

NORTH ALLEGHENY SCHOOL DISTRICT

OCTOBER 24, 2012 – WORK SESSION/REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES

Board in Attendance: Mrs. Grosheider, Mr. Hubert, Mrs. Bishop,
Mrs. Blackburn, Dr. Greenberg, Mr. Jacobs,
Mrs. Ludwig, Mr. Schwartzmier

Board Absent: Mr. Pagone

Students in Attendance: Jackie Bursic–NASH; John Gnalian-NAI

Also in Attendance: Dr. Gualtieri, Mr. Brungo (Solicitor), Dr. Andreyko,
Mr. Botti, Dr. Bradley, Mr. Gaertner, Mr. Hopkins, Dr. Miller,
Dr. Wheat, Mrs. Ryan (Secretary)

MST in Attendance: Mrs. Bjalobok, Principal – PES

WORK SESSION/REGULAR MEETING

Mrs. Grosheider called the meeting to order at **7:04 p.m.** and all stood and recited *The Pledge of Allegiance*.

CALENDAR AND AGENDA

Mrs. Grosheider announced that tonight's meeting was going to be a combination of a Work Session and a Regular Meeting. In addition, at this meeting, the Board will be receiving an update on the **Demographics and Feasibility Study**. At the November 14, 2012 Work Session, the Board will begin with **Distinguished Achievement Awards**. At that meeting the Board will receive the **second update** of the **Demographics and Feasibility Study** as well as the **Enrollment and Facilities Report**. On November 28, 2012, the Board will have their Regular Voting Meeting. At that meeting, the Board will be presented with the **Capital Funding Plan** and a **Technology Report**, which includes Mr. Jon Thomas' recommendations.

Mrs. Grosheider said the Board will be meeting in Executive Session at the conclusion of this meeting to discuss a legal matter.

SPECIAL THANKS

Mrs. Grosheider began with comments about donations that have been made to the District. On October 3, 2012, we had a **Day of Giving** and the Pittsburgh Foundation was matching funds for organizations who registered with them and the North Allegheny Foundation was part of those foundations on the website. Although we do not have the final numbers, Mrs. Grosheider wanted to thank community members and anyone in the District who participated in the Day of Giving. We

need to raise revenues from areas other than taxes and this was one way to accomplish that. On behalf of the District, she sincerely thanked people for participating and donating.

She also mentioned that on September 12, 2012, we had a **Whole Foods Day**, and we raised \$2,800 from Whole Foods in Wexford and she thanked those who shopped there on that day and helped the District to achieve their goals.

Mrs. Grosheider also mentioned the **North Allegheny Shopping Portal** on our website. This is for people who buy things on the Internet. She was concerned because she does not believe that people understand that they can use our portal to get to the websites. **When people use our shopping portal to access websites, North Allegheny gets a portion of what a person spends** when they use this portal. Unfortunately, we only made \$50 last month, so she was anxious to get the word out to **please use our website because it is important for us.**

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Michelle Chiu – spoke about equality of class size in NASD. There are 8 classes out of 145 that have a class size greater than 30, including classes at HES. She is concerned about kids and their daily learning since it would not be the same quality as kids who are in smaller classrooms. She understands that funding issues are a problem but asked the Board to look at comparable school districts like Hampton, Mt. Lebanon and Upper St. Clair. She asked that the District provide short-term relief in classes over 30. She will provide a petition to support her position.

Tara Fisher – requested that the School Board approve a Community Task Force to study the situation for 18 months to address the budget deficit prior to the closing of an elementary school. She has a petition with over 1,000 signatures of taxpayers that she would like the School Board to support. She is concerned with some of the statements by Mr. Thomas that assumes larger class sizes that will result if we have only six elementary buildings and they will be at a capacity for which they were not built. She does not believe that the student population will decline. Allegheny County is growing and this School District is going to pick up a significant portion of that growth. If we want to remain a leader in education, we should not be closing an elementary school; instead, we should be competing for growth in this District.

Response

Mrs. Grosheider responded that the Board is not making any decision this evening, as she has explained previously. The School Board does not have sufficient data to make a decision and she said tonight is part of the process of gathering data and they want to get it right.

Don Opacic – said a storm is coming with a deficit of \$8 million and \$120 million in unfunded liabilities, and this storm has been with us for years. He said with the bump step and the pension plan obligations, regardless of how high you would raise taxes, there is no way to pay this off. Using taxpayers' dollars is wrong. We are facing a recession and it will take 10 years to dig ourselves out. He asked if the Board had a formal plan for reducing the debt and said seniors and retirees are having problems paying their taxes.

Ash Marwah – spoke about the per pupil cost for North Allegheny which he said was \$15,381, the highest in Allegheny County. He was glad that the Board is looking at closing an elementary

building, but prefers that it would be BWE and would not close one in a populated area. Said we have to control salaries and benefits and it is about time that employees share the pain.

Response

Mrs. Grosheider reminded Mr. Marwah that our teachers took a salary freeze and contribute more in benefits than anyone else in Allegheny County in the school sector. The Board froze everyone's salaries. She said she will not dispute that public schools probably have not experienced the same issues as the private sector has, but we have made very stringent attempts to control costs.

Bonnie Genter – spoke about equity. She has a son in 3rd grade at HES with over 30 students and said that is not equal. These students are being robbed of their rights because of their demographic location. She is no longer sure that she is proud of the fact that she is a graduate of NA.

Kelly Ortmann – is an alumna of NA and a business owner in the community, so she understands business. She said that developments are continuing in our town and people are eager to move here. Businesses are growing and the growth is endless.

Ashley Douds – understands the issues that the Board is facing but is concerned about long-term effects of larger class sizes. She particularly worries about kids who are trying to learn concepts and who need more help. She is fearful that test scores will go down and it will be difficult to recruit good teachers for our District. She wonders how children will meet all the challenges they need to face in larger class sizes.

PHASE II DEMOGRAPHICS AND FEASIBILITY STUDY UPDATE

At the beginning of this school year, the School Board and the community heard a consultation presentation of Phase II of the Demographic and Feasibility Study. Tonight's report is the first of two updates on the follow-up work that has been done by the Administration in response to the findings included in the consultant reports.

Tonight's presentation focused on the following topics:

- Summary of building capacities, enrollment trends, and the NA Unit Capacity concept;
- Review of the educational programming at the elementary level at North Allegheny;
- Update of building floor plans and the iterative process used to analyze instructional delivery;
- Criteria and process used to "model" redistricting scenarios in the event that a small elementary school is closed;
- Responses to frequently asked questions by various stakeholders; and
- Communication plans and next steps.

Dr. Brian Miller, Assistant Superintendent of K-12 Education, and **Dr. James Bradley**, Supervisor of Elementary Education, prepared and presented the report.

