



## Southern Lehigh School District Board of School Directors Meeting

June 12, 2017

The voting monthly meeting of the Board of School Directors of the School District of Southern Lehigh was held at 7:50 p.m. on the above date (June 12, 2017) at Southern Lehigh High School, Center Valley, PA.

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

ABSENT: None

OTHERS: Evison, Melber, Millman, Lewis, Montanye (SSKW), Knoll, Buchman, Takacs, Sinkler (SLEA), Malinchak (MCall) and 8 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.

### **VISITORS**

### **BUSINESS AND FINANCE**

The Administration presented the PDE-2028, **Final 2017-2018 General Fund Budget** for adoption tonight as presented and approved at the April 10, 2017 and April 24, 2017 Board meetings.

**MOVED BY** McLoughlin and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Gehman to adopt the following **2017-2018 Budget Resolution-**

That this Board of School Directors hereby officially adopts the School District of Southern Lehigh **2017-2018 Fiscal School Year Budget**, commencing with July 1, 2017 and ending with June 30, 2018, as recommended. A copy of PDE-2028, Final General Fund Budget, Fiscal Year July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018 that was proposed and adopted at an official meeting of the Board of School Directors held Monday, April 10, 2017 is included in the Board packet.

**ROLL CALL VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried**

**ABSENT: None**

**MOVED BY** Gehman and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Parsons to approve the **Levying Millage Resolution-**

**WHEREAS**, the estimated Receipts from Local Sources of \$47,531,621 as set forth in the School District of Southern Lehigh Fiscal School Year Budget for the year 2017-2018 officially adopted this 12th day of June, 2017, includes a tax on the assessed valuation of real estate.

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED**, that the millage on the assessed valuation of real estate located within the confines of Southern Lehigh School District (based upon 100% of the appraised valuation in compliance with Lehigh County Board of Commissioners) as required in the officially adopted **2017-2018 Fiscal School Year Budget**, be set at 15.62 mills on the dollar (\$1.562 per each \$100 of assessed valuation) to provide an estimated income of \$39,035,473 for the fiscal year commencing with July 1, 2017, and ending with June 30, 2018.

**ROLL CALL VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried**  
**"NO"- Dimmig**  
**ABSENT: None**

**MOVED BY** Smith and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Gunkle to approve the **Act 511 Taxes Resolution-**

**WHEREAS**, 15.62 mills on the assessed valuation of real estate will not provide sufficient revenue to meet the budgetary requirements of the 2017-2018 fiscal school year.

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED**, that this Board of School Directors hereby re-enacts the enabling resolution providing for the levying and assessing of a 1% tax upon the transfer of real property, or of any interest therein, situated within the School District of Southern Lehigh, under the authority of Act 511 of 1965, known as "The Local Tax Enabling Act", with said tax to provide an estimated income of \$700,000; and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this Board of School Directors hereby re-enacts the enabling resolution providing for the levy of 1% tax on the earned income of residents of the School District of Southern Lehigh levied under the authority of Act 511 of 1965, known as "The Local Tax Enabling Act", with said tax to provide an estimated income of \$4,800,000; and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this Board of School Directors hereby re-enacts the enabling resolution providing for the levy of a Local Services Tax in the amount of Five (\$5.00) Dollars on individuals engaged in any occupation, trade or profession within the corporate limits of the School District under the authority of Act 511 of 1965, P.L. 1257, as amended, known as "The Local Tax Enabling Act," with said tax to provide an estimated income of \$54,000.

**ROLL CALL VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried**  
**ABSENT: None**

**MOVED BY Gunkle and 2<sup>ND</sup> BY Gehman to approve the attached resolution concerning the designation of depositories and the investment of District funds for the 2017-2018.**

**VOICE VOTE “YES” – Unanimous – Motion Carried**

**ABSENT: None**

**MOVED BY Gunkle and 2<sup>ND</sup> BY Gehman to approve the attached Homestead/Farmstead Resolution-**

**RESOLVED**, by the Board of School Directors of Southern Lehigh School District, that homestead and farmstead exclusion real estate tax assessment reductions are authorized for the school year beginning July 1, 2017, under the provisions of the Homestead Property Exclusion Program Act (part of Act 50 of 1998) and the Taxpayer Relief Act (Act 1 of 2006), as follows-

1. **Aggregate amount available for homestead and farmstead real estate tax reduction.**

The following amounts are available for homestead and farmstead real estate tax reduction for the school year beginning July 1, 2017-

a. **Gambling tax funds.** The Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) has notified the School District that PDE will pay to the School District during the school year pursuant to Act 1, 53 P.S. §6926.505(b), as a property tax reduction allocation funded by gambling tax funds, the amount of \$618,485.34.

b. **Philadelphia tax credit reimbursement funds.** PDE has notified the School District that PDE will pay to the School District during the school year pursuant to Act 1, 53 P.S. §6926.324(3), as reimbursement for Philadelphia tax credits claimed against the School District earned income tax by School District resident taxpayers, the amount of \$44,916.04.

c. **Aggregate amount available.** Adding these amounts, the aggregate amount available during the school year for real estate tax reduction is \$663,401.38.

