



# Southern Lehigh School District

## Board of School Directors Meeting

October 14, 2013

The first regular 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 (October 13, 2013) at Southern Lehigh High School, Center Valley, PA.

PRESENT: Dimmig, Gunkle, Hayes, Lycett, Mohr, Stelts

ABSENT: McLoughlin, Lindsay, Quigley

OTHERS: Christman, Lewis, Melber, Millman, Kennedy, Buchman, Takacs, Jordan, Bergey, Siegfried, Donahue, McGinty, Mickley, Sinkler (SLEA), Popichak (PATCH), Rizzo (Morning Call) and approximately 14 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.

Mrs. Christman presented PSBA 2013 Honor Roll of School Board Service program certificates to Dr. Elizabeth Stelts and Mr. William Hayes for recognition of their 12 years of service as school board members.

### **VISITORS**

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOVED BY** Stelts and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Gunkle to approve the minutes of the September 23, 2013 as distributed to all Board members.

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

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

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

Approve the bills list as of October 14, 2013 showing bills paid in the amount of \$11,817.70 and bills to be paid in the amount of \$933,349.86 for a total amount of \$945,167.56 for the General Fund and bills paid in the amount of \$410.25 and bills to be paid in the amount of \$1,647.21 for the Capital Reserve Sinking Fund;

Approve the following Substitute Teacher for the 2013-14 school year-

Ian Lande Communications; Social Studies 7-12; English 7-12

Approve the following staff-

Stephanie Schlofer, Instructional Assistant (20 hours/week), Southern Lehigh High School, an hourly rate of \$17.46, effective September 26, 2013. (VIII, A-2)

Approve unpaid leave of the following staff:

Pamela Kiriposki, Cafeteria Worker, Liberty Bell Elementary School, for October 31, November 1 and 4, 2013.

Approve the following Substitute Staff for the 2013-14 school year-

Alisa Farrell, Substitute Cafeteria/Playground Monitor, an hourly rate of \$10.00

Maureen Urmey, Substitute Secretary, an hourly rate of \$14.96

Amy Wilkins, Substitute Instructional Assistant, an hourly rate of \$15.31

Amy Wilkins, Substitute Secretary, an hourly rate of \$14.96

Amy Wilkins, Substitute Cafeteria/Playground Monitor, an hourly rate of \$10.00

Sean Ondush, Substitute Custodian, an hourly rate of \$14.41

Accept the resignation of the following staff-

Jenelle Chunko, Instructional Assistant, Joseph P. Liberati Intermediate School, effective the end of work day, October 25, 2013.

Matthew Murray, Multimedia Technician, Information Services Department, effective the end of work day, October 25, 2013.

Approve the following activity advisors for the 2013-2014 school year. The stipends listed represent the appropriate stipend amounts for 2012-2013. The 2013-2014 stipend amounts will be determined after the 2013-2014 school year begins.

<u>Jessica Swartz</u>	Class Advisor, Freshman	\$1008
<u>Stephanie Donald</u>	Class Advisor, Junior	\$1816
<u>Amy Bausher</u>	Class Advisor, Sophomore	\$1107
<u>Troy Ruch</u>	Class Advisor, Senior	\$2083
<u>David Long</u>	Debate	\$2442
<u>Marlo Spritzer</u>	HS Newspaper	\$1967
<u>Stephanie Lynn</u>	Yearbook	\$3380
<u>Ronnette Mays</u>	Student Senate Advisor, MS	\$696.50**
<u>Brett Assise</u>	Student Senate Advisor, MS	\$696.50**

*^Shared position and total stipend of \$1393.*

<u>Lynne Kelly</u>	Honor Society	\$1104
<u>Jennifer Kindt</u>	Jr. Honor Society	\$ 552**
<u>Kate Flannery</u>	Jr. Honor Society	\$ 552**

*\*\*Shared position and total stipend of \$1104.*

<u>Matthew Wehr</u>	Drama	\$2304
<u>Thomas Beaupre</u>	Key Club	\$2144

<u>Lee Zeisloft</u>	Varsity	\$1790
<u>Douglas Roncolato</u>	SADD	\$1536
<u>Beth Dottery</u>	Scholastic Scrimmage	\$ 780.50**
<u>Patricia Smiley</u>	Scholastic Scrimmage	\$ 780.50**

*\*\*Shared position and total stipend of \$1561.*

<u>Bonnie Organski</u>	FBLA	\$1632
<u>Matthew Wehr</u>	Broadway Musical	\$3254
<u>Robert Gaugler</u>	Robotics	\$2304
<u>Linda Gross</u>	Teen Counseling	\$1027.50**
<u>Amy Bausher</u>	Teen Counseling	\$1027.50**

