

**EAST STROUDSBURG AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING – January 25, 2010**

Carl T. Secor Administration Center – Board Room

7:30 p.m.

Minutes

- I. President Horace Cole called the meeting to order at 7:39 p.m. and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. Secretary, Patricia Rosado called the roll.
- II. **Members present were:** James Brunkard, Horace Cole, Robert Cooke, Douglas Freeman, Robert Gress (arrived at 7:49 p.m.), Bet Hays, Audrey Hocker, Donald Motts, and William Searfoss.
- III. **School personnel present:** Michelle Arnold, Patricia Bader, David A. Baker, Brian Borosh, John Burrus, Anthony Calderone, Rick Carty, Maria Casciotta, Mike Catrillo, Robert Dilliplane, Irene Duggins, Larry Dymond, Eric Forsyth, Heather Gress, Lynda Hopkins, Gail Kulick, Sharon Laverdure, Phil Lazowski, Irene Livingston, Araina Maynard, Debra Padavano, Annelle Prefontaine, Patricia Rosado, Jim Shearouse, Kim Stevens, Thomas J. Williams and Steve Zall. Also present was: Christopher Brown – Solicitor.
- IV. **Media Present:** TV 13
- V. **Community members present:** Sean Bayer, Richard W. Berkowitz, Devin Day, Donna Houser, Kenneth Koberlein, George Lerhay, June Lerhay, Mike Meachem, Robert Panepinto, Gary Summers and Judy Summers.
- VI. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND AGENDA**

ACTION BY THE BOARD:

Motion was made by Donald Motts to approve the minutes for the meeting of December 7, 2009, (pages 1-5), December 21, 2009 (pages 1-23) and this agenda for January 25, 2010 (pages 1- 15), as submitted, with the Board of Education reserving the right to add to the agenda, and take further action on any items raised in executive session where immediate action on such items is considered to be in the best interest of the District. Motion was seconded by Douglas Freeman and carried unanimously, 8-0.

- VII. **ANNOUNCEMENT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION** -- An executive session was held this evening at 5:15 p.m. before this meeting for the purpose of discussing personnel, litigation and negotiations.

VIII. **ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE BOARD**

Mr. Cole announced that today they celebrated Board recognition to honor all Board Directors. He stated that the students from all schools presented items to each Board member except for Mr. Gress and Ms. Hays who were not able to be present for this part. He stated that Mrs. Duggins will now make the presentation to Ms. Hays.

Mrs. Duggins stated that on behalf of the administration she would like to make the public aware that Board Directors have been elected for the past 175 years so that the community and the parents have a voice in public schools. She stated that this is also an unpaid position and Board members often devote 20 or more hours of their personal time a week attending meetings, reviewing materials, speaking with people, etc. Mrs. Duggins stated that she would like to thank the Board of Education for their help and support of our schools.

Ms. Kulick, Principal of Resica Elementary, thanked Ms. Hays for all that she does. She introduced, George Gerhart and Gabriella Foster, students of Resica Elementary, who came to show their appreciation on behalf of the staff and all students at Resica Elementary for all Ms. Hays does and to all Board members for their endless hours and dedication in serving the school district.

Mr. Cole stated that there will be another budget meeting on February 8, 2009. Ms. Bader stated that the preliminary budget needs to be adopted on this date.

IX. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- A. Mr. Freeman stated that the Monroe Career & Technical Institute (MCTI) is doing a great job and we should still support it. He stated that MCTI is helping the community a lot, especially with the adult programs. Mr. Freeman stated that MCTI is also trying to work on a two-year program with Northampton Community College. He stated that we should always have MCTI in our budget to support them. Mr. Brunkard stated that the meetings always go pretty well. He stated that it certainly is a good thing to be in cooperation and in conjunction with the other schools in Monroe County and in support of the MCTI. Mr. Brunkard stated that they are anticipating moving forward on the possibility of having it become a free standing school. He stated that it is a pretty exciting time to be there. Mr. Brunkard stated that he will be chairing the next meeting and he is looking forward to it. Mr. Cole stated that it was business as usual at the MCTI and all three representatives were in attendance.
- B. Mr. Robert Dilliplane, Principal of Lehman Intermediate, thanked all Board members who work daily, weekly, monthly and on a yearly basis to run the school district, especially in the times we have been experiencing lately. Mr. Dilliplane introduced, Giovette Foster and Faith Foster, students at Lehman Intermediate, who spoke on behalf of the staff and students at Lehman Intermediate. The students thanked Mr. Gress and all Board members and expressed their appreciation for their hard work.
- C. Ms. Hocker stated that the Colonial IU 20 will have their meeting this Wednesday. She stated the Board meetings are always a month behind and for the last two months, they did not have a meeting due to the holidays and bad weather. Ms. Hocker stated that next month, she will have information to report on the IU 20.
- D. Mr. Shearouse stated that the Middle Smithfield Elementary project continues to be on schedule. He stated that everything is moving ahead very rapidly. Mr. Shearouse stated that they are having a meeting on Wednesday to discuss when they can move into the new classrooms. He stated that they are hoping that they can move by the end of this month or beginning of next month. Mr. Shearouse stated that everyone is working together to get this project done. Mrs. Laverdure asked if this timeframe is ahead of schedule because she thought they would be moving during March, 2010. Mr. Shearouse stated that they are pushing to get new areas to work in; so, they are moving into new classrooms in order to have the extra portion of the hallway in the existing building to work in.
- E. Mrs. Laverdure stated that at the last budget meeting, concerns were expressed by the Board members and the public that the district needed to go back and look at the budget again. Mrs. Laverdure stated that we are going to be looking at a preliminary budget, which means that we cannot go up but we can go down. Mrs. Patricia Bader stated that she would like to submit the handout as the preliminary budget with the understanding that it can be reduced. She stated that she has been able to add \$2,075,000 in revenue to the revenues that she presented at the January 12th meeting, which included the 8.5% equalized tax increase, because the collection rate has improved. Mrs. Bader stated that she will continue to monitor revenues as they get closer to the final budget. She stated that the deficit from the January 12th meeting was \$7,154,200. She stated that they eliminated some proposed new staff from the expenditures such as teachers, secretaries, bus drivers and media increase at a total of \$301,900. Mrs. Bader stated that after reviewing numbers, other staff was also eliminated in the amount of \$1,053,300. She stated that they also cut technology initiatives from \$1,155,000 to \$619,800 based on a proposal where they are flattening out the purchase of the computers. Mrs. Bader stated that some will have purchases spread out while others will be on time. She stated that we do not have big swings with our expenditures. Mrs. Bader stated that at the last Property/Facilities Committee meeting, they increased expenditures by \$950,000 for the capital improvements. She stated that, in addition, they found grant expenditures that will be reducing the district's expenditures by \$100,000. Mrs. Bader stated that, right now, the district has a deficit of \$3,304,200. She stated that she will continue to give suggestions on what they can do to trim the deficit for the final budget because they will need to trim \$3,304,479. Mrs. Bader stated that she and Mrs. Laverdure will see where they can make further reductions to reduce taxes. She stated that they will look at staff through attrition and retirements. Mrs. Bader stated that they will be notified on March 1st of all potential retirements and they will continue to monitor staff based on enrollment to see where they can trim. She stated that Ms. Doyle will let them know that there is a debt refunding opportunity that can amount to about \$450,000 for the 2010/2011 school year. Mrs. Bader stated that Ms. Doyle will be at the February Board meeting to discuss this opportunity with the Board. She stated that Wolfington also has agreed to allow the district to delay buying back five buses and put them on a four year cycle. Mrs. Bader stated that the 2010/2011 school year is a heavy year of bus buy-outs. She stated that Wolfington is looking to see if this is something the district wants to do because they have a mileage cap and buses will come out of warranty, too. Mrs. Bader stated that she is recommending that a portion of the fund balance be used to pay some of the debt but the district has to make sure this makes sense to do. She stated that the debt is about 19 million dollars in the 2010/2011 school year but in the 2011/2012-2026/2027 it drops down about 17 million dollars. Therefore, for this one time spike she is recommending that the fund balance be used to pay the debt. Mrs. Bader stated that they always have an option or they can reduce the PSERS rate from 10.5% to 8.22%. She stated that, included in the Capital Reserves is half of the J. T. Lambert roof; therefore, the district can look at getting a small

bond issue for the roof and the Van Ness property renovations. Mrs. Bader stated that she is also looking at stimulus funds that are available to the district. She stated that PDE stated that the district qualifies for school construction bonds but we need to look into it. Mrs. Bader stated that we can put off the half of the roof repairs for another year and we can also not do the improvement for the Van Ness renovations. She stated that the Van Ness renovations is not included in the budget because she does not know how much it will be but guesses that it will be about \$600,000. Mrs. Bader stated that she will continue to monitor grant revenues and expenditures. She stated that they will need to add to the preliminary budget the salary negotiations and Race to the Top funds.

