

## ORDER OF BUSINESS

### 1. Call to Order; Pledge of Allegiance

President Charles H. Ballard called the regular meeting of the East Penn Board of School Directors to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Board Room located at 800 Pine Street, Emmaus, PA, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Ballard called for a Moment of Silence in remembrance of the victims and the emergency responders who died ten years ago, yesterday, September 11.

Board Members Present: C. Ballard, A. Earnshaw, F. Fuller, E. Gannon, R. Heid, M. Policano, S. Rhodes, T. Richwine, J. Stolz

Solicitor: Marc S. Fisher, Esq., Worth, Magee & Fisher

Treasurer: Lynn Glancy

Board Secretary: Cecilia R. Birdsell

Superintendent of Schools: Dr. Thomas L. Seidenberger

Press Present: Corrine Durdock, East Penn Press Reporter  
Jennifer Rodgers, Morning Call Reporter  
Jennifer Marangos, Emmaus.Patch.com Reporter

### 2. Requests to Address the Board

John Donches, 559 Minor Street, Emmaus announced that he was taping the meetings and they would be placed on the East Penn Reform Coalition's web site (eprc.wordpress.com). He read the attached letter.

Mr. Ballard cautioned that the Board is not permitted to discuss information regarding students due to HIPPA and the confidentiality regulations. Michael Fiske, 3386 South Second Street, Whitehall has a daughter who is attending first grade at St. Ann's School in Emmaus. Although he is a Whitehall resident, he is requesting that his daughter be allowed to ride the East Penn bus that drops off students at the Rodale Day Care. He works in Center Valley and his wife works at the Rodale Day Care. He said this creates a hardship for his wife because she has to leave work to pick up their daughter and bring her to the Rodale Day Care. He contacted the Superintendent about the situation and was told there would need to be an agreement between Whitehall and East Penn since this situation has not been done before. Mr. Fiske relayed his ongoing emails and conversations among the various parties. Mr. Fiske is expecting some type of transportation agreement to accommodate this request. Mr. Ballard indicated that Dr. Seidenberger would get back to him.

### 3. 2010-2011 Year in Review Video

Dr. Seidenberger introduced the video that highlights the activities of the previous school year. It was shown to the staff on the first Staff Day, August 30. He thanked Mr. Mohn, Mr. Stabinger, and Mrs. Bloise for putting the video together this year. Following the seven-minute video, there was a round of applause from the audience. Mr. Ballard said it was shown to remind teachers of the kind of district East Penn is and the kind of work that is done here.

### 4. Approval of Minutes

Motion by Gannon, Seconded by Stolz

RESOLVED, That the East Penn School Board of School Directors approve the minutes for the August 22, 2011 meeting.

This resolution was unanimously adopted by voice vote.

### 5. Report of the Superintendent of Schools-Dr. Thomas L. Seidenberger

#### 1. District Update

Dr. Seidenberger reported that the district enrollment has gone from 7,980 on August 19 to the current 8,004, representing an increase of 11 students at the elementary level; 5 students at the MS level, and 8 students at Emmaus High School.

Through the efforts of Assistant Principal Sally Hanzlik, we have received a two-year approval for the LTS Program at Emmaus High School. Currently, there are 26 students involved.

The individual PSSA scores are going home this week and school results will be released publicly this week.

On September 14, Author Jonathan Kozul, who wrote the book Savage Inequalities: Children in America's Schools, will be speaking at Moravian College. There will be 25 people from East Penn attending the presentation. Teachers who are enrolled in Moravian's Master's Degree Program will describe what they are doing with their projects.

Dr. Seidenberger thanked Activities Director Dennis Ramella for the wonderful tribute that was presented in remembrance of 9/11. EHS student Wesley Clerge sang a moving rendition of the song "Proud to be An American." There were representatives from the police and fire departments and an Iraqi war veteran.

Karen Devine, Director of Member Relations for the PA School Boards Association, has requested the email addresses for individuals who are the President or Representatives of their local PTO/PAC organizations so they can provide the groups with timely updates on legislative issues.

Tomorrow, Mr. Ballard, Mr. Glancy, Mrs. Surdoval and Dr. Seidenberger will be attending a Symposium on Act 1 being sponsored by the PA Association of School Business Officials. The webinar will be held at the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit.

Dr. Seidenberger complimented the maintenance/custodial staff for doing such an outstanding job of getting all the buildings ready for the opening of school. He said the work was outstanding.

Dr. Seidenberger complimented Mr. Glancy and Mr. Ritter for their work in contract negotiations with the district vendors. They saved a total of over \$300,000. This will not occur next year because these prices are for five or six years.

Referring to a chart that was compiled, he said that there was a decrease 1,883,652 million dollars less received from state revenue sources. Taxes were raised by 1.3 million dollars.