*\*\*Shared position and total stipend of \$2055.*

<u>Jessica Swartz</u>	Dance Team	\$2846
<u>Nancy Beitler</u>	Band, MS	\$3424
<u>Douglas Bolasky</u>	Band, HS	\$8141
<u>Tina Lebrecht</u>	Choral Music, MS	\$2100
<u>Matthew Wehr</u>	Choral Music, HS	\$3911
<u>Nancy Beitler</u>	Orchestra, MS	\$1313
<u>Douglas Bolasky</u>	Orchestra, HS	\$2198
<u>Sheree France</u>	Band Front	\$4035
<u>Michael Pauling</u>	AV & Stage, MS	\$1604
<u>Anne Sikorski-Schneider</u>	Faculty Photographer	\$1395
<u>Jessica Swartz</u>	Ecology	\$ 659**
<u>Jesse Mead</u>	Ecology	\$ 659**

*\*\*Shared position and total stipend of \$1318.*

Approve Patricia Smiley as a mentor for Colin Campbell, for a term of up to one calendar year, at a stipend not to exceed \$700.

Approve the following Peak Program staff for the 2013-14 school year, at the intramural rate of \$50.14\* per session-

Erica Rich  
John McDonald  
Elissa Gruber  
Donald West  
Patricia Schultheis  
Francisco Rodriguez  
Jennifer Kindt  
Rosemary Grube

*\*\*The rate listed is for the 2012-2013 school year.*

Approve the following Dance Chaperones for the 2013-2014 school year, a rate of \$46.62 per event-

- Erica Rich
- John McDonald
- Elissa Gruber
- Donald West
- Patricia Schultheis
- Francisco Rodriguez

Accept the resignation of the following coach appointed for the 2013-2014 school year-

Sarah Oswald, MS Girls Basketball, effective September 23, 2013.

Approve the following returning coaches for the 2013-2014 school year. The stipends listed represent the appropriate stipend amounts for 2012-2013. The 2013-2014 stipend amounts will be determined after the 2013-2014 school year begins.

<u>John Neumann</u>	Swimming	\$7285
<u>Kim Moncman</u>	Asst. Swimming	\$3934.80**
<u>Kevin Moyer</u>	Asst. Swimming	\$ 437.20**

*\*\*Shared position and total stipend of \$4372.*

<u>Ian Beitler</u>	Head Wrestling	\$8483
<u>Matthew Miller</u>	Asst. Wrestling	\$5090
<u>Brenton Ditchcreek</u>	Jr. High Wrestling	\$4666
<u>Kenneth Ziegler</u>	Jr. High Asst. Wrestling	\$3817
<u>Brian Souerwine</u>	Winter Track	\$3792
<u>Kyle Reifinger</u>	Asst. Boys Basketball	\$4581**

*\*\*Shared position with coach to be named.*

<u>Matthew Swartz</u>	Jr. High Boys Basketball	\$4666
<u>Shawn Sommons</u>	MS Head Boys Basketball	\$3817
<u>Megan Dellegrotti</u>	Head Girls Basketball	\$8483
<u>Justin Kocis</u>	Asst. Girls Basketball	\$5090
<u>Matthew Cooper</u>	Asst. Girls Basketball	\$5090
<u>Jenna Stampf</u>	Jr. High Girls Basketball	\$4666
<u>Caitlyn Rockel</u>	MS Asst. Basketball Girls	\$2545
<u>Colleen lanetta</u>	HS Head Winter Cheerleading	\$1027**
<u>Kara Kernick</u>	HS Head Winter Cheerleading	\$1027**

*\*\*Shared position.*

<u>Colleen lanetta</u>	HS Competition Cheerleading	\$2895**
<u>Kara Kernick</u>	HS Competition Cheerleading	\$ 965**

*\*\*Shared position.*

<u>Robert Gaugler</u>	Head Rifle	\$3792
<u>Carl Crouse</u>	Asst. Rifle	\$2275

Approve the following returning volunteer coaches for the 2013-2014 school year-

<u>Geoffrey Geis</u>	Swimming
<u>Frank Donnelly</u>	Swimming
<u>David Loew</u>	Winter Track
<u>Brian McLaughlin</u>	Winter Track
<u>Frank Rochon</u>	Winter Track
<u>(Lori) Michelle Schumaker</u>	Winter Track
<u>Cotie Strong</u>	Winter Track
<u>James Weedling</u>	Winter Track
<u>Troy Repyneck</u>	Girls Basketball

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

### **CURRICULUM/STUDENT AND STAFF ACTIVITIES**

Mrs. Siegfried, 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 –

- DIG PINK game tomorrow night for Girls Volleyball. HS Pink Out Day tomorrow for support.
- Fall sports teams heading into Colonial League playoffs this week.
- HS excited to welcome Jason Lilly, new assistant principal.

