

On January 23, 2006, the board meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Spring-Ford Area School District was called to order at 7:37 p.m. in the cafeteria of the Spring-Ford High School with the following in attendance:

Region I: Michael V. Masciandaro, Bernard F. Pettit and Raymond J. Rocchio, Jr.

Region II: Ammon G. Morgan, Jr., and Joseph M. Petrowski,

Region III: Joseph P. Ciresi, John S. Grispon, and Robert A. Weber

Presiding Officer: Donna L. Williams

Superintendent: Dr. Marsha R. Hurda

Business Manager: Tim Anspach

Solicitor: Marc Davis, Esq.

Student Rep.: Kiley Morsch

Board President, Mrs. Williams, opened the meeting with the call to order, roll call and the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**I. DISTRICT GOALS**

No questions or comments.

**II. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY**

Cathy Regan, Limerick Township, said she was looking at the two options for the school calendar and wondered if the board was voting tonight on whether or not to open the schools on Election Day. Mrs. Williams confirmed that the board would be voting on the two options for the school calendar. Ms. Regan asked that the board vote for option 1 and if they vote for option 2 she would like to know how the board will insure the safety of the children

Julie Mullin, Upper Providence Township, wanted to speak about the calendar options and asked that the board vote in favor of option 1 which closes the schools on Election Day. She commented that of the 22 school districts in Montgomery County 14 are closed on Election Day and she would like us to continue to be one of the 14. Ms. Mullin commented that 2000 people should not be allowed in the building at their own free will on Election Day. Ms. Mullin quoted the Spring-Ford Board Policy 707.1 and she feels our only option is to close schools on those days. She asked if the board had checked with the people who work in the buildings. Ms. Mullin said the kids are kept in their classrooms all day long and are not permitted to go out to recess or eat their lunch in the cafeteria. She does not feel this is in the best interest of the kids.

Cindy Messerle, Limerick Township, said she is also in favor of option 1. She commented that closing the schools on Election Day only changes the calendar by one day. She supports option 1 which keeps the children out of school while there are strangers within the school

Richard Schroeder, Spring City Borough, questioned Item G14 and wanted to know the time and place of the presentation. Mr. McDaniel said the main part of the presentation will take place in the evening for parents and student but there will be an after school presentation for athletes. The date will be February 2 at 7:00 p.m. at the high school. Mr. Schroeder said this sounds like a very fine program and wanted to bring it forward in an effort to advertise the event. Mr. Schroeder commented that he supports option 1 of the calendar and is upset that the board is revisiting this. He said, as former board member, the calendar was changed so school would be closed on Election Day in response to significant input by the public and he asked the current board to maintain the course on the school calendar as it pertains to Election Day.

Eric Johnson, Limerick Township, said he is a student at the 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Center and has experienced the polls in the schools and students being kept in the classroom. He said this is a big pain for students and when they are permitted to go outside for recess they are not allowed to do anything due to all the cars in the parking lot. He is in favor of option 1.

**III. PRESENTATION**

Dr. Hurda gave an overview of the Keystone Achievement Awards for adequate yearly progress for two years in a row. She commented that the students in our district are scoring far above the required proficiency rates. She then presented the awards to each of the schools listed below.

A. Presentation of Keystone Achievement Awards to the following schools:

Brooke Elementary	Spring City Elementary
Limerick Elementary	Upper Providence Elementary
Oaks Elementary	Intermediate 5/6 Grade Center
Royersford Elementary	Senior High School

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Masciandaro made a motion to approve Items A-D minutes and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

- A. The administration approved the November 21, 2005 work session minutes.
- B. The administration approved the November 28, 2005 board meeting minutes.
- C. The administration approved the November 30, 2005 special board meeting minutes.

**NEW APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- D. The administration approved the December 5, 2005 reorganization meeting minutes.
- E. The administration approved the December 5, 2005 board meeting minutes.

**V. BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

PSBA    Ray Rocchio, Jr.    TBD  
Mr. Rocchio said the legislative report for January 19 was filed. The state board of education considered two sets of changes to the Chapter 49 Regulation for the certification of professional personnel. The intention of the state board is to adopt a plan that will not require dual certification for early childhood and elementary education teachers but will require special education teachers to be dually certified in special education and specific subject content. PSBA will have their legislative leadership conference which will be held on March 5-6, 2006 at the Hershey Lodge & Convention Center.

Mr. Grispon added that the Montgomery County Legislative Committee is coming up with legislative priorities for Montgomery County and they must be in by Friday so if any board member is interested please email or call him.

Mrs. Williams said the chair skipped Item E under Approval of Minutes and she asked for a motion to approve this item. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Item E and Mr. Masciandaro seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

**VI. FINANCE**

Mr. Rocchio made a motion to approve Items A-P and Mr. Petrowski seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

- A. Administration approved payment for the following invoices for the month of **JANUARY**, in connection with the **SERIES G.O.B. 2003**:

**1. WINNIES PROJECT**

DLR Group	Professional Services	\$	5,299.45
Foreman Architects	Professional Services	\$	4,407.50
SMJ Contracting Inc.	Applic. #1- General Contractor	\$	106,933.95
SMJ Contracting Inc.	Applic. #2- General Contractor	\$	81,278.55
DLR Group	Professional Services	\$	4,239.56
Zap Digital Inc	Copies of Prints	\$	46.87
Fox Rothschild LLP	Professional Services (5 Inv.)	\$	6,808.30
Limerick Township	Municipal Authority Escrow	\$	3,000.00
Spring-Ford A.S.D.	Reimburse General Fund	\$	78.13
US Laboratories Inc.	Soils Inspection	\$	155.00
Zap Digital Inc	Copies of Prints (2 Inv.)	\$	113.27
*SMJ Contracting Inc.	Applic. #3- General Contractor	\$	208,895.40
*MBR Construction	Applic. #1- Electrical Contractor	\$	14,760.00
*Jay R Reynolds Inc	Applic. #1- Plumbing Contractor	\$	38,104.87
*Worth & Co., Inc.	Applic. #1- Mechanical -HVAC	\$	<u>88,537.50</u>

TOTAL \$ 562,658.35

**2. INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL/MIDDLE SCHOOL PROJECT**

Nave Newell, Inc.	Professional Services	\$ 774.00
Fox Rothschild LLP	Professional Services (7 Inv.)	\$ 20,646.99
	TOTAL	\$ 21,420.99