Ms. Hocker stated that if the funds for negotiations and Race To The Top are not included, then the preliminary budget can go higher but Mrs. Bader said that the preliminary budget cannot be raised. Mrs. Bader stated that the district will need to scale back in another area to include the salaries and the Race To The Top funds. Ms. Hocker asked what the tax hike will be. Mrs. Bader said it is an 8.5% equalized tax increase.

Mr. Cole stated that this is certainly a big step in the right direction but we have to continue doing some cutting; therefore, when we pass the preliminary budget, it is much closer to what the public can tolerate or stand. He stated that he wonders how much the taxpayers can take without bringing them to their knees. Mr. Cole stated that the easier cuts have been made to the preliminary budget but now they have to search out some of the ones that are painful to cut.

Mr. Brunkard stated that the issue of PSERS, which is the retirement fund, made him upset a few months ago when the Joint Operating Committee of the MCTI decided at one of their meetings in an addendum form, without much discussion or forethought, to contribute an additional 9% of our annual budget beyond the 8.22% that was already done to head off a crisis that looms in PSERS. He stated that the figures we looked at then were horrifying and he was the only one who voted against apportioning the money there. Mr. Brunkard stated that the former Board member, Keith Karkut who served on the Joint Operating Committee, offered to MCTI the 7.5% which is eight times as much money as was being asked by the then Joint Operating Committee Business Manager. He stated that in his opinion this was done without much thought and he has been looking into this issue ever since. Mr. Brunkard stated that the warnings loom but Mrs. Bader has arranged to have a PSERS presentation on March 2nd. He stated that the Board also received information for a website and does not know if other Board members have reviewed it; but, we are looking in years to come to have 25% of our budget instead of 8% or 10% go towards paying off our unfunded commitments to our retirees. Mr. Brunkard stated that he voted against this before, but he is now saying to look at reducing the allocation. He stated that there is also the idea to use the fund balance to reduce debt which makes sense but at the same time we will be seeking money for other things. Mr. Brunkard stated to put off roof repairs means that we are looking for damages. He stated that as Chairman of the Property/Facilities Committee, they are looking to repair the roof in two years. Mr. Brunkard stated that once the roof is repaired, we are good for many years into the future but at the moment we are continuing to lose money. He stated that year to year we put off making repairs in the buildings; therefore, the committee is going to be putting into the annual repairs to then pay in interest on the debt. Mr. Brunkard stated that we say right away that the \$2,000,000 is going to repay a debt but we are already way in debt. He stated that to say that we are going to use a million and a half puts us way below what we attributed to next year's allocation of our MCTI employees. Mr. Brunkard stated that we always have professional staff's salaries that need to be considered. He stated that we should not take a sunny approach to this and say that we have to cut because we have to take a hard look at PSERS. Mr. Brunkard stated if we do not address this now, we will address it then. He stated that roofs will leak and it will cost us more for damages then if we repair it now. Mr. Brunkard stated that everything we are not doing will all come due and he does not like the prospects of it any more than anybody else does. He stated that he feels for the taxpayers because he is one himself, but we have commitments.

Mr. Freeman asked what is the VanNess Property. Mr. Cole stated that it is the property on State Street immediately to the right of J. M. Hill Elementary that was part of a private owned home and part of the rectangle land to right of the parking lot. He stated that the district, several years ago, decided to purchase the VanNess property to improve the playground as well as the parking. Mr. Cole stated that the district has gone through the expenditure of the house and are holding on the project as far as the demolition and improvements to what might become part of the playground or parking area.

Ms. Hays stated that in her opinion the J. T. Lambert roof is a real concern because it can do more damage by creating mold and air quality problems for the students if it is not repaired. She stated that she hates to see the district take out of the fund balance because that is just borrowing now and we will pay for it dearly. Ms. Hays stated that the taxpayers are on their knees now. She stated that she has been doing extensive research and looking at properties and seeing why they have not been sold and it is due to the expensive school taxes. Ms. Hays stated that \$200 extra a month for some people is too much for them not to survive. She stated that it is not just in our district but in all Monroe County. Ms. Hays stated that this is way too much for our taxpayers to bear. She stated until one sees it on paper, all the foreclosures, one must ask if it is due to the school taxes. Ms. Hays stated that she is seeing short sales

up close and personal. She stated that the administrators have done a good job in cutting but we need to cut more. Ms. Hays stated that she is going to be firm on that due to what she has experienced in her profession.

Mrs. Bader stated that she would like to remind the Board that the preliminary budget must be passed by February 17, 2010. She stated that we are going to need to set up more meetings if they do not want these preliminary numbers. Mrs. Bader stated that we can meet on February 8th to look over everything. She stated that we have Jamie Doyle coming in February to give her presentation and the responses of those who plan to retire will not come in until March 1st. She stated that Sharon and she are committed to doing the cuts but they need to get the preliminary budget passed. Mrs. Laverdure stated that the PSERS' meeting on March 2nd will have outstanding information on the table for the Board to make an informed decision. Mr. Cole stated that he does not have a problem with setting up other meetings. He asked Mrs. Bader how much of the cuts that were presented from previous meetings were from the building level. Mrs. Bader stated that they were just administrative cuts. Mr. Cole stated that he would like to implore Mrs. Bader to take it to the building level for the next round of cuts and set a date early in February to get closer to adopting the preliminary budget for February 17th. Mrs. Bader stated that we can meet on the 8th and adopt on the 16th. Mrs. Laverdure stated that this will help us to get it back to the buildings. Mrs. Laverdure stated that they brought it down from 17% to 8.5% from the last presentation. Mr. Cole stated that this is very commendable; but, in his opinion, they have to take it down further before they vote on a preliminary budget. Mrs. Laverdure stated that they should then meet on the 8th and on the 16th.

Mr. Brunkard stated that, in addition to some other things, we are also making assumption from the State contribution. He stated that if the State comes up short we are that farther behind. Mr. Brunkard said, "Please do not make too many assumptions that everything will work itself out because we will end up in shortfalls and accruing more expenses".

Mr. Cole asked how many days late were our legislators this year because they do not have the concerns that we do. He stated that he is asking for all administrators to look again at their budget. Mr. Searfoss asked if we should set a goal for them to follow. Mr. Searfoss stated that they should probably tell them to cut 10%. Mr. Cole asked if any other Board member had a request for the building level administrators to attempt to cut their existing levels. Ms. Hocker stated that it is a good percentage all across the board for everyone to follow.

Mr. Gress stated that the debt service was up 19 million dollars and now we are asking them to cut 10% off their budget. He stated that we are paying for past mistakes. Mr. Gress stated that for every dollar we cut, we double it next year. He stated that for years we did not fund PSERS properly but now we want to cut the funds to 8.2% and now a State law will say to fund less. Mr. Gress stated that they passed gaming laws and we get nothing. He stated that we increase our senior rebates by \$150 and the State does not care about us. Mr. Gress stated that we are going to cut programs and kill the schools. He stated that Race To The Top should not get approved since we are not going to meet these goals and objectives. Mr. Gress stated that we have a turnover of buses but we have serious problems in the buildings. He stated that the football stadium needs to be fixed but if five members vote no it will get voted down and then when it falls and hits somebody it will hurt someone just to save the district about 35,000. Mr. Gress stated that the floor at J. T. Lambert needs to be replaced in the gym. He stated that we do not look at the long term planning. Mr. Gress stated that the 8.5% is not acceptable and we have to bring it down but we need to pass a preliminary budget. He stated that all principals gave us their budgets with their cuts so what are they going to cut, books? Mr. Gress stated that we are going to buy football jackets and athletic programs whatever they need. He stated that the Board members vote on spending but at budget time they do not want to approve the budget. Mr. Gress stated that we need to pass the preliminary budget on time. He stated that he was at the Property/Facilities Committee meeting and things need to be done. Mr. Gress said they spoke about MCTI and we will approve their fair share. He stated that we will just give them the money they ask and those kids get everything and we will cut it from the 82% of the kids in our schools. Mr. Gress stated that the MCTI and IU budgets will increase and they will pass; but, we are cutting from the majority of the kids.

