



# Southern Lehigh School District

## Board of School Directors Meeting

September 8, 2014

The first regular monthly meeting of the Board of School Directors of the School District of Southern Lehigh was held at 7:38 p.m. on the above date (September 8, 2014) at Southern Lehigh High School, Center Valley, PA.

**PRESENT:** Gunkle, Dimmig, Hayes, Lycett, Merkle, Parsons  
**ABSENT:** Lindsay, McLoughlin, Quigley,  
**OTHERS:** Christman, Melber, Millman, Lewis, Kennedy, Siegfried, Donahue, Farris, Bergey, Takacs, Jordan, Sinkler (SLEA), Malinchak (Morning Call), 11 other members of the community.

### **OPENING PROCEDURES**

Mrs. Gunkle 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 Board recognized Matthew L., Southern Lehigh High School senior and member of Boy Scout Troop 191, who recently achieved the rank of Eagle Scout.

### **VISITORS**

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOVED BY** Merkle and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Lycett to approve the minutes of the August 25, 2014 meeting as distributed to all Board members.

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

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

**MOVED BY** Parsons and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Lycett to approve the **CONSENT AGENDA** items as follows –

Approve the bills list dated September 8, 2014 showing paid bills in the amount of \$625,628.96 and bills to be paid in the amount of \$399,393.69 for a total amount of \$1,025,022.65 for the General Fund; and bills to be paid in the amount of \$2,380.48 for the Capital Reserve Sinking Fund;

Approve the Treasurer's Report and Investment Report for the month of July, 2014;

Approve all necessary budgetary transfers to properly reflect 2013-2014 transactions and auditor adjusting entries and to close out the accounting records for the fiscal year.

Accept the resignation of the following staff-

Kirby Jo Pohlidal, .5 Family Consumer Science Teacher, Southern Lehigh High School, effective August 28, 2014

Approve the following increment requests, effective September 1, 2014-

Elissa Gruber, Bachelors to Bachelors +15

Ryan Haupt, Masters to Masters +15

Merrilyn Pysher, Bachelors to Bachelors +30

Katie Quartuch, Masters +15 to Masters +30

Approve the following student teacher placement-

Rachel Chambers, Spanish K-12, Kutztown University, with *Mrs. Laura Gonzalez*, Southern Lehigh Middle School, from September 9, 2014 to October 17, 2014.

Approve the following substitute teachers for the 2014-2015 school year (*pending receipt of required documentation*)-

Colleen Ritter, Elementary K-6; Special Ed N-12

Meghan Cela, Elementary Ed K-6

Approve the unpaid leave of the following staff:

Nicole Landis, High School Central Accounts Secretary, October 9 and 10, 2014

Susan Covey, Cafeteria Worker, Southern Lehigh High School, November 3, 2014 through December 2, 2014

Approve the correction of the rate of Colin Yaindl, Seasonal Computer Technician from \$18.01 per hour (substitute rate listed on the August 11, 2014 Board meeting) to \$15.59 per hour (seasonal rate).

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

Meghan Cela, Instructional Assistant (29 hours/week), Lower Milford Elementary School, an hourly rate of \$17.81, with an effective date to be determined.

Approve the following substitute staff for the 2014-2015 school year (pending receipt of required documentation)-

Darlene Geissler, Substitute Instructional Assistant, an hourly rate of \$15.62

Approve the following detention proctors, at the hourly rate of \$41.23\*\* for the 2014-2015 school year-

Michael Bjelobr

Brenton Ditchcreek

Stephanie Donald

Jason Donnelly

Linda Gross

Wayne Langsdorf

Shannon Mauro

Bonnie Organski

Anne Sikorski-Schneider

Lauren Tocci

Rose Touma

Justina Viola

*\*\*This is the rate for 2013-2014. The 2014-2015 rate will be determined after the start of the 2014-2015 school year.*

Approve the following dance chaperones for the 14-15 school year, a rate of \$46.62 per event-

Amy Bausher

Thomas Beaupre

Michael Bielobr

Joseph Breisch

Erin Bromfield

Caryn Bronfenbrenner

Kaytlyn Byers

Joseph Castagna

Sheryl Ciotti

Matthew Cooper

Megan Dellegrotti

Jeremy Deyton

Brenton Ditchcreek

Stephanie Donald

Jason Donnelly

David Dougherty

Brian Dow

Jennifer Edwards

Maureen Elliot

Robert Gaugler

Matthew Greenawald

Linda Gross

Ryan Haupt

Jeffrey Hershey

Kelly Howsare

Joan Imms-Geiser

Leigh Kern

Cherise Kocis

David Krial

Wayne Langsdorf  
David Long  
Elizabeth Mathews  
Shannon Mauro  
Jesse Mead  
Matthew Miller  
Bonnie Organski  
Jo Ann Peralta  
Merrilyn Pysher  
Katie Quartuch  
Douglas Roncolato  
Troy Ruch  
Thomas Ruhf  
Stephen Schrader  
Kate Shartel  
Edward Sinkler  
Louis Skrapits  
Marlo Spritzer  
Cotie Strong  
Jessica Swartz  
Lauren Tocci  
Rose Touma  
Justina Viola  
Teresa Ware  
Matthew Wehr  
Jennifer Wlodek-Evans  
Lee Zeisloft  
Dana Kleppinger  
Eric Miller  
Kimberly Halloran  
Maria Ramunni

Approve the following Peak Program staff for the 2014-2015 school year, a rate of \$51.57\*\* per session-

Dana Kleppinger

Jennifer Kindt

Eric Miller

Kimberly Halloran

Maria Ramunni

*\*\*This is the rate for 2013-2014. The 2014-2015 rate will be determined after the start of the 2014-2015 school year.*

Accept the resignation of Maria Ramunni, Social Studies Subject Area Leader K-6

Approve the appointment of Tricia Anderson, Social Studies Subject Area Leader K-6, a stipend of \$1471.50\*\* (This is a 50/50 shared position and stipend.)