#### Middle School report –

- 10/8 - Speech and Debate Meeting
- 10/9 - Technology Students Association Meeting
- 10/10 - Science articulation Meeting
- 10/11- Pep Rally
- 10/14 - Faculty In-service: (Common Core and Discovery Education)
- Dig Pink Week 10/14-18/13
- 10/17 - Staff Pink Out Day Competition
- 10/18 - MS/HS Ban Night at HS Football Game
- 10/24, 25 -Reading Apprenticeship Training

#### Intermediate School report –

- 10/22 - JPLIS Parent visitation day
- 10/30 - End or marking period 1
- 6th grade students have begun their owl pellet dissection and are recreating the skeletons of different rodents contained in the pellets.
- Work has begun on the first online newspaper and students are submitting potential names for the paper.

- JPLIS will be using a program called “pickAtime” to allow parents to schedule conferences electronically. The window for using “pickAtime” opens tomorrow.
- Administration and teachers have reviewed PVAAS and SPP data over the last three grade-level meetings.
- The School Wide Positive Behavior School team will attend a workshop tomorrow at the IU.

Elementary schools –

- 10/10 - Hopewell celebrated “National Be Shady Day” to increase understanding of blindness and visual impairment. Students received information about why people with visual impairments wear shades for eye protection, and were able to see/ touch a Braille writer machine, examine Braille library books and textbooks, sampled rulers, clocks and other teaching tools used for instruction
- 10/17 - District schools will participate in an Earthquake Drill as part of monthly safety reviews
- Coopersburg, Lower Milford and Upper Saucon Fire Departments each presented fire prevention programs to their respective schools during Fire Prevention Month
- Race for Education (PTA Fundraiser) - 10/18-Hopewell and Lower Milford; 10/23 - Liberty Bell
- 10/22 - Parent Visitation Day in the elementary schools
- 10/25 - K-3 Halloween parades will take place at 2 PM
- All elementary schools will hold a special “Apple Crunch Day” this month during lunch, focusing of healthy snack choices
- Liberty Bell’s Fall Festival will be held October 18th 6:30-8:30 P.M.. Lower Milford’s Fall Festival will be held on October 31st from 6-8 PM.
- Liberty Bell raised close to \$2,000 at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Liberati Mini-Golf Classic. All proceeds go the scholarship fund in Mr. Liberati’s name.

**MOVED BY** Gunkle and 2<sup>ND</sup> **BY** Stelts to approve the following student trip request-

*Southern Lehigh High School Future Business Leaders of America to attend the 2013 Pennsylvania FBLA State Leadership Workshop, State College, PA, on November 10 and 11, 2013.*

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

**MOVED BY** Gunkle and 2<sup>ND</sup> **BY** Stelts to approve the Addendum to District Agreement for CLIU21/Archipelago Learning Consortium for additional licensing. This addendum shall become part of the Master Agreement dated May 30, 2012.

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

**BUSINESS AND FINANCE**

**MOVED BY** Gunkle and 2<sup>ND</sup> **BY** Stelts to issue the following school property tax refund-

Andrew A Lisicky, Parcel ID # 22 642414507948231, \$456.92

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

**MOVED BY** Gunkle and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Stelts to approve New Tripoli Bank to be a designation as a depository for the 2013-2014 school year.

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

### **SUPPORT SERVICES**

**MOVED BY** Gunkle and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Stelts to approve the agreement with the *American National Red Cross* to permit the use of the Southern Lehigh High School and Lower Milford Elementary School buildings as emergency shelters during a disaster.

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

**MOVED BY** Gunkle and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Stelts to approve Compass Energy, 77 West Broad Street, Bethlehem, PA 18018 to purchase natural gas for the 2014-2015 school year. The purchase will be made with favorable market price and UGI rate change between October 15, 2013 and November 30, 2013. The cost is expected to be approximately \$4.50 per dekatherm (DTH) for a total of 20,853 DTH. Final cost will be reported after the purchase.

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

### **PERSONNEL**

**MOVED BY** Gunkle and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Stelts to approve the following certificated staff-

Jason Lilly, Assistant Principal, Southern Lehigh High School, at an annual salary of \$86,000 (pro-rated), effective upon the release from his current position or December 3, 2013. Mr. Lilly will fill the position due to the resignation of *Mark Covelle*.

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

Mr. Dimmig acknowledged Mr. Lilly who was in attendance with his family and welcomed him to the District.

**MOVED BY** Gunkle and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Stelts to accept the retirement of Deanna Kubat, Payroll and HRIS and Benefits Supervisor, effective December 5, 2013.

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

## **REPORTS**

### **Budget Committee**

Mrs. Gunkle reported that the Budget & Finance Committee met on October 10, 2013 and it is projected that there is no need for an Act 1 tax increase. Mr. Melber will provide a full report after the final financial audit. The committee plans to schedule a meeting after the board reorganization.