Several key points were made relative to the administrative study:

- For the small elementary schools, the grade level target is 85 students for a total of 510 (i.e., 94% of target).
 - grades K – 2 = $85 / 4 = 21.5$ students per class and grades 3 – 5 = $85 / 3 = 28.3$ students per class
- For the large elementary schools, the grade level target is 140 students for a total of 840 (i.e., 93% of target).
 - grades K – 2 = $140 / 6 = 23.3$ students per class and grades 3 – 5 = $140 / 5 = 28.0$ students per class
- The preliminary findings were:
 - The mathematical capacity exists to close a small elementary school if each remaining school operates at a high(er) percentage of their target capacity [i.e., $(4 \times 510) + (2 \times 840) = 3720$].
 - The District must ensure that the quality of the educational program can still be delivered if a small elementary school is closed.
- For the 2012-2013 school year, the following class size average actuals exist across the District:

K	1	2	3	4	5
21.5	22.7.	23.8	25.4	25.7	27.5

- Out of 145 total elementary sections, there are now eight (8) sections at 30 or above (i.e., three at 30; four at 31; and one at 32). We have nine (9) other classrooms at 29.
- The next step in the work the Administration is doing will involve an exploration of redistricting scenarios to investigate ways to increase the enrollment at various schools to the capacity targets (510 and 840), if a smaller elementary school is closed.
 - Criteria have been developed for the creation of redistricting scenarios that will guide that process.
- Another update will be presented by the Administration on this topic in November.

Following the update, the Board engaged in great detail regarding the presentation.

Mr. Jacobs said in Phase I of this Study, two buildings were identified for potential closure: PES and BWE. At the end of Phase II, the consultant identified PES as the potential candidate for closure. In tonight’s presentation, it was stated a closure of a small school, but not necessarily PES. There is not sufficient information at this time to make a decision. Mr. Jacobs researched some facts, like PES has wood construction, but he said that during the 1999 renovation, the architect did not identify any issues with the wood framing. He asked if this issue would now be a non-factor in terms of looking at PES for closure.

Mr. Gaertner indicated that wood framing does not have the longevity of life as a steel structure would and there is a greater potential for structural problems. As the building ages, wood has more potential to become a problem.

Mr. Jacobs asked about access to the property at PES from Peebles Road which was identified as a potential traffic hazard. He asked if there were any accidents that occurred there within the last 10 years.

Mr. Botti said there have been no accidents but from a transportation standpoint, it is difficult to get in and out of Peebles.

Mr. Jacobs asked about repairs and renovations that have been identified at BWE that will happen over the next 10 years. Renovations would not be considered for PES until 2019. He also mentioned operating costs and staff reductions if the closing of PES took place, which would be about \$600,000.

Mrs. Grosheider said the number would actually be \$1M-\$2.5M, depending on how things worked.

Mrs. Ludwig pointed out that even if we do nothing, things are not going to just go away and we still have a budget issue. Decisions have to be made concerning staff, programs and buildings in our District to keep our education strong.

Mrs. Bishop asked how many elementary schools we will be looking at for redistricting.

Dr. Miller said that we are looking at redistricting with six schools and the elimination of a small elementary.

After more discussion about the closing of a small elementary school, **the Board** directed the Administration to come up with multiple scenarios and also look at redistricting with 7 elementary buildings. Therefore, the Administration will come up with 4 different scenarios:

- Redistricting of 7 schools
- Potential closing of HES
- Potential closing of BWE
- Potential closing of PES

Mrs. Grosheider pointed out that we are paying \$1.4M for charter and cyber charter schools, and this is something that we need to do something about. The state does not pay for this as they were supposed to and it has put districts in a bad situation; we have to figure out a way to save money, which is our dilemma.

Mrs. Grosheider thanked Dr. Miller and the staff for all their hard work on this presentation.

MINUTES

On motion by Mr. Hubert, seconded by Mrs. Bishop, the Board approved the published minutes of the September 12, 2012 Work Session and the September 19, 2012 Regular Meeting and approved them with the

understanding that the Directors read the minutes as published and, further, that the Solicitor, also having read the minutes, had no comments or corrections.

Roll Call Vote. Results: 8-Yes, with abstentions by Mr. Hubert and Mr. Jacobs to the meeting of September 12, 2012); 0-No. Motion Carried.

SPEAKERS (Agenda Items)

No Speakers.

VOTING ITEMS

CURRICULUM REPORT

On motion by Mrs. Bishop, seconded by Mr. Hubert, the Board approved Item I as contained in the Board Folder and as listed below:

I. Ohio Northern University Center for Education Field Experience Agreement

The Board approved the Agreement between Ohio Northern University and the North Allegheny School District. This Agreement indicates that the District will accept teacher education students from Ohio Northern University and will partner with Ohio Northern University in the five day field experience setting.

Roll Call Vote. Results: 8-Yes; 0-No. Motion Carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT

On motion by Mr. Hubert, seconded by Mrs. Bishop, the Board approved Items I through IV as contained in the Board Folder and as listed below:

I. Accounts Payable Approval Lists

The Board approved the following Accounts Payable lists:

- A. Supplemental Accounts Payable dated September 2012, in the amount of \$9,568,825.70.
- B. Accounts Payable list dated October 2012, in the amount \$298,075.50.
- C. Supplemental Capital Reserve Fund Accounts Payable dated September 2012, in the amount of \$63,946.98.
- D. Supplemental Technology Fund Accounts Payable dated September 2012, in the amount of \$0.00.
- E. Supplemental 2000 NASH/Newman Stadium Construction Fund Accounts Payable

dated September 2012, in the amount of \$39,200.00.

F. Supplemental CMS/IMS Construction Fund Accounts Payable dated September 2012, in the amount of \$0.00.

G. Supplemental Cafeteria Fund Accounts Payable dated September 2012, in the amount of \$21,721.54.

II. Budgetary Transfers

The Board approved the following budgetary transfers within the framework of the 2012-2013 General Fund Budget, in accordance with the provision of Section 687 of the School Laws of Pennsylvania:

<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
2800-300 Purch Prof & Tech Svcs Support Services-Central	2800-600 Supplies Support Services-Central	\$ 494
1200-100 Salaries Special Programs-Elem/Sec	1200-300 Purch Prof & Tech Svcs Special Programs-Elem/Sec	\$ 1,000
2800-300 Purch Prof & Tech Svcs Support Services-Central	2800-800 Other Objects Support Services-Central	\$ 600
3300-300 Purch Prof & Tech Svcs Community Services	3300-100 Salaries Community Services	\$ 15,000
1100-400 Purch Property Svcs Regular Programs-Elem/Sec	2300-500 Other Purchased Svcs Support Services-Administration	\$ 69
2100-300 Purch Prof & Tech Svcs Support Svcs-Pupil Personnel	2100-600 Supplies Support Svcs-Pupil Personnel	\$ 1,500
2100-300 Purch Prof & Tech Svcs Support Svcs-Pupil Personnel	2100-800 Other Objects Support Svcs-Pupil Personnel	\$ 300
2100-300 Purch Prof & Tech Svcs Support Svcs-Pupil Personnel	2800-300 Purch Prof & Tech Svcs Support Services-Central	\$ 1,200
1300-600 Supplies Vocational Education Programs	1100-700 Property Regular Programs-Elem/Sec	\$ 55
2200-300 Purch Prof & Tech Svcs Support Svcs-Instructional Staff	3200-800 Other Objects Student Activities	\$ 23
1100-600 Supplies Regular Programs-Elem/Sec	2100-600 Supplies Support Svcs-Pupil Personnel	\$ 7,000

2200-600 Supplies	1100-600 Supplies	\$	35
Support Svcs-Instructional Staff	Regular Programs-Elem/Sec		

1100-600 Supplies	2100-600 Supplies	\$	400
Regular Programs-Elem/Sec	Support Svcs-Pupil Personnel		

TOTAL TRANSFERS FOR THE MONTH:	27,676	PERCENT OF TOTAL BUDGET:	0.0219%
TOTAL TRANSFERS YEAR TO DATE:	27,676	PERCENT OF TOTAL BUDGET:	0.0219%

III. PlanCon Part K, 2011 Series A Refunding Series

The Board approved PlanCon Part K “Project Refinancing” for the refunding of the 2001 Series A General Obligation bonds establishing a permanent reimbursable percent for the 2011 Series A General Obligation Notes.

The complete documents will be attached to the Official Minutes.

IV. PlanCon Part K, 2011 Series Refunding Series

The Board approved PlanCon Part K “Project Refinancing” for the refunding of the 2002 Series A General Obligation bonds establishing a permanent reimbursable percent for the 2011 Series B General Obligation Notes.

The complete documents will be attached to the Official Minutes.

Roll Call Vote. Results: 8-Yes; 0-No. Motion Carried.

HUMAN RESOURCES REPORT

On motion by Mrs. Ludwig, seconded by Mr. Hubert, the Board approved Items I through VII and the Addendum, Items I through IX, as contained in the Board Folder and as listed below:

I. Resignations

The Board approved the following Resignation(s):

Mary Bethune	Librarian, FES Effective 1/18/13 28 Years @ NA	Retirement
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Robert Dreshman	Temporary Custodian, NASH Effective 10/9/12	Resignation
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Barbara Klaus	Psychologist, CAO Effective 1/2/13 14 Years @ NA	Retirement
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Dennis Lucas	Temporary Custodian, NASH Effective 9/21/12	Resignation
Clinton Palmer	Custodian, IES Effective 10/12/12	Resignation
Steve Parks Jr.	Principal, MCK Effective 3/8/13 26 Years @ NA	Retirement
Deborah Pifalo	Grade 6, IMS Effective 1/18/13 26 Years @ NA	Retirement
John Smith	Bus Driver, Transportation Effective 2/8/13 22 Years @ NA	Retirement
Louis Vernyi	Utility Custodian, NAI Effective 10/9/12	Resignation
Janice Zinsser	Reading Specialist, BWE Effective 1/18/13 33 Years @ NA	Retirement

The Board approved the termination of Special Education Assistant 701636 effective September 3, 2012.

For Information Only

Mr. Dennis Lucas tendered his resignation on September 21, 2012 prior to reporting to work on September 24, 2012; therefore, this was an unpaid day.

II. Appointments

The Board approved the following Appointment(s):

Professional

April Michalski	40% English/Reading, CMS (for S. Piranian) Effective 10/8/12-6/6/13	Substitute Step 1 Column E \$11,196
Sarah Piranian	English, NAI (for L. Rhinehart) Effective 10/8/12	Professional Step 3 Column E \$49,343 (pro-rated)

Christina Rumer-Genes	Kindergarten, PES (for M. Minerd) Effective 9/26/12-6/6/13	Substitute Step 1 Column E \$27,109
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The Board approved the following Professional Substitute(s) to work on an as-needed basis starting at \$75.00/day.

Bennett Altmeyer	Alison Bresnahan	Ryan Budziszewski
Caitlyn Elser	Betty Faett	Kristen Gagen
Devin Gannon	Garrett Graff	Karen Grumski
Megan Johnson	Kristin Light	Julia Locante
John Logoyda	Diana Matous	Erin Messenger
Andrea Morrison	Melia Muckle	David Ogg
Angela Palumbo	Heather Pavlecic	Lucas Pearson
Wanda Petersen-Pereira	Chelsea Quarrie	Kerri Ruffennach
Jessica Rylands	Constance Sauer	Thomas Schweers
Christina Sechrist	Koren Shelvey	Jeanine Stright
Rebecca Tokarsky	Brandi Wenzel	

Paraprofessional

The Board approved the following Paraprofessional position:

Dana Herald	Nurse Assistant, District-Wide (for F. Halley) Effective 10/3/12-6/5/13	Substitute Class II-A \$14.48/hr. 4 Hours/Day 190 Days/Year
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The Board approved the following Paraprofessional Substitutes to work on an as-needed basis starting at \$8.50/hour.

Colleen Clark
Roseann Lederer
Patricia Smallwood

Classified

The Board approved the following Classified position:

Kevin Lewarchik	Temporary Custodian, NASH (for D. Lucas) Effective 9/27/12	\$10.50/hr.
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Athletic

The Board approved the following Seasonal Employee(s) to work on an as needed basis:

	<u>TYPE OF WORK</u>	<u>SALARY</u>
Erin Kuhn	Lifeguard	\$7.75/hr.
Maggie Root	Lifeguard	\$7.75/hr.
Daniel Songer	Lifeguard	\$7.75/hr.
Katie Wright	Lifeguard	\$7.75/hr.

III. Wage/Status Changes

Paraprofessional

The Board approved a wage increase for the following Paraprofessional Employee(s) based on anniversary date of hire:

	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE DATE</u>
Jody Garber	\$14.40/hr.	\$16.94/hr.	11/10/2012
Susan Vukson	\$17.74/hr.	\$20.87/hr.	11/10/2012

Classified

The Board approved a wage increase for the following Classified Employee(s) based on anniversary date of hire:

	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE DATE</u>
Thomas Liberto	\$19.59/hr.	\$21.77/hr.	10/31/12

The Board approved an Emergency Custodian wage rate of \$10.00 per hour. This rate shall become effective August 29, 2012.

