Order of Business

1. Call to Order; Pledge of Allegiance

   President Ann Thompson called the meeting of the East Penn Board of School Directors to order at 7:40 p.m. in the Board Room, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

   Board Solicitor:  Marc S. Fisher, Esq., Worth, Magee & Fisher
   Board Secretary:  Cecilia R. Birdsell
   Board Treasurer:  Gary Reigal
   Substitute Superintendent of Schools:  Dr. George A. Ziolkowski
   Press Present:  Randy Kraft, Morning Call Reporter
                    Loretta Fenstermacher, East Penn Press Reporter

2. Requests to Address the Board—None

3. Approval of Minutes

   Motion by Ballard, Seconded by Gannon
   RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors approve the minutes for the May 8, 2006 Board Meeting.

   This resolution was unanimously adopted by voice vote.

4. Report of the Substitute Superintendent of Schools – Dr. George Ziolkowski

   1. Personnel

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

      Retirements/Resignations

      -Robert Slough, Science Teacher at EHS, effective June 15, 2006 (Exhibit 1)
      -Randy Ziegenfuss, Technology Integration Resource Teacher, effective June 15, 2006 (Exhibit 2)
      -Donna Henry, Special Education Teacher at Shoemaker School, effective June 15, 2006 (Exhibit 3)
      -Amy Golboro, Mathematics Teacher at Eyer MS, effective June 15, 2006 (Exhibit 4)
      -Dr. Patricia Waller, Science Teacher at Emmaus HS, effective June 15, 2006 (Exhibit 5)
      -Patricia Bonikowski, Food Services Department, effective immediately (Exhibit 6)
      -Lindsay Hentzel, Teacher Aide, effective immediately (Exhibit 7)
      -Robert Horn, Special Education Aide at Emmaus HS, effective June 16, 2006 (Exhibit 8)
      -Lynn M. Smith, Teacher Aide at Jefferson School, effective June 15, 2006 (Exhibit 9)
      -Carolyn Foley, Remedial Assistant, effective May 23, 2006 (Exhibit 10)
      -Cheryl Borysowski, Remedial Assistant at Lincoln School, effective May 26, 2006 (Exhibit 11)

      Request for a General Leave of Absence

-1-
May 22, 2006
Employee: Sue Brown, Gifted Education Teacher, Wescosville School
Effective: 2006-07 School Year
Purpose: Involvement with a cross-cultural exchange program in Pimampiro, Ecuador

Administrative Transfer

Administrator From To
Donna Cortez Principal, Jefferson School Principal, Alburtis School

Voluntary Demotion

Employee From To
Cheryl Wetzel FT Professional PT Professional

Effective: July 1, 2006, beginning with the 2006-07 school term.

.5 Principal Appointment / .5 Elementary Teacher – Lower Macungie Kindergarten Center

Name: Cheryl Wetzel
Name: Grade 3 Teacher, Wescosville School
Effective: July 1, 2006
Education Level: B. S. Degree (1995)
M. S. Degree (2001)
Undergraduate School: Kutztown University
Graduate Schools: Kutztown University
Penn State University, Principal Certification
Certification: Administrative: Principal K-12
Instructional II: Early Childhood; Elementary
Experience: 12/96-Present: East Penn School District
Salary: $69,000 (Principal $40,146 + Teacher $28,854)

Appointment of Elementary Principal

Name/Address: James Best
Address: 1929 Focht Avenue, Allentown 18104
Education Level: B. A. Degree (1989)
M. S. Degree (2002)
Undergraduate School: North Carolina State University
Graduate School: Wilkes University
Moravian College, certification credits
Effective: On or about July 1, 2006
Assignment: Principal, Macungie School
Vacancy created by R. Oberecker retirement.
Experience: 9/02-Present: Parkland SD, Assistant Principal
9/97-9/02: Parkland SD, Elementary Teacher
1/97-6/97-Easton SD, Teacher
Salary: $82,500, plus benefits included in the Act 93 Agreement

