



Southern Lehigh School District

Board of School Directors Meeting
Committee of the Whole Meeting

March 13, 2017

The committee of the whole monthly meeting of the Board of School Directors of the School District of Southern Lehigh was held at 7:00 p.m. on the above date (March 13, 2017) at Southern Lehigh High School (Library), Center Valley, PA.

PRESENT: Dimmig, Gehman, Parsons, McLoughlin, Gunkle, Lycett, Merkle, Smith
ABSENT: Sisselberger
OTHERS: Evison, Lewis, Melber, Millman, Montanye, (SSKW), Kennedy, Buchman, Takacs, Bergey, Sinkler (SLEA), C. Malinchak (MCall) and approximately 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.

CURRICULUM/STUDENT AND STAFF ACTIVITIES

A. *Program of Studies Handbook-High School*

The Administration recommends revisions to the 2017-2018 High School Programs of Studies Book. The requested change is to the prerequisite for Honors Chemistry:

Honor Chemistry Current Prerequisite: Completion of or concurrently taking Algebra II and achieved a b+ or better in Algebra I.

The high school is requesting to eliminate the portion of the prerequisite related to Algebra II. After thorough review of the course curriculum and speaking with the new teacher of the course, it is only necessary that students have completed Algebra I and achieved a B+ or better in order to be capable of completing the course curriculum successfully.

Honor Chemistry Proposed Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra * having achieved a B+ or better.

B. *Full day Kindergarten Pilot Update*

Mrs. Lewis, Assistant to the Superintendent, provided an update on the full day kindergarten program including the following:

- Dibels Composite Scores:
 - Sept Full Day K-3% at or above benchmark, 10% below benchmark, 87% well below benchmark
 - Jan. Full Day K-50% at or above benchmark, 30% below benchmark, 20% well below benchmark
 - Sept. ½ Day K-79% at or above benchmark, 12% below benchmark, 9% well below benchmark
 - Jan. ½ day K-68% at or above benchmark, 20% below benchmark, 12% well below benchmark
- Report card data for 2nd marking period also presented.

Due to the success of the program, the Administration recommends that the district change the full day kindergarten program from a one-year pilot to an ongoing program that operates with the same criteria with one classroom each at Hopewell and Liberty Bell Elementary schools.

C. *Research Study*

The Administration recommends approval of the participation of the High School Music Department in a research study being conducted by the Arts and Mind Lab at Boston College. The study examines the alignment and potential misalignment among teachers, principals and arts chairs, students, and parents in terms of the benefits of ensemble music education.

D. *Textbook Recommendation*

The Administration recommends approval of new textbooks recommended for the 2017-2018 school year. Textbooks will be on display in the Administration Building for two weeks. Final adoption will be at the March 27, 2017 Board meeting. (II, D)

E. *Letter of Agreement-Title 1 Allocation*

The Administration recommends approval of the agreement with Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit #21 for remedial instructional services to students in Non Public School in accordance with Federal Title I allocations per funding adjustments in the approximate amount of \$26,778.88 for the 2016-2017 school year. (II, E)

BUSINESS AND FINANCE

A. *Accounts Payable*

The Administration recommends approval of the bills list to be paid as of March 13, 2017. (IV, A)

B. *Treasurer's Report and Investment Report for the month of December*

The Administration recommends approval of the Treasurer's Report and Investment Report for the month of December, 2016. (IV, B)

C. *Letter of Agreement (National School Lunch Program)*

The Administration recommends approval of the Letter of Agreement dated March 1, 2017 between Southern Lehigh School District and Lehigh Career & Technical Institute clarifying responsibilities in connection with the National School Lunch program for our students who attend Lehigh Career & Technical Institute. (IV, C)

D. *Le-Nor-Co Joint Purchase Agreement*

The Administration recommends approval of the Le-Nor-Co Purchasing Cooperative Joint Purchase Agreement designating the Food Service Director as the primary representative and the Business Manager as the alternate representative. (IV, D)

E. *Proposed Tax Legislation Update*

Mr. Jeremy Melber, Director of Business Services provided an update on the proposed property tax elimination legislation:

- Bill would eliminate school district property taxes except portion needed for current debt service
- Property taxes would be replaced by increasing state income tax from 3.07% to 4.95%
- Sales tax would also increase from 6% to 7% and expand to more services

What it means to Southern Lehigh:

- Property taxes @ 2.45 Mills would be needed to cover current debt
- Home assessed at \$280,000 would still pay \$686 (\$4,373)

The Unknowns:

- What level of funding will the district receive
- When will the district receive funding
- How increases will be allocated
- What if additional funding is needed for capital needs, special education, etc.

SUPPORT SERVICES

A. *Lower Milford Elementary School Property Discussion*

The Board continued discussion on options for use and possible sale of Lower Milford Elementary School property. The Board plans to be prepared to make a motion at the March 27, 2017 regular school board meeting.