The Board approved a change in the previously-approved rate of \$8.50/hr. for the following Emergency Custodian Employee(s):

	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE DATE</u>
Gary McDonald	\$8.50/hr.	\$10.00/hr.	8/29/12

IV. Child Rearing Leaves of Absence – English, MinerD

The Board approved an unpaid Child Rearing Leave of Absence for Lauren English, Teacher, Franklin Elementary School, effective October 31, 2012 through January 31, 2013.

The Board approved an unpaid Child Rearing Leave of Absence for Maria Miner, Teacher, Peebles Elementary School, effective December 5, 2012 (p.m.) through June 6, 2013 (a.m.).

V. Recognition for Additional Education

The following employee(s) has/have successfully completed an approved Master's Program or qualifying credits above the Master's Degree. Therefore, under Appendix A, Section IV, Recognition for Additional Education of the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the North Allegheny School District and the North Allegheny Federation of Teachers, Local 2097, dated July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2015, the Board approved the following Education Incentive Award(s):

\$1,500 Award – Master's Degree

Kurt Zaspel

VI. Honoraria

The Board approved the following Honoraria Application(s):

		<u>PROJECT PERIOD</u>		
Gretchen DeStefano	ASAP	1/22/13 - 5/30/13	\$	525.00
Darla Stokes	ASAP	10/18/12 - 5/30/13	\$	1,050.00
Meghan Wallace	ASAP	10/18/12 - 1/22/13	\$	525.00
Colleen Burg	GOLD	10/1/12 - 3/31/13	\$	1,250.00
Bruce Allen	PJAS Coordinator	10/28/12 - 5/30/13	\$	850.00
Bob Tozier	SchoolWires eLearning	10/19/12 - 11/19/12	\$	325.00
Matt Hreha	Workshop-Autism Spectrum Disorders	3/20/13 - 3/20/13	\$	75.00
Anne Rogers	Workshop-Autism Spectrum Disorders	3/20/13 - 3/20/13	\$	75.00
Dean Boronyak	Workshop-Brain Breaks	11/14/12 - 11/14/12	\$	75.00
Beth Frisco	Workshop-Brain Breaks	11/14/12 - 11/14/12	\$	75.00
Christopher Jackson	Workshop-Brain Breaks	11/14/12 - 11/14/12	\$	75.00
Bridgett Bilenski	Workshop-CPR/First Aid/Sess.1	1/30/13 - 1/30/13	\$	75.00
Mary Lynn Halapy	Workshop-CPR/First Aid/Sess. 2	2/11/13 - 2/11/13	\$	75.00
Kay Marcinick	Workshop-CPR/First Aid/Sess.1	1/30/13 - 1/30/13	\$	75.00
Matt Hreha	Workshop-Crisis Prevention and Intervention/Sess. 1	12/5/12 - 12/6/12	\$	150.00
Matt Hreha	Workshop-Crisis Prevention and Intervention/Sess. 2	2/20/13 - 2/21/13	\$	150.00
Anne Rogers	Workshop-Crisis Prevention and	12/5/12 - 12/6/12	\$	150.00

Anne Rogers	Intervention/Sess. 1 Workshop-Crisis Prevention and Intervention/Sess. 2	2/20/13 - 2/21/13	\$	150.00
Jared Reck	Workshop-Engaging Learners through Blogging via Google Sites	2/13/13 - 2/13/13	\$	75.00
Christina Hutton	Workshop-Teachers' Technology Tools	1/22/13 - 1/22/13	\$	75.00
Jared Reck	Workshop-Using Google Apps to Connect with Colleagues & Students	12/13/12 - 12/13/12	\$	75.00

VII. Supplemental Contracts

The Board approved the following 2012-13 School Year Supplemental Contract(s):

* Not a District Employee

¹ First Time Supplemental Contract Holder for a specific contract

^(s) One contract shared by more than one person

Supplemental Contract Additions/Changes

John Harrell	AV Coordinator - NASH	\$1,500.00
¹ Amy Kay	Building Liaison Special Education, NAI	\$ 933.00

The Board approved the attached Winter 2012-13 Supplemental Contract(s):

* Not a District Employee

¹ First Time Supplemental Contract Holder for a specific contract

^(s) One contract shared by more than one person

NORTH ALLEGHENY WINTER ATHLETIC SUPPLEMENTALS

BASKETBALL

Varsity Head Coach (M)	David DeGregorio	\$9,669.00		
Varsity Asst. Coach (M)	Jared Reck	\$4,405.00		
Varsity Asst. Coach (M)	*Kyle DeGregorio	Volunteer		
Varsity Asst. Coach (M)	* ¹ Paul Urso	Volunteer		
Varsity Asst. Coach/Head JV Coach (M)	Jamey Piring	\$4,405.00		
9 th Grade Head Coach (M)	Christopher Paylo	\$3,240.00		
CMS 7 th Grade Head Coach (M)	Kurt Zaspel	\$2,665.00		
CMS 8 th Grade Head Coach (M)	Ryan Gabos	\$3,155.00		
IMS 7 th Grade Head Coach (M)	* ¹ Daniel Derose	\$4,039.00		
IMS 8 th Grade Head Coach (M)	¹ David Schmidt	\$4,039.00		
MMS 7 th Grade Head Coach (M)	Jeffrey Smalley	\$3,254.00		
MMS 8 th Grade Head Coach (M)	Philip Perrone	\$4,039.00		
Varsity Head Coach (F)	Sherri McConnell	\$9,500.00		
Varsity Asst. Coach (F)	Vacant		\$1,762.00	\$4,405.00
Varsity Asst. Coach/Head JV Coach (F)	Lynn Roman	\$4,405.00		
9 th Grade Head Coach (F)	*Louis Meyer III	\$4,405.00		

GYMNASTICS

Varsity Head Coach	*Andrea Arlotta	\$3,140.00
Varsity Asst. Coach	*Nicole Bova	\$2,515.00
Varsity Asst. Coach	*Megan Brower	\$1,115.00

SWIMMING

Varsity Head Coach (M/F)	Kirk Semler	\$7,955.00
Varsity Asst. Coach (M/F)	*Patrick Wenzel	\$3,548.00
Varsity Asst. Coach (M/F)	Brittany Glass	\$2,875.00
Varsity Asst. Coach (M/F)	*Nikola Malezanov	\$1,615.00
Head Diving Coach	Patricia McClure	\$4,405.00
Varsity Asst. Diving Coach (M/F)	* ¹ Brian Wright	Volunteer

WINTER TRACK

Varsity Head Coach (M/F)	John Neff	\$3,025.00
Varsity Asst. Coach (M/F)	*Tad Thayer	\$1,345.00
Varsity Asst. Coach (M/F)	*Shannon Yon	\$1,345.00
Varsity Asst. Coach (M/F)	Rachel LaSitis	\$1,000.00
Varsity Asst. Coach (M/F)	¹ Richard Gebrosky	\$1,000.00

