Education and Technology Committee

Tuesday, September 8, 2026 4:00 PM Eastern

The Administration Building / Conference Room
5775 Main St.
Center Valley, PA 18034

1. OPENING PROCEDURES A. Call to Order
   B. Recording of Attendance
   - 1.A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES A. Motion to approve the Policy Committee meeting minutes of
2. VISITORS' COMMENTS A. Comments will be limited to three minutes per speaker to provide input to the board on items that are before us.
3. Education Updates
   - 3.A. Elementary Statistics - ALEKS360
   - 3.B. K-5 Social Studies Curriculum Review
   - 3.C. K-12 Career and Personal Finance Curriculum Review
   - 3.D. Updates - AI, STEM/STEELS, Clubs and Activities, Cyber Wellness Checks
4. Technology Updates
5. VISITORS' COMMENTS
6. ADJOURNMENT A. Adjourn

Southern Lehigh School District
Education and Technology Committee Minutes
June 1, 2026

Southern Lehigh School District
Education/Technology Committee Meeting Minutes
June 1, 2026
Conference Room
Southern Lehigh Administration Building
5775 Main Street
Center Valley, PA 18034
4:30 pm

Members present: Mr. Tim Kearney, Mr. Josh Rager, Mrs. Melissa Torba
Members absent: Mr. Chris Sykora (excused)
Administrators present: Dr. Karen Trinkle, Dr. Tamara Solometo, Dr. Tracy Smith, Mr. Jim Stulgis, Mrs. Kelly Katzbeck

1. OPENING PROCEDURES

A. Call to Order

1. The meeting was called to order at 4:40 PM

B. Recording of Attendance

1. Present: Mr. Tim Kearney, Mr. Josh Rager, Mrs. Melissa Torba
2. Absent: Mr. Chris Sykora (excused)

2. **Visitors' Comments:**

A brief update provided on Full Day Kindergarten and Grade 3 Transition

3. **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

A. Approval of 5/4/26 Education Committee Meeting Minutes

1. **Motion to approve the Education and Technology Committee meeting minutes: 5/4/2026**
    a. Motion & Second: Mrs. Torba & Mr. Rager

4. **EDUCATION AGENDA ITEMS**

A. Education & Technology Committee Presentation

5. **EDUCATION ITEMS**

A. Kindergarten Math Interventions: With Full Day K, there will be the opportunity for interventions. Kick start will be offered to all of the students focusing on basic magnitude comparison, mathematical relations, counting, & basic arithmetic 1:1 comparison, counting to 30, subitizing, counting on from a number, knowing numbers from letters, greater/less, recognizing numerals. Part and parcel of the math curriculum review.

Number Worlds will offer a high level intervention focusing on counting, quantity schemas, and structure for single-digit numbers. The committee recommends moving forward with board consideration for approval.

B. LinkIt!: Select staff completed a free half-year pilot. Official recommendation to adopt LinkIt! Platform. There will be a priority focus on MTSS and Title I teams at JPLIS and SLMS. This will be open to other departments with specific needs. This will build data culture & analysis for Title 1, assist with meeting Structured Literacy requirements, and Course placements & data integration. There will be a dedicated focus on professional development and comprehensive capacity building throughout Year 1. The data visualized displays student proficiency levels across multiple assessment periods. LinkIt! provides granular insights into student growth and performance trends. This will support the instructional processes, course recommendations, and will continue to build capacity with operational use. Additional Professional Development and support will be provided. The committee recommends moving forward with board consideration for approval.

C. SeeSawAI: This is an add on to existing account and piloted for Spring 2026 and with additional Professional Development for use. The AI component is only for teacher use, and there will be no student AI access. Students can engage as an interactive opportunity and use this as an active fluency lesson and student literacy lessons. This also covers digital literacy opportunities for support and age appropriate instructional resources for our teachers for use. This is a renewal one year adoption and assess the AI add on. There is high teacher engagement and utilization and also offers school to parent communication of progress on learning. The committee recommends moving forward with board consideration for approval.

