

On January 24, 2011 the Board Meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Spring-Ford Area School District was called to order at 7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria of the Spring-Ford High School with the following in attendance:

Region I: Edward T. Dressler, Jr., Bernard F. Pettit and David R. Shafer  
Region II: Clara M. Gudolonis, Julie A. Mullin and Donna L. Williams  
Region III: Mark P. Dehnert and Thomas J. DiBello  
Presiding Officer: Joseph P. Ciresi  
Superintendent: Dr. Marsha R. Hurda  
Business Manager: Timothy Anspach  
Solicitor: Marc Davis, Esq.  
Student Rep.: Taylor Daily

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

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Ciresi announced that the Spring-Ford Intermediate School will host a dedication for a tile mosaic mural created by students at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 25, in the main lobby. Students have been working on the mural with professional artist Jessica Gorlin-Liddell. A second superintendent search meeting will be held Thursday, Jan. 27 at 6:30 p.m. in the 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Center auditorium. Parents, students, community members and staff are invited to attend and share their thoughts on the qualities the next superintendent should have. The Intermediate School will also be hosting a blood drive for the Red Cross on Monday, Jan. 31. Parents of students may donate blood between 2 and 8 p.m. The drive will be open to the public after 4 p.m. Please park at the back of the building on the 7<sup>th</sup> grade side and enter through door 28. Contact the school at 610-705-6113 to pre-register. Walk-ins are welcome. Spring-Ford parents are invited to attend a poignant presentation from an area parent and educator who lost his own son to drug addiction from 7 to 8 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 31, in the auditorium of Spring-Ford's 10-12 Center, 350 S. Lewis Road in Royersford. Dr. Rick Dunlap, Principal of West Chester East High School, will speak.

### **I. PRESENTATIONS**

Dr. Hurda announced that the Spring-Ford Area School District has been honored this year with 11 Keystone Achievement Awards for demonstrating sustained academic progress. Dr. Hurda spoke about the requirements for achieving Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) and that the Keystone Achievement Award is given to those buildings that have attained AYP for two years in a row. Dr. Hurda asked that the Principals from the 11 buildings receiving a Keystone Achievement Award come forward to accept their award and have their building recognized.

Mr. Ciresi, on behalf of the Board, thanked each principal receiving an award for the accomplishments on what they do and what they continue to do for the children in our community. Mr. Ciresi stated that this is a great accomplishment for our district and shows where the district is going and the direction we are going in. Mr. Ciresi said on behalf of the

Board they are extremely proud to see the progress we make as a school district and the continued movement forward. Mr. Ciresi thanked the Leadership Team for the dinner they hosted this evening in honor of the Board.

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

Brooke Elementary	Upper Providence Elementary
Evans Elementary	5/6 Grade Center
Limerick Elementary	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Center
Oaks Elementary	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Center
Royersford Elementary	9 <sup>th</sup> Grade Center
Spring City Elementary	

Dr. Hurda commented that January is School Board Recognition Month and tonight we have the chance to show our appreciation to the Spring-Ford Board of School Directors. Dr. Hurda stated that the School Board Members are elected volunteers who are the community's voice in our school district. The Board makes difficult decisions on the budget, finances, curriculum and paths to student achievement for our school district. Dr. Hurda asked each Board Member to come forward as she called their name. She presented each of them with a certificate from the Pennsylvania School Board Association in recognition of the many hours they volunteer as Board Members.

B. Presentation honoring the Spring-Ford Area School District Board of Directors who volunteer their time for the betterment of public education in our community.

The meeting recessed at 7:42 to have cake in honor of the Board. The meeting reconvened at 7:51 p.m.

Mr. Ciresi announced that SNAP will be hosting a Dancing with the Stars Fundraiser on February 26<sup>th</sup> at the High School. Mr. Ciresi invited the public to view the SNAP website at [www.sfsnap.org](http://www.sfsnap.org) to purchase tickets which are going quickly. Mr. Ciresi mentioned that Dr. Hurda will be one of the featured performers as well as Mr. DiBello, himself and many teachers from all the different schools. Mr. Ciresi stated that SNAP is working hard to raise money in order to sponsor the post prom party. He invited everyone to come out in support of this event.

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

There were no questions or comments.