WRESTLING

Varsity Head Coach	James Kyriazis	\$7,943.00
Varsity Asst. Coach/Head JV Coach	*Drew Spencer	\$3,910.00
Varsity Asst. Coach	*Dustin Layton	\$3,015.00
Jr. High Head Coach	*Richard Catalano	\$3,280.00
Jr. High Head Coach	*Chuck Bossong	\$3,280.00
Jr. High Asst. Coach	*Eric Cassidy	\$2,310.00
Jr. High Asst. Coach	William Howell	\$3,080.00

CHEERLEADING

Varsity Head Coach ^(s)	*Courtenay Carrel	\$3,215.00
Varsity Head Coach ^(s)	*Dana Thomas	\$2,442.50
Varsity Asst. Coach	¹ Kami Yurisinec	\$2,428.00
Jr. Varsity Head Coach	¹ Lynsi Show	\$2,395.00
9 th Grade Head Sponsor ^(s)	* ¹ Vanessa Varndell	\$1,457.50
9 th Grade Head Sponsor ^(s)	* ¹ Ben Weeter	\$1,457.50
CMS Head Sponsor	Crystal Kiray	\$2,115.00
IMS Head Sponsor	* ¹ Leah Petrsek	\$2,115.00
MMS Head Sponsor	* ¹ Amy Mencini	\$1,800.00

ICE HOCKEY

Varsity Head Coach	*James Black	\$2,693.00
Varsity Asst. Coach	* ¹ James Rahenkamp	Volunteer
Varsity Asst. Coach	* ¹ Conrad Waite	Volunteer
Varsity Asst. Coach/Head JV Coach - Black	* ¹ Daniel Lagiovane	Volunteer
JV Asst. Coach - Black	* ¹ Timothy Mattock	Volunteer
JV Asst. Coach - Black	* ¹ Gabriel Derr	Volunteer
Head JV Coach - Gold	* ¹ Adam Roskowski	Volunteer
JV Asst. Coach - Gold	* ¹ Benjamin Britton	Volunteer
JV Asst. Coach - Gold	* ¹ Patrick Morgan	Volunteer

BOWLING

Head Coach - Boys and Girls	* ¹ Charles Neely	\$1,855.00
Asst. Coach - Girls	* ¹ Danelle Tyler	\$1,615.00

IN-LINE HOCKEY

Varsity Head Coach	* ¹ James Martin	\$1,046.00
Varsity Asst. Coach	* ¹ John Hopkins	Volunteer
Head JV Coach ^(s)	* ¹ Glenn Anderson	Volunteer
Head JV Coach ^(s)	* ¹ Dennis Hubler	Volunteer
JV Asst. Coach	* ¹ Donald Leishman	Volunteer
JV Asst. Coach	* ¹ Thomas Manz	Volunteer

JV Asst. Coach	* ¹ Harry Buss	Volunteer
JV Asst. Coach	* ¹ Joseph Migliozi	Volunteer
Middle School Head Coach	* ¹ Jeffrey Kuhn	Volunteer
Middle School Asst. Coach	* ¹ Daniel Hamm	Volunteer
Middle School Asst. Coach	* ¹ Roger Zahn	Volunteer
Middle School Asst. Coach	* ¹ Salvatore Arena	Volunteer

WINTER INTRAMURALS

NASH Weight Training	Arthur Walker Jr.	\$1,632.00
NASH Weight Training	Kevin Thompson	\$1,550.00
NASH Weight Training	Douglas Brinkley	\$1,550.00
CMS Intramural	Matt McCusker	\$ 858.00
IMS Intramural	Darrin McMillon	\$ 858.00
MMS Intramural	Ed Roman	\$1,263.00
BWE Winter T-Ball	Dean Kraniou	\$ 942.00
PES Intramural	Christopher Jackson	\$ 976.00

* Not a District Employee

¹ First Time Supplemental Contract Holder

(s) One contract shared by more than one person

ADDENDUM**I. Resignation**

The Board approved the following Resignation(s):

Michelle Watkins	Nurse Assistant, FES Effective 10/19/12	Resignation
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II. Appointment

The Board approved the following Appointment(s):

Professional

Jaclyn Johns	30% Learning Support, NAI Effective 10/29/12-6/6/13	Substitute Step 1 Column A \$6,465.00
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For Information

Ms. Johns is currently a 50% Learning Support Long-Term Substitute at HES. The addition of the above brings Ms. Johns' Long-Term Substitute contract to 80% through 6/6/13 for a total annual salary of \$22,627.

The Board approved the following Professional Substitute(s) to work on an as-needed basis starting at \$75.00/day.

Elizabeth Brauer
 Kimberly Cole
 Hannah Dunlop
 Monica Haley
 Jennifer Mars
 Cassandra Truden

Julie Caplan
 Benjamin Dague
 Karen Ernyei
 Gary Hutsler
 Keshia Mock
 Eileen Walsh

Jennifer Celender
 Ian Docherty
 Craig Garver
 John Lubimir
 Ellie Tecza

Paraprofessional

The Board approved the following Paraprofessional Substitutes to work on an as-needed basis starting at \$8.50/hour.

Balkhis Ahmed
 Mary Campbell
 Bridget Kiley
 Marianne Taylor

Classified

The Board approved the following Classified positions:

	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>SALARY</u>	<u>START DATE</u>
Thomas Gordon	Temporary Custodian, NAI	\$10.50/hr.	10/28/12
Edward Murphy	Class I Mechanic, Transportation	\$21.54/hr.	11/7/12

Athletic

The Board approved the following Athletic Announcer to work on an as-needed basis starting at \$20.00/hr.:

David Floyd

III. Wage/Status Changes

The Board approved the following Wage/Status Changes:

Paraprofessional

Kathleen Leech	Transfer from Student Services Assistant, MCK to Special Education Assistant, MMS Effective 10/22/12-6/5/13	\$14.40/hr. Class II-C 7 Hours/Day 187 Days/Yr.
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Classified

The Board approved the following Classified positions:

Kevin Lewarchik	Transfer from Temporary Custodian, NASH to Utility Custodian, NASH Effective 10/15/12	\$12.61/hr.
Brenda Mahon	Transfer from Substitute Custodian, Facilities to Temporary Custodian, MMS Effective 10/15/12	\$10.50/hr.

IV. Leave of Absence – Aber

The Board approved an unpaid Leave of Absence for Leslie Aber, Teacher, Franklin Elementary School, effective October 24, 2012 (p.m.) through December 21, 2012.

V. Child Rearing Leave of Absence – Stinelli

The Board approved an unpaid Child Rearing Leave of Absence for Amy Stinelli, Teacher, McKnight Elementary School, effective November 9, 2012 through December 21, 2012.