**3. 9th GRADE CENTER/**

Archie Heflin	Plumbing Contractor	\$ 1,870.00
Best Buy	2 Mini Stereos/Chorus Band	\$ 359.98
Bovertown Supply Inc	Misc. Plumbing Supplies	\$ 424.49
Colonial Electric Sup.	Misc. Electrical Supplies	\$ 125.95
Denney Electric	Misc. Electrical Supplies	\$ 123.89
Ferguson Supply Co.	Misc. Plumbing Supplies (4 Inv.)	\$ 298.36
Flex-Y-Plan	Furniture (Guidance Area)	\$ 611.00
Gale Print Sales	Encyclopedias (1 Set)	\$ 160.50
Gopher	Fitness Flooring Rubber Mats	\$ 337.44
Home Depot	Misc. Supplies (Spec. Ed. Clsrm)	\$ 323.54
Peter Lumber	Misc. Supplies	\$ 253.51
Sportmaster	Misc. Physical Ed. Equipment	\$ 1,249.00
Wabash Valley Mfg.	12 -6' Benches	\$ 5,714.95
Wenger	Legacy Acoustical Shells/Music	\$ 13,992.00
Air Handling Co.	Misc. Parts/Air Handling Sys	\$ 2,015.91
Colonial Electric Sup	Misc. Electrical Supplies	\$ 198.03
Denney Electric Sup	Misc. Electrical Supplies	\$ 343.18
Gale Print Sales	Encyclopedias (2 Sets)	\$ 493.00
Knowbuddy Res.	Library Books	\$ 1,958.56
Library Video Co.	Library Books/DVD's (2 Inv.)	\$ 5,591.46
Robert E Little	Walk Under Cab/Snowblower	\$ 199.00
Perma-Bound	Library Books	\$ 58.97
Recorded Books	Library Audiobooks	\$ 2,417.01
Recreation Res. Inc	Wall Pads/Installation	\$ 3,851.90
School Specialty	Chairmats (15)	\$ 589.00
*Air Handling Co	Misc. Parts/Dust Collector HVAC	\$ 642.60
*Archie Heflin	Plumbing Contractor	\$ 1,983.00
*Spring-Ford A.S.D.	Reimburse G.F.-Substitute	\$ 4,210.94
	Salary Board Approved April 05	
*U.S. Food Service	Small Kitchen Equipment	\$ 1,150.10
	TOTAL	\$ 51,547.27

B. Administration approved payment for the following invoices for the month of **JANUARY**, in connection with the **CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNT – Fund 22:**

Sukonik/Greenstein Condemnation

Fox Rothschild	Professional Services	\$ 349.94
*Simone Jaffe Collins	Professional Services	\$ 406.10
	TOTAL	\$ 756.04

Brooke Elementary School-Re-Roofing Project

*Arthur Altemose AIA	Professional Services	\$ 7,425.00
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TOTAL \$ 7,425.00

New District Office

Fox Rothschild LLP	Professional Services	\$ 34.00
Zap Digital Inc	Prints/Architect	\$ 19.53
	TOTAL	\$ 53.53

School of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

Architecture Furst	Professional Services	\$ 23,935.55
Sweet Stevens LLP	Professional Services	\$ 597.20
	TOTAL	\$ 24,532.75

C. Administration approved next month's payroll, taxes, all benefits, transportation contracts, IU contracts, Vo-Tech payments, debt service payments, utility bills, maintenance agreements, copier leases, equipment maintenance, Federal grants, insurance, and discounted invoices.

D. Checks:

1. Weekly Checks prior to Work Session

November

Check No. 107267-107351 \$ 631,072.71

December

Check No. 107352-107753 \$1,515,140.07

2. Weekly Checks prior to Board Meeting

Check No. 107754-107841 \$ 624,401.38

Check No. 107842-107972 \$ 651,090.57

3. Board Checks held for approval

Check No. 107973-108154 \$ 219,967.59

4. Athletic Fund- November

November

Check No. 297715-297770 \$ 12,438.76

December

Check No. 297771-297921 \$ 19,942.05

E. Administration approved the **Cafeteria Listing** of Bills:

**November**

Checks No. 6055 - 6100 \$ 222,920.20

**December**

Checks No. 6101 – 6138 \$ 186,983.34

F. The following Treasurers' Reports were approved:

General Fund

- Money Market
- PSDLAF
- PSDMAX
- Checking Account

- PLGIT Account
- Investment Accounts & Investment Schedule
- Payroll Account
- Tax Account

Activity Accounts

- Elementary Activity
- 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Activity
- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Activity
- High School Activity
- Athletic Account

Bond Funds

- Note of 2003
- Note Of 2004

Other Funds

- Capital Reserve Fund & Investment Schedule
- Debt Service Fund
- Reservation of Funds (Natatorium, Insurance, Retirement)

Cafeteria Fund

- Cafeteria Money Market
- Cafeteria Checking Account
- Cafeteria PSDLAF Account
- Investment Account

G. Administration approved the following **independent contracts**:

1. **Perkiomen Valley Watershed** - Schwenksville, PA. Provide two (2) presentations of "Winter Secrets" for kindergarten students at Spring City Elementary on Wednesday, February 8, 2006 at 10:00 and 1:00 at seventy-five dollars (\$75.00) each. Funding will be paid from the Spring City Parent Teacher Association and shall not exceed one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00).
2. **Duane DeWire** - Northumberland, PA. Provide the Spring-Ford High School Marching Band with current state-of-the-art visual design that will stage the music and color of the band for the 2005-2006 school year. Services will be based on twenty-five (25) days at one hundred eighty-four dollars and twenty-eight cents (\$184.28) per day, not to exceed four thousand six hundred seven dollars (\$4,607.00). Funding will be paid from the high school extra-curricular fund.
3. **Stacy Hall Martellucci** – Mont Clare, PA. Provide a presentation to the 7<sup>th</sup> grade English classes in connection with writing. Contractor will present to small groups of 2-3 classes over three (3) half days from February 1 through February 3, 2006. Funding will be paid from the Assemblies and Speakers fund at the 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Center and shall not exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00).
4. **Inter Act Story Theater** – Silver Spring, MD. Provide assembly programs on the importance of honesty at Limerick Elementary and

Royersford Elementary on Thursday, February 23 and Friday, February 24, 2006. Funding will be paid from the Assemblies and Speakers fund at Limerick Elementary and Royersford Elementary Parent Teacher Organization and shall not exceed one thousand eight hundred twenty dollars (\$1,820.00).

5. **Lewis Nash** – Spring Valley, NY. Provide a clinic to the middle and high school students on Friday, February 24, 2006 as well as perform a ninety (90) minute jazz concert on Saturday, February 25, 2006 in connection with the Spring-Ford Middle School Jazz Festival. Funding will be paid by the School District and shall not exceed thirteen thousand dollars (\$13,000.00).
  
6. **Creative Health Services** – Spring City, PA. Provide a one (1) hour instructional assistants' training and a one (1) hour community presentation titled "Overview of Mental Disorders in Children and Adolescents". The cost of this training is twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) per session and shall not exceed fifty dollars (\$50.00). Funding will be paid from the 2005-2006 Pottstown Area Health and Wellness Foundation Grant.
  
7. **Renfrew Center Foundation** – Philadelphia, PA. Provide a one (1) hour community presentation and a one and one-half (1 ½) hour instructional assistants' presentation titled "Overview of Eating Disorders". The cost of this training is two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) per session and shall not exceed five hundred dollars (\$500.00). Funding will be paid from the 2005-2006 Pottstown Area Health and Wellness Foundation Grant.
  
8. **Cathy Grayson** – Bala Cynwyd, PA. Provide training at the in-service on Monday, April 10, 2006 to all district instructional assistants' on how to work with Asperger's Syndrome students. This training is for three (3) hours at a rate of one hundred fifteen dollars (\$115.00) per hour. The total contract shall not exceed three hundred forty-five dollars (\$345.00). Funding will be paid from the Professional Services Fund.
  
