



Southern Lehigh School District Board of School Directors Meeting

October 10, 2016

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 (October 10, 2016) at Southern Lehigh High School, Center Valley, PA.

PRESENT: Parsons, Dimmig, McLoughlin, Gehman, Gunkle, Lycett, Merkle, Sisselberger, Smith

ABSENT: None

OTHERS: Christman, Melber, Millman, Lewis, Bergey, Kennedy, Takacs, Buchman, Jordan, Sinkler (SLEA), Diaz, Malinchak (MCall) and 9 other members of the community.

OPENING PROCEDURES

Mrs. Parsons 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.

Student Recognition-HS Spotlight Student Newspaper

The Board recognized Marlo Spritzer, High School Teacher and Newspaper Advisor and her students for the achievement of Gold Rating by the Pennsylvania School Press Association. The following students received Board awards- Nicole S., Allison B., Izza C., Sarah T., Emily O., Danielle A., Townsend C. and Jamie K., as well as photographers- Caitlin R., Maggie M., and three 2016 graduates- Katie C., Alex B. and Devon W.

Retirement Recognition-Superintendent Dr. Leah M. Christman

Board President, Kathleen Parsons recognized Dr. Christman who will retire at the end of the month and presented her with an engraved rocker chair. Mrs. Parsons read the following tribute-

"Dr. Christman has been the Superintendent at Southern Lehigh since 2012. She came here in February, 2007 to work as Director of Technology. Dr. Christman taught at three other school districts for a total of 26 years. That well rounded background served her well as our Superintendent.

Dr. Christman was instrumental in bringing more technology into the classroom and more importantly, making sure teachers were comfortable using it. It's one thing to give a person a Mac or a PC, but it takes a lot more work to integrate technology into a classroom lesson and have that resource enhance studies. Some teachers needed a little encouragement than others, but the journey has been worth it.

Another passion of Dr. Christman is global education. Through her efforts our students have had teachers from China and Egypt. The district has partnered with a school in China and our students can now learn Mandarin as well as, Arabic, Japanese, Spanish, French and Latin.

Outwardly the role of a Superintendent may appear to be strictly management, but as a board member, I've found that her job was more often 'crisis management' and communications director. Whether it was finding the right words to explain to a parent that when ten inches of snow is predicted, we really do have to close schools or making sure a brand new elementary school opens on time, Dr. Christman always came through to save the day.

It has been my distinct privilege to serve as President of the Board and work closely with Dr. Christman this past year. While we all would prefer she would have stayed longer, there's no one that deserves some fun more than her. Dr. Christman, we wish you well!"

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED BY Gunkle and **2ND BY** Smith to approve the minutes of September 26, 2016 meeting as distributed to all Board members.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Motion Carried
ABSENT: None

VISITORS

Dr. Elizabeth Stelts questioned the Board on LCTI's affiliation with the Chamber of Commerce.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Approve the bills list dated October 10, 2016 showing paid bills in the amount of \$9,837.97 and bills to be paid in the amount of \$552,896.51 for a total amount of \$562,734.48 for the General Fund; bills to be paid in the amount of \$8,053.90 for the Capital Reserve Sinking Fund and bills to be paid in the amount of \$426,671.29 for the Construction Fund;

Approve unpaid leave of the following certificated staff-

Matthew Greenawald, Mathematics Teacher, Southern Lehigh High School, December 2, 2016

Erin Everett, Mathematics Teacher, Southern Lehigh High School, October 18 through 25, 2016 and April 11, 2017;

Approve the following substitute teacher for the 2016-2017 school year-

Kelly Katzbeck K-3

Approve first period of childrearing leave of Julia Czerechowski, Learning Support Teacher, Joseph P. Liberati Intermediate School, effective October 30, 2016 through the remainder of the 2016-2017 school year;

Approve the following staff-

Daniel Lewis, Technology Facilitator, Southern Lehigh High School, effective October 11, 2016. Mr. Lewis will fill the position due to the retirement of Margaret Chiarella,

Amy Kimball, Instructional Assistant (4.5 hours per day), Joseph P. Liberati Intermediate School, an hourly rate of \$18.26, effective October 3, 2016. Ms. Kimball will fill the position due to the resignation of Charlene Schiebel,

Abigail Fleming, Instructional Assistant (29 hours per week), Joseph P. Liberati Intermediate School, an hourly rate of \$18.26, effective October 3, 2016. Ms. Fleming will fill the position due to the resignation of Jessica Steirer,

Andrea Ramsey, 1:1 Instructional Assistant (5.75 hours per day), Southern Lehigh Middle School, an hourly rate of \$18.26, effective October 11, 2016. Ms. Ramsey will fill the position due to the resignation of Kathleen Knaack;