2. **Homestead/farmstead numbers.** Pursuant to Act 50, 54 Pa. C.S. §8584(i), and Act 1, 53 P.S. §6926.341(g)(3), the County has provided the School District with a certified report listing approved homesteads and approved farmsteads as follows:

a. **Homestead property number.** The number of approved homesteads within the School District is 5957.

b. **Farmstead property number.** The number of approved farmsteads within the School District is 47.

c. **Homestead/farmstead combined number.** Adding these numbers, the aggregate number of approved homesteads and approved farmsteads is 6,004.

3. **Real estate tax reduction calculation.** The School Board has decided that the homestead exclusion amount and the farmstead exclusion amount shall be equal. Dividing the paragraph 1(c) aggregate amount available during the school year for real estate tax reduction of \$663,401.38 by the paragraph 2(c) aggregate number of approved homesteads and approved farmsteads of 6,004 (before considering the assessed value of approved homesteads and approved farmsteads having an assessed value below the preliminary calculation of the maximum real estate assessed value reduction amount to be established as the homestead and farmstead exclusion amount), the preliminary calculation of the maximum real estate tax reduction amount applicable to each approved homestead and to each approved farmstead is \$110.49.

Based on calculations provided by the School District Business Office from the best available information and carefully evaluated by the School Board, considering the assessed value of approved homesteads and approved farmsteads having an assessed value below the preliminary calculation of the maximum real estate assessed value reduction amount to be established as the homestead exclusion and the farmstead exclusion amount, an additional aggregate amount of \$2,207.79 will be available during the school year for real estate tax reduction as will occur in most such cases, the full amount of the paragraph 4 maximum real estate assessed value reduction will apply. In the extraordinary case where the new interim tax assessment is effective after July 1, the paragraph 4 maximum real estate assessed value reduction will be pro-rated in the same manner as the real estate tax reflected in the interim tax bill is pro-rated.

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

**MOVED BY** Gunkle and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** McLoughlin to approve the **Fund Balance Designations** for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018.

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

**MOVED BY** Gunkle and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Gehman to approve the District's **student accident and athletic insurance for 2017-2018** through Weiss-Schantz Agency Inc., of Hellertown, PA as summarized below. The policy is administered by AG Administrators, Inc., of Valley Forge, PA and underwritten by United States Fire Insurance Company.

1. Interscholastic Sports, Intramurals, and Club Sports-Annual premium of \$23,700, paid by the School District, represents a 0% increase from the prior year.
2. Voluntary Student Accident Coverage, School Time Only-\$28/year, paid by parents, no change from last year.
3. Voluntary Student Accident Coverage, 24-Hour Coverage-\$124/year, paid by parents, no change from last year.

**VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried**

**ABSENT: None**

**MOVED BY** Gunkle and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Gehman to approve the following insurance policies for the 2017-2018 school year:

- Package Policy (Property and Fire, General Liability, EDP, Inland Marine, Contractors Equipment, Crime, Boiler & Machinery, School Leader's, TRIA, etc.) – Liberty Mutual Group at an annual premium of \$117,644
- Umbrella Liability Policy (Excess Coverage above Underlying Policies) – Liberty Mutual at an annual premium of \$9,467
- Blanket Policy for PTA's, PTO's, Booster Clubs, etc. – Liberty Mutual Insurance Company at an annual premium of \$501
- Auto Insurance – Liberty Mutual at an annual premium of \$14,219

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

**PERSONNEL**

**MOVED BY** Gunkle and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Gehman to approval of Dr. Michael Roth, Assistant Superintendent, an annual salary of \$133,000, with an effective date to be determined (*pending personnel agreement and receipt of required paperwork*). Dr. Roth will fill the position due to the retirement of Kristen Lewis.

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

**MOVED BY** Gunkle and **2<sup>ND</sup> BY** Smith to approve Shane Cross, Director of Curriculum and Instruction K-12, an annual salary of \$110,000 through June 30, 2018, with an effective date to be determined (*pending receipt of required paperwork*). Mr. Cross will fill the position due to the retirement of *Joan Takacs*.

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

**VISITORS**

**ADJOURNMENT**

President Dimmig announced the need for an Executive Session and that the board would not reconvene.

**MOVED BY** Gunkle and **2<sup>nd</sup> BY** Gehman to adjourn the meeting.

**VOICE VOTE: "YES" – Unanimous – Motion Carried**

**ABSENT: None**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

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