9. **Elyssa Cunningham** – Phoenixville, PA. Provide two (2) hours per week in-home Applied Behavior Analysis Therapy for a special needs student as per the IEP. The total cost of the program shall not exceed eight hundred eighty dollars (\$880.00). Funding will be paid from the 2005-2006 Special Education Budget. This contract is to supplement the contract approved at the September Board Meeting for Jeannine DeMartino who asked that her hours be reduced on her contract due to other obligations.

10. **Lenore Raynock** – Oley, PA. Provide ten (10) hours per week of in-home Applied Behavior Analysis Therapy for a special needs student as per the IEP for twenty-two (22) weeks at twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) per hour. The total cost of the program shall not exceed five thousand five hundred dollars (\$5,500.00). Funding will be paid from the 2005-2006 Special Education Budget.
11. **Jenifer Wurster** – Chalfont, PA. Provide communication support services for a special education student. Services will be provided for seven (7) hours per day for sixteen (16) days at twenty-two dollars (\$22.00) per hour. Funding will be provided from the 2005-2006 Special Education Budget and shall not exceed two thousand four hundred sixty-four dollars (\$2,464.00).
12. **Christine Harte** – Pottstown, PA. Provide reading tutoring for a special education student as per the IEP. Direct intervention service and consultation will be provided at a rate of fifty-five dollars (\$55.00) per hour for forty (40) hours between 1/19/06 and 6/30/06. Funding will be provided through Federal IDEA Funds and shall not exceed a total of two thousand two hundred dollars (2,200.00).

#### **NEW INDEPENDENT CONTRACTS**

13. **Andrea Rainville** – Phoenixville, PA. Provide in-home Applied Behavior Analysis Therapy for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for five (5) hours per week at a rate of twenty dollars (\$20.00) per hour for a total of one hundred (100) hours. Funding will be provided from the 2005-2006 Special Education Budget and shall not exceed a total of two thousand dollars (\$2000.00).
  14. **Rick Wire** – Carlisle, PA. Provide a presentation on Thursday, February 2, 2006 to student-athletes in grades 8, 9, 10 and 11 as well as their parents regarding the recently revised NCAA Clearinghouse academic requirements. The revisions pertain to the number of accepted core courses required for college athletic eligibility. This presentation is vital for those students contemplating college athletics as they prepare for their selection of courses in February for the 2006-2007 school year. Funding will be provided from the Athletic Budget and shall not exceed eight hundred thirty dollars (\$830.00).
- H. Administration approved obtaining bids for Trash Removal and Recycling for the 2006-2007 school year.
- I. Administration approved PlanCon part K for the refunding of the General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2005. The refunding occurred on a portion of the G.O.B. Series of 1997 and full



refunding of remaining funds of the G.O.B. Series of 2001. This report must be submitted to PDE.

- J. Administration approved the Independent Audit Report as submitted by Maillie, Falconiero & Company LLP for the fiscal year 2004/2005. Each board member has received their copy and a display copy is available at the district office.
- K. Administration approved the closing of the School Fund Account in the High School Activity Account.
- L. Administration approved (subject to solicitors' final approval) the (Winnies) new Spring-Ford Elementary School Construction Escrow Agreement for the purpose of reservation of funds in the amount of two hundred sixteen thousand dollars (\$216,000.00) for Sanitary Sewer Construction on the site. This agreement is between Spring-Ford Area School District, Limerick Township Municipal Authority, and National Penn Bank. Funds will be transferred to National Penn Bank from the construction fund.
- M. Administration approved seeking bids for supplies for the 2006-2007 school year. Supplies would include but not be limited to custodial, art, general, paper, medical, physical education, science, technology education, and furniture.
- N. Administration approved participating in the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit bid for copier paper and other bids deemed to be advantageous for the 2006-2007 school year.

**NEW FINANCE**

- O. The Board approved the following **exonerations** from the per capita tax for the 2005 – 2006 school year:

Limerick Township	No. 13-14
Royersford Borough	No. 26-27
Spring City Borough	No. 7
- P. The Board approved the following **additions and deletions** from the per capita tax for the 2005 – 2006 school year:

Royersford Borough Additions	No. 1-114
Royersford Borough Deletions	No. 1-250
Spring City Borough Additions	No. 1-32
Spring City Borough Deletions	No. 1-95
Upper Providence Township Deletions	No. 1-298

**VII. PROPERTY**

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Items A-B and Mr. Rocchio seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

- A. Administration approved obtaining bids to replace worn and damaged carpet with VCT tile at Brooke Elementary, Royersford Elementary and the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Center, as per the 2005-2006 budget. Funds will come from the General Fund Budget.
- B. Administration approved entering into a partnership with Abitibi Consolidated Recycling to recycle paper, catalogs, magazines, and newspapers. The program will promote recycling by placing Abitibi Recycling Bins, at no cost, at each school and will encourage students and families to become involved in the paper recovery process. Each school will be paid by Abitibi Consolidated Recycling for their collection efforts at a rate between \$5.00 - \$20.00 per ton.

**VIII. PERSONNEL**

Mr. Petrowski made a motion to approve Items A-L and Mr. Rocchio seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

Administration approved the following:

**A. Resignations:**

1. **Deborah L. Bojaciuk**, Media Department Head, effective January 22, 2006.
2. **Timothy Glass**, High School Boys Basketball Scoreboard Operator, effective December 5, 2005.
3. **Jay N. Greco**, Middle School Head Track Coach, effective December 12, 2005.
4. **Autumn Herbst**, Pep Club Advisor, effective January 29, 2006.
5. **Wendy Emery**, High School; Secretary, effective with the last day of worked, January 5, 2006.
6. **Ronald J. Heatwole**, School District; Maintenance, effective with the last day worked, February 1, 2006, for the purpose of retirement.
7. **Judith A. Reinhart**, Limerick Elementary School; Instructional Assistant, effective with the last day worked, January 6, 2006.
8. **JoDee Ziegler**, High School; Part time Food Service Worker, effective January 3, 2006.
9. **Debra Rufibach**, Oaks Elementary School; Playground Assistant, effective with the last day worked January 11, 2006.
10. **Elizabeth Semetti**, Private School Nurse, effective January 31, 2006.

B. **Leaves of Absence:**

1. **Nathaniel Fisher**, Intermediate School, 5/6<sup>th</sup> Grade Center; Instructional Assistant, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective January 17, 2006.
2. **Karen L. Kohr**, High School; Instructional Assistant, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective December 5, 2005.
3. **Rosemary A. Kolmus**, Oaks Elementary School; Instructional Assistant, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective January 4, 2006.
4. **Alison A. Milantoni**, Middle School, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Center; Instructional Assistant, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective January 23, 2006.
5. **Amy P. Bornais**, Royersford Elementary School; Teacher, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with the Professional Agreement, effective tentatively February 24, 2006 until the second semester of the 2006/2007 school year.
6. **Matthew R. Bornais**, Royersford Elementary School; Teacher, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective tentatively March 8, 2006.
7. **Jennifer McVey**, Oaks Elementary School, Teacher; for a Leave of Absence in accordance with the Professional Agreement, effective tentatively March 10, 2006 until the end of the 2005/2006 school year.
8. **Dena M. Moser**, Upper Providence Elementary School; Teacher, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with the Professional Agreement, effective tentatively April 17, 2006 until the end of the 2005/2006 school year.
9. **Nancy E. Quain**, Brooke Elementary School; School Psychologist, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with the Professional Agreement, effective tentatively March 3, 2006 until the end of the 2005/2006 school year.
10. **Elise Reiter**, Oaks Elementary School; Speech Therapist, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective tentatively March 20, 2006.
11. **Bevin A. Seislove**, Intermediate School, 5/6<sup>th</sup> Grade Center; Teacher, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with the Professional Agreement, effective tentatively March 23, 2006 until the end of the 2005/2006 school year.