D. Updates: AI, STEELS, and Summer Professional Learning
Artificial Intelligence: All levels met and the May focus areas: Common Priorities and K-12 Digital Literacy and the K-12 Summer focus areas includeSafety and Security, Academic Integrity, K-12 Digital Literacy - Scope and Sequence, and Professional Learning

First year of STEELS: -aligned PSSA (5th/8th) and will continue to look at additional opportunities for learning. Strong start K-12 for STEELS alignment, covering the following areas:

- Science integration into Kindergarten play-based unit
- Career connections
- Amplify Science in grades 6-8
- First year of STEELS-aligned Bio Keystone
- Discovery Education & Pivot Interactives
- PD and preparation for BSCS Biology

Summer Professional Development:
Elementary & Middle School:
Arts & Letters (K-6), Amplify Desmos (K-5), Elementary Social Studies Review, SeeSawAI, LinkIt!, Honors 8th Grade Science

High School & District Wide:
Savvas World History, Mapas (Klett World Languages), Career, Education, and Work + Personal Finance, Asynchronous AI

6. **TECHNOLOGY ITEMS:**

A. Tech Ticketing System Update: Mojo is made and specialized for educational purposes. Will be rolling it out to test it and customize it for use. Will continue to evaluate existing systems and be prepared to roll out in the beginning of 2026-2027.

B. Phone Replacement System Update: Preliminary review of infrastructure to explore, analyze and optimize expenditures. Replace with a system that is more operational and fiscally responsible.

C. Device Deployment Update: All 12th grade devices collected. Collected iPads in grade 7 and deployed the new devices. 8th grade iPads collected and redeployed the 12th grade devices. Working for remaining device collection and deployment.

D. End of Year Update:
   a. Infinite Campus- First year of proactive work- what can Infinite Campus do, besides basic operations. Partnered with another school district to assess and evaluate options within the system. Working with technology, Infinite Campus, and transportation to sync systems correctly. Annual verification will be available in the portal and first day forms to be accessible and completed within Infinite Campus. Scheduling updates for the 2026-27 school year were provided.

7. **Visitors' Comments:**

- Comments offered on the Utilization of Kickstart beyond Kindergarten.
- Comments offered onLinkit! Parent use and communication and use for academic monitoring.
- Positive feedback provided on student engagement with Amplify.
- Positive feedback provided on 8th grade Honors Science course development.
- Reaffirmed the focus on K-2 STEM opportunities**.**

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

A. Meeting was adjourned at: 6:23 PM

Notes taken by Dr. Karen Trinkle. ***Respectfully submitted:***
Nicole Lounsberry, Board Secretary & Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

Southern Lehigh School District Education and Technology Committee

September 8, 2026

Learning - Serving - Leading
One Interaction at a Time

Agenda

- Education Updates
  - ALEKS360
  - K-5 Social Studies
  - K-12 Career and Personal Finance
  - Updates - AI, STEELS, Clubs & Activities, Cyber Wellness Checks
- Technology Updates
  - Mojo Helpdesk Rollout
  - Kindergarten iPad Distribution
  - Standard Start of Year Flood

ALEKS 360- Statistics

Seamless Integration

Upgrading to ALEKS 360 pairs adaptive practice with Bluman's Elementary Statistics for one-click textbook access.

Rich Content & Media

Embeds video tutorials, interactive applets, and worked examples directly within step-by-step reading passages.

Single Sign-On

Eliminates separate logins and platforms; both students and teachers operate within a single, unified ecosystem.

Progress Tracking

Teachers can align adaptive learning paths with chapters and assign targeted reading inside one dashboard.

Cost Efficiency

Full licenses often cost less per student than purchasing standalone physical textbooks with online access keys.

Active Feedback

Unlike static text in Cengage, ALEKS 360 links adaptive AI practice directly to context-sensitive interactive content.

K-5 Social Studies

Action Steps Completed

Vision & Alignment

Established the SLSD Social Studies vision, aligned high-focus PA standards across K–8, mapped Wit & Wisdom/Arts & Letters alignment for K–5, and initiated new unit templates.

Gap & Redundancy

Identified areas of curriculum overlap (e.g., repetitive geography/economics topics) and content gaps (e.g., civics in grades 2–3, pre-colonial history in grade 5).

Priority & Eval

Defined instructional priorities (inquiry, primary sources, storytelling) and logistical requirements (schedule fit, Spanish translations, digital/print balance).

Curriculum Exploration

Began reviewing five potential core programs. Administrators met with reps and collected physical/digital samples to narrow to top 3.

District Outreach

Reached out to partner PA school districts (e.g., Hempfield, North Penn, Rose Tree Media) to gather implementation feedback and schedule consultations.