Seven Generations Charter School in Emmaus has submitted a written request to have their charter extended for five years. Dr. Seidenberger is assembling an evaluation team and will be working with other districts that have gone through the process. He said it will be similar to a Middle States visit. After reviewing the school, a report will be issued. He is hoping to complete the process before Christmas. Mr. Earnshaw asked if a hearing would be required. Solicitor Fisher indicated that unless there is a possibility of not approving the charter then a hearing would be required. It is not required if the charter is renewed and, by law, five years is the required time period.

We have been notified that there are 11 National Merit Semi-Finalists for Emmaus High School. They will be recognized at the October 24 Board Meeting.

Dr. Seidenberger notified the Board that superintendents in the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit are talking about starting school prior to Labor Day. If a majority of districts make that decision then East Penn would have to follow in order to comply with special education classes and the LCTI schedule. There will be a specific recommendation around December.

Dr. Seidenberger updated the Board on what is being done with the weather event last week. He emphasized that the first thought is always for safety, both for the students and the staff. There were ten roads that were closed and it made it very difficult to re-route school buses and it would have affected the school day. Governor Corbett declared a state of emergency so the district will be appealing to Secretary of Education Ron Tomalis for an exception; however, if this is not forthcoming then regular classes will be held on October 10 which was a scheduled in service day. If a make up is needed then the other day being considered is the Monday after Thanksgiving. Board members indicated that this may not be a popular decision. Dr. Seidenberger indicated that these two make up days would then offset any further snow days through the winter months. He will be working with the PAC groups, bargaining groups, and staff if the Monday after Thanksgiving is used. Mr. Earnshaw said he could support of pre-Labor Day start. Mr. Ballard said there has been a bill introduced just about every year to prevent pre-Labor Day starts. He also felt that the Monday after Thanksgiving could be a problem since it is the first day for deer hunting in PA.

## 2. Personnel

Motion by Earnshaw, Seconded by Gannon  
RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors approve the following personnel items:

### Resignations

- Barbara Poling, Remedial Assistant, effective August 29, 2011 (Exhibit 1)
- Jeffrey Schmeltzle, Staff Assistant, effective August 19, 2011 (Exhibit 2)
- Tonya Schantz, Instructional Assistant, effective August 17, 2011 (Exhibit 3)
- Mary Munley, Staff Assistant, effective August 22, 2011 (Exhibit 4)
- Risa Roth, Instructional Assistant, effective August 22, 2011 (Exhibit 5)
- Rosemary Castellano, Instructional Assistant, effective August 22, 2011 (Exhibit 6)
- Terri Kunenzler, Instructional Assistant, effective August 23, 2011 (Exhibit 7)
- Kelly Schneider, Remedial Assistant, effective August 29, 2011 (Exhibit 8)
- Margaret Ann Mushalko, Health Room Assistant, effective August 29, 2011 (Exhibit 9)

Appointment of Full-Time Substitute Teachers

Name/Address: Tiffany Fenstermaker  
 5561 N. Walnut Street, Macungie  
 Educational Level: B. S. Degree (2009)  
 Undergraduate School: Cedar Crest College  
 Certification: Instructional I, Special Education, Elementary  
 Assignment: Grade 1, Shoemaker School  
 Opening created by S. Mills leave  
 Effective: September 13, 2011  
 Experience: None  
 Salary: \$45,185 (Year 1, Col. B)

Name/Address: Jessica Zosky  
 3140 Route 309, Orefield 18069  
 Educational Level: B. A. Degree (2004)  
 M. A. Degree (2008)  
 Undergraduate School: University of Iowa  
 Graduate School: Lehigh University  
 Fresno Pacific University (graduate credits)  
 Certification: Instructional I, English  
 Assignment: English Teacher, Emmaus HS  
 Opening created by J. Landgraf leave  
 Effective: September 13, 2011  
 Experience: 3/2011-6/2011: East Penn SD  
 1/2011-3/2011: Twin Valley SD  
 1/2008-6/2010: Parkland SD  
 Salary: \$45,185 (Year 1, Col. 3)