Mr. Brunkard stated that they went through a process to ask the principals to cut. He stated that there were areas to augment money. Mr. Brunkard stated that, historically, teachers used to have pin money to buy necessities for the classroom which was money well spent. He stated that the money was used to pick up items that were overlooked for the classroom. Mr. Brunkard stated that we should spend money in our buildings and schools. He stated that building these large schools and looking at them on how much they cost over a period of time means nothing if we cannot run an education in them. Mr. Brunkard stated that we are here for the 8,200 students and owe something to our 1,400 employees. He stated that our Superintendent has to be commended; because, a year ago this district was being run by a Superintendent and three Assistant Superintendents but now we have one Superintendent and one Assistant Superintendent. Mr. Brunkard stated that this was a heavy cut and they have made a lot of other cuts. Mr. Brunkard stated that we are going to continue to make cuts but to make cuts in the areas that affect our conduct of business the most is not wise. He stated that there may be cuts in the buildings but all principals were forthcoming in doing

without and there are other things that we wish we could give them. He stated that year after year they take less and do without; therefore, instead of setting a percentage, lets tell them to look at what can be cut.

Ms. Hocker stated that we are preaching to the choir because we made mention for them to look all the way through their budget. She stated that at the last budget meeting, she looked at the pie chart and believes we would have enough in the budget if we not grant the raises that are expected because this was our biggest expenditure. Ms. Hocker stated that we are talking about cutting back on pennies, nickels and dimes, which I am against. She stated that we need to look from the top down because the majority of the money is eaten in salaries and retirements. Ms. Hocker stated that we are not in the position that we were last year, where we were stuck to a contract because this is a negotiating year for the contract. She stated that the only thing I have seen so far, with regards to negotiations with the various levels representing the employees, is that certain adjustments were made in two categories but nothing about lowering expectations of the raises. Ms. Hocker stated that she would rather keep everyone on staff and lessen or eliminate raises for a year because people will not go bankrupt without that raise but they will without a job.

Mr. Cole stated that Ms. Hocker is making some good points and we are heading into negotiations with an open mind. He stated that he hopes the employee group will do the same as we proceed. Mr. Cole stated that Mr. Searfoss had made a suggestion to ask for a 10% decrease from the budget figures at the building levels for the upcoming February 8th meeting. He stated that Ms. Hocker stated that she will endorse this percent and he will endorse it, too. Mr. Cole asked if we go ahead with this percent or should we, like Mr. Brunkard suggested, ask the principals to look at their budgets to see what can be cut without affecting the quality of the education of the students.

Ms. Hays asked if we asked for a 10% reduction from the building level, how much would that be. Ms. Bader stated it would be approximately \$140,000. Mrs. Laverdure stated that when they sat down with the principals they were respectful and kept their budgets at a minimal request. She stated that her husband says, "You cannot get blood from a turnip". Mrs. Laverdure stated that they have to be careful because this may not be the place to go in and cut. She stated that she can ask the principals to come back but the smaller buildings will be more affected because there is no place to cut. Mr. Gress stated that when the buildings presented their budget they said that they were not ordering staples. Mrs. Laverdure stated that the principals said that the teachers can staple the papers themselves. Mrs. Laverdure stated that they were not ordering staples for the Xerox machines. Mr. Gress stated that if they are not ordering this simple item then what else are we going cutting. Mr. Gress stated that Resica Elementary is asking for \$2,200 in capital improvements for cosmetic painting and Smithfield is asking for \$1,900 for capital improvements. He stated that the buildings put in their budget the minimal of what they needed. Mr. Gress stated that there are certain fixed expenses in the buildings that cost money so what else can they cut.

Mr. Motts stated that as he looked at the budgets, and he is one of the biggest sports fan, but we never cut in athletics. He stated that he signs checks every Friday and sees wasted money but they never make athletic cuts. Ms. Hays asked where is the money being wasted. Mr. Motts stated that he signed a check for a \$2,000 laptop. Mrs. Laverdure stated that they are approved through Mr. Borosh, our Director of Technology. Mr. Motts stated that we never go down the road of athletics. Mrs. Laverdure stated that Mr. Motts knows where she stands but academics and athletics go hand in hand. She stated that she believes if students are engaged, it goes along with their education. Mr. Motts stated that if we are asking them to cut pencils, books, papers, etc. then why do we not ask athletics to cut. Mrs. Laverdure said his point is well taken but they ask all departments to cut and it includes athletics. She stated that Mrs. Duggins sits down with departments to make the cuts. Mr. Motts stated that he sees the district paying 50 cents a mile for Dr. Bart to attend football game. He stated that he just signed a check for over \$900 for Dr. Bart to attend games up north. Mrs. Laverdure stated that mileage is part of Dr. Bart's contract. She stated that if you breakdown his expenses, his per diem expense for every Individualized Education Program (IEP) that he has to read and sign off by law, is very low. Mrs. Laverdure stated that we are looking at hundreds of IEP's that he reads and that is part of the law. She stated that he charges very little for it and she can show the breakdown. Mrs. Laverdure stated that you need to look at the whole contract in order to understand.

Ms. Hocker stated that we may need to get someone closer and there are a lot of things to look at in terms of these contracts. She stated that she does not mean to dance on every show but this is one thing that we need to take a closer look at. Ms. Hocker stated that we are not pointing to one person but we do have to look at transportation for people coming back and forth from the facilities to work. She stated that no one else pays people for coming to work. Ms. Hocker stated that there are other ways to address this but this is still just nickels and dimes but hundreds of them make mass amounts of money. She stated that the fact is what she mentioned before, to look at all expenses and any other transportation costs that we are paying within the district.

Mr. Freeman stated that we are looking at pennies but why not look at contracts we give out for supplies, computers, copy machines, etc. because this will save the district a lot of money by getting a better rate without hurting the district. He also suggested that the district close one of the schools and keep the students in house and bring teachers

in that are duly registered to teach special needs students instead of sending them to IU schools. Mr. Freeman stated that when you add the expenses it totals millions of dollars. Ms. Hocker stated that they have been talking about this for two years. Mr. Freeman stated that talking means nothing unless they do something about it. Ms. Hocker said she agrees with him. Mr. Freeman stated that he is tired of talking so why not get a committee to start doing and keep everything in house. Mrs. Laverdure stated that she is in favor of having a committee but when they have all the information and go back to the State, they will see all regulations that have to be in place to open up a specific building or to have the appropriate staff. She stated that they will need to hire one individual to teach two children when you can sub-contract them out which it is cheaper in the long run. Mr. Freeman stated that the number of checks we are giving out is about \$400,000-\$500,000 a month for alternative education. Mrs. Laverdure stated that some of the students are so specialized. Mr. Freeman stated to bring in house the other 90% that are not and have teachers in the district keep their jobs and have money coming into the district instead of going out.

Ms. Hays asked why did Pocono Mountain create a school for special needs students if it is not beneficial. She stated that we talked about how much our enrollment has diminished but we are enlarging Smithfield Elementary and Middle Smithfield Elementary and built East Stroudsburg Elementary. She asked why not close one school and use it for that alternative education purpose. Ms. Hays stated that this might be the most efficient way and we have not studied it any further. Ms. Hays asked what things are funded through the stimulus funds QSCB. Mrs. Bader stated Qualified Schools Construction Bonds are funded through stimulus funds. Ms. Hays asked when will we know if the district qualifies. Mrs. Bader said that the district qualifies and there will be another webinar in February to decide if these funds are good for us because right now we don't know. Mr. Gress stated that this is not free money because we will have to pay it back. He asked if it is worth going through the hoops because we will need a person to track this bond and make sure it gets paid. Mr. Gress stated that these funds are more hassle than it is worth and that is why it is all available because people are seeing it is not worth it. Mrs. Laverdure stated that she feels it is important to look at all money issues like the Race To The Top money because we do not have to pay it back. She stated that she thinks it is important that every initiative that is out there be explored. Mr. Gress stated that the district is cutting programs and increasing class sizes and doing everything against what was working for the grants. He stated that we are not buying supplies and books or following the Strategic Plan. Mr. Gress stated that now we want to start RTTT, which should not be approved because the kids are not going to do well.