K-5 Social Studies

Timeline of next steps…

Fall



Materials Deep Dive

Reconvene team; examine physical samples, vendor Q&A, peer district feedback to narrow down choices.

Fall 2026



Framework Development

Draft K-12 Social Studies 'one-pager' overview and an evaluation tool to guide selection.

Fall/Winter 2026-27



Review Meetings

Conduct 2-3 brief review meetings across the fall and winter.

Feb-March 2027



Final Recommendation

Finalize curriculum following Feb PD; present to Education Committee in March

April 2027



Implementation Prep

Begin implementation planning in April.

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One Interaction at a Time

K-12 Career and Personal Finance

Standards

PA Career Standards:

The updated PA CEW Standards took effect on July 1, 2026.

Personal Finance:

New Academic Standards implemented July 1, 2026, supporting the HS course for 2026-2027.

Alignment & Team

Team Collaboration:

A collaborative team of counselors and personal finance teachers has been formed to better align roles and responsibilities.

Implementation Goals:

Reviewing career resources to ensure seamless delivery and collaboration during the 2026–2027 school year.

Resource & Scope

Resource Review (26-27):

The team actively reviews career resources for robust implementation during the upcoming school year.

K-12 Scope and Sequence:

The chosen solution streamlines student career artifacts collection and provides a vertically aligned K–12 scope.

Update - Artificial Intelligence

Meetings

Summer Sessions

The AI Steering Committee convened 3 times over the course of the summer to guide the district's strategic approach to educational AI.

Focus Areas

Vision & Ethics

Concentrated on defining the district's vision for AI integration, establishing guidelines for ethics and academic integrity, and building a foundation for AI literacy.

AR Timeline

AI Regulation

Discussions centered on establishing a clear timeline to draft and finalize an Administrative Regulation (AR) governing educational AI use.

PD & Rollout

Implementation

Mapped out strategies for staff and student rollouts, alongside targeted professional development opportunities to support effective implementation.

AI in SLSD - A Thoughtful Approach

> *"AI is already in our schools. The question is not whether to engage, but how to do so thoughtfully."*
>
> **— Center for Democracy and Technology [cite: 7]**
>
> 2025 EdWeek Research Center Programs.com AI Education Statistics, 2026

Strategic Framework

Explore the full presentation detailing our strategic vision, guidelines, and planned timeline for AI integration within the Southern Lehigh School District.

View Presentation →

Update - STEM and STEELS

Grade-Level Focus

K–5 Focus: Elementary educators are strengthening their use of 3-dimensional assessment practices.

Grades 6–8: Refining Amplify Science implementation, targeting assessments, grading, and Engineering Internships.

High School: Refining implementation of BSCS Biology, Pivot Interactives, and Discovery Education Tech Books.

Future Offerings

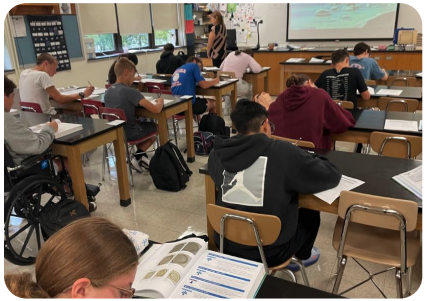
New Honors 8th Grade Science: Curriculum development has officially begun for a new advanced course, scheduled to launch in 2027–2028.

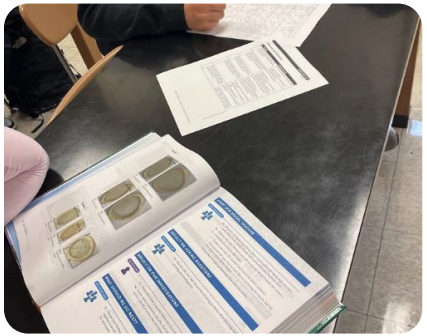
New K–2 STEM Course: Initial plans and early pathway development are underway for a dedicated primary STEM course, targeted for 2027–2028.

Standards & Results

STEELS Implementation: District-wide integration of new Science, Technology & Engineering, Environmental Literacy and Sustainability standards continues robustly.

Delayed Assessments: PSSA Science and Keystone Biology scores are slated for late release due to state standard-setting, expected in October.