12. **Sharon Von Minden**, Brooke Elementary School, Teacher, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with the Professional Agreement, effective tentatively March 24, 2006 until the end of the 2005/2006 school year.
13. **Susan Ibach**, Royersford Elementary School, Teacher, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with the Professional Policy, effective tentatively March 24, 2006 until the beginning of the second semester of 2006/2007.

**New Leave of Absence:**

14. **Laura Camp**, 5/6 Grade Center; Autistic Support Teacher, for a Leave of Absence, effective tentatively May 1, 2006 until the end of the 2005/2006 school year.

C. Administration approved the District's Section 125 Plan as an amended and restated version of the 1993 plan, restatement will be effective as of July 1, 2006, and will implement two additional benefit features/programs (medical expense reimbursement and dependent care assistance) to the current Plan for all District employees.

D. Administration approved Spring-Ford Area School District **Resolution #2006-01**, stipulating District Section 125 Plan for Professional Employees and Section 125 Plan for Support Employees, be amended, effective as of July 1, 2006, to incorporate therein medical expense reimbursement and dependent care assistance benefit programs, such programs to be implemented and administered through The Security Benefit Flexible Benefits Plan.

E. **Long Term Substitutes:**

1. **Barbara McGuigan**, High School; English Teacher, to continue as a Long Term Substitute for the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester of the 2005/2006 school year. Compensation will be set at \$36,000, BS, Step 1, prorated, with benefits.
2. **Danielle E. Quarino**, High School; Mathematics Teacher, compensation will be set at \$36,000, BS, Step 1, prorated, with benefits, effective tentatively January 30, 2006.

**New Long Term Substitutes:**

3. **Amanda Olsen**, Upper Providence Elementary School; Kindergarten Teacher, to continue as a Long Term Substitute for the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester of the 2005/2006 school year. Compensation will be set at \$36,000, BS, Step 1, prorated, with benefits.
4. **Marguerite Lownes**, Oaks Elementary School; Reading Specialist, compensation will be set at \$41,250, MS, Step 3, prorated, with benefits, effective retroactive to October 17, 2005 until the end of the 2005/2006 school year.

F. **Support Staff Employees:**

1. **Sally Whitton**, High School, 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Center; Custodian-compensation will be set at \$13.94 per hour as per the Custodial plan, effective January 24, 2006.
2. **Jennifer D. Wurster**, High School; Instructional Assistant – compensation will be set at \$12.53 per hour as per the Assistants' plan, effective January 24, 2006.

**New Support Staff Employees:**

3. **William Bryfogle, Jr.**, High School; School Police Officer, compensation will be set at \$25.00 per hour with benefits, effective date to be determined.
4. **Nichole G. Monahan**, Middle School, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Center; 3-Hour Food Service position – compensation will be set at \$11.84 per hour without benefits as per the Food Service Plan, effective January 24, 2006.

- G. Administration approved the elimination of Playground and Lunchroom Assistant position(s) effective January 23, 2006, and to approve Supplemental Contracts (which will subsequently be issued annually) for the following individuals effective January 24, 2006, through tentatively June 16, 2006:

- |                               |                       |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. BAUER, DEBRA               | 6. SCHOCH, CHRISTINE  |
| 2. COSTELLO FALCONE, PATRICIA | 7. SHANAMAN, PATRICIA |
| 3. GOREY, SHERYL              | 8. TIMMONS, LISA      |
| 4. GROVE, SHERRY              | 9. UEBELE, KATHY      |
| 5. GUZA, KAREN                | 10. WILSON, KAREN     |

H. **Extra-Curricular Contracts; High School:**

1. **Robert Sieracki**, Head Swimming Coach, \$5,487, Code B
2. **Leah Lenewearver**, Asst. Swimming Coach, \$3,967, Code D
3. **Deanna Williams**, Head Cheerleading Coach, Winter, \$2,293, Code G
4. **Nicole Gerenyi**, Musicale Choreographer, \$925, Code K
5. **Patrick Connors**, Intramural Baseball Coach, \$569, Code LB
6. **Joseph Alexander**, Boys' Basketball Scoreboard, \$28/hour, Code N
7. **Stacey L. Williams**, Volunteer Winter Track Coach, \$1.00, Code 1

**New Extra-Curricular Contracts; High School:**

8. **Michelle D. Adcock**, Winter Indoor Color Guard, \$2,679, Code F
9. **Geoffrey Kahler**, Asst. Boys'/Girls' Track Coach, \$2,679, Code F
10. **Douglas Landis**, Intramural Boys' Soccer Coach, \$569, Code LB

I. **Extra-Curricular Contracts; Middle School:**

1. **Todd Bowers**, Winter Play Director, \$1,233, Code J

**New Extra-Curricular Contracts; Middle School:**

2. **Jeannie Taddeo**, Magazine Drive, \$168.50, Code M1/2

**J. Professional Staff Substitutes**

1. **Jennifer Beck**
2. **Christina Brunner**
3. **George Held**
4. **Mary Ann Murrow**
5. **Deborah Piccirillo**
6. **David Susek**
7. **H. Thomas Walker**
8. **Amanda Wolfe**
9. **Kimberly Kramer**

**K. Support Staff Substitutes:**

1. **Steven Anspach**
2. **Deborah S. Curren**
3. **Kimberly Day**
4. **Gary Fretz**
5. **Ron Heatwole**
6. **Laura Honish**
7. **Linda Kolb**
8. **Donald W. Kollar**
9. **Denise Perri**
10. **Jacquelyn Raco**

**L. Personnel Information Items**

The individual(s) listed below have completed three (3) years of satisfactory service as temporary professional employee(s) and are, therefore, entitled to tenure status;

- |                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| 1. <b>Stephanie A. Frantz</b>  | Elementary Education<br>Early Childhood |
| 2. <b>Diane Campbell</b>       | Mentally/Physically Handicapped         |
| 3. <b>Georgeiann Sklenarik</b> | Elementary Education                    |

**IX. CONFERENCE/WORKSHOP RECOMMENDATIONS**

Mr. Petrowski made a motion to approve Items A-S and Mr. Morgan seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

The following individuals were approved for attendance at the following conferences/workshops:

<b>CODE: 580 Account: Conference/Training, registration, food, and accommodations</b>
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### DISTRICT OFFICE

- A. **Gary L. Spohn**, Director of Technology, and **Sarah K. Sacks**, Software Specialist to attend "*PA Educational Technology Expo & Conference*" in Hershey, PA from Sunday, February 19 through Tuesday, February 21, 2006. Mr. Spohn will not be attending on February 21, 2006. The total cost of this conference is \$1160.00 from the 580 account. No substitutes are needed.
- B. **Gary L. Spohn**, Director of Technology, to attend "*Microsoft Visual Basic Scripting & Windows Script Host Essentials*" at the Springhouse Computer School in Conshohocken, PA from Tuesday, February 21 through Thursday, February 23, 2006. The total cost of this conference is \$1228.65 from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.
- C. **Dr. Leticia Rodriguez**, Director of Human Resources, to attend "*SHRM – Society for Human Resource Management*" in Washington, DC from Sunday, June 25 through Wednesday, June 28, 2006. The total cost of the conference is \$1982.00 from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.
- D. **Dr. Lucille Candeloro**, Supervisor of Curriculum & Instruction, to attend "*PDE Reading Committee – PSSA Rangfinding*" in Harrisburg, PA from Tuesday, April 11 through Thursday April 13, 2006. There is no cost for this conference to the district as Dr. Candeloro is a member of PDE's Reading Assessment Committee.