Appointment of Teacher Aides

Name/Address Assignment Salary
Diane Geroni Cafe/Recess Aide, Wescosville $10.70/hr., 12.5 hrs./wk.
Vacancy created by K. Picca resign
Lisa Reynolds Study Hall Aide, EHS $10.70/hr., 21.75 hrs./wk.
Vacancy created by L. Hentzel resign.
Marion Kuhns Teacher Aide, EHS $10.70/hr., 14 hrs./wk.
Vacancy created by K. Nemeth resign.
Eleanor Fosburg
Teacher Aide, Shoemaker
$10.70/hr., 12.5 hrs./wk.
Vacancy created by K. Kemp resign.
Eroilda Medina
Teacher Aide, EHS
$10.70/hr., 26.25 hrs./wk.
Vacancy created by C. Kohler resign.

Positions Effective: May 23, 2006

Summer School Teachers

Justine Boer
Heather Day
Tracy Dreher
Derek Grabfelder
Thom Husser
Sara Kinzel
Jeanine Martini
Barry O’Connell
Jessica Ortez-Eichert
Kim Reiter
Stephanie Schwab
Louis Serensits
Charles Sonon
Stuart Speicher
Jayne St. Mary
Martha Teed
Denise Teles
Beth Witte

Change in Employment Status

Employee: Connie Corkery, Teacher Aide
From: 17.0 hrs./wk.
To: 31.25 hrs./wk.
Reason: Resignation of K. Nemeth; extended hours

Additions to the 2006-07 Per Diem Substitute List

Sidney Twining, Food Services
Ida Baliya, Food Services

Co-Curricular Appointments

Kim Kannenberg
Sarah Davis
Kristina Angstadt
Eileen Clark
Web Page Features Club
Co-Choral Director
Winter Color Guard Assistant
Spring Costume Design Coordinator
$520.00, Club B
$1040.00
$1040.00
$  500.00

Educational Conferences – Exhibit 12

That the East Penn Board of School Directors approve the expenses for the individuals attending the educational conferences listed on Exhibit 12.

Informational: Administrative Reports (See Exhibit Section)

Dr. Ziolkowski commented on the number of retirees and the experience that would be lost when they leave. He assured the Board that capable replacements will be sought.

These resolutions were duly adopted by the following roll call votes:
Aye: Ballard, Earnshaw, Fuller, Gannon, Kowalchuk, Richwine, Robert, Thomas, Thompson---------------------------------------9

2.

2006 Emmaus High School Graduates (Exhibit 13)

Motion by Robert, Seconded by Gannon
RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors approve the list of students in the Class of 2006 for graduation.
RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors approve the Gaskin Mini-Grant Agreement in the amount of $10,000 for implementing inclusion practices as described in Exhibit 14.

Dr. Michael Murphy, Director of Pupil Personnel Services, explained that as part of the Gaskin Settlement Agreement, the Department of Education agreed to set aside some funding for technical assistance to improve the ability of districts to include disabled students in the general education setting. East Penn applied for a grant and received $10,000 to train up to 70 secondary teachers late this spring so that they are prepared for the new school year. This will help the staff and there will be opportunities for follow-up during the year. He commented on the index that was developed regarding compliance with Gaskin.

These resolutions were duly adopted by the following roll call vote:
Aye: Ballard, Earnshaw, Fuller, Gannon, Kowalchuk, Richwine, Robert, Thomas, Thompson—9

5. Education
-Interim Reading: Textbooks for Adoption (Exhibit 15)

These materials are available for review in the Curriculum Library until Friday, May 26. A recommendation for adoption will be presented at the June 12 Board Meeting.

6. Other Educational Entities
-Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit T. Richwine

Mr. Richwine reported on Shannon Strickland’s class for the hearing impaired. When they first came to the IU class, they did not have any language because they were totally or partially deaf. With the cochlear hearing implants, they are now able to hear to a degree and also have oral language skills. Elementary students performed a musical number for the IU Board. The new IU building will be ready for occupation in September. The current building will be used by LCCC. The Special Education Department explained how costs are calculated and they responded to questions from board members. He indicated that the Board is trying to reconfigure committees.