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

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

A. The Board approved the November 15, 2010 Work Session minutes.

B. The Board approved the November 22, 2010 Board Meeting minutes.

C. The Board approved the December 6, 2010 Reorganizational Meeting minutes

D. The Board approved the December 6, 2010 Board Meeting minutes.

**IV. BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Extracurricular**

**David Shafer**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Mon. 6:00 p.m.**

Mr. Shafer reported that the Extracurricular Committee met January 10, 2011. The High School Administration discussed with the Committee that they had been approached with the request of adding a few additional clubs within the high school level. The Committee talked about the financial situation of the district and the past practice where the decision had been to decline all requests for additional clubs. The Committee decided at this particular point that no additional clubs would be considered although they did say that groups that were currently meeting and are not officially recognized are invited to continue to do so as long as they meet with the requirements set forth by administration. Mr. Shafer said the Committee did agree to review the specifics of the two clubs that were brought forward that evening. Mr. Shafer reported that Steve Lampmann a representative from Spring-Ford Ice Hockey to present their club's request to be better acknowledged by the school district. Mr. Lampmann presented the Committee with a large printed booklet detailing the ice hockey's operation and by-laws as well as a request in writing a series of 12 specific requests. The Committee discussed that at this point the school district cannot add a varsity sport unless it is a PIAA sport but the detailed list of requests would be reviewed in order to see if the district could better accommodate this organization. Mr. Lampmann was asked to research among other neighboring ice hockey clubs to see if any other school districts are proceeding in the direction of some of those specific requests. Mr. Lampmann stated that he would do this and report back on any of his findings. Mr. Shafer reported that Mr. Lampmann had already contacted Mickey McDaniel and himself on several occasions. Mr. Shafer stated that the Committee will meet again on February 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM.

**Policy**

**Donna Williams**

**1<sup>st</sup> Weds. 7:00 p.m.**

Mrs. Williams reported that the Policy Committee met on January 6<sup>th</sup> and are in the midst of reviewing the policies in the 100 series. The Committee reviewed Policy 103 and the changes made were reviewed by the legal counsel and it was recommended that it be placed on the work session agenda as a first reading. Regarding the other four Policies 105.2, 106, 107 and 108, Dr. Hurda has asked Johnna Weller to review them and bring back the recommended changes to the February Policy Committee meeting.

**Finance**

**Tom DiBello**

**1<sup>st</sup> Weds. 8:00 p.m.**

Mr. DiBello reported that the Finance Committee met on January 6<sup>th</sup> and reviewed the Executive Level Reports that Mr. Anspach and Mrs. Rhoads put together. The Committee also looked at the historical reports in order to tie back to where we are budget wise from last year to this year. The Committee looked at the historical reports related to the cafeteria which is running at a deficit the last few years. Mr. DiBello stated that although they have been able to tap into reserves that they had built up in the past they need to go back and revisit the cafeteria expenditures in order to make recommendations on how to reduce the deficit. The Committee reviewed the transportation contract and some of the contract proposals that had been submitted by a few companies. The Committee suggested that in the future the district needs to be more specific within their proposals and requests for bids in the future to make sure that the district is covered because making a significant change by moving to a different bus company could have an impact on the district if any issues were to arise. Mr. DiBello reported that the district is working with the current transportation provider to try and figure out ways to reduce expenses for the upcoming year. The Committee also discussed the unallocated fund balance which contained over \$3 million and in going through the audit from the 2009-2010 year the auditors, because of the re-assessments that are occurring, have instructed us to take the money from that fund and basically assume the liability from the assessments that are occurring. Mr. DiBello reported that based on this it will probably draw down the unallocated fund balance down to around \$1.5 - \$1.6 million. Mr. DiBello commented that the important aspect of the unallocated

fund balance is that it is one of the indicators we use when we go for bonds or when try to refinance our bonds. Mr. DiBello said the Committee also went through the Preliminary Budget and the district is look at basically a \$10 - \$11 million deficit. Mr. DiBello stated that the Preliminary Budget must be filed by February 14<sup>th</sup> and with that we are using the state index of 1.4% and along with the exceptions the district is able to file for we are looking at a projected tax adjustment of 7.6% which would still leave the district with a \$4 million plus deficit. Mr. DiBello said that over the next several months we will be working vigorously on not only reducing the \$4 million plus deficit but also working towards the most minimal tax increase as possible.