Mr. Dimmig also discussed the shared future factor calculation on the teachers general salary increase for the 2013-14 school year. Although the percentage of the general increase is known, the salary matrix will be determined and submitted for approval at a future school board meeting.

### **Policy Committee**

Mrs. Gunkle reported that the committee met today and discussed the advertising policy.

### **Facilities Committee**

Dr. Stelts reported that the October 17, 2013 meeting is cancelled and the next meeting is scheduled for November 20, 2013.

### **CLIU**

Mrs. Mohr reported that the CLIU #21 Board of Directors reappointed Dr. Elaine Eib as Executive Director.

### **LCTI**

Mrs. Mohr announced that Mr. Hayes will return to his role as LCTI school board representative.

### **Superintendent's Report**

Mrs. Christman reported the following-

- In-service day for teachers and workshops presented by Discovery Education today.
- School Performance Profile scores were released publically last week.
- The entire Superintendent's Report is available on the district's website.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**MOVED BY** Gunkle and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Stelts to approve a second and final reading of the following revised policies-

<b>#218.1</b>	<b>Pupils: <i>Possession of Weapons</i></b>
<b>#218.2</b>	<b>Pupils: <i>Terroristic Threats/Acts</i></b>



**#218.4**            **Pupils: *Interviews with Students***  
**#805**             **Operations: *Emergency Preparedness***

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

**NEW BUSINESS**

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Mr. Dimmig received a letter on October 8, 2013 from Mr. Joseph Scull regarding the presentation at the August 28<sup>th</sup> school board meeting.

**VISITORS**

Jennifer Philipp, Hopewell parent and PTA president read the following letter-

"I am here this evening representing all Hopewell families. Both Hopewell parents and teachers have been present at all school board meetings regarding the future of our elementary schools since the special board meeting on August 28th. We have listened to the facts presented about the district's current demographics, planned future growth and transportation studies. We have put our trust in the school board to make the best decision for our students based on the facts. However, since more options continue to be brought forth, rather than narrowed down, we feel it's time for us to come forward and share our opinion based upon the evidence and options being discussed.

We, as Hopewell parents, have accepted the fact that our school must be demolished. We have accepted the fact that disruption will occur to our children. To us, the most logical choice is for Hopewell to be demolished and for a brand new school to be built in its place. We feel that this is the best option for the following reasons:

First, rebuilding Hopewell makes the most sense from the standpoint of transportation costs. Hopewell is centrally located in the school district. As a result, the majority of students in the district live within 3 miles of either Hopewell or Liberty Bell. By building a new Hopewell, the district will save over \$150,000 every year on busing costs, which would otherwise be incurred if the Board were to vote to close down Hopewell permanently.

Second, rebuilding Hopewell is also the most logical choice due to the large percentage of the community's residents located within the school's immediate area. Hopewell is situated in the most densely populated portion of the District. According to the District's Demographic Study, there are currently over 21,000 residents in the SLSD. 15,000 of these residents live in Upper Saucon Township, which feeds the Hopewell population.

This demographic trend does not show any signs of changing in the foreseeable future. To the contrary, the District's Future Growth studies indicate that Hopewell's population is projected to increase by 5% by 2017. Rebuilding Hopewell will serve to meet the continually growing needs of the district.

Finally, it has recently been suggested that that the Board should consider moving Hopewell's students as a whole to the Intermediate School. This is not a viable option. The Intermediate School was not designed for younger children. When the building was designed, everything – from the stairwells, to the lockers, to the science labs – was done in anticipation of an older student population. Considerable renovations would need to be made to this new school to make it habitable for kindergarteners, as well as the rest of our community's youngest students.

Further, there was a Task Force study done during the planning stages of the Intermediate School, when the District had the opportunity to choose how to divide the various grade levels among each of the school buildings. The Task Force Study concluded that the K-3 configuration was the best academic option for our children in elementary school – which is why our District chose to operate under that model. There is no valid reason to reverse that well-grounded decision.

Hopewell parents are asking that the School Board look at the options and base their decision on the facts before them. Understandably, it is easy for parents to become emotional about decisions that affect their children. We are asking you to look beyond emotional responses and, instead, focus on the long term goals and how your decisions now will impact future generations of SLSD students, as well as the community as a whole.”

Mrs. Kathleen Parsons commented on student enrollment at Lower Milford and Liberty Bell in the presentation by Gilbert Architects at the August 28, 2013 school board meeting.

There was Board discussion.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOVED BY** Stelts and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Gunkle to adjourn the meeting.

**VOICE VOTE: “YES” - Unanimous - Motion Carried**  
**ABSENT: McLoughlin, Lindsay, Quigley**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_ Board Secretary