Ms. Hays asked Mr. Gress where would be the best place to cut. Mr. Gress stated that there are a lot of places that we cannot cut due to the actions from the past Boards. Ms. Hays said that we need to be responsible, so where can we cut? Mr. Gress stated that there is not much to cut but we can look again. He stated that if the district wants to charge to pay to play with athletics then some kids cannot afford to see their siblings play. Mr. Gress stated that some students cannot buy sneakers or other items. He stated that there are other programs like the ESYA where kids cannot afford to play but they have a fund to help them out. Mr. Gress stated that it is better for the kids to be on a team than to be on the streets getting into trouble. He said that the State passes laws and they do not care what happens to the schools.

Mr. Cole stated that he is taking back his suggestion of cutting 10% from each building level and suggested that they take a look and voluntarily cut anything they can cut. He stated that the real onus will fall back on central administration to present potential cuts to pass the preliminary budget. Mr. Cole stated that the key words are "preliminary budget" where we can go down but cannot go up.

- F. Mrs. Laverdure welcomed the newly hired Director of Food Services, Mr. Paul Schmid. She also stated that there is a correction on the Personnel Items part of the agenda on page three under #5d which should state that Thomas Smith is at Smithfield Elementary and not Middle Smithfield Elementary.
- G. Mrs. Duggins stated that several schools met targets in each subgroup. She stated that since the No Child Left Behind law from 2002, these schools made AYP in all sub groups. Mrs. Duggins stated that there are three schools that have been very fortunate in making their goals for two consecutive years but most of them have made their goals for five to six years. She honored Lehman Intermediate (who made AYP for the past five years), Smithfield Elementary and J. M. Hill Elementary. Mrs. Duggins stated that all of our schools do have school success teams/school improvement teams who have evaluated the data and are looking at the growth and success. She stated that they have plans for continuous improvements. Mrs. Duggins stated that the bar keeps getting higher that by the year 2014, as it stands now, the students need to get 100% on their PSSA tests in grades 3-11 in reading and math and schools have to meet AYP. Mrs. Duggins stated that they are continuing to make continuous growth and are working very hard to meet targets. She congratulated the schools on their success.

- ❖ Board Policy to be considered for approval at the February 22, 2010, Board Meeting is available for review in the Superintendent's Office, J. T. Lambert's office and High School North's office on any District business day from 7:45 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.

- #209 Health Examinations

(See pages A-C)

X. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** -- Federal Programs
Title I
Title VI
Other Concerns

- A. Mr. Gary Summers stated that the material that was passed out on January 12th, page 4, had a revenue of \$136.5 million dollars and expenditures of \$143.7 million dollars with an 8.5% equalized tax increase which is 9.2% for Monroe County and 6.5% for Pike County. He stated that tonight you passed out a budget with a two million dollar increase in revenues and decreased your expenses by 1.7 million dollars. Mr. Summers stated that the district also decreased their budget's deficit and but the tax increase is still about 8.5%. Mrs. Bader stated that the budget was not balanced at 8.5% because if we had a balanced budget, the tax increase would have been 17.4%. Mr. Summers said that the Pocono Record should have reported a 17.5% tax increase and not 9.2%. Mrs. Bader stated that they reported an 8.5% tax increase with a budget deficit of seven million dollars. Mr. Summers said that it was bad reporting on behalf of the Pocono Record and he will take care of it tomorrow. Mr. Summers asked how much will the tax increase be for Monroe County and Pike County if the budget were to be approved today. Mrs. Bader stated that the budget assumptions have not changed because it is an 8.5% equalized budget which is 9.2% in Monroe County and 6.5% in Pike County but there is still a budget deficit. Mrs. Laverdure stated that they brought the deficit down. Mr. Summers asked if the district can pass this budget today with a three million dollar deficit and increase Monroe County by 9.2% and Pike County by 6.5%. Mrs. Bader asked does he mean if the district can legally pass this budget. Mr. Summer said, "Yes, legally". Mrs. Bader stated that the district has the exceptions to do that. Mr. Summers said he was confused because he read the article in the paper and understands the deficit but it was quite misleading. Mr. Summers stated that the district did a lot of work but did not fix his problem at all from a tax increase standpoint. Mrs. Laverdure stated that this is just the preliminary budget. Mr. Summers stated that he understands that this is a preliminary budget and he would not recommend that they do any draconian cuts because they have time to work through it. He stated that the district will need to take a new approach on how you deliver education because that is the only way you are going to resolve this problem. Mr. Summers stated to not do anything crazy right now but to step back. He stated that he hopes it gets done for the benefit of the students and also for the taxpayers.
- B. Mr. Richard Berkowitz stated that Mrs. Bader said that the overall budget of the district is about \$141,966,000 but the amount that is controlled by the schools equals about \$1,400,000. Mrs. Bader stated that this amount would be for the educational aspect that the teachers control and the principals control some, too. Mr. Berkowitz asked if they only control about one million dollars. Mrs. Bader stated that she did not have the total amount but had a break down. She stated that the elementary schools have in their instructional department a total of \$141,809 and the building principals control \$905,000 which is a total of \$1,046,089. Mrs. Bader stated that for the intermediate level the instructional department has \$264,721 and the building principals control \$451,000 which is a total of \$715,721. She stated that the high schools have in their instructional dept. \$816,205 and the building principals control \$571,000 which is a total of \$1,387,205. Mr. Berkowitz said that the schools would control about three million dollars out of a \$141,000,000 budget. Mr. Berkowitz asked what is the reason for the disparity between Monroe County and Pike County as far as the cost per student to educate them. Mrs. Bader stated that the properties are assessed by two different counties and they have different methods. She stated that the prices are different and the State Tax Equalization Board provides lists of market values and assessed values and, based on the market values, each county has to provide that share of the district's expenses for their millage. She stated that this is why Monroe County has 75% of the market value so they have to provide 75% support to the district and that 75% is then spread over the assessed value and that is why the two counties are different. Mr. Berkowitz said that there were great points brought up during today's budget concerns. He stated that it is very important to try to avoid accessing your reserve funds. He stated that he sat here most of last year and, of course, we are robbing Peter to pay Paul every time you cut into your reserve balance when you have an emergency issue which brings you back into the same problem as before. Mr. Berkowitz said there is nickel and diming going on but there is good research to be done in some of the line items. He stated the purchasing of computers is an issue and he hears that we are doing something different this year to save money but there is other ways with keeping pencils out of the classrooms. Mr. Berkowitz stated that he believes as you go into negotiations take a look at doing a one year contract that allows for a freeze or something that gives you flexibility. He stated that all other businesses have to

1. Resignations

- a. Balmoos, Brenda Cafeteria Worker (part-time, 4 hours) – East Stroudsburg Elementary
Effective Date: January 18, 2010
- b. Bittner, Gabriella Instructional Aide – Lehman Intermediate
Effective Date: January 22, 2010
- c. Garcia-Flecha, Isabel Student Helper – East Stroudsburg Elementary
Effective Date: at the end of the workday on January 29, 2010.
- d. Lauchaire, Nancy Instructional Aide - Middle Smithfield Elementary
Effective Date: at the end of the workday on February 4, 2010.
- e. Mellina, Bonnie Student Helper - Smithfield Elementary
Effective Date: at the end of the workday on February 12, 2010.
- f. Pelzer, Eric Custodian (2nd shift) - Bushkill Elementary
Effective Date: January 18, 2010
- g. Shearouse, Rachael Student Helper - Resica Elementary
Effective Date: at the end of the workday on January 22, 2010.

(See pages 16-22)

2. Retirement

- a. Van Solkema, Gerrit Custodian (2nd shift) - J. T. Lambert Intermediate
Effective Date: at the end of the workday on July 30, 2010.