### HIGH SCHOOL

- E. **Mickey McDaniel**, Director of Athletics, and **Barry L Shafer**, Coordinator of Athletics, to attend "*Pennsylvania State Athletic Directors Association Conference*" at the Hershey Lodge and Resort in Hershey, PA from Tuesday, March 21 through Saturday, March 25, 2006. The total cost of the conference is \$1450.00 from the Athletic Budget. No substitute is needed.
- F. **Kelly Meyer and Mary Palladino**, Teachers, to attend "*College Board Professional Development Workshop – AP Calculus AB & BC and AP Statistics*" at the Renaissance Hotel in Philadelphia, PA on Friday, February 10 and Saturday, February 11, 2006. The total cost of this conference is \$1041.00 - \$791.00 from the 580 account and \$250.00 from the substitute account.
- G. **Diana Ward**, FCS Chairperson/Teacher, to attend "*PAFCS Annual Conference – Making Connections*" at the Scanticon Conference Center in Valley Forge, PA on Thursday, April 6 and Friday, April 7, 2006. The total cost of this conference is \$556.00 - \$306.00 from the 580 account and \$250.00 from the substitute account.

### 9<sup>th</sup> GRADE CENTER

- H. **Heather Steinmetz**, Guidance Counselor, to attend "*An Introduction to Restorative Practices*" at the MCIU in Norristown, PA on Monday, April 24, 2006. There is no cost other than \$12.00 for transportation for this conference. No substitute is needed.

- I. **Craig Kehl, Dan Miscavage, Jeff Mast, and Marilyn Erb**, Teachers, to attend "*Reading Apprenticeship*" at PaTTAN in King of Prussia, PA on Wednesday, March 8 and Wednesday April 5, 2006. The total cost of this conference is \$1319.71 – 319.71 from the 580 account and \$1000.00 from the substitute account.

#### 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE CENTER

- J. **Sheila Egleston**, Math Support Teacher, to attend "*Designing Effective Math Instruction for Struggling Students*" at the MCIU in Norristown, PA on Friday, February 24, 2006. There is no registration fee for this conference so the total cost of the conference is \$145.00 – \$20.00 from the 580 account and \$125.00 from the substitute account.
- K. **Delores McCarter**, Guidance Counselor, to attend "*Cyberbullying*" at the MCIU in Norristown, PA on Thursday, March 2, 2006. There is no registration fee for this conference so the total cost is \$25.00 from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.

#### 7<sup>th</sup> GRADE CENTER

- L. **Victoria Adler, JoAnn Messer, Kathleen Gebhard and Agnes Bolyn**, Learning Support Teachers, to attend "*Make and Take for the PASA*" at the MCIU in Norristown, PA on Tuesday, March 14, 2006. There is no registration fee for this conference so the total cost is \$583.00 - \$83.00 from the Special Education Budget and \$500.00 from the substitute account.
- M. **Sandra Frost-Horvath**, School Nurse, to attend "*Student Assistance Program Training*" at the MCIU in Norristown, PA on March 27-28 and April 4-5, 2006. The total cost of this conference is \$880.00 - \$380.00 from the Safe and Drug Free Schools and Community Grant and \$500.00 from the substitute account.
- N. **Mindy Klunk**, Teacher, to attend "*Pathways to Leadership*" at the MCIU in Norristown, PA on Wednesday, February 1, 2006. The total cost for this conference is \$311.00 - \$86.00 from the 580 account and \$125.00 from the substitute account.
- O. **Debbie Longwell**, ESL Teacher, to attend "*The 2006 Regional ESL Materials Fair*" at the MCIU in Norristown, PA on Thursday, March 9, 2006. This conference is for a half day only. Total cost for this conference is \$97.85 - \$35.35 from the 580 account and \$62.50 from the substitute account.

#### 5/6 GRADE CENTER

- P. **Dennis Booher**, Assistant Principal, to attend "*Bullying & Social Aggression in PA*" at the Hilton Garden Inn in Philadelphia, PA on Friday, February 10, 2006. The total cost of the conference is \$342.00 from the Safe and Drug Free Schools and Community Grant. No substitute is needed.



**BROOKE**

- Q. **Sandra Hoff and Judith Rickard**, Teachers, to attend "*Kindergarten Conference for PA Teachers*" in Hershey, PA on Monday, March 6 and Tuesday, March 7, 2006. Judith will attend on Monday and Sandra on Tuesday. The total cost of this conference is \$794.96 - \$544.96 from the 580 account and \$250.00 from the substitute account.

**FACILITIES**

- R. **Doug Carson**, Maintenance Supervisor, to attend "*The Penn Stater – PA Rural Water Association 2006 Conference*" at the Penn Stater Conference Center and Hotel in Hershey, PA from Tuesday, March 21 through Friday, March 24, 2006. The total cost of this conference is \$497.00 from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.

**NEW CONFERENCE & WORKSHOP RECOMMENDATION**

**LIMERICK**

- S. **Traci Evans and Gwendolyn Hendrick**, Teachers, to attend "*Artist in Residence*" at either the Montgomery County or Chester County Intermediate Unit on Tuesday, February 7, 2006. There is no cost for this ½ day conference other than \$80.00 from the 580 account for mileage and \$125.00 from the substitute account.

**X. OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. Masciandaro asked that Items A and B be separated. Mr. Masciandaro made a motion to approve Item A and Mr. Ciresi seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

- A. Administration approved that student number 20506 be expelled from the Spring-Ford Area School District in accordance with the conditions presented by the Superintendent.

Mr. Masciandaro said he would like to discuss the description of the Ad Hoc Committee again and the rationale for changing the wording. He is opposed to the wording being changed. Mr. Grispon said he will take Mr. Masciandaro's concerns back to the Policy Committee for discussion and come back with a recommendation again. Mr. Masciandaro said he would like to hear from other board members to see what their opinions are. Mrs. Williams asked if Mr. Masciandaro had any other concerns within the policy that needed to be addressed and Mr. Masciandaro said no. Mrs. Williams asked if any other board members had any concerns before this goes back to the Policy Committee and there were no concerns voiced.