VI. Extension of Leave of Absence – Moon

The Board approved an Extension of unpaid Leave of Absence for William Moon, Utility Custodian, Facilities Department, from August 17, 2012 through October 31, 2012 to August 17, 2012 through November 30, 2012.

VII. Tuition Reimbursements for Additional Education

The Board approved Tuition Reimbursement(s), in accordance with the Administrative Compensation and Performance Plan, dated July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2015, for:

	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Matt Buchak, NASH	\$ 3,815.00
Rachel Fields, MCK/MES	\$ 3,815.00

VIII. Honoraria

The Board approved the following Honoraria Application(s):

		<u>PROJECT PERIOD</u>	
Diane Kriznik	GOLD Program	11/1/12 - 3/31/13	\$ 1,250.00
Dean Boronyak	Grant - “Fuel Up to Play 60”	9/26/12 - 10/24/12	\$ 100.00
Rita Martin	National Academic League	11/1/12 - 4/1/13	\$ 500.00

IX. Supplemental Contracts

The Board approved the following 2012-13 School Year Supplemental Contract(s):

* Not a District Employee

¹ First Time Supplemental Contract Holder for a specific contract

^(s) One contract shared by more than one person

Supplemental Contract Additions/Changes

Vickie Lopez	Assistant Forensics Coach ^(s)	\$ 1,003.50
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The Board approved the following Fall Semester Supplemental Contract(s):

Supplemental Contract Resignations/Cancellations

¹ * Justin Pyles	IMS Faculty Manager	\$ 2,400.00
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Supplemental Contract Additions/Changes

¹ * Christopher Pollard	IMS Faculty Manager ^(s)	\$ 1,900.00
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¹ Janet Pisani	IMS Faculty Manager ^(s)	\$ 600.00
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* Not a District Employee

¹ First Time Supplemental Contract Holder for a specific contract

^(s) One contract shared by more than one person

Roll Call Vote. Results: 8-Yes; 0-No. Motion Carried.

PROPERTY AND SUPPLIES REPORT

On motion by Mr. Schwartzmier, seconded by Mr. Jacobs, the Board approved Items I and II as contained in the Board Folder and as listed below:

I. Bradford Woods Elementary School Driveway Maintenance Agreement

The Board approved the execution of the Maintenance Agreement with Mr. William Chewing who resides at 47 Forest Road and Mr. Thomas Evans who resides at 45 Forest Road for the maintenance of the entrance driveway at Bradford Woods Elementary School that also serves as the access to their respective properties.

For Information

The execution of this Agreement will clarify the responsibilities for the maintenance of this right-of-way. The Agreement that was prepared for the approval by Mr. Thomas Evans has not been executed and there has been no response from Mr. Evans to several communications from the District.

The complete Agreements will be attached to the Official Minutes.

II. Fee Waiver Request – Pittsburgh Elite Volleyball Association – North

The Board approved granting a 50% waiver of rental fees from **October 25, 2012 through October 24, 2017**, or sooner, if the Board Policy/Administrative Procedures are changed in the future, for **Pittsburgh Elite Volleyball Association – North** – with the requirement that they re-submit their roster annually to verify their compliance with residency requirements for the continuation of the 50% waiver of rental fees. They have submitted the necessary information to utilize North Allegheny School District facilities pursuant to Administrative Procedures #7110 - General Provisions and Procedures for Use of School Facilities.

For Information

The above named is a non-profit organization that has provided the documentation for a fee waiver. The organization is comprised of 30% North Allegheny residents and they are eligible for a 50% fee waiver for use of North Allegheny School District facilities. The information required by Administrative Procedures #7110 is on file in the Facilities Department offices.

Roll Call Vote. Results: 8-Yes; 0-No. Motion Carried.

SPECIAL EDUCATION AND PUPIL SERVICES REPORT

On motion by Dr. Greenberg, seconded by Mr. Schwartzmier, the Board approved Items I through III as contained in the Board Folder and as listed below:

I. Agreement Between North Alleghen School District and Total Learning Centers

The Board approved the Enrollment Agreement for remediation and related services in a small group setting provided by Total Learning Centers for the 2012/2013 school year. The North Allegheny School District agrees to enroll two students in the Total Learning Center, Wexford, for curriculum and licensing fees of \$26,200.00 and \$27,840.00. The fees are calculated according to the needs written in each student's IEP this academic year.

II. Agreement Between North Allegheny School District and Pittsburgh Public Schools

The Board approved the Enrollment Agreement for one student to attend the Pittsburgh Public Schools Program for Students with Exceptionalities (PSE) for the 2012/2013 school year. Services will be provided through CITY Connections at a program fee of \$29,900.00 for the period beginning October 1, 2012 through June 13, 2013.

III. Agreement Between North Allegheny School District and PLEA (Programs for Living, Education, and Advocacy)

The Board approved the educational services agreement for the continuation of services provided by PLEA for the school year 2012/2013. The price for educational services is \$49,655.00 for the one North Allegheny School District student enrolled for the period beginning September 2012 through June 2013.

Roll Call Vote. Results: 8-Yes; 0-No. Motion Carried.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES REPORT

On motion by Mr. Hubert, seconded by Dr. Greenberg, the Board approved Items I through III as contained in the Board Folder and as listed below:

I. NAI History Students – American History Experience – Washington, D.C.

The Board approved the History students at NAI to travel to Washington, D.C. to visit various sites to enrich the American History curriculum. This trip will be divided into two semester trips. The first semester trip will take place on **Friday, November 9, 2012** and the second semester trip will take place on **Friday, May 10, 2013**. There will be approximately **150 students** participating in each semester trip.

II. NAI String and Chamber Orchestras and NASH String and Honors Chamber Orchestras – Music Festival – Atlanta, Georgia

The Board approved for the NAI String and Chamber Orchestra students and the NASH String and Honors Chamber Orchestra students to travel to Atlanta, Georgia from **Wednesday, April 10, 2013 (7:00 p.m.) through Sunday, April 14, 2013** to participate in a music festival and adjudication. There will be approximately **200 students** participating in this trip.

III. Lifetime Activities – Overnight Backpacking Trip – Raccoon Creek State Park, Hookstown, Pennsylvania

The Board approved for the Lifetimes Activities group to travel to Raccoon Creek State Park in Hookstown, Pennsylvania from **Saturday, November 3, 2012 through Sunday, November 4, 2012** to participate in an overnight backpacking experience. There will be approximately **20 students** participating in this trip.