(See page 23)

3. Change of Status

- | Name | Appointment |
|--------------------|---|
| a. Miller, Lorette | From: Instructional Aide (Step 1) - Middle Smithfield Elementary (LTS) To: Instructional Aide (Step 1) - Lehman Intermediate (Regular) Hourly Rate: \$13.28 Effective Date: January 25, 2010 Lorette replaces Gabriella Bittner who resigned. |

4. Leave of Absence (Extension) – In Accordance with School Board Policy #535

- a. Sintes, Carmen Instructional Aide – J. T. Lambert Intermediate
Effective Date: November 13, 2009
Length of Leave: now through January 22, 2010.

(Request received)

5. Leaves of Absence – In Accordance with School Board Policy #535

- a. Cross, Donald Custodian (3rd shift) – High School South
Effective Date: January 12, 2010
Length of Leave: January 29, 2010
- b. DelGuercio, Anthony Custodian (1st shift) – Middle Smithfield Elementary
Effective Date: December 11, 2009
Length of Leave: February 2, 2010

- c. Kallai, Eileen
Student Helper – High School North
Effective Date: December 2, 2009
Length of Leave: December 20, 2009
- d. Smith, Thomas
Custodian (2nd shift) – Smithfield Elementary
Effective Date: January 7, 2010
Length of Leave: January 29, 2010

(Applications for Leaves received)

6. Appointments – Regular

| Name | Appointment |
|------------------------|--|
| a. Barbera, Raquel | Student Helper (Step 1) - Bushkill Elementary Hourly Rate: \$10.17 Effective Date: January 20, 2010 This new position will be fully funded by Access and will replace an unfilled instructional aide position due to the reassignment of Bridget Keesser. |
| b. Bellis, Jon | Custodian (2 nd shift) (Step 1) - Bushkill Elementary Hourly Rate: \$12.09 (plus \$.40/per hour shift differential) Effective Date: February 8, 2010 Jon replaces Eric Pelzer who resigned. |
| c. Flores, Marta | Student Helper (Step 1) - J. M. Hill Elementary Hourly Rate: \$10.17 Effective Date: January 11, 2010 Marta replaces Sara Martinelli who resigned. |
| d. Glinska, Izabella | Student Helper (Step 1) - East Stroudsburg Elementary Hourly Rate: \$10.17 Effective Date: January 4, 2010 Izabella replaces Nancy Hagmaier who was reassigned. |
| e. Melchiorre, Maria | From: Instructional Aide (Step 1) - Lehman Intermediate (LTS) To: Instructional Aide (Step 1) - Middle Smithfield Elementary (Regular) Hourly Rate: \$13.28 Effective Date: February 5, 2010 Maria replaces Nancy Lauchaire who resigned. |
| f. Poplawski, Robert | Bus Driver (6 hour) (Step 1) - Transportation Hourly Rate: \$13.06 Effective Date: January 19, 2010 Robert replaces Billy Love who retired. |
| g. Schneebeli, Rachael | Student Helper (Step 1) - Bushkill Elementary Hourly Rate: \$10.17 Effective Date: January 25, 2010 This new position will be fully funded by Access and will replace an unfilled instructional aide position due to the resignation of Robin Hightman. |

7. Appointments – Long Term Substitute

| Name | Appointment |
|---------------------|---|
| a. Gatpo, Reynaldo | Custodian (3 rd shift) (Step 1) - J. T. Lambert Intermediate (LTS) Hourly Rate: \$12.09 (plus \$.50/per hour shift differential) Effective Date: January 21, 2010 through April 1, 2010 only. Reynaldo replaces Edward Sargent who is on a leave. |
| b. Olivera, Mirelda | Cafeteria Aide (Step 1) - Lehman Intermediate (LTS) Hourly Rate: \$10.00 Effective Date: January 12, 2010 through on or about the last student day of the 2009-2010 school year only. Mirelda replaces Alesia Allbaugh who is on worker's compensation. |

8. Substitute Appointments

| Name | Position(s) |
|--------------------------|--|
| a. Barbera, Raquel | Instructional Aide |
| b. Diaz, Denise | Cafeteria Aide, Cafeteria Worker |
| c. Gricko, Loretta | Cafeteria Aide, Cafeteria Worker |
| d. Hammond, Edward III | Security Guard |
| e. Hayes, Kathleen | Student Helper |
| f. Johnson, Andrea | Cafeteria Aide, Instructional Aide, Study Hall Monitor |
| g. Torregrossa, Joseph | Security Guard, Secretary, Student Helper |
| h. Torregrossa, Lucrecia | Cafeteria Aide, Cafeteria Worker, Instructional Aide, Student Helper, Student Hall Monitor |
| i. Wramage, Barbara | Custodian |
| j. Zahlman, Martha | Cafeteria Aide, Cafeteria Worker, Custodian, Study Hall Monitor |

D. Professional Staff – Uncompensated Leave of Absence (Extension)

ACTION BY THE BOARD:

Motion was made by Robert Cooke to approve the uncompensated leave of absence in accordance with the approved applicable policy, procedures and contractual agreement. Motion was seconded by Douglas Freeman and carried anonymously, 9-0.

1. Uncompensated Leave of Absence (Extension) – In Accordance with School Board Policy #439

- a. Perdomo, Ulrike
ESL teacher – Bushkill, High School North & South
Effective Date: September 16, 2009
Now Through: the end of the 2009-2010 school year.

(Request received)

E. Professional Staff – Uncompensated Leave of Absence

ACTION BY THE BOARD:

Motion was made by Bet Hays to approve the uncompensated leave of absence in accordance with the approved applicable policy, procedures and contractual agreement. Motion was seconded by Robert Gress and carried anonymously, 9-0.

1. Uncompensated Leave of Absence – In Accordance with School Board Policy #439

- a. Glaser, Kyle
Music teacher – J. T. Lambert Intermediate
Effective Date: February 22, 2010
Length of Leave: March 9, 2010

(Request received)

F. Professional Staff

ACTION BY THE BOARD:

Motion was made by Douglas Freeman to approve the leaves of absence, appointments and tenure to the professional staff designated, in accordance with the approved applicable policies, procedures [*subject to proper completion of all necessary documents and obtaining all necessary positive clearances*] and contractual agreement. Motion was seconded by Bet Hays and carried unanimously, 9-0.

1. **Leave of Absence (Extension) – In Accordance with School Board Policy #434**

- a. Goodwin, Nora Library Science teacher – J. M. Hill & Smithfield Elementary
Effective Date: December 22, 2009
Length of Leave: now through February 26, 2010.

(Request received)

2. **Leave of Absence (Extension) – In Accordance with School Board Policy #435**

- a. Glaser, Kyle Music teacher – J. T. Lambert Intermediate
Effective Date: December 21, 2009
Length of Leave: now through February 19, 2010

(Request received)

3. **Appointment - Regular**

- a. Walters, Jessica English teacher – High School North (TPE)
Salary: \$38,920.00, prorated (Step 1 Column 1)
Effective Date: January 25, 2010
Jessica replaces Kane Furst who was reassigned.

(See page 24)

4. **Appointments (Extension) – Long Term Substitutes**

- a. Brathwaite, Mearcy Library Science teacher – J. M. Hill & Smithfield Elementary (LTS)
Salary: \$38,920.00, prorated (Step 1 Column 1)
Effective Date: November 9, 2009 now through February 26, 2010 only.
Mearcy replaces Nora Goodwin who is on a leave.
- b. Smith, Jennifer Grade 3 teacher – J. M. Hill Elementary (LTS)
Salary: \$44,514.00 (Step 4 Column 3)
Effective Date: August 27, 2009 now through the last teacher day of the 2009-2010 school year only.
Jennifer replaces Shawn Wescott who was temporarily reassigned.

5. **Appointments – Long Term Substitutes**

- a. Clogg, Katye Music (Instrumental) teacher – J. Lambert Intermediate (LTS)
Salary: \$42,020.00, prorated (Step 1 Column 7)
Effective Date: December 10, 2009 through March 9, 2010 only.
Katye replaces Kyle Glaser who is on a leave.
- b. Svoboda, Lauren Special Education teacher – High School North (LTS)
Salary: \$38,920.00, prorated (Step 1 Column 1)
Effective Date: January 22, 2010 through on or about the last teacher day of the 2009-2010 school year only.
Lauren replaces Sherry Boyle who is on worker's compensation.