Mr. Rocchio asked if the board should revisit what committees are actually needed and can we eliminate some committees. Mr. Rocchio asked if this could be added to the next work session agenda for discussion. Mrs. Williams said that topic will be added to the next agenda. Mr. Masciandaro said a number of our committees are tasked right now through stated board goals so they do have work to do. He would like to see the committees come back to the board in their

committee reports and talk to the board at the next work session about what kind of work they intend to do and get reaction from the board. Mr. Grispon said it should be an agenda item for the February work session for discussion.

B. The following policies are submitted as a first reading:

1. Policy #005 - LOCAL BOARD PROCEDURES: Organization
2. Policy #137.1 – PROGRAMS: Extracurricular Participation by Home Education Students
3. Policy #227 – PUPILS: Drug Abuse

### **NEW OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. Grispon made a motion for Option 2 under Item C and Mr. Rocchio seconded it.

Mr. Pettit said he totally agrees with the public who spoke earlier especially the young student from the 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Center. He asked what better voice we have than the students themselves who are being disrupted. Mr. Pettit said he is in favor of option 1. Mr. Ciresi said he cannot see why we are re-addressing this when we are only talking about adding one day to the calendar. He said the closing of the buildings was never meant to offend the public. He is for option 1. Mr. Masciandaro questioned the differences between the two options which Dr. Hurda explained. Mr. Masciandaro said he is in favor of option 1. Mr. Masciandaro said he also talked with Joseph Passarella, Director of Voter Services for Montgomery County, and he said that he was very happy when we were able to close the district last year as it helps with the overcrowding issue. Mr. Weber asked what services the students are not allowed to use on Election Day. Dr. Hurda said she spoke to Mrs. Weidenbaugh and there was not much of an interruption to the children's services on Election Day at the 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Center. Dr. Hurda said she also spoke with Dr. Mackel and he advised her that the children are not able to use the cafeteria/gym and are not permitted to go out for recess. Mr. Ciresi said if the parent's in the district are in favor of the buildings being closed on Election Day then why are we even debating this. Mr. Ciresi asked Mr. Grispon why he is in favor of option 2 and Mr. Grispon said because he feels the schools are safe. Mr. Masciandaro said we have an in-service day out there and why not put it on the day of elections rather than another day in the year. Mr. Grispon said continuity of education is his concern as our in-service days are normally on a Monday or Friday and closing for Election Day would put the in-service in the middle of the week. Mr. Masciandaro asked Dr. Hurda about the disruption caused to students at the 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> Grade Center with the voting taking place at the adjoining 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Center. Dr. Hurda explained that although the 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Center may not see an impact the 5/6<sup>th</sup> Grade Center may experience this since the parking for voting is in the recess area for their students. Mr. Pettit said he does not understand the justification for wanting to change this since we have the option of utilizing the in-service day on Election Day. Mr. Petrowski asked if there are any other school days when the students do not receive recess and Dr. Hurda said on inclement weather days the students do not get to go outside for recess. Mr. Petrowski said he has talked to a number of residents feel the schools are their schools and they want to use the schools on Election Day and do not want to be singled out that they are a blight on the school district. Mr. Ciresi said the schools will be open for Election Day

for use but the students won't be there. He commented that if 14 other school districts in the county do not have school on Election Day why should we when we when we did not have school last year. Mr. Morgan said he would like to see all our buildings open to vote for our residents but he does not like to hear that we feel our children are not safe. He does not like the notion coming from the public that our children are in danger because he does not feel that is the case at all. Mr. Pettit said the safety issue is irrelevant because we are taking away any potential possibility of it by closing the schools on Election Day. Mrs. Williams asked about the safety issue when it comes to "Donuts for Dads" and wonders how we make everyone feel safe for those events. Mr. Pettit said he does not feel safety is an issue and he feels the kids are safe in school but we have an opportunity to have an in-service, which we have to have anyway, so why not make it on Election Day. Dr. Hurda commented that in sharing the calendar with the teacher's association that they felt very strongly about maintaining Easter Monday. Mrs. Williams asked if the calendar needed to be voted on this evening as there are two variables to be decided upon yet. Mr. Ciresi said that while he respects the union's opinion he does not feel the students need another day off for Easter as they will already be off a week prior to Easter. Dr. Hurda said the concern is that past practice has been that Easter Monday was always a day off. Mrs. Williams said she also spoke to Mr. Passarella and he indicated to her that they were looking to have a state law to close school for election because there have been difficulties in the past with districts wanting to have the election process going on in the buildings. Mrs. Williams stated that option 1 provides us with an in-service day on Election Day and she would lend her support to this option with the caveat that the voting go back to the front of the schools, be accessible, near handicapped parking spots and easy access for the senior citizens. Dr. Hurda said that if support is given for option 1 she will make sure that the polling places are in the most accessible location for anyone who wants to access our buildings. Mr. Ciresi thanked the administration for doing the right thing and making the in-service on Election Day. Mrs. Williams commented on a statement she made earlier regarding senior citizens who were offended and took it personally that the district felt their presence coming into the polls was a threat to the children. Mr. Rocchio said every year we seem to spend more time on the school calendar and he wishes things like these could be funneled into a sub-committee such as Curriculum. He commented that he has gotten around to a few home and school meetings and the safety issue is a concern among parents especially at the elementary schools. Mr. Rocchio said he could not vote for having school on Election Day because of the way the parents feel. Mr. Masciandaro asked for clarification of the calendar and if option 1 included April 9 as a day off. Mrs. Williams said whatever Dr. Hurda can work out would be acceptable. Mr. Masciandaro asked if he could amend the motion that is on the floor and Mrs. Williams asked if Mr. Grispon would like to withdraw his motion.

Mr. Grispon withdrew his motion for Option 2 under Item C and Mr. Rocchio withdrew his second. Mr. Masciandaro made a motion for Option 1 under Item C with the addition of April 9 as day off which makes the tentative last day of school for students Friday, June 15, 2007 and Mr. Pettit seconded it. Mr. Morgan asked if Dr. Hurda would be looking into making the spring election day, when the date is decided upon, a possible in-service. Dr. Hurda said the only difficulty is if this day is made an in-service day then we back the teacher's last day up to the same day as the student's last day which presents a problem for checking out

the teacher's laptops for the summer. Mr. Grispon commented that the calendar is normally adjusted around April 15 so during this period we could schedule the in-service if we have not used our allotted snow days. Dr. Hurda said this could absolutely be done. The motion passed 9-0.

C. Administration approved a 2006–2007 school calendar.

Mr. Ciresi made a motion to approve Item D and Mr. Morgan seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

D. Administration approved Spring-Ford Area School District Resolution 2006-02 adopting The Pennsylvania School Boards Association Standards for Effective School Governance and Code of Conduct for Members of Pennsylvania School Boards.

#### **XI. INFORMATION ITEM**

A. Effective January 1, 2006, the IRS mileage rate will decrease to 44.5 cents per mile. Currently the rate is 48.5 cents per mile.

#### **XII. SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

Ms. Sheehan, Solicitor, suggested that the chair inform the public that an executive session was held prior to tonight's meeting to discuss litigation.