Approve unpaid leave of the following staff-

Kelli Guttman, Part-time Cafeteria Worker, Southern Lehigh High School, December 2, 5 and 9, 2016,

Patty Lynn-Helmick, Cafeteria Worker, Hopewell Elementary School, November 9 through 16, 2016;

Approve increased hours of Carol Bodner, Instructional Assistant, Hopewell Elementary School, from 3 hours to 5.75 hours per day, due to student needs;

Approve the following substitute staff for the 2015-2016 school year-

Sandra Giannattasio, Substitute Instructional Assistant, an hourly rate of \$16.01

Stacie Herceg, Substitute Secretary, an hourly rate of \$15.64;

Approve Intermittent FMLA Leave of Lynn Kovacs, Secretary, Southern Lehigh High School, effective October 10, 2016;

Approve the following coaches for the 2016-2017 school year-

Samantha Schultz HS Asst. Cheerleading (Fall) \$542.96**

Aliza Wagner HS Asst. Cheerleading (Fall) \$542.96**

***Shared stipend and position.*

Approve the following volunteer for the 2016-2017 school year-
Troy Repyneck Girls Basketball.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: None

CURRICULUM/STUDENT AND STAFF ACTIVITIES

MOVED BY Gunkle and **2ND BY** Smith to approve the following student trip requests:

Southern Lehigh High School Future Business Leaders of America students and advisors to attend the 2016 State Leadership Workshop, Harrisburg, PA, Sunday, November 6, 2016 and Monday, November 7, 2016.

Southern Speech and Debate Team and advisor to attend the Villiger Tournament at St. Joseph's University, Philadelphia, PA, November 19-20, 2016.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: None

SUPPORT SERVICES

MOVED BY Gunkle and **2ND BY** McLoughlin to approve contracted transportation agreements with Norman's Bus Service, In., 1239 Water Street, East Greenville, PA 18041 for the 2016-2017 school year with a 2% increase from the previous school year. The contracted carriers support Brandywine Lehigh Transportation with vans and small buses for non-public, charter schools and specialized transportation requests.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: None

PERSONNEL

MOVED BY Gunkle and **2ND BY** Gehman to approve the retirements of the following staff:

Bonnie Fleming, Custodian, Liberty Bell Elementary School, effective November 11, 2016. Ms. Fleming has been a district employee for 21 years.

Kenneth Ruch, Head Custodian, Southern Lehigh High School, effective December 31, 2016. Mr. Ruch has been a district employee for 34 years.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: None

REPORTS

Policy

Mr. Lycett reported the committee met prior to this meeting and discussed several policies, including AED and Grievance Procedures.

LCTI

Dr. Smith reported the following from the September 28, 2016 meeting-

- Open House Scheduled for November 11, 2016

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Christman reported the following:

- The district was notified that the Project Blue: Bridging Learning Through a Ubiquitous Digital Learning Environment program at Southern Lehigh has been selected as an Apple Distinguished Program for 2016-2018.
- Dr. Christman awarded the W. LaMarr Kopp Lifetime Achievement Award for "Building Bridges in Global Education at the PACIE Conference held recently in Philadelphia.

Mr. Dimmig thanked Dr. Christman for her leadership and recognized her technology and global education vision and overall impact on the district.

OLD BUSINESS

MOVED BY Gunkle and **2nd BY** Smith to approve a second and final reading of the following revised policies-

#101 Programs: *Philosophy of Education*

#103 Programs: *Nondiscrimination in School and Classroom Practices*

#104 Programs: *Nondiscrimination in Employment and Contract Practices*

#609 Finances: *Investment of District Funds*

#707 Property: *Use of School Facilities*

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: None

NEW BUSINESS

MOVED BY Gunkle and **2nd BY** Smith to appoint Kathleen Parsons as voting delegate to the 2016 Delegate Assembly at the PASA-PSBA School Leadership Conference held on Saturday, October 15, 2016.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: None

MOVED BY Gunkle and **2nd BY** Lycett to approve the following revised Employee Group Policies, with effective dates and durations as listed in each-

- Ancillary Employees and Athletic Workers
- Cafeteria Employees
- Custodial, Maintenance and Cleaning Staff
- Head Custodians
- Health Services Support Employees
- Instructional Assistants
- Secretarial Employees
- Special Education Support
- Technology Employees
- Independent School Employees

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: None

MOVED BY Gunkle and **2nd BY** Lycett to approve the Ancillary Wage Rates, effective July 1, 2016.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: None

COMMUNICATIONS

VISITORS

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Parsons announced the need for an Executive Session and that the Board would not reconvene.

MOVED BY Gunkle and **2nd BY** Parsons to adjourn the meeting.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried
ABSENT: None

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

ATTEST: Diana S. Millman, Board Secretary