- c. Villa, Priscilla Kindergarten teacher – Bushkill Elementary (LTS)
 Salary: \$38,920.00, prorated (Step 1 Column 1)
 Effective Date: February 1, 2010 through April 30, 2010 only.
 Priscilla replaces Dawn Smith who is on a leave.

(See pages 25-27)

6. **Tenure in accordance with Article IX, Section 1121 of Pennsylvania School Code**

| | Name | Certification/School |
|----|------------------|---|
| a. | Cramer, Bryan | French/High School North |
| b. | Krammes, Barry | Social Studies/High School South |
| c. | Romagnoli, Alex | English/High School South |
| d. | Schmitt, Peter | Math/High School South |
| e. | Smith, Christina | Business-Computer-Info Technology/High School North |

7. **Substitute Appointments**

| | Name | Certification(s) |
|----|----------------------|-------------------------|
| a. | Corbett, Theresa | Elementary |
| b. | Curcio, Christina | Social Studies |
| c. | Harbaugh, Jamie | Biology |
| d. | Jones, Michael | Art |
| e. | Koilparampil, Regina | em (all areas) |
| f. | Lakatos, Vincent III | Social Studies |
| g. | LaLumia, Mansueto | em (all areas) |
| h. | McDermott, Kayleigh | Elementary |
| i. | Mejia, Lizette | Art, Social Studies |
| j. | O'Malley, Brendan | Elementary |
| k. | Reuter, Jennifer | Social Studies |
| l. | Stoneking, John | em (all areas) |
| m. | Svoboda, Lauren | Special Ed, Elementary |
| n. | Valle, Stephanie | em (all areas) |
| o. | Villa, Priscilla | Elementary |

8. **Homebound Appointments**

| | Name | Certification(s) |
|----|-----------------|-------------------------|
| a. | Harbaugh, Jamie | Biology |
| b. | Svoboda, Lauren | Special Ed, Elementary |

G. **Salary Change**

ACTION BY THE BOARD:

Motion was made by Bet Hays to approve the following salary change according to the 2005-2010 contractual agreement between the East Stroudsburg Area School District and the East Stroudsburg Education Association. The salary is prorated and effective December 24, 2009. Motion was seconded by Donald Motts and carried unanimously, 9-0.

| | Name | From: | To: |
|----|--------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| a. | Siptroth, Michelle | (\$53,001) Step 9 Col. 7 | (\$53,501) Step 9 Col. 8 |

H. Professional Staff - Teacher on Special Assignment

ACTION BY THE BOARD:

Motion was made by Donald Motts to approve Debra Padavano, Special Education teacher assigned to the High School North, as a Teacher on Special Assignment under the direction of Mr. Stephen Zall, Principal of the High School North. This temporary special assignment is due to the resignation of William Anthony Parks, Assistant Principal of the High School North and is effective February 1, 2010 through the last teacher day of the 2009-2010 school year only. Mrs. Padavano will receive a \$30.00 daily stipend for this temporary special assignment and will return to her special education teaching assignment commencing the 2010-2011 school year. Motion was seconded by James Brunkard and carried unanimously, 9-0.

I. Professional Staff – Teacher on Special Assignment

ACTION BY THE BOARD:

Motion was made by Donald Motts to approve Shawn Wescott, Grade 3 teacher at J. M. Hill Elementary School, as a Teacher on Special Assignment under the direction of Irene Duggins, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, assigned as an Instructional Technology Specialist for the second semester of the 2009-2010 school year only. This temporary new position will be fully funded by the Accountability Block Grant. Mr. Wescott will return to his elementary teaching assignment commencing the 2010-2011 school year. Motion was seconded by Douglas Freeman and carried unanimously, 9-0.

J. Extra Responsibility Positions

ACTION BY THE BOARD:

Motion was made by Bet Hays to approve the rescissions and appointments according to the 2005-2010 contractual agreement between the East Stroudsburg Area School District and the East Stroudsburg Education Association. Motion was seconded by James Brunkard and carried unanimously, 9-0.

1. Rescissions

| | Name | Position |
|----|-----------------|--|
| a. | Bowen, Karleigh | Intramural Field Hockey Co-Advisor – Lehman Intermediate |
| b. | Vitulli, Lisa | Girls' Soccer Assistant Coach – Lehman Intermediate |

(See pages 28-29)

2. Appointments for the 2009-2010 School Year

| | Last Name | First Name | Position | Building | Rate |
|----|------------------|-------------------|--|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| a. | Bigio | Jaclyn | Intramural Field Hockey Co-Advisor | High School North | \$23.00/hour (24 hour maximum) |
| b. | Diehl | Matthew | Intramural Girls' Volleyball Co-Advisor | High School North | \$23.00/hour (24 hour maximum) |
| c. | Zaso | Patricia | Intramural Girls' Volleyball Co-Advisor | High School North | \$23.00/hour (24 hour maximum) |
| d. | Ashcraft | Colien | Detention Supervisor | High School South | \$28.00/hour |
| e. | Krammes | Barry | Intramural Girls' Track & Field Advisor | High School South | \$23.00/hour (48 hour maximum) |
| f. | Nazario | Carlos | Volunteer Baseball Coach | High School South | not applicable |
| g. | Rose | Anthony | Intramural Weight Room Supervisor (1st half, winter season) | High School South | \$23.00/hour (48 hour maximum) |
| h. | Rose | Anthony | Intramural Weight Room Supervisor (2nd half, winter season) | High School South | \$23.00/hour (48 hour maximum) |
| i. | Bowen | Karleigh | Intramural Field Hockey Advisor | Lehman Intermediate | \$23.00/hour (48 hour maximum) |
| j. | Nigro | Christopher | Girls' Soccer Assistant Coach | Lehman Intermediate | \$1,450.00 |
| k. | Vitulli | Lisa | Girls' Soccer Head Coach | Lehman Intermediate | \$2,076.00 |

3. Mentor Appointments for the 2009-2010 School Year

| | Last Name | First Name | Position | Location | Effective date | Rate |
|----|-----------|------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|
| a. | Czahor | Susan | Mentor for Angela Britton | Resica Elementary | January 4, 2010 | \$600.00 (prorated) |
| b. | Lucchetti | MaryJo | Mentor for Fabiola Souffrant | East Stroudsburg Elementary | January 4, 2010 | \$600.00 (prorated) |
| c. | Soskil | Lori | Mentor for Maria Archer | High School North | through February 17, 2010 | \$600.00 (prorated) |
| d. | Zabriskie | Lisa | Mentor for Diane French | Bushkill Elementary | December 1, 2009 | \$600.00 (prorated) |
| e. | Hartopp | Cynthia | Mentor for Karen Fattorusso | High School North | January 4, 2010 | \$600.00 (prorated) |
| f. | Steakin | Susan | Mentor for Jaymie Sorrentino | East Stroudsburg Elementary | 2 nd semester | \$600.00 (prorated) |

XII. PETITION

ACTION BY THE BOARD:

Motion was made by Douglas Freeman to approve that the Solicitor and Superintendent of the District be authorized and directed to prepare and file a Petition with the Local Court of Common Pleas for the purpose of having Tracy Miller appointed as a school police (truancy) officer for the District. Motion was seconded by Donald Motts and carried unanimously, 9-0.