#### **XIII. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD**

Bernie Brzoska, Upper Providence Township, thanked John Salamone for having his students participate at the polling places. He asked about public access to technology as this was something promised and it still has not come to fruition. He also commented on laptops for seniors and said there are students who do not have access to computers at home and this puts them at a disadvantage. Mr. Brzoska would like the Technology Committee to look into this. He said the laptops would be flipped over to the next senior class at the end of the school year and although there is a concern over the computers being lost or broken this should not keep us from going forward and looking into it. Mr. Brzoska said another concern of his is full day kindergarten and he does not feel the district is making the effort to accomplish this. He would also like to see foreign language introduced to students in first grade, not necessarily to study the language but teach the kids how to speak the language. Mr. Rocchio said Mr. Brzoska hit on several curriculum items and feels they are excellent points. Mr. Rocchio said the district has expanded the hours before and after school for the community members to come in and use the computers. He commented that with all day kindergarten up to about a year ago we did not have the space to do this but with a new school opening up this may not be an issue. The funding for all day kindergarten will have to be considered. Mr. Rocchio said foreign language in lower grades was discussed but with the standards being placed on schools to get students to pass the PSSA testing and requirements currently in place for curriculum there was not enough room for foreign language as a standard core item to be taught at the elementary level. The alternative the district developed was an after school foreign language program as an optional course for students.

Dr. Hurda commented that an online community education program will be ready to begin in the fall of 2006 and this will provide much greater access to our buildings and technology.

Rick Schroeder, Spring City Borough, questioned an item under Property regarding the Brooke roof. He supports the low sloped roof although he questions whether we will have to sprinker the roof as was done in the 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Center and the cost involved with doing this. Mr. Schroeder commented that when he started on the board no foreign language existed at the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade level. He said the Curriculum Committee at that time moved it down to those levels with the intent to take it down to lower grade levels but with current PSSA criteria more time is required on core subject areas. He would like to see the program pushed down lower than the middle school levels and beyond the clubs instituted in recent years. Mr. Schroeder commented that the WCTS, as expressed by the director of maintenance, has never had a formal air quality test program done or duct cleaning since 1967 in one addition and 1975 in the other addition. He feels the board through their representatives at WCTS should push for a broad based air quality test while the students are in the building and while it is under normal closed conditions as it is in the winter time. Mr. Schroeder agreed with the suggestion by Mr. Grispon to have the track open on Saturday and Sunday but would also like to see the fitness center open as well. He feels that due to the wear and tear on the equipment we should not open the fitness center up for free and possibly we could follow the Pottstown plan where seasonal passes were issued. Mr. Schroeder addressed Mr. Weber's request that the basketball and wrestling youth leagues use our facilities free of charge saying that he is not sure if we can go with no fee for any youth league participation. Some of the youth leagues have 800 participants and if we open the door for a small club then we have to do the same for every community organization. He believes the wear and tear and cost of following up on these things is going to be significant. Mr. Schroeder said he does not feel the Extra-Curricular Committee should meet at 2 p.m. on any weekday but the meeting should be in the evening when people are readily available.

Ed Cummins, Spring City Borough, disputed the comment made that no one comes to the Extra-Curricular meetings. He said in the two years he was chairman more than three-fourths of the time the general public did attend. Mr. Cummins feels that 2:00 is an unreasonable time to hold the meeting and would like to suggest the time be changed.

Julie Mullin, Upper Providence Township, apologized for yelling out from the audience. She said she has spoken out several times in the past regarding Election Day. She said that if she as a parent must buzz in and sign in then why on Election Day we let everyone in without identification. Mrs. Mullin commented that for the Donuts for Dad Day at Upper Providence the fathers were pre-registered and had name tags for them when they arrived with their children. She said Upper Providence has been very consistent with safety issues and making sure everybody has to sign in.

Kathleen Bryant, Upper Providence Township, asked about the Partnering with Spring-Ford initiatives and a financial aide seminar that took place in the fall. She said a free 45 minute consultation was offered by the speaker and now it

turns out that the speaker is under scrutiny by the Montgomery County District Attorney's Office. She wondered what benchmarks and safeguards the district has in place for any partnerships we are pursuing with industry and private organizations. Mrs. Williams said that with this being brought to the board's attention they will certainly look into more stringent guidelines and how the speaker got here. Mr. Weber asked if Mrs. Bryant was suggesting that the district do a background check before hiring a speaker. Mrs. Bryant said that would be helpful but we also need to know what their motivation is. Mrs. Bryant said she would also like to see the district utilize a volunteer program where the volunteer pays for their clearances and is put on a list to help out within our schools. Mr. Ciresi said this program was not a Partnering with Spring-Ford initiative but believes it came directly through guidance and he agrees that there needs to be guidelines addressing these issues. He commented that one of the major things the previous board pushed in regards to the Partnering Program was that there not be access to the students or parents directly including any type of mailing list. He said through the Partnering Program a generic presentation can be made but the program cannot be pushed on anyone. Mr. Ciresi also agreed that he would like to see a volunteer program established as there are a lot of people in the community willing to help and this could save the district a lot of money. Dr. Hurda said the district just partnered with RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Persons) and their organization supplies all the background checks and simply wants to come in and support the district in any way they can. Dr. Hurda commented that the financial aid program was not in any way linked to the Partnering with Spring-Ford Program but was a service provided by that organization. Mrs. Bryant said her comments are in no way a criticism of any individual in the school district but just wants to make sure that going forward we implement safeguards so that the interests of the citizens of the district are protected.

Mrs. Williams said last week there were some concerns voiced over use of the track on the weekends and asked Dr. Hurda to report the information she had regarding this. Dr. Hurda said she looked into opening the track on the weekends and was advised by Bruce Cooper that the gates were locked when there was damage done to the football field a number of years ago which resulted in the field needing to be re-sodded. Dr. Hurda said the district has no desire to eliminate access to the track for members of the community but the concern is that the function of the track primarily is for our students to be used for track and field events. Dr. Hurda said her recommendation would be to open the track up, monitor it and the board may have to agree that if any damage is done the district would pay for it to be fixed. She said if damage is done to the track we would not be able to use it for school events so it is really up to the board to decide. Dr. Hurda said the track would have to remain open for the weekend as we would not want to hire additional maintenance staff to come back in the evenings to lock the gates and then reopen it in the morning. This does open the district up to those individuals who would certainly abuse the property. Mr. Petrowski said if someone were skateboarding or riding a bicycle on the track the district should pursue to the full extent of the law to cover the damages. Dr. Hurda said with the track being unsupervised we may have no way to know who caused the damages. Mr. Petrowski said the police and the public may notice the individuals causing the damage. Mr. Masciandaro said if we open up one locked facility then we need to open others. He asked if we should just open

everything up or should we have some areas of higher value remain closed. Mr. Ciresi said he agrees in philosophy with Mr. Grispon that the track should be able to be used especially with the healthy choices initiatives. He suggested that possibly we could improve the walking track around Brooke as a compromise.

Mr. Petrowski asked about the senior class trip and the fact that the number of participants seems to be going down from last year and would like to know why this may be occurring. Dr. Hurda said she looked into it and some of the comments that were made were that because of the time the trip takes place which is the week when students are off for Easter some families have plans, and sporting events are scheduled that students cannot miss and due to this the number of participants have gone down. Dr. Hurda said last year the conversation was how we get students to participate in a senior trip and not miss school so Easter week was chosen and we are now finding out that due to spring sports and family vacations we have reduced the number of students participating. She said last year 108 students participated and last count this year we have 88 participating. Dr. Hurda said that is the answer but she does not know what the solution is.