Roll Call Vote. Results: 8-Yes; 0-No. Motion Carried.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

On motion by Mr. Hubert, seconded by Mrs. Bishop, the Board approved Item I as contained in the Board Folder and as listed below:

I. Professional Seminar Requests

The Board approved the following professional seminar requests:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Conference</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Lynn Antoon	AIU Autism Team Training	10/15/2012	\$ 59.94*
Gina Brown	Sponsor: AIU	11/28/2012	\$ 59.94*
Danielle Dunmire	Homestead, PA	1/31/2013	\$ 39.96*
Megan Esterheld			\$ 79.11*
Christopher Jackson			\$ 59.94*
Scott Oldham (PES)			\$ 59.94*

Christine Bruce (IES)	iPad Innovations for Speech – Language Pathologists & Special Educators Sponsor: Health Ed Monroeville, PA	10/18/2012	\$ 209.00*
Mindy Floro (NASH)	Penn State School Counselor Advisory Group Sponsor: Penn State Admissions State College, PA	10/19/2012	\$ 163.00
Karyn Dobda (MMS) Katherine Jenkins (CMS)	Pennsylvania Learning Forward Fall Institute Sponsor: PA Learning Forward Harrisburg, PA	10/24/2012	\$ 398.00 \$ 444.99
John Harrell (NASH)	Pennsylvania Institute for Instructional Coaching Sponsor: Pennsylvania Institute for Instructional Coaches State College, PA	10/29- 10/31/2012	\$ 205.00
John Harrell (NASH) Kristen Silbaugh (IES)	2012 Three Rivers Educational Technology Conference Sponsor: Three Rivers Educational Technology Conference Cranberry Township, PA	11/13- 11/14/2012	\$ 99.00 \$ 99.00
Margaret Hunkele (CAO)	Attendance/Child Accounting Professional Association Fall Meeting 2012 Sponsor: Attendance/Child Accounting Professional Association Cranberry, Pa	11/16/2012	\$ 14.09
Tammy Andreyko (CAO)	PASCD Annual Conference Sponsor: PASCD Hershey, PA	11/18-20/2012	\$ 720.24
Christopher Jackson (PES) Brenda Laughrey David Schmidt (NAI)	2012 State Convention: All for One: That's How We Roll Sponsor: PSAHPERD Champion, PA	11/30 – 12/1/2012	\$ 332.70 \$ 197.70 \$ 255.00

Sarah Lavelle (NASH)	The Midwest Clinic Sponsor: International Band and Orchestra Conference Chicago, IL	12/19- 12/21/2012	\$ 320.00
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*ACCESS Funds

Roll Call Vote. Results: 8-Yes; 0-No. Motion Carried.

LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT

Mr. Brungo submitted a written report and a check in the amount of \$248,953.07 for delinquent taxes.

RECESS

Mrs. Grosheider called for a recess at **9:46 p.m.**

RECONVENED

The Board reconvened at **9:52 p.m.**

SPECIAL REPORTS BY THE BOARD

A.W. Beattie Career Center

Mr. Schwartzmier reported that at their last meeting, a panel had a discussion on Marcellus Shale with members who are involved in the trade and gave students a flavor of Vo-Tech jobs that are available. Beattie's Open House was last night and was well-attended. The remainder of the meeting was regular business items.

NA Foundation

Mrs. Ludwig spoke about the Day of Giving on October 3, 2012, the EITC Program in which the Foundation received two checks which totaled \$12,500 to offset the AP Program. Mrs. Blackburn particularly thanked Mr. David Bursic from West View Savings who was one of the contributors of \$7,500 and said that he plans to continue a partnership with the District. A new Trustee was approved, Mrs. Debbie Jewell, and the Foundation now has a full slate of Trustees. The Trustees discussed upcoming fundraisers and the Golf Outing will again be planned for June. Other fundraisers were discussed as possible ideas. The Membership Drive went well and Mrs. Ludwig thanked everyone who contributed to the North Allegheny Foundation in any way. Dr. Gualtieri mentioned that the Foundation is a United Way agency and that is another option to consider when making a donation.

NA Hall of Fame

Mr. Schwartzmier reported that the Hall of Fame Banquet was held about two weeks ago and they made \$2,700 in ads and 218 tickets were sold for the event. Mr. Schwartzmier said everyone enjoyed the food at The Chadwick and the award recipients were great. The committee will meet again in January. Next year's banquet will take place on October 3, 2013.

Legislative Report

Mrs. Bishop reported on the following legislation issues. This legislative report will be posted to the School Board's website following the meeting.

Mrs. Grosheider and I attended the PSBA/PASA School Leadership Conference in Hershey PA last week. There were excellent professional development sessions and many opportunities for collaboration and information exchange with board members from other districts in western Pennsylvania and across the state. At the Legislative Policy Council meeting, we debated and adopted our legislative advocacy platform for the year, which is heavily focused on the need for pension reform, for charter/cyber school funding reform, and for significant mandate relief for public schools. We had some very informative breakout sessions on the current political and legislative scene, both state and federal. A few conference highlights:

1. Mrs. Grosheider was one of seven school board members from across PA to be awarded PSBA Master School Board Member accreditation. This program, which has been in place for five years, is designed to recognize school directors who have demonstrated exceptional accomplishments in attaining the goals of effective governance. Those selected completed a rigorous application process through which they highlighted their board service, community engagement, advocacy and teamwork skills. Congratulations to Mrs. Grosheider!

2. NA students made us very proud! Owen Jin, a third grade student at McKnight Elementary, was a statewide winner in the PSBA Poster and Essay Contest. His poster, "What Public Education Means to Me", was prominently displayed in the Lobby throughout the conference. The NA Golden Strolling Strings dazzled the audience with their performance at the Student Celebration Showcase, which featured student vocal, instrumental, and dance performers from across the state. Many thanks to our NA students and staff members who traveled all the way to Hershey and back on a school night to showcase our excellent orchestra program! For those who would like to see the performance, we were notified that it will be rebroadcast on PCN on Oct. 27 at 5 p.m.

3. We elected new officers and adopted a major bylaw revision for PSBA, including a complete overhaul of its governance structure. These changes have been in the works for two years. PSBA's Executive Director, Tom Gentzel, who played a major role in bringing about this change, will be leaving PSBA to become executive director of the National School Boards Association. Tom has been with PSBA for 32 years.

Mrs. Grosheider and I spent a large part of our time in Hershey engaged in direct legislative advocacy work. The General Assembly was in session and was considering HB 1115, a charter school "reform" bill that would vastly benefit charter schools at the expense of public school districts and local taxpayers, while failing to provide critical funding reforms and accountability measures for charter schools. We had been e-mailing our legislators expressing opposition to this bill the week before the conference, and our advocacy continued during the conference, with multiple phone calls and e-mails to our legislators. On Tuesday night, the Senate passed the bill, 33-16. While this was discouraging, we were very pleased to learn that our Senator, Randy Vulakovich, voted against the bill.