Update - Clubs & Activities

Strategic Vision & K-6 Program Overview

Purpose & Vision

Continually evaluate student activities to ensure alignment with post-secondary outcomes, fiscal responsibility, and the district's mission to be inclusive, innovative, and inspiring.

K–2 Primary Level (HW/LB)

Focus: Focuses on family connection and play-based learning via PTG/PTA events (e.g., Read Across America, Arts & Music Night, Walk-a-thon).

Current Status: *No formal after-school clubs offered at this level.*

3–6 Intermediate School (IS)

Stipend Offerings (7): First Lego League, Reading Olympics, Math 24, STEM Club, Homework Club, Band/Orchestra, and Chorus/Chorale.

Volunteer Offerings (4): Mathcounts, 6th Grade Play, Spartan Service Corps, and Girls on the Run.

Update - Clubs & Activities

Secondary Programs (7-12)

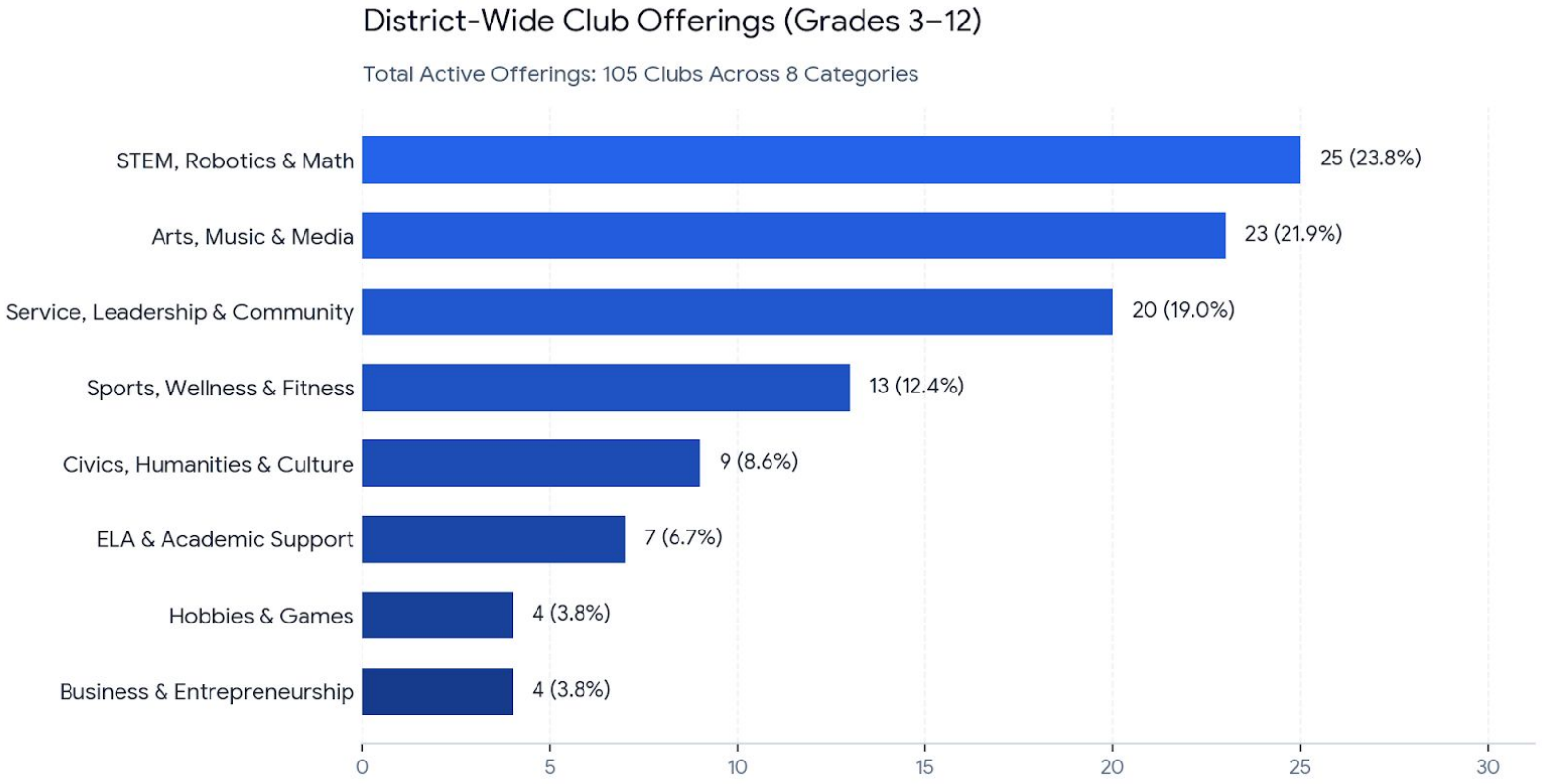
7–8 Middle School (MS)