#### **XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Ciresi made a motion to adjourn and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 9-0. Meeting adjourned at 9:20.

#### **Spring-Ford Goals May 14, 2004**

Actions from last meeting:

1. Each committee assigned will begin working their goal and report progress at the board work session.
2. We gave a piece of goal 5 to the Community Relations committee, see below.
3. The Board made a request to the administration to begin creating baselines, especially for goal 5. We are looking for this to be completed in May.
4. Reaffirmed that the original goals should be used as reference.

Process for working goals:

1. Define goals clearly. A good goal is a measurable result. The Board articulates the desired result or end, not the means.
2. The goals are given to the administration for execution. The following are the steps the administration is responsible for:
  - Establishing the baseline or current state
  - Formulating plans for goal achievement
  - Costs or other resource requirements
  - Recommendations on intermediate steps in goal achievement.
3. Board approval is obtained
4. The administration reports progress toward the goal in the district report card.

Goal Action Proposals:

1. Reduce class sizes (Original Goal #1)  
Assignment: Property and Facilities Committees
2. Perform Feasibility Study on creation of "in house" alternative educational program (Original Goal #3)  
Assignment: Curriculum Committee

3. Student Health and Safety - Reduce drug usage. (Original Goal #2)  
Assignment - Extra Curricular Committee
4. Improve public perceptions of the district, Local industry as a district partner and alternative funding. Non-Monetary Employee Incentive: (Original Goals #4, 5, 16)  
Assignment: Community Relations Committee
5. Key Measures: (Original Goals #6, 7, 8, 9,12)  
Graduation rate increase, Increase percent of graduates going to post secondary school, Establish a listing of our graduates continuing education school placement, Increase scholarships achieved by our students. Graduate acceptance at top universities and colleges  
Assignment: Full Board.  
Tracking graduates to see how we are doing.  
Assignment: Community Relations
6. School Media centers / libraries open weekends, evenings and summer. Create continuing education programs. (Original Goals #10, 11)  
Assignment: Curriculum Committee
7. Reduce Childhood obesity: (Original Goal #13)  
Assignment: Healthy Choices Committee
8. Increase PSSA and Terra Nova Test Scores: (Original Goal #14)  
Assignment: Full Board
9. Plan for District wide Construction needs: (Original Goal #15)  
Assignment: Facilities Committee
10. Establish a Blue Ribbon School (Original Goal #17)  
Assignment: Curriculum Committee
11. Develop and implement a Five Year Financial Plan (Original Goal #18)  
Assignment: Finance Committee
12. District Office replacement (Original Goal #19)  
Assignment: Full Board

Referenced below are the original goals:

Spring-Ford goals Feb 24, 2004 Version 2  
Proposals:

1. Reduce class sizes
  - Establish and maintain smaller class sizes K - 6 to lower levels than present that would be in keeping with the desires of the community as established as a goal, of the Districts' Strategic Plan.
  - Class Size: establish a standard of smaller class size through out the district. Begin with K-6 and move into the middle and high school.
2. Reduce drug usage
  - Formally Establish a beefed up Drug prevention program that will both quantify and qualify the types of drugs that are prevalent in the SF School district. Include alcohol, inhalants, and over the counter drugs along with all illicit drugs. Formulate a plan that will address these findings, thru awareness programs, counseling programs, possibly integrated with community based programs. Also provide strong prevention and intervention measures. All results to be reported publicly to the Board twice a year.



3. Reduce costs and provide more services for alternative education.
  - Establish a program for alternative Education within the district. Feature career based programs. programs should be of high quality with approved articulation agreements with Technical institutes and various colleges. DO NOT OVERLAP Programs that are available at WCTS. It is important to keep 'OUR STUDENTS' interested in their future. Any program must be flexible, It should offer Flex hours, day care, internships, intense counseling, and ultimately job placement components. We should stop sending our difficult students out of the district, and along with them hundreds of thousands of our community's tax dollars with them. It is time to treat this issue with respect and dignity and be accountable for all of our students.
  - Determine the feasibility of operating our own alternative school.
  - Special needs Children: Would like to see a study on what the district spends on these children and if possible for the district to bring these children back into the district and instruct them in a district building. With the state cutting its share of funding every year, and tuition going up we need to look at this matter and maybe set up a five-year goal
4. Improve public perceptions of the district
  - Drastically Improve public relations getting positive as well as (possible negative) information to the immediate community expeditiously.
5. Local industry as a district partner
  - Establish a program that beseeches large local industry to be part of District initiatives. This will create an environment that brings fresh ideas (from industry leaders) as well as possible project funding (such as help with technical initiatives, adult evening courses, co-ops etc.
  - Alternative Funding: Interview companies that deals exclusively in marketing and sponsorship/grants to help the district target possible sources of revenue i.e. Merck, PECO, GM , etc., to help advance programming opportunities in the district.
6. Graduation rate increase
7. Increase percent of graduates going to post secondary school
  - Establish a listing of our graduate's continuing education school placement. Create diversity guidelines.
8. Increase scholarships achieved by our students
9. Tracking graduates to see how we are doing:
  - Create a graduate report, where are they 10, 20 and 30 years later
  - Track graduates to see where and what careers they pursue.
10. School Media centers / libraries open weekends, evenings and summer.  
Establish a timeline of Fall 2006 for Lifelong Learning.
11. Create continuing education programs
  - Renew Spring-Ford's commitment to Life-Long Learning by commissioning an Adult Ed Board responsible for oversight and operation of said adult education separate from the operations and involvement of the SFASD Board and Administration, similar to the model currently in use for many successful years in Owen J. Roberts SD.
12. Graduate acceptance at top universities and colleges:
  - Improve the prospects for Spring-Ford students being accepted at top universities and colleges.
13. Reduce Childhood obesity:
  - Promote healthy lifestyles to combat the growing epidemic of childhood obesity.
14. Increase PSSA and Terra Nova Test Scores:

- Alarming number of test scores in the below average category in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade of the terra nova test scores in reading and mathematics. I would like to see these numbers brought into the single digits. The same holds true for the 11<sup>th</sup> grade PSSA test in mathematics. These numbers also need to be brought up into the single percentages.

15. Plan for District wide Construction needs:

- I would like for this board to sit down together and come up with a plan for future needs based on actual numbers. Keep in mind that the state is still looking at some kind of education reform. We do not know what future state funding will be and we may possibly loose the ability to direct the portion of taxes that we collect

16. Non-Monetary Employee Incentive:

- Work with local business to establish a discount or a special rate for example on mortgage and car loans for our staff. This will help in the bargaining process and help to retain good employees.

17. Establish a Blue Ribbon School

18. Financial Plan:

- Develop and implement a Five Year Financial Plan indicating not only debt service and capital reserve, but also projecting future operating costs and additional personnel costs as impacted by the opening of new buildings and renovation of current buildings. As part of this five-year plan, use the information to project future budget and tax increases.

19. District Office:

- Commit to a plan, with a time line of no longer than 18 to 24 months (start to finish), to move district office operations to the Bechtel Road site. If this site is unsuitable, find another. Review this topic in August 2005 (six months from February 2005).

Respectfully submitted,

Diane M. Fern  
Board Secretary