B. *Allowance Adjustment-Lobar, Inc.*

The Administration recommends an allowance adjustment increase for Lobar, Inc., One Mill Rd., Dillsburg, PA 17019, in the amount of \$8699.92 to the Hopewell Elementary School Playground Budget approved November 14, 2016, that was not to exceed \$70,000. Additional costs relate to the need for an ADA sidewalk at \$6118 and unanticipated grading costs. (V, B)

C. *Allowance Adjustment-JBM Mechanical, Inc.*

The Administration recommends an allowance adjustment for JBM Mechanical, Inc., 3273 Gun Club Rd., Nazareth, PA 18064, in the amount of \$18,569.10 to add intake and discharge sensors for 38 heat pumps at Hopewell Elementary School. The sensors are required for diagnosis, maintenance and enhanced efficiency of the building's heating and cooling.

PERSONNEL

A. *Certificated Staff*

1. *FMLA Leave (Intermittent)*

The Administration recommends approval of Intermittent FMLA leave of Karen Ryan, Teacher, Joseph P. Liberati Intermediate School, for up to 12 weeks effective March 14, 2017 through March 13, 2018.

2. *Retirement*

The Administration recommends accepting the retirement of Kristen Lewis, Assistant to the Superintendent, effective the end of business day June 30, 2017. Mrs. Lewis has been a district employee for twelve years having served as Liberty Bell Principal, Lower Milford Principal and Director of Elementary Education during her tenure.

B. *Noncertificated Staff*

1. *Unpaid Leave*

The Administration recommends approval of unpaid leave of the following staff:

Amy Kimball, Instructional Assistant, Joseph P. Liberati Intermediate School, May 4 and 5, 2017

Ann Higgins, Instructional Assistant, Southern Lehigh Middle School, May 17 through May 24, 2017

Anastasia Benner, Instructional Assistant, Liberty Bell Elementary School, May 17 through 19, 2017

2. *FMLA Leave*

The Administration recommends the Intermittent FMLA leave of Jana Brown, Instructional Assistant, Southern Lehigh High School, for up to 12 weeks effective March 7, 2017 through March 6, 2018.

C. *Extra-Curricular Activities*

1. *Kindergarten Registration Staff*

The Administration recommends the following staff to assist with evening Kindergarten Registration, an hourly rate of \$44.53:

Sara Hovis

Brooke Ruch

Megan Valley

Janet Miltenberger

2. *Kindergarten Registration Nursing Staff*

a. The Administration recommends the following nurses who may be necessary to assist with evening Kindergarten Registration, an hourly rate of \$44.53:

Nicole Castetter

Lori Kern

b. The Administration recommends the following nursing support staff that may be necessary to assist with evening Kindergarten Registration, an hourly rate of \$21.49:

Judith Miller

Kathy Allwein

Audrey Barton

3. *Kindergarten Summer Camp-Support*

The Administration recommends the following Instructional Assistant for Kindergarten Summer Camp, held July 10-21, 2017, an hourly rate of \$18.76

Marie Matsinger

D. *Athletics*

1. *2016-2017 Volunteer Coaches*

The Administration recommends the following volunteer coaches for the 2016-2017 school year:

<u>Lynn Glueck</u>	MS Track
<u>Martin Matsumura</u>	MS Track
<u>Timothy Bauder</u>	Boys Club Volleyball

2. *Event Workers*

The Administration recommends the following event workers for the 2016-2017 school year:

Alison Bauer

Andrew Green

BOARD POLICY

A. Rescission of Policy

The Administration recommends that the following policy be rescinded:

#826 Operations: *Crisis Policy* (covered in Policy #819 Operations: *Suicide Awareness, Prevention and Response*)

B. New Policies (No Changes)

The Administration recommends the following new policies with no changes:

#620 Finances: *Fund Balance*

#815.1 Operations: *Web Site Development-THERE WAS DISCUSSION, INCLUDING THE NEED FOR FURTHER REVIEW BY SOLICITOR. THIS POLICY WILL NOT BE ADDED TO THE MARCH 27, 2017 BOARD AGENDA AS A FIRST READING.*

C. New Policies

The Administration recommends a first reading of the following new policies with recommended changes:

#827 Operations: *Conflict of Interest*

#806 Operations: *Child Abuse-THERE WAS DISCUSSION. THIS POLICY WAS REVIEWED BY SOLICITOR, REVISED AND CONSISTANT WITH LEGAL DEFINITIONS.*

#716 Property: *Integrated Pest Management*

#801.2 Operations: *Record Destruction Policy*

COMMUNICATIONS

VISITORS

Mrs. Kyle Gangwere, Center Valley resident, spoke regarding the kindergarten program.

MOVED by McLoughlin and **2nd BY** Gunkle to adjourn the committee of the whole meeting.

VOICE VOTE: "YES" - Unanimous - Motion Carried
ABSENT: Sisselberger

The committee of the whole meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

ATTEST: *Diana S. Millman*, Board Secretary

PENDING