-Lehigh Career & Technical Institute F. Fuller
T. Richwine
V. Thomas
A. Thompson

Ms. Fuller said the JOC will be meeting on Wednesday.

1. 2006-07 Budget Approval

Motion by Fuller, Seconded by Richwine
RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors hereby authorize the expenditures of the Lehigh Career & Technical Institute for the General Fund Budget in the amount of $18,960,830 and the Academic Center Fund Budget in the amount of $904,520 for the period of July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007.

Mrs. Thompson commented on the success of the LCTI staff on applying for grants to keep costs down.

This resolution was duly adopted by the following roll call vote:
Aye: Ballard, Earnshaw, Fuller, Gannon, Kowalchuk, Richwine, Robert, Thomas, Thompson—9
7. Legislative C. H. Ballard

Mr. Ballard reported on the results of the primary election where many long-term legislators were defeated. The Legislature comes back in session on June 5 and there is speculation about how issues will be handled in the interim. Mr. Ballard felt there will be activity on the property tax reform issue. He suggested that legislators review the PSBA report on tax reform. He reported on the actions of the State Board of Education regarding highly qualified teachers, discontinuation of Bridge Certificates, and a point system for ESL teachers and Special Education teachers who teach multiple courses. The State Board has approved resolutions that authorize the use of a high objective uniform state standard of evaluation procedures. He spoke about the new federal requirements for diesel fuel. He also reported on the second phase of PA secure ID that allows for tracking student progress. He commented on the Commission on No Child Left Behind which is housed at the Aspen Institute. The report can be accessed on the Aspen Institute website. Mrs. Thompson asked about Karen Beyer’s bill regarding cyber schools. Mr. Ballard responded that it may or may not be coming out of committee. The Education Committee should be contacted, noting PSBA is heavily involved.

8. Policy

1. First Reading

Mrs. Thompson acknowledged Cathleen O’Connor, School Nurse at Shoemaker School, Doug DeIvernois, Nutrition Group, and Dr. Michael Murphy who have been very involved in the development of the Student Wellness Policy.

-Board Policy 239-Foreign Exchange Students (Exhibit 16)
-Board Policy 246-Student Wellness (Exhibit 17) and East Penn School District Guidelines for Competitive Foods (Exhibit 1)

Mr. Earnshaw said it took the Committee two hours to work through understanding the policy and language issues of the policy. Ms. Kowalchuk asked about the competitive foods section. Mr. Earnshaw said competitive foods are defined as not part of the national school lunch or breakfast program. These could be offered through Nutrition Group, fund raisers, ala carte items, vending machines, school stores, lunches brought from home by students, etc. Ms. Kowalchuk asked if they are suggested guidelines or edicts. Mr. Earnshaw clarified that they are guidelines that will be phased in over three years. Parents will be encouraged to also abide by these guidelines. Mrs. Thompson thanked the people who worked on the policy, especially noting the improvements that Nutrition Group has offered under the direction of Doug DeIvernois.

9. Facilities

1. Approval of Plancon F – Exhibit 18

Motion by Robert. Seconded by Thomas
RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors approve Plancon F, Post-Bid Opening Notification for the Eyer MS.

Note: Board approved at the May 8, 2006 meeting; however, PDE returned the form because the last question was not completed.

Change Order – Shoemaker School Project

RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors approve Change Order PC-5 with JBM Plumbing Inc., Nazareth, PA for $3,404.60 as follows:

- Replace domestic water valves in Pod 3 per JBM’s Change Order #19

Add $2,281.80

May 22, 2006
• Per Existing Site Conditions, Relocate roof drain and rain water leader piping as needed at toilet room 318 per JBM’s Change Order #20 Add $1,122.80

Lower Macungie Elementary School -Plaster Repairs & Painting; HVAC Upgrades including Oil Tank Removal

RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors approve Notice of Intent to Award Contracts for the following projects:

Plaster Repairs and Painting
A. P. Houser, Inc., 706 Walnut Street, Emmaus $118,470.00
Add Alternate G-1 34,400.00
Note: G1 is exterior window repairs, caulking, and painting.