*\*\*This is the stipend for 2013-2014. The 2014-2015 stipend amount will be determined after the start of the 2014-2015 school year.*

Approve the following athletic event workers for the 2014-2015 school year-

Annette Filler

Karen Himmelsbach

Accept the resignation of Jordan Benedict, Head Fall Varsity Cheering Coach, Head Varsity Competition Cheering Coach and Head Varsity Winter Cheering Coach, effective August 29, 2014.

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

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

Mrs. Siegfried, Dr. Donahue, Mrs. Farris, and Ms. Limpar reported on student and staff activities at the High School, Middle School, Intermediate School and the elementary schools.

#### High School report –

- Meeting with each of the grade levels occurred during Spartan Period with Mr. Lilly and Mrs. Siegfried to go over code of conduct and other important information pertaining to classes.
- Students selected their Spartan Period offerings last week. Today was the first day that we were up and running with Spartan Period.
- We are still in the process of hiring for a few positions and hope to wrap those up in a few weeks.
- Currently there are 197 laptops housed in the building on carts. The rest (857) are computers going home daily. In summary:
  - 18.7% of the computers housed in the building are on carts
  - 81.3% are going home daily.
- Things seem to be off to a great start.

#### Middle School report –

- 9/3 - Students Photos
- 9/8 - Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival

- 9/11 - Patriot Day
- 9/16 - Open House
- 9/26, 29 - Putt U Math Field Practicum

#### Intermediate School report –

- All hiring complete at this time.
- The school year is off to a very good start. Transportation is running smoothly and we thank the people behind the scenes who help to make this happen.
- JPLIS implementing new Reading & Language series in grades 4 through 6. A Pearson product called Reading Street is being introduced in grades 4 and 5, and another Pearson resource called Pearson Common Core Literature is the new program for grade 6. The programs appear very rich.
- Chorus, band and orchestra practices have started.
- Open House / Parent Back to School Night will be held tomorrow beginning at 7:00PM.

#### Elementary schools –

- Bus evacuation drills occurred last week at all K-3 buildings.
- Teachers have been completing benchmark assessments and guided reading assessments to gather baseline data for instruction
- Schoolwide DIBELS assessments are taking place this week.
- Lower Milford and Liberty Bell kicked off their School-wide Positive Behavior System...Pride of Liberty Bell with a school-wide assembly and lesson plans on Liberty Bell Lion behavior in the different environments.
- Hopewell CARES assemblies occurred on 8/29 and 9/5 to kick off our school wide positive behavior program. The Bucket filler book was presented, the compliment ticket system was reviewed and monthly CARES traits were explained. Sensei Rob Wetmore and his team from Leading Edge Martial Arts presented a Karate demo and shared a message about bullying, stranger danger and self-discipline. This is always a well-received assembly by our students!
- 9/10 - Hopewell Open House, 6:30 – 8:00PM

Dr. Christman introduced and welcomed Ms. Lu Bai and Ms. Ling Huang, Chinese Scholar BCIU teachers who are teaching middle and high school students during the 2014-2015 school year.

### **BUSINESS AND FINANCE**

#### **SUPPORT SERVICES**

A conceptual design for the New Elementary School was presented by Josh Grice, Senior Project Manager, D'Huy Engineering and Michael Kelly, Principal of Project Management, KCBA Architects.

#### **PERSONNEL**

#### **REPORTS**

Private Funding of Sports Facilities Committee

Mr. Lycett reported the committee met on September 3, 2014 and discussed the following-

- Fund raising
- Advertising examples

### Superintendent's Report

Mrs. Christman reported the following-

- Southern Lehigh Education Foundation is again sponsoring the Tri-a-Biathlon for grades 3-12 and will be held on October 11, 2014.
- Jeremy Melber, Director of Business Services has once again been named a finalist in the 2014 Lehigh Valley Business CFO of the Year awards.
- Basic Education Funding Commission meeting to be held on September 9, 2014.
- Save the date! John Draper, national speaker with the National School Public Relations Association will visit Southern Lehigh on October 13, 2014.
- The Superintendent's Report is available on the district's website.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**MOVED BY** Parsons and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Merkle to approve a first reading of the following revised policies-

**#200.3 Pupils: Foreign Exchange Students**

**#204 Pupils: Attendance**

**#815 Operations: Acceptable Use of Electronic Resources**

**#916 Community: School Volunteers**

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

Mr. Dimmig brought up the topic of updating the Liberty Bell Elementary School entrance. There was board discussion and it was decided to address this at a Facilities Committee meeting to review possible options.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

### **VISITORS**

The Board took a brief recess at 8:45 p.m.

The Board met in executive session at 8:48.

The meeting reconvened at 8:55 p.m.

**MOVED BY** Merkle and **2<sup>nd</sup> BY** Lycett to adjourn the meeting.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

**ATTEST:** Diana S. Millman Board Secretary