**Property**

**Tom DiBello**

**1<sup>st</sup> Weds. 6:00 p.m.**

Mr. DiBello reported that the Property Committee met on January 6<sup>th</sup> and received updates on the continued field maintenance that is going on within the district which includes the boys' junior varsity baseball field and the varsity and junior varsity girls' softball field. There was also maintenance that was done on the Evans Elementary multipurpose field which included the topdressing and the over seeding of the field and it is anticipated that this field will be closed for the spring of 2011 in order to give the over seeding to take hold. Mr. DiBello reported that the High School Renovation Project punch list items are being finalized and the only work still outstanding that will occur in the spring of 2011 is the landscaping and seeding around the building. Mr. DiBello reported that they are working with the township to finalize the details for the grading permit for the 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Center parking lot and a meeting will take place on December 21<sup>st</sup> to finalize the approval of the drawings and hopefully by mid-January that project will come to fruition. Mr. DiBello stated that bids for the high school curtain divider at the gym are going out and hopefully we will get information back that can be presented at the next Board meeting. The bids on the high school chiller design process are also going out and information on this should be back by the first week in February. Mr. DiBello reported that the purchase order for the high school carpeting for the auditorium has been approved and installation will start once the area is available. Mr. Ciresi commented that the work has been completed. Mr. DiBello stated that the district is working with the design company on the resurfacing of the high school tennis courts. Mr. DiBello commented that one of the things the Board will be discussing this evening is upgrading the television station as a lot of the equipment is eleven years old. Mr. DiBello said there is some talk that at some point we could look into getting an LED messaging sign for in front of the high school like other high schools. The district is moving forward with getting information related to the runner's gate around the track at the high school stadium and this will be discussed further at upcoming meetings. The Committee discussed the ATC system at Oaks Elementary School which has been installed and work on the final punch list is being completed, the Royersford chiller work is continuing on the design process which should be going out to bid and information should be available in February or March. SFYAL Baseball has finalized everything that we required of them with the driveway at the Spring City complex so this will be moving forward. Mr. Cooper presented information from Aztec Solar who proposed the idea of possibly putting solar panels as a canopy over the school parking lot with a proposed goal of Spring-Ford realizing a 15-25% savings. Mr. DiBello gave the example that if took place at the 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Center then the approximate savings could be between \$45,000 - \$65,000. Mr. DiBello stated that the interesting thing about working with Aztec is that they proposed that they would install the equipment, they would assume all the costs involved, and they would assume all the maintenance as well so basically Spring-Ford would only be providing the location. Mr. DiBello reported that Spring-Ford Youth Football attended the meeting and presented an update on the field project going on at the 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Center which has been halted due to the winter weather and the ground freezing. They relayed that before they finalize the grading they want to bring in another 40 or so trucks of topsoil in the early spring right after the ground thaws.

Mr. Dehnert asked about the 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue entrance and what was happening with this project as he thought it was going to be looked at further in order to study our options. Mr. DiBello responded that he thought the Board had decided not to move forward with anything at this time but if that was his misconception then it will definitely be put on the agenda for the next meeting. Mr. Dehnert said that was not his recollection but he would have to go back and look at meeting minutes as he thought it was being moved back to the Property Committee.

Mr. Ciresi said his recollection is that the Board asked Mr. Davis for an opinion from the township and then the Board was going to decide if they wanted to take it back to the Committee. Mr. Ciresi asked the Board Members if they wanted to take it back to the Committee or is it an issue that has since passed and we are moving on from there.

Mr. Shafer said from his perspective he does not think the initial problem that caused Administration to bring it to the Board has subsided so that problem still exists but he believes that what stalemated the project was the reaction of the public. Mr. Shafer stated that he is certainly willing to look at things that address problems of the school district but where this project ranks perhaps with some of the challenges we have is a fair discussion. Mr. Shafer said he does not believe the traffic issues have gotten any better and he knows there has been an investment made by the district regarding this study with resources of both time and money.