XIII. CONTRACTS

ACTION BY THE BOARD:

Motion was made by William Searfoss to approve the contracts listed for their specific services, rates and effective dates. Motion was seconded by Donald Motts and carried unanimously, 9-0.

| | NAME | SERVICE | RATE | PAYMENT FROM | EFFECTIVE DATE |
|-----|--|---|--|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. | Allen, Cindy | Sign Language Interpreter | Not to Exceed \$600.00 | Special Education | 12/09-6/30/10 |
| 2. | The Bollinger Law Firm, LLC (Dorothy Bollinger) | Revisions of Acceptable Use Policy | Not to Exceed \$675.00 | ITEC | 1/7/10-3/19/10 |
| 3. | Bridges, Marianne | Consultant for Administrative Cafeteria Services | \$1,059.40 | Supt. Contracted Services | 1/5/10, 1/7/10, 1/12/10 & 1/14/10 |
| 4. | Bushkill Emergency Corps. | Standby Ambulance coverage for JV/Freshmen Football Games at H.S. North | \$1,400.00 | Athletics Dept. | 8/22/09-10/26/09 |
| 5. | CompassLearning, Inc. | Professional Development Core Training | \$27,325.00 | EAP Grant | 1/1/10-2/28/11 |
| 6. | Dreibelbis, Sue | To write on-line curriculum – Biology II | Not to Exceed \$840.00 | Virtual Academy | 12/09-5/10 |
| 7. | Faust, Andy (Sweet, Stevens, Katz & Williams, LLP) | Professional Development in compliance with LRE monitoring. | \$2,000.00 | Professional Development | 1/22/10 |
| 8. | Gallagher, Richard | What Works in the Classroom – Part II | \$1,500.00 | Professional Development | 3/12/10 |
| 9. | Jackson, Elizabeth | Creative Writing for Teachers – Session 1 | \$150.00 | Professional Development | 1/22/10 |
| 10. | Jackson, Elizabeth | Creative Writing for Teachers – Session 2 | \$150.00 | Professional Development | 1/22/10 |
| 11. | Jennings, Dr. Eugene | Independent Educational Evaluation | \$350/hr., not to exceed \$3,500 | ACCESS | 1/26/10-2/26/10 |
| 12. | Lehigh Learning Academy | Alternative Education | \$100 per day/alternative ed; \$105 per day/special ed | District | 8/31/09-6/30/10 |

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| 13. | Monacelli, Vinnie | To write original, competitive show for our High School South indoor color guard. | \$1,200.00 | Music Department | 1/1/10-2/1/10 |
| 14. | Pocono Environment Education Center | Field Trips and Classroom Visits | Not to exceed \$7,800.00 | Title II A Grant | 1/10-6/10 |
| 15. | Stokes, C.R. | First Aid/CPR & AED training | \$60.00 | ACCESS | 1/22/10 |
| 16. | Stokes, C.R. | First Aid/CPR & AED training | Not to Exceed \$1,000.00 | ACCESS | 3/12/10 |
| 17. | Turner, Trish | Moodle – Beginner | \$150.00 | Professional Development | 3/18/10 |
| 18. | Turner, Trish | Moodle – Beginner guided practice | \$150.00 | Professional Development | 3/18/10 |
| 19. | Turner, Trish | Using Public Service Announcements for Authentic Assessments | \$75.00 | Professional Development | 4/8/10 |
| 20. | Turner, Trish | Moodle – Beginner Guided Practice | \$150.00 | Professional Development | 4/29/10 |
| 21. | Turner, Trish | Moodle – Beginner | \$150.00 | Professional Development | 4/29/10 |
| TRANSPORTATION | | | CONTRACTS | | |
| 22. | Davis Christine | Contract Transportation | \$122.54/day | Transportation Dept. | 11/23/09 |
| 23. | Frascella, Maria | Contract Transportation | \$122.93/day | Transportation Dept. | 11/17/09 |
| 24. | Frascella, Maria | Contract Transportation | \$30.56/day | Transportation Dept. | 12/1/09 |
| 25. | Gerst, Lisa | Contract Transportation | \$292.26/day | Transportation Dept. | 11/16/09 |
| 26. | Gerst, Lisa | Contract Transportation | \$309.86/day | Transportation Dept. | 11/17/09 |
| 27. | Gerst, Lisa | Contract Transportation | \$238.75/day | Transportation Dept. | 11/19/09 |
| 28. | Lastra, Christopher | Contract Transportation | \$151.62/day | Transportation Dept. | 11/16/09 |
| 29. | Lastra, Christopher | Contract Transportation | \$165.79/day | Transportation Dept. | 11/17/09 |
| 30. | Lastra, Steve | Contract Transportation | \$88.04/day | Transportation Dept. | 12/7/09 |
| 31. | Siska, Douglas | Contract Transportation | \$444.86/day | Transportation Dept. | 11/23/09 |
| 32. | Siska, Douglas | Contract Transportation | \$319.20/day | Transportation Dept. | 11/25/09 |
| 33. | Siska, Douglas | Contract Transportation | \$439.05/day | Transportation Dept. | 12/2/09 |
| 34. | Siska, Douglas | Contract Transportation | \$319.20/day | Transportation Dept. | 12/4/09 |

XIV. STUDENT ITEMS

A. Placements

ACTION BY THE BOARD:

Motion was made by William Searfoss to approve the agreed upon alternative placements for the students listed for specific schools and times indicated. Motion was seconded by Robert Cooke and carried unanimously, 9-0.

| | Student Number |
|----|-----------------------|
| a. | 09021011 |
| b. | 09021014 |
| c. | 09021110 |
| d. | 09171112 |
| e. | 09171213 |

(See page 30)

B. Overnight Field Trips

ACTION BY THE BOARD:

Motion was made by William Searfoss to approve the overnight field trips listed. The proposal and itineraries for the field trips meet the required Board Policy #121. Motion was seconded by Douglas Freeman and carried unanimously, 9-0.

| | Name | Activity | Location | Dates |
|----|------------------|---|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1. | Deuerlein, Alice | High School South – Key Club Conference | Hershey, PA | 3/5/10-3/7/10 |
| 2. | Moletto, Denise | High School South – Deca Fashion Club competition | Hershey, PA | 2/16/10-2/19/10 |
| 3. | Polmounter, Amy | High School South – FBLA competition | Hershey, PA | 4/11/10-4/14/10 |

(See pages 31-33)

C. Field Trips – 75 Miles or More

ACTION BY THE BOARD:

Motion was made by William Searfoss to approve the 75 miles or more field trips listed. The proposal and itineraries for the field trips meet the required Board Policy #121. Motion was seconded by Audrey Hocker and carried unanimously, 9-0.

| | Name | Activity | Location | Dates |
|----|--------------------------|--|----------------------------|--------------|
| 1. | Bove, Sheila | J. T. Lambert’s P.A.C.E. Club to Steel Work Training Center for a competition. | Philadelphia, PA | 1/23/10 |
| 2. | Blundetto, Liz | J. M. Hill Elementary to Harrisburg/Hershey World | Harrisburg, PA/Hershey, PA | 4/6/10 |
| 3. | Delp, Judy | PA DECA Annual Leadership Conference and Competition for MCTI students. | Hershey, PA | 2/17/10 |
| 4. | Espinoza, Marilyn | High School South Color Guard’s competition at Daniel Boone High School | Birdsboro, PA | 3/17/10 |
| 5. | LaBar Keith/Bakner, Paul | High School North Chorale Band to attend perform during Music in Our Schools Month at the Capitol. | Harrisburg, PA | 3/15/10 |
| 6. | LaBar, Keith | High School North Choirs to perform/compete during Music in the Park | Hershey, PA | 5/28/10 |
| 7. | Trauschke, Thomas | East Stroudsburg Elementary 4 th Grade class to Museum of Natural History | New York, NY | 5/20/10 |

(See pages 35-41)

D. ESASD 2010-2011 School Calendar

ACTION BY THE BOARD:

Motion was made by William Searfoss to approve the East Stroudsburg Area School District 2010-2011 School Calendar pursuant to Policy 803. Motion was seconded by Douglas Freeman. A roll call vote was taken and passed 5-4. Horace Cole, Douglas Freeman, Bet Hays, Audrey Hocker and William Searfoss voted yes. James Brunkard, Robert Cooke, Robert Gress and Donald Motts voted no.

(See page 42)

E. Census in Schools Week

ACTION BY THE BOARD:

Motion was made by Bet Hays to designate the week of February 15-19, 2010 as Census in Schools Week for the East Stroudsburg Area School District to provide an opportunity for our schools to work together to ensure that every child and household member in our community is counted in the 2010 Census. Motion was seconded by Douglas Freeman and carried unanimously, 9-0.

(See pages 43-44)

XV. PROGRAM OF STUDIES

ACTION BY THE BOARD:

Motion was made by Bet Hays to approve the Program of Studies for use in the East Stroudsburg Area School District for the 2010-2011 school year. Motion was seconded by Robert Cooke and carried unanimously, 9-0.

XVI. OLD AND NEW BUSINESS

XVII. BOARD POLICY

ACTION BY THE BOARD:

Motion was made by Donald Motts to approve the board policy listed for use in the East Stroudsburg Area School District. Motion was seconded by Bet Hays and carried unanimously, 9-0.

