this week and the testing schedules have gone out to staff and students.
- 12/13 - Study Guides for midterms will go out and review days for midterm exams will begin after the winter break.

Middle School report –

- Academic
 - All 7th and 8th grade students have finished the first round of CDT's.
 - 11/22 - LCTI (8th grade) presentation
 - 11/19-22 - Parent-teacher Conference were held and well attended.
 - 12/4,5 - 8th grade visitation to LCTI
- Events
 - 12/3 - PTG meeting
 - 12/6 - MS Holiday Dance
 - 12/10 – MS Winter Concert

Intermediate School report –

- Administration and staff have posted a few new articles in the Laconian this month. One of the articles is a completed owl pellet lab with images of a recreated vole skeleton and an organizational chart identifying different bone structures. The others highlight our Spartan Service Corps' October and November projects, and our 4th grade thankful turkey.
- Students from Mr. Fluck's classes have collected over \$800 in one week by rounding up loose change, with contributions to aid efforts in the Philippines.
- 11/27 - Students will be wearing their fall colors for our Spirit Day
- 5th grade Social Studies classes have completed their explorer projects, all students are creating pottery projects in art.

Elementary schools –

- Liberty Bell's 3rd Grade is hosting their annual pre-Thanksgiving tradition of Bears, Blankets, and Books. Students bring in a blanket, favorite bear, and favorite book and spend the afternoon reading to one another.
- Liberty Bell's PTA is hosting their annual Holiday Shoppe on Friday, December 6th, from 6:00 -8:00 P.M. Lower Milford will hold its Holiday Shop the week of December 3.
- Two Liberty Bell 3rd Graders had the single highest score in the NATION for KID BIZ. Drew B. had the highest score in the country about three weeks ago and fellow 3rd Grader, Joshua C. had the top score two weeks ago. Kid Biz is our differentiated online literacy program where students are reading non-fiction articles dealing with current events at their own Lexile level.
- Lower Milford will kick off its Read to 100 program on Tuesday, November 26, with a special assembly. The assembly will feature a storyteller from the Lehigh Valley Storytelling Guild. We will also hold the first of three special "Second Grade Reading Club" events on December 6. The Read to 100 program encourages students to meet their independent reading goals.

MOVED BY Gunkle and **2ND BY** Mohr to approve the following student trip request-
Southern Lehigh High School World Language Department to participate in an educational tour of Spain from March 25, 2015 through April 4, 2015 with students in Spanish III and above.

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

BUSINESS AND FINANCE

MOVED BY Gunkle and **2ND BY** Stelts to approve the enclosed resolution to limit any real estate tax increase for 2014-2015 to the Act 1 index and to comply with Section 687 of the Public School code as it pertains to budget adoption for 2014-2015.

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

SUPPORT SERVICES

PERSONNEL
REPORTS

Facilities Committee

Dr. Stelts reported the following from the November 29, 2013 meeting-

- Turf blankets are being used on sport fields to extend the growth season between the fall and spring seasons.
- The cause of spalling bricks at JPLIS continues to be an issue and waiting until spring for recommendations from consultants.
- Runoff at JPLIS being monitored and an engineer was consulted.
- Options to control Lower Milford roof leaks were discussed and the engineer recommends complete replacement. Estimated cost remains at \$250,000.

Education Committee

Mrs. Mohr reported that the committee met today and discussed the following-

- High School Course of study changes
- Safe Schools Grant

CLIU

Mrs. Mohr reported that two student showcase videos are available on the district's website.

Superintendent's Report

Mrs. Christman reported the following-

- Energy conservation efforts and smart purchasing have netted the district \$377,918 per year since the 2009-2010 school year.
- A *Frequently Asked Questions* document was added to the website that responds to questions raised during the Elementary Building Planning presentations. Written comments on this matter will be taken until 4:00PM on November 27, 2013.
- The entire Superintendent's Report is available on the district's website.

Strategic Plan and Middle States Report

- The entire Strategic Plan and Middle States Report is available on the district's website.

Southern Lehigh Public Library

- October 15, 2013 Minutes from the Board of Directors general business meeting are available on the district's website.

OLD BUSINESS

MOVED BY Gunkle and **2ND BY** Stelts to approve a first reading of the following revised policy-

#405 Professional Employees: Employment of Substitute Professional Employees

VOICE VOTE: "YES" - Unanimous - Motion Carried

ABSENT: Lycett, Quigley

NEW BUSINESS

COMMUNICATION

Mr. Dimmig reported that he received email correspondence in relation to the board hearing on October 24, 2013. He indicated that a copy would be included with the minutes.

VISITORS

ADJOURNMENT

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

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

ATTEST: Diana S. Millman Board Secretary