Mr. Ciresi asked if we could go back to the Committee and look at all other options that could possibly exist and any other solutions whether it be staggering the traffic as it comes out of the buildings or whatever the solution may be and then bring it back to the Board as there is only partial Board support to move the 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue Easement back to the Committee.

Mr. Pettit stated that he does not see too much being lost by having the Committee review it but that is a Board decision. Mr. Ciresi said that is an option that it could go back to the Committee and then come back to us with options. Mr. Ciresi stated that as part of the next Property Committee agenda add "other traffic patterns coming out of the high school" as a discussion item.

Mrs. Williams asked if it could be called something other than "other traffic patterns coming out of the high school" as she believes what we are looking at is whether we are going to do something with the 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue issue. Mr. Ciresi said what he is asking for is what are the other possibilities for that 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue issue that the Board could come to some sort of compromise on that everyone will feel comfortable with or at least a majority would feel comfortable enough to move forward. Mrs. Williams said as long as the 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue possibility is not excluded from the discussion so if you have options that is included as one of the options. Mr. Ciresi said that was fine with him.

Mr. Dehnert commented that the Board made a decision based on four or five people's objection to having the driveway go around the cemetery of which one of those people did not even live in the district. He stated that he does not feel it is representative of the public because there are a lot of people including students who are affected by the traffic and we would be negligent if we did not try to address that issue and try to fix it.

Mrs. Mullin stated that she does not agree with Mr. Dehnert that the only reason that this discussion ended was because of the opinion of four or five people. Mrs. Mullin said for her personally that is not why this decision ended so she does not know if Mr. Dehnert's comment was a fair statement.

Mr. Dehnert said this issue was discussed in Committee meetings for a couple of years and up until that meeting the Committee did not try to change what was being done and at the last meeting prior to that vote it was discussed and not objections were raised regarding that entrance. Mr. Dehnert stated that it came to the Committee meetings for all those years and then came to the Board meeting and got voted down without any objection by anybody prior to that vote.

Mr. Ciresi commented that he was not on the Board prior to the conversation and the prior Board talked about other opportunities that they possibly could do. Mr. Ciresi said he is not in favor of it, won't be in favor of it and he was never in favor of what happened to the cemetery from a personal standpoint and what went on there. Mr. Ciresi stated that the four or five that may have spoken out about it he respects what they had to say and he does agree with their opinion and he does not want to see a road go through there. Mr. Ciresi commented that if you go all the way back to years ago when we looked at this option there was what was called the paper road that was being discussed. Mr. Ciresi stated that when the four new board members came onto the Board that was no longer the conversation as it was the new pattern of the road. Mr. Ciresi said he is fine with it going back to the Committee and then the Committee coming back to the Board with a bunch of different options. Mr. Ciresi stated that he would also like to see what the traffic patterns will become right where that exit would be because he thinks we are just shifting traffic from one place to the other as the traffic for the Wawa would also become an issue that would have to be considered.

Mrs. Williams said she would like to clarify one comment that Mr. Ciresi made and that was that he said when he was here before there was one variation of the road coming right along the property line and he is correct and now it is somewhere else but no one at Spring-Ford offered that as an idea as that came from the township. Mrs. Williams stated that we want to be clear here that we did not change it, to kind of throw the game as they say, it was something we had to do in response to the governing authority.

## V. PERSONNEL

Mr. Dehnert asked that Items D2 and D3 be separated. Mrs. Mullin made a motion to approve Items A-C and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

### A. Resignations:

1. **Stacey A. Bogus**, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Assistant Softball Coach, effective January 3, 2011.
2. **Gina L. Plonski**, 5/6<sup>th</sup> Grade Center; School Nurse, effective with last work day December 23, 2010.
3. **Katie Uhas**, Assistant Softball Coach (1/2 position), effective December 23, 2010.
4. **Barbara Wesley**, District; Duplicating Center, for the purpose of retirement, effective with the last work day, April 1, 2011.

### New Resignations:

5. **John Holsinger**, 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys' Lacrosse Coach, effective January 19, 2011.
6. **Rick Pizzico**, 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Baseball Coach, effective January 19, 2011.

7. **Katie Uhas**, Softball Intramural Coach, effective January 19, 2011.