1. # 802 -- School Organization

(See page 45)

XVIII. ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

ACTION BY THE BOARD:

Motion was made by Bet Hays to approve the East Stroudsburg Area School District Organizational Chart and East Stroudsburg Area School District Core Function Organizational Chart pursuant to Board Policy 008 - Administrative Organization as presented. Motion was seconded by William Searfoss. A second motion was made by James Brunkard to postpone the motion indefinitely. Second motion was seconded by William Searfoss and carried unanimously, 9-0 to postpone.

(See pages 46-47)

XIX. PENTELEDATA FOR WIDE AREA NETWORK (WAN)

ACTION BY THE BOARD:

Motion was made by William Searfoss to approve the contract between the East Stroudsburg Area School District and PenTeleData for Wide Area Network (WAN) services between school district facilities at a total monthly cost of \$16,918.00, subject to review by the Solicitor and Administration for modifications or additions to the benefit of the District. This total monthly cost is prior to any e-Rate funding discounts for which the school district may be eligible (estimated to be a discount of 68% for the 2010-2011 fiscal year.) These services have been selected from bids received by the IU for WAN and Internet services in compliance with the USAC's SLD bidding requirements for Federal e-Rate funding. The term of commitment to this contract is for the period beginning July 1, 2010 and ending June 30, 2015. Motion was seconded by Bet Hays and passed 8-1. Douglas Freeman voted no.

(See pages 48-61)

XX. FISCAL ITEMS

(The following item(s) are to be deleted from the consensus motion at Board Member(s) request.)

A. Fixed Asset Appraisal

ACTION BY THE BOARD:

Motion was made by Donald Motts to accept the proposal from Industrial Appraisal Company to conduct an on-site inspection and appraisal of the buildings, site improvements, fixed equipment and moveable equipment for all locations in the East Stroudsburg Area School District, at a cost not to exceed \$25,950.00. Motion was seconded by Bet Hays and carried unanimously, 9-0.

(See pages 62-78)

B. 2007 G.O. Bonds – Arbitrage Rebate

ACTION BY THE BOARD:

Motion was made by Donald Motts to approve payment to the Internal Revenue Service for an Arbitrage Yield Restriction Liability for the General Obligation Bond Series of 2007 in the amount of \$60,563.95 as of January 3, 2010. This amount is due by reason of the District having received arbitrage earnings in excess of the permissible arbitrage yield limit. Motion was seconded by Robert Gress and carried unanimously, 9-0.

(See pages 79-87)

C. Change Orders – High School South

ACTION BY THE BOARD:

Motion was made by William Searfoss to approve the following change orders as presented to the Board. Motion was seconded by Douglas Freeman and carried unanimously, 9-0.

(See pages 88-89)

Change Order G-59 Boro Construction in the additional amount of \$3,999.28 to remove the existing water line in Maple Street from N. Courtland Building. This corresponds with CO # P-33 for a deduct in the amount of \$3,999.28.

Change Order P-33 for Lagana Plumbing to reduce the contract by \$3,999.28 (backcharge) to remove existing water line in Maple Street from N. Courtland Building. This corresponds with CO # G-59 in the amount of \$3,999.28

D. Change Order – Middle Smithfield Elementary

ACTION BY THE BOARD:

Motion was made by James Brunkard to approve change order #7 for Crest Environmental Services Corp. in the amount of an additional \$7, 844.31 for the removal of Bat feces. Motion was seconded by Robert Gress. A roll call vote was taken and failed 4-5. James Brunkard, Horace Cole, Robert Gress and Bet Hays voted yes. Robert Cooke, Douglas Freeman, Audrey Hocker, Donald Motts and William Searfoss voted no.

(See pages 90-91)

E. Portnoff Law Associate, Ltd.

ACTION BY THE BOARD:

Motion was made by Robert Gress to authorize the Solicitor to initiate action against Portnoff Law Associates, Ltd. to recover commissions paid to the Monroe County and Pike County Tax Claim Bureaus, as well as possible additional fees and costs, arising out of Portnoff's provision of tax collection services for the District. Motion was seconded by Douglas Freeman and carried unanimously, 9-0.

F. Petition for Rule to Show Cause

ACTION BY THE BOARD:

Motion was made by Robert Gress that the Board not contest or file objections to the Petition for Rule to Show Cause as to Why Property Should not be Sold Free and Clear of All Encumbrances and the Rule issued by the Pike County Court indexed to No. 2474 Civil 2009 with regard to properties remaining unsold from the October 2, 2009 tax upset sale. Motion was seconded by Douglas Freeman and carried unanimously, 9-0.

(See pages 92-95)

G. Bond Payments

1.

ACTION BY THE BOARD:

Motion was made Donald Motts to approve the current invoices for construction and related costs associated with the Bond Issue 2008: \$914,081.31. Motion was seconded by Robert Gress and carried unanimously, 9-0.

(See pages 96-97)

2.

ACTION BY THE BOARD:

Motion was made by Audrey Hocker to approve the current invoices for construction and related costs associated with the Bond Issue 2008 needing retroactive approval: \$500.00. Motion was seconded by Douglas Freeman and carried unanimously, 9-0.

(See page 98)

H. Use of Facilities

1.

ACTION BY THE BOARD:

Motion was made by William Searfoss to approve the requests for the use of facilities as listed for Class 1 school-related activities (no facility fees will be incurred as per Policy #707). Motion was seconded by James Brunkard and carried unanimously, 9-0.

CLASS 1 – SCHOOL-RELATED USE OF FACILITIES – (Sports Feeder Programs/Student Educational Enrichment Programs)

| Board Agenda | BUILDING | DATE from | DATE to | ORGANIZATION | EVENT | Facility Fee Waived |
|---------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|----------------|--|---|----------------------------|
| 1/25/10 | HS South | 1/5/10 | 3/5/10 | ESYA Basketball | Practices | Y |
| 1/25/10 | HS South | 2/27/10 Alt. 2/20 or 3/6 | 2/27/10 | E. S. Little League | Tryouts | Y |
| 1/25/10 | HS South | 3/15/10 | 6/30/10 | E.S. Little League, Babe Ruth & Connie Mack | Practices & Games | Y |
| 1/25/10 | JT Lambert | 3/15/10 | 6/30/10 | E. S. Little League, Babe Ruth & Connie Mack | Practices & Games | Y |
| 1/25/10 | JT Lambert | 2/8/10 | 5/10/10 | PIAA Softball Umpires Chapter | Meetings to review rules and procedures | Y |
| 1/25/10 | Smithfield | 2/4/10 | 2/4/10 | Cub Scout Pack 92 | Snow date for Pinewood Derby | Y |

(See pages 99-105)

2.

ACTION BY THE BOARD:

Motion was made by Douglas Freeman to approve the request for use of facilities as listed for Class 2 Governmental Agency (no facility fees incurred as per Policy #707). Motion was seconded by William Searfoss and carried unanimously, 9-0.

CLASS 2 – GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY USE OF FACILITIES

| Board Agenda | BUILDING | DATE from | DATE to | ORGANIZATION | EVENT | Facility Fees Assessed |
|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|----------------|---|--------------|-------------------------------|
| 1/25/10 | Administration Center | Date and time to be determined | | Pocono Services for Families and Children | Meeting | N |

(See page 106)

I. Budget Transfers, Payment of Bills and Treasurer’s Report

ACTION BY THE BOARD:

Motion was made by Donald Motts to approve the Budget Transfers, Payment of Bills and Treasurer’s Report listed in this agenda for the 2009-2010 fiscal year, in accordance with Section 687 of the Public School Code, recent directives from the Department of Education, and interpretations made by the Auditor General. Motion was seconded by William Searfoss and carried unanimously, 9-0.

1. Budget Transfers - (See pages 107-122)
2. Payment of Bills - (See pages 123-149)
3. Treasurer’s Report - (See pages 150-165)

XXI. ANNOUNCEMENTS/INFORMATION

Mr. Cole asked the Board members to decide on a time for the Special Board Budget meeting that will be held on Monday, February 8, 2010. The Board members agreed to meet at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room at the Administration Center.

XXII. ADJOURNMENT 10:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia L. Rosado
Board Secretary