HVAC Upgrades including Oil Tank Removal
Blanski, Inc., 120 Madison Avenue, Reading $133,845.00

be it further

RESOLVED, That the Notice of Intent to Award Contracts are issued contingent upon submittal and approval of the required documents to the Department of Education and other state and local agencies with the appropriate parties being authorized to sign the documents, submittal and approval of the required bonds, Certificates of Insurance, and the required documents from the contractors as specified in the bid instructions and materials, and execution of a contract as required in the bid instructions and materials, all of the aforementioned being completed to the satisfaction of the solicitor.

These resolutions were duly adopted by the following roll call vote:
Aye: Ballard, Earnshaw, Fuller, Gannon, Kowalchuk, Richwine, Robert, Thomas, Thompson-----------------------------------------------------------------------9

10. Business Operations

1. Bill List Approval

Motion by Robert, Seconded by Earnshaw
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.

Treasurer’s Report

RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors approve the Treasurer’s Report.

Appointment of Auditor

RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors appoint the audit firm of Gorman & Associates, P.C. to audit the records of the East Penn School District for the year ended June 30, 2006 at a fee of $29,000 and a
single audit fee of $2,800 per letter of engagement dated January 10, 2006.

Appointment of Treasurer

RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors appoint Gary Reigal as Treasurer for a term effective July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007; and that he be directed to perform such duties as are appropriate for the position in accordance with the Public School Code of 1949, as amended, Section 436-443; that he shall implement federal, state and local policies and regulations at the direction of the Board of School Directors and the Superintendent of Schools; and, that the Treasurer's bond be set at $500,000 to be paid by the East Penn School District.

Mr. Earnshaw said he appreciated the outstanding work done by Mr. Reigal. Mr. Ballard indicated that the Business Office staff does a tremendous job and thanked Mr. Reigal for his financial advice and budgets that the district can live with.

Designation of 2006-07 Depositories

RESOLVED, That, in accordance with Section 621, PA Public School Code of 1949, the East Penn Board of School Directors designate the following depositories for the funds of the East Penn School District for the 2006-07 fiscal year; and that said depositories furnish a bond in an amount equal to 120% of the highest balance or comply with Act 72 of 1971 of the Pennsylvania Legislature, such bond amounts to include the amount provided by federal insurance:

- M & T Bank
- Lafayette/Ambassador Bank (Fulton Financial)
- PA Treasury/Invest Program
- PA Local Government Investment Trust
- East Penn Bank
- Wachovia Bank
- First Star Savings Bank
- Citizens Bank
- Sovereign Bank
- US Bank Corporate Trust Services

Earned Income Tax Commission

RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors set the following commission to be paid to the appointed Municipal Earned Income Tax Officers for the collection of the District's earned income taxes during the period July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007:

- Borough of Alburtis: 5%, plus 1/2 of printing & postage costs
- Borough of Emmaus: 2.5%
- Borough of Macungie: 5%, plus 1/2 of printing & postage costs
- Lower Macungie Twnshp.: 1/2 of cost of salaries, fringe benefits, and Office expense of the EIT office.
- Upper Milford Twnshp.: 5%, plus 1/2 of printing & postage costs
Earned Income Tax Bonds

RESOLVED, That the East Penn School Board of Directors direct the East Penn School District Municipal Earned Income Tax Officers to provide fidelity bonds to the School District in the following sums:

Borough of Alburtis
Kerstin Paey, or Successor
Bond required: $50,000 Jointly with Borough

Borough of Emmaus
Berkheimer Associates
Bond required: In accordance with contract

Borough of Macungie
Rose Nonnemacher, or successor
Bond required: $120,000, Jointly with Township

Township of Lower Macungie
Cathleen O'Brien, or successor
Bond Required: $1,000,000, jointly with Township

Township of Upper Milford
William Weber, or successor
Bond Required: $250,000 jointly with Township

Record of Investments (Exhibit 19)

RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors approve the investments listed on Exhibit 19

Construction Fund Payments – Exhibit 20

RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors authorize the payment of funds from the Capital Reserve Account and General Obligation Bond Series of 2003 for the items listed on Exhibit 20

These resolutions were duly adopted by the following roll call vote:

Aye: Ballard, Earnshaw, Fuller, Gannon, Kowalchuk, Richwine, Robert, Thomas, Thompson


11. Board Sharing

-Board Goal Setting Retreat – After several dates and scenarios had been suggested, there appeared to be some consensus to consider September 16 and 18 as possible dates.