**B. Leaves of Absence:**

1. **James Brobst**, Bechtel Building; Maintenance Employee, for an Unpaid Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective February 9, 2011.
  2. **Michael Costello**, District; Maintenance Employee, for an Unpaid Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective December 13, 2010.
  3. **Carol L. DiFrancesco**, 5/6<sup>th</sup> Grade Center; Instructional Assistant, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective January 28, 2011 for up to a maximum of twelve (12) weeks.
  4. **Sharon L. Hohenstein**, Upper Providence Elementary School; Special Education Teacher, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, tentatively effective March 20, 2011 until the end of the 2010/2011 school year.
  5. **Patricia Jackson**, Limerick Elementary School; Custodian, for an Unpaid Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective retroactive to October 22, 2010.
  6. **Barbara J. Monahan**, Brooke Elementary School; Elementary Teacher, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective January 3, 2011 for up to a maximum of twelve (12) weeks.
  7. **Elaine Moore**, Evans Elementary School; Instructional Assistant, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective January 6, 2011 for up to a maximum of twelve (12) weeks.
  8. **Gina R. Pastino**, Upper Providence Elementary School; Special Education Teacher, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective tentatively May 12, 2011 until the end of the 2010/2011 school year.
  9. **Sally Sacks**, District Office; Software Specialist, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective January 25, 2011 for up to a maximum of twelve (12) weeks.
  10. **Kristen Saylor**, Upper Providence Elementary School; Special Education Teacher, for an *extended* Leave of Absence in accordance with the Professional Agreement until the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> marking period.
  11. **Linda Valloor**, High School; English Teacher, for an *extended* Leave of Absence in accordance with the Professional Agreement until the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> marking period.
- C. Administration recommends approval of **Stacey Hoffman** as a Temporary Professional Employee, for the Biology position at the High School replacing Donatina Miller who retired. Compensation will be set at \$43,200, BS, Step 1, prorated, with benefits as per the Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective January 24, 2011.

**D. Long Term Substitutes:**

Mrs. Mullin made a motion to approve Item D1 and Mr. Shafer seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

1. **Kim Curcio**, Upper Providence Elementary School; Elementary Teacher, extending her current assignment replacing Kristen Saylor who will be on an extended leave of absence. Compensation will be set at \$45,600 BS, Step 3, prorated, with benefits, effective until the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> marking period.

Mrs. Mullin made a motion to approve Item D2 and Mr. Pettit seconded it. Mr. Dehnert stated that with regards to Items D2 and D3 he does not think that based on the economic times we have that long term substitutes should not be offered salaries above Step 1 for anybody as long as we can get people to take that position, including these people we are approving, for Step 1 salaries then why should we pay them more than we have to if we are in a tough budget year. Mr. Dehnert stated that he thinks it is a bad policy or practice to pay people more than we need to when there are plenty of applicants out there that would work for that including these people. Mr. Dehnert questioned if we offered these people Step 1 salaries would they take the job. Mr. Dehnert commented that we should try to conserve money where we can and this is one place where we can save money by not paying Step 2 and Step 3 when we can pay Step 1.

Mr. DiBello said he does agree with Mr. Dehnert in some instance of possibly moving forward bringing long term substitutes in by trying to find those that fall within that Step 1. Mr. DiBello asked Mr. Davis if it is based on the teacher contract that we are required from the long term substitute perspective that we have to pay them within the Step that they fall within based on their education and experience. Mr. Davis deferred to Beth Leiss for the answer as he was not fully familiar with the Spring-Ford teacher contract. Mrs. Leiss replied that it was a past practice we were following and was not in the collective bargaining agreement.

Dr. Hurda commented that if you look at the difference between a BS Step 1 and a BS Step 2 it is somewhere about \$400 - \$500 and when we looked at these positions you have to ask yourself the question what is in the best interest of the kids. Dr. Hurda stated that in several of these cases the teacher is remaining in the classroom where they started at the beginning of the year or has done a long term substitute position at that same grade or in that same classroom and so it is absolutely beneficial for kids when there is a transition in the classroom to make sure that you make it as smooth as possible. Dr. Hurda said she thinks that is what we have looked at in the past and that is what we looked at when we made this recommendation.

The motion passed 8-1 with Mr. Dehnert voting no.