Appointment of Instructional/Staff Assistants

<u>Name/Address</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Marc Pun 144 Spruce Street, Emmaus	EHS, Staff Assist. Vacancy created by Haus resignation	\$12.99/hr., 29 hrs./wk.
Lisa Wilmer 2191 Rolling Meadows Dr., Macungie	Alburtis, Instruct. Assistant. Vacancy created by L. Holland resignation	\$12.99/hr., 29 hrs./wk.
Jill Schrader 327 Adrain Street, Emmaus	EHS, Instruct. Assistant Vacancy created by R. Costellani resignation	\$12.99/hr., 29 hrs./wk.
Vicki Kulp 3036 South Sixth Avenue Whitehall 18052	Wescosville, Instruct. Assist. Vacancy created by R. Roth resignation and subsequent transfers	\$12.99/hr., 29 hrs./wk.
Michele Yesenofski 1387 Butternut Lane, Macungie	EHS, Staff Assist. Vacancy created by J. McCandless resignation	\$12.99/hr., 29 hrs./wk.
Deborah Sheldon 186 Miller Road, Barto 19504	Eyer, Instruct. Assist. Vacancy created by Cintron-Cortez resignation	\$12.99/hr., 29 hrs./wk.
Cynthia Fitz-Maurice 2606 Bayberry Circle, Emmaus	Wescosville, Staff Assist. Vacancy created by J. Schmeltzle resignation	\$12.99/hr., 12.5 hrs./wk.
Lori Peters 6451 Sweetwood Drive, Macungie	Eyer, Staff Assist. Vacancy created by resign.	\$12.99/hr., 12.5 hrs./wk.

Appointment of Health Room Assistant

Jill Natale  
 7528 Hamilton Blvd., Trexlertown  
 Eyer, Health Room Assist. \$18.22/hr., 29 hrs./wk.  
 Vacancy created by J. Harrington resignation

Instructional/Staff/Health Room Assistant Transfers

See Exhibit 10

Co-Curricular Appointments (Schedule B)

See Exhibit 11

Change in Employment/Salary Status

<u>Employee</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Molly McLeod	\$45,185 Year 1, Col. B)	\$53,575 Year 1, Col. M
Tricia Gutman	\$500/pay stipend for K. Campbell Leave Effective: 9/6/11	
Susan Noack	\$77,234	\$82,234
Tina Mondovich	PTFSA, LMMS	FT, EHS, 6 hrs./day
Lynn Walters	PTFSA, EHS 4.75 hrs./day	PTFSA, Eyer 4.5 hrs./day

2011-2012 List of Bus Drivers

See Exhibit 12

Additions to the 2011-2012 List of Per Diem Substitutes

See Exhibit 13

Addition to the 2011-2012 List of School Dentists

Dr. Michael Conrad  
770 Fetters Lane, Wescosville

Reimbursement: \$2.00/examination

Appointment of Health Room Assistant

Name/Address: Grace Hochella  
214 S. West Street, Allentown 18102

Assignment: Jefferson School  
New Position for IEP Student

Effective: September 21, 2011

Salary: \$18.22/hr., 29 hrs./wk.

Addition to the 2011-12 NTI Mentor List

Kevin Bisignani

Educational Conferences - Exhibit 14

That the East Penn Board of School Directors approve the estimated expenses for the individuals attending the educational conferences listed on Exhibit 14.

Performance PLUS Renewal & Contract - Exhibit 15

RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors approve the Performance PLUS Renewal & Contract with SunGard K-12 Education, 3 West Broad Street, Bethlehem, PA for Performance PLUS Tracker and Performance PLUS TechPaths at a total cost of \$21,164.00, effective October 1, 2011 to September 30, 2012.

Adjustments to the 2011-2012 School Calendar

RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors approve the following changes to the 2011-12 School Calendar:

From: October 10, 2011  
ED Day

To: October 10, 2011  
Instructional Day

Note: Pending the outcome of an appeal to the Department of Education for an exception due to recent weather events.

This resolution was duly adopted by the following roll call vote:

Aye: Ballard, Earnshaw, Fuller, Gannon, Heid, Policano, Rhodes, Richwine, Stolz-----9

6. Other Educational Entities

-Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit T. Richwine

Mr. Richwine indicated that he had not attended the last Board meeting; however, he was aware that the IU Board had hired a new Assistant Executive Director and Business Manager who are coming to the IU from the Allentown School District. Mr. Richwine noted that he will be leaving the East Penn Board in November and this will create a vacancy both on the IU Board and the LCTI Joint Operating Committee. He invited any interested board member to an IU Board Meeting or JOC meeting to see if they would be willing to serve. The IU Board meetings are on the Third Monday of the Month; the JOC meets the Fourth Wednesday of the Month. Mr. Earnshaw indicated that Southern Lehigh has already appointed replacements. If a board member is interested in these activities, he/she should contact Board President Charles Ballard.

-Lehigh Career & Technical Institute F. Fuller  
A. Earnshaw  
T. Richwine  
R. Heid

Ms. Fuller reported that the candidates for the Executive Director position at LCTI will be interviewed at the October JOC Meeting. She was confident that Dr. Hornberger had created a dynamic team so LCTI will continue to thrive. The JOC had a presentation on the robotics class that is offered for traditional students and adult students. LCTI has done such a fine job of training that B. Braun has created a program in California. She stressed the importance of having a trained work force in the Lehigh Valley to attract industries to locate here. Mr. Earnshaw added that the program was impressive to see. Students are trained to come out and earn starting salaries of \$60,000-\$65,000. He said that students can benefit from training at LCTI if they do not see themselves continuing on to college.