- **Co-Curriculars:** 13 CBA stipend programs (e.g., NJHS, Robotics, PJAS, E-Sports, Musical) and 1 non-stipend program (Studio 22).
- **In-School Activity Period:** 25+ unpaid trimester offerings focused on STEM, service, wellness, and arts.

9–12 High School (HS)

- **CBA Stipend Clubs (16):** FBLA, Speech & Debate, Robotics, TSA, Scholastic Scrimmage, Student Council, and arts/drama programs.
- **Non-Stipend Spartan Block Clubs (40+):** Academic, service, and special-interest clubs running during the school day.

Update - Clubs & Activities



Update - Clubs & Activities

Key Considerations

Next Steps

- **Engage Stakeholders:** Administer targeted surveys to students and families to gather feedback on current offerings and emerging interest areas.
- **Inform Program Refinement:** Use data insights to address interest gaps, enhance existing activities, and guide future advisor/funding decisions.

Challenges

- **Advisor & Staffing Gaps:** 5 requested clubs (Ocean Clean-Up, Badminton, Lehigh Science Fair, Mock Trial, Make-a-Wish) remain inactive as district explores staff capacity.
- **Advisor Bandwidth:** Bandwidth is restricted; for example, MathCounts at MS could only be offered in the mornings before school due to advisor availability and coaching conflicts.

Update - Cyber Wellness Checks

Policy & Scope

PA Mandate: Weekly wellness checks mandated for full-time virtual students (3+ days/week).

Applicability: Applies to Spartan Academy students 100% virtual for 3+ days per week.

Implementation

Process: Streamlined system established to efficiently conduct and log weekly well checks.

Communication: Letters sent to families detailing mandate, purpose, and expectations.

Follow-Up

Protocol: Clear administrative procedures are in place to quickly reach out and follow up with any student who misses a scheduled weekly check.

Technology

Mojo Helpdesk

Finalizing implementation of Mojo Helpdesk ticketing platform.

Back to School Tickets

Resolving the standard start-of-year rush:

- Broken summer devices
- Online class rostering
- Standard equipment needs

Kindergarten iPads

Deploying mobile devices specifically configured for early learning classes.

Thank You!

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Southern Lehigh Sch Dist
5775 MAIN ST
CENTER VALLEY, PA 18034-8439
ACCOUNT NUMBER: 411081

SUBSCRIPTION/DIGITAL CONTACT:

CONTACT:

SALES REP INFORMATION:

Josh Funk
josh.funk@mheducation.com
(848) 264-2519

Section Summary	Value of All Materials	Free Materials	Product Subtotal
Bluman, Elementary Statistics, ©2018, 10e (1 Year)	$3,488.40	($68.40)	$3,420.00
PRODUCT TOTAL*	$3,488.40	($68.40)	$3,420.00
ESTIMATED S&H**			$0.00
ESTIMATED TAX**			$0.00
GRAND TOTAL*			$3,420.00

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Product Description	ISBN	Qty	Unit Price	Free Materials	Line Subtotal
Bluman, Elementary Statistics, ©2018, 10e (1 Year)					
BLUMAN ELEM STATS 2018 10E ALEKSR360 OPEN LEARNING 40 WEEK STUDENT SUBSCRIPTION	978-1-26-577810-1	50	$68.40	$0.00	$3,420.00
BLUMAN ELEM STATS 2018 10E ALEKSR360 OPEN LEARNING 40 WEEK TEACHER SUBSCRIPTION	978-1-26-578284-9	1	$68.40	$68.40	*Free Materials
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VALUE OF ALL MATERIALS	$3,488.40
FREE MATERIALS	($68.40)
PRODUCT TOTAL*	**$3,420.00**
ESTIMATED SHIPPING & HANDLING**	$0.00
ESTIMATED TAX**	$0.00
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