2. **Antoinette Pelletier**, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Center; Special Education Teacher, replacing Meghan Timmes who will be on a Leave of Absence. Compensation will be set at \$44,400, BS, Step 2, prorated, with benefits, effective January 28, 2011 through the end of the 2010/2011 school year.



Mrs. Mullin made a motion to approve Item D3 and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

3. **Tiffany Sallemi**, Oaks Elementary School; Elementary Teacher, replacing Miranda Paradise who will be on a Leave of Absence. Compensation will be set at \$46,900, MS, Step 3, prorated, with benefits, effective January 10, 2011 through the end of the 2010/2011 school year.

Mrs. Williams made a motion to approve Items D4 – K and Mrs. Mullin seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

**New Long Term Substitute:**

4. **Ashley Swartzentruber**, High School; English Teacher, replacing Linda Valloor who will be on a Leave of Absence in accordance with the Professional Agreement. Compensation will be set at \$43,200, BS, Step 1, prorated, with benefits, effective, retroactive to November 4, 2010 until the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> marking period.

**E. Extra-Curricular Contracts: High School**

1. **Stacey Bogus**, Assistant Softball Coach, \$3,991
2. **Nicole Makovetz**, Head Cheerleading Coach (Winter), \$3,685
3. **Patricia Staley**, Fitness Room Supervisor (Winter), \$678
4. **Joan Staples**, Basketball Scoreboard/Timer-Girls, \$33.00/hour
5. **Nicole Gerenyi**, Musicale Choreographer, \$1,104

**New Extra-Curricular Contract: High School**

6. **Shawn Corropolese**, Softball Intramural Coach, \$678

**F. Extra-Curricular Contracts: Middle School**

1. **Katie Uhas**, Assistant Softball Coach, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade, \$2,772

**G. Professional Staff Substitutes:**

1. **Ashley Fisher** Elementary Education/Reading Specialist

**New Professional Staff Substitute:**

2. **Deborah Strnad** Mid-Level Mathematics/Social Studies

**H. Support Staff Substitutes:**

1. **Giovanni Iannuzzi** Custodian
2. **Katherine Iannuzzi** Custodian
3. **Jamie Jacobs** Support
4. **Lisa Zink** Custodian

**I. Personnel Information Item**

The individuals listed below have completed three (3) years of satisfactory service as temporary professional employees and are approved for tenure status:

**Catherine Bala  
Amanda Dolloff  
Dana M. Starkey**

**NEW PERSONNEL ITEM**

**J. Support Staff Employee:**

1. **Trisha L. Smith**, 5/6<sup>th</sup> Grade Center; Registered School Nurse, replacing Gina Plonski who resigned. Compensation will be set at \$27.52 per hour with benefits as per the Registered Nurses' Plan, effective January 31, 2011.

**K. New Extra-Curricular Contracts: Elementary**

1. **Robin Rohrbach**, S.T.E.P. Co-Coordinator, \$552 (1/2 position)
2. **Sandra Hoff**, S.T.E.P. Co-Coordinator, \$552 (1/2 position)

**VI. FINANCE**

**\* DENOTES NEW PAYMENTS SINCE THE WORK SESSION**

Mrs. Mullin made a motion to approve Items A-L and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

- A. The Board approved payment for the following invoices for the month of **JANUARY** in connection with the **SERIES A of G.O.B. 2007**:

**1. SENIOR HIGH- ALTERATION & ADDITIONS**

**DECEMBER**

Canon, Inc.	Canon Fax/3 yr. Maint. Agreement	\$	2,424.00
Colonial Electric Supply	Supplies/Security Camera Proj.	\$	13.48
Comstar Supply Inc.	Handhole Lids/Water Line	\$	318.00
Mario D'Orsaneo	Fabricate/Install 43' Handrail	\$	3,645.00
E R Stuebner	Applic. #17- General Contractor	\$	105,555.20
Fastenal Company	Supplies	\$	55.04
Fox Rothschild LLP	Professional Services	\$	55.50
High Safety Consulting	Professional Services	\$	1,185.00
Martin Stone Quarries	Stone	\$	846.40
Medco Supply Co.	Taping Station/Athletic Dept.	\$	2,317.04
Mono Machines	Presentation Easels/CarryCase	\$	531.78
Sellers' Painting	Caulking/Waterproofing (2 Inv)	\$	6,014.00
Al Swanson Tile, Inc.	Tile Work-Administration Area	\$	13,600.00
Tri-State Balancing Co.	Professional Services	\$	4,998.00
U.P.S. Store	21 Drawing Copies/Burn to CD	\$	115.25
Wood-Metal Industries	Casework-Reception & Science Room Areas	\$	2,700.00