7. Legislative C. Ballard

Mr. Ballard reported that the Legislature is on recess but hearings are being held across the state. He said there continues to be movement toward making more charter schools that divert money from the public school system. There is no evidence that charter schools are more successful than public schools and as much as 40% of them have not performed as well or better than public schools. Mr. Ballard pointed out that public access to charter school records will be more difficult. Public input is limited and he cited the refusal of one school to provide basic financial information to the newspaper. He felt it was not being rationally discussed at any level. Senator Piccola seems to be the major driving force and has indicated that he is no friend of public education. He is also pursuing legislation dealing with superintendent contract buy outs. Mr. Ballard talked about the importance of the contract and the significance of terminating a contract. HB 1369, would delete and replace provisions relating to collective bargaining between public school employees and their public employers. This bill has all kinds of hidden provisions, such as trying to make the negotiations public, and changing the structure for the arbitration costs from a three-way split of the costs to a two-way split having the teachers association and the district pay the costs of arbitration and removing the state from having to share the costs. He talked about the condition and attitude of today's legislators and their commitment to doing what is right over their election status. He asked that people talk to their legislators and encourage them to discuss their commitment to public education and what will or will not work.

8. Business Operations

1 Bid Opening Report - Diesel Fuel; Fuel Oil

The following bids were opened at 2:45 p.m. in Conference Room A of the East Penn School District Administrative Offices on August 30, 2011. Bidder Representatives Present: Jack Reimer of Reimer Bros., Inc. and Gerry Weslowski of Deiter Bros. Fuel Company. Staff Present: Robert Ritter and Debra Surdoval.

**Diesel Fuel**

Deiter Bros. Fuel Co., Bethlehem, PA  
Pilot Travel Centers LLC, Knoxville, TN  
Reimer Bros., Inc., Bangor, PA

**Fuel Oil**

Deiter Bros. Fuel Co., Bethlehem, PA  
Pilot Travel Centers LLC, Knoxville, TN  
Reimer Bros., Inc., Bangor, PA

**Bill List Approval**

Motion by Earnshaw, Seconded by Heid  
RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors approve the attached bill list, including the addenda, and that the Treasurer be authorized to issue checks and vouchers in the amounts indicated.

**Budget Transfers - Post Audit for June 30, 2011 - Exhibit 16**

RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors approve the budget transfers that are listed on Exhibit 16.

**Contract Approval - Diesel Fuel and Fuel Oil**

RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors award the contracts for diesel fuel and fuel oil bids to Reimer Brothers, Inc., Bangor PA.

**Disbursement of Funds - Exhibit 17**

RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors authorize the disbursement of funds from GOB 33-2010, Series A as described on Exhibit 17.

Mr. Stolz asked about the reason for approving budget transfers. Mr. Glancy indicated that this is required by the auditors as part of the year end audit. Mr. Earnshaw said that during the audit, the auditor may determine that certain items should have been recorded in the expenses from the previous year. The district cannot exceed the budget but can shift funds around in accounts.

These resolutions were duly adopted by the following roll call vote:  
Aye: Ballard, Earnshaw, Fuller, Gannon, Heid, Policano, Rhodes, Richwine, Stolz-----9

Mr. Ballard asked if there were any further items. Mr. Richwine chided Mr. Stolz for texting during the meeting. Mr. Richwine questioned whether text messages sent or received by a board member during a meeting are considered a public record. Solicitor Marc Fisher said he would look into the matter. Mr. Richwine said that a number of times he has observed Mr. Stolz texting, adding it was rude and objectionable, and questioned whether he was asking for direction from a non-board member. Mr. Richwine said no one on the Board should be texting or receiving messages during a meeting.

9. Announcements

- Monday, September 12 7:00 p.m.-CLEAR Session (Negotiations, Employment, Legal, Real Estate)  
7:30 p.m.-Board Meeting, Board Room
- Tuesday, September 13 7:00 p.m.-Meet the Teacher Night, Shoemaker School
- Wednesday, September 14 7:00 p.m.-Meet the Teacher Night: Alburdis, Jefferson & Willow Lane Schools
- Thursday, September 15 7:00 p.m.-LMMS Meet the Teacher Night (Grades 7 & 8)
- Monday, September 26 7:30 p.m.-Board Meeting

10. Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned, upon motion, at 8:35 p.m.

Cecilia R. Birdsell, Board Secretary