-HB 2550 – Educational Impact Fees – Ms. Kowalchuk and Ms. Thomas attended a meeting arranged by East Penn residents Gayle Cichocki and Nancy Watkins with State Representative Richard Gruela from the 137th State Legislative District. Mr. Gruela is supporting a bill that would allow school districts to levy an education impact fee. It is currently in committee. Ms. Kowalchuk reported that there were resolutions passed by Upper Nazareth and Palmer Township in support of this bill. State Representative Doug Rechley was also present for the meeting and expressed some concerns and asked if Alan Jennings had been contacted about the impact for low income or affordable housing. Mrs. Thomas said she had talked to State Representative Karen Beyer and she said she would be supportive of such a bill. Mrs. Thomas and Ms. Kowalchuk both felt that this would be helpful to school districts. Mr. Ballard pointed...
out that this bill would have to come out of committee to get a vote and that right now things are bottled up. Mrs. Thomas brought up a provision that would allow for naming rights to the developer for paying impact fees. It has not been the practice of East Penn to name buildings after specific individuals. Mr. Earnshaw felt the community could be engaged to name a building. Mrs. Thompson asked if there was anyone who was opposed to having a resolution in support of this bill and there appeared to be consensus for support. The following resolution was introduced:

Motion by Kowalchuk, Seconded by Thomas
RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors support HB 2550.

Mr. Robert noted that the builders have a strong lobbying group.

This resolution was duly adopted by the following roll call vote:
Aye: Ballard, Earnshaw, Fuller, Gannon, Kowalchuk, Richwine Robert, Thomas, Thompson----9

Mr. Ballard announced that 227 senior citizens have been granted tax relief under the East Penn tax rebate system. Mrs. Thompson indicated that the deadline for the tax rebate program is June 30 so there is still time to apply. The forms are available at the Tax Collectors Offices and the local libraries.

Ms. Kowalchuk commented on the Upper Milford Open Space Committee and the report, “Opportunity Knocks – Open Space is a Community Investment.” She commented on Act 4 that allows for the millage rate to be frozen if land is put into a conservation district. Southern Lehigh has adopted the resolution. She spoke about a provision for school districts working in partnership by purchasing land to be put in conservation. She has not heard if there are districts that have done that and questioned whether it would be an appropriate use of tax money.

12. Announcements

Monday, May 22
7:00 p.m.-Executive Session before and after the meeting (Personnel & Real Estate)
7:30 p.m.-Board Meeting, Board Room

Tuesday, May 23
7:30 p.m. - LMMS Spring Band Concert, Auditorium

Wednesday, May 24
7:00 p.m.-EHS Spring Orchestra Concert
7:00 p.m.-Macungie Spring Concert

Thursday, May 25
7:00 p.m.-Open House: Shoemaker, Wescosville, and Alburtis

Friday, May 26
8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.-High Note Music Festival, LMMS
4:00 p.m.-Macungie School Festival, Macungie Park

Monday, May 29
Memorial Day – All schools and offices closed.

Wednesday, May 31
6:30 p.m.-All Sports Award Program, EHS Auditorium

Thursday, June 1
7:00 p.m.-Elementary Orchestra Concert, Shoemaker

Wednesday, June 7
7:00 p.m.-Jefferson Open House

Saturday, June 10
Baccalaureate

Sunday, June 11
1:00 p.m.-Commencement, Stabler Arena

Monday, June 12
7:30 p.m.-Board Meeting

13. Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned, upon motion, at 8:45 p.m.

Cecilia R. Birdsell, Board Secretary

May 22, 2006