On Wednesday, the action shifted to the House. The lone PSBA lobbyist, who was battling

valiantly against the bill, was vastly outnumbered by lobbyists from the charter and cyber schools and by representatives from the offices of Gov. Corbett and the Senate Republican leadership, who were pressuring the House Republicans to pass the bill. By mid-afternoon, the PSBA lobbyist informed us that the measure would be brought to the floor for a vote. Mrs. Grosheider and I decided to drive over to the Capitol and try to meet with Mike Turzai. We did that, and Mike came off the House floor with Rep. Killion to meet with us. We suggested that they defer the bill until the new session next year. We focused our discussion with them on one of the most objectionable features of the bill, which is its failure to address the pension “double dip” and other inequities in the funding formula that are costing school districts and local taxpayers millions of dollars a year. Mike Turzai said that the bill would begin to address these issues by establishing a Funding Commission to study and report next spring. We pointed out that the Funding Commission would have 17 members, 9 of whom would be appointed by the Governor, giving him (and the pro-charter lobby) control of the recommendations. After Mr. Turzai and Mr. Killion returned to the House floor, more and more Republican legislators backed away from the bill. In the end, they did not have nearly enough votes to pass the measure, so it was not brought to the floor for a vote. PSBA said, “In spite of the enormous pressure exerted by charter school advocates, in the end it was the visits, calls and emails by you and hundreds of other school directors, administrators, parents and others that made the difference and caused SB 1115 to fail.”

It was reported in the Post Gazette on Monday that Pennsylvania has received applications for eight more cyber charter schools. We already have 16, one of the highest concentrations in the nation. Clearly, cyber education is very lucrative in Pennsylvania, since so many new for-profit schools are seeking to set up shop here. Unfortunately, much of the exorbitant profit they hope to rake in comes from public tax dollars because of the flawed funding formula that requires public school districts like NA to pay excessively high tuition rates to cyber schools.

Both the Senate and the House have now recessed and adjourned until after the November 6 election. The House and Senate will reconvene on November 13 and 14 respectively, but no bills will be voted on between then and the end of the legislative session on November 30. All bills that did not pass will have to be reintroduced as new bills in the 2013-14 session beginning in January.

SPEAKERS

Stephanie Lucas – spoke about the “perfect storm” speech at HES which described rising pension and cyber school payments in conjunction with a decrease in the ability to raise property taxes. She said this was not unique to NASD. She said the Board and Administration’s ideas to resolve the looming crisis are unique in comparison to surrounding area school districts. She is not aware of any other district increasing their class sizes to 34, filling buildings to capacity, and losing art and music rooms. She also heard the “Good to Great Presentation” last year and said that closing an elementary school and increasing class size is not going to help us achieve a goal of greatness. She said our District has other options and proposed several solutions.

Michelle Chetoka – is chairperson of one of the boards in Franklin Park and works closely with that board and other groups. She asked if the Board was aware of all of the development in Franklin Park because the numbers that she has heard do not compare with the actual facts. There

are hundreds of properties being developed in Franklin Park and she questions the demographics. In her development alone, which is new, there are 14 homes and 26 children. People moving into the area have small children and she is concerned with Franklin Elementary being at the upper 80% or low 90%, and feels that there is a gap in the numbers being reported.

Laurel Schieiber – wants to see equity in all NA schools. With the building plans, there is loss of room space, which is not equity and is not fair. She feels that valuable space will be lost. She urged the Board to remember that students are not boxes and schools are not warehouses; schools cannot be optimized for perfect efficiency. This District has always operated on an idea of equity and equality. If the capacity plans are enacted, we will become the schools of the “haves” and the “have nots.”

Brigitte Savchik – is upset with the legislators and the need for pension reform. She has called a number of legislators to let them know that this has to be fixed. She said when she spoke to someone from Governor Corbett’s office, the woman did not even know what the PSERS acronym was. It is a complicated issue and wanted to know if NA has a reserve fund to take care of this problem. Did NA know that paying at an artificially low rate was going to cause problems down the road. She said other districts prepared much better than NA.

Response

Mrs. Bishop said that we do not have such a fund and the reason is that our philosophy as a School District and as a Board for many years has been, “Don’t take money out of the taxpayers’ pockets that you don’t need at the present time.” They feel that money is better off being in your pocket than it is in our pocket when we don’t know when or if we are going to need it. She said that that is one of the ways that we have been able to achieve the fact that we have the 6th lowest millage in Allegheny County. **Mrs. Grosheider** added that you cannot have a reserve large enough to cover your pension liability because the numbers are going up so astronomically.

Shannon Bolibruck – said that she is passionate about her kids, as are others, and is confused why the Board would postpone the simple request of a Community Task Force. She said this is what the community wants and the community consists of caring and gifted members.

Jamie Karlovits – said there is growth in her neighborhood and questions the statistics that say there is a decline in McCandless Township. She said in her neighborhood, as people move out, young people move in. She said at her bus stop there are 5 kids and it will triple over the next several years. She wants to be sure that the Board really looks at this and not just the demographics report.

Daneen Leya – is a concerned PES parent. She looked at the data and the available space and in her view, they are operating at capacity. If you take a small school out of the mix, the target capacity becomes 89%. Wants to know where money will be coming from if they have to close a school but add on to another. Spare spaces are not classrooms and she questions the quality of these rooms because that is not how these spaces were meant to be used. She said that 25-26 kids in a class is too much.

Kevin Mahler – said the question is whether the closing of a school is at all productive. He said that he does not think that a referendum is a bad idea; in fact, he would like to see one. He said we have to keep NA great and that costs money. He picked NA to live because of the schools and he is

willing to fight to raise taxes. The property values are what they are because NA is a great district and he wants to keep it that way.

Susie Holmes – has a child is in 3rd grade in a large class. Young families are moving in and older folks are moving out. She does not like talking to the legislators because it is difficult when they support charter and cyber schools and blame School Boards for the problems we have. She provided email addresses of legislators so that community members could contact them and discuss the pension issue.

Ditte Karlovits – is a Pediatrician who has young children and moved here for the schools. She wants the Board to consider if closing PES or a smaller elementary school is really going to help the District financially making their budget, and in the long-run, will it really help the children.

Chris Skya – thinks that they are hearing mixed messages regarding the closing of a school. Is it to save money and for the best educational program that we can offer students, or is it financially motivated? He also spoke about 2013 being the year for reassessments and there is a possibility of a revenue increase without a referendum. He said Upper St. Clair has class sizes of 16 and Mt. Lebanon has class sizes of 17. They have experienced growth but made a conscious decision to keep the class sizes low.

Throughout this portion of the meeting, Dr. Gualtieri and various Board Members provided answers/clarifications to speakers on specific issues where the answers could be provided concisely. As is customary, all speakers will receive a written response from the Board with additional detail.

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Grosheider adjourned the meeting at *10:58 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted,

Rose Mary Ryan, Secretary
North Allegheny School Board