JANUARY

A.G. Mauro Company	Hardware Lockbody/Security	\$	243.46
Anchor Fire Protection	Re-Pack Fire Pump	\$	710.00
Anixer	Misc. Supplies	\$	455.48
Berkshire Systems Inc.	Replacement Mic	\$	60.00
Berkshire Systems Inc.	KSI Custom Podium	\$	5,470.00
Bursich Associates	Professional Services	\$	70.00
EI Associates	Professional Services	\$	525.53
Goshen Mechanical Inc.	Applic. #19- HVAC Contractor	\$	50,576.10
GovConnection Inc.	15" Cables/1 USB Port (3 Inv.)	\$	279.95
Hilti	Misc. Supplies	\$	270.88
Lafayette Welding Inc.	Alum. Plate-Door Frame/Stain- Less Steel Threshold-Wrestling Rm	\$	842.75
Limerick Township	Professional Services	\$	235.62
MBR Construction Ser.	Applic. #19- Electrical Contr.	\$	14,416.00
Officenter Inc.	Professional Services	\$	5,265.00
Office Depot	Media Center Time Zones Clock	\$	165.40
Shiffler	4-Marsh Wrapped Burlap Boards	\$	1,512.00
Tiger Direct	3 TV's and Tilt Mounts	\$	1,770.19
*AAA Sheet Metal Inc.	Fabricate Ductwork-Boiler Room	\$	1,280.00
*Colonial Electric Supply	Supplies/Security Camera Proj. (2 Inv.)	\$	296.31
*MBR Construction Ser.	Applic. #20- Electrical Contr.	\$	4,132.00
*Specialty Flooring Sys.	Patch/Repair Terrazzo Floor	\$	5,830.00
	TOTAL	\$	238,780.36

2. 9<sup>th</sup> GRADE CENTER PARKING LOT

Bursich Associates	Professional Services	\$	3,213.64
	TOTAL	\$	3,213.64

3. 10<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE BY-PASS

DECEMBER

Fox Rothschild LLP	Professional Services	\$	499.50
	TOTAL	\$	499.50

4. ROYERSFORD ELEMENTARY- CHILLER PROJECT

DECEMBER

Colm Engineering, P.A.	Professional Services	\$	10,000.00
	TOTAL	\$	10,000.00

5. SENIOR HIGH – CHILLER PROJECT

DECEMBER

Desmond A. Baker LLC	Professional Services	\$	7,200.00
	TOTAL	\$	7,200.00

6. 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE CENTER – STEAMER REPAIR

DECEMBER

Elmer A. Schultz Serv.	Remove Old/Install New Boiler For Steamer	\$	6,166.07
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JANUARY

Elmer A. Schultz Serv.	Parts/Repair Cleveland Steamer	\$ 1,578.43
	TOTAL	\$ 7,744.50

7. **LIMERICK ELEMENTARY – STEAMER PROJECT**

Clark Food Serv. Equip.	Steamer	\$ 17,497.75
Kirk Grater Plumbing Inc.	Install Floor Sinks for Steamer	\$ 4,133.84
*Brocks Fire Protection	Hookup/Steamer	\$ 855.00
	TOTAL	\$ 22,486.59

B. The Board 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.

C. Checks:

1. Weekly Checks prior to Work Session

<u>November</u>		
Check No. 139501 – 139562		\$ 549,879.65
<u>December</u>		
Check No. 139563 – 139940		\$1,755,963.36

<u>January</u>		
Check No. 139941 – 140110		\$1,423,374.76

2. Weekly Checks prior to Board Meeting

<u>January</u>		
Check No. 140245 - 140290		\$ 602,857.86

3. Board Checks held for approval

Check No. 140111 - 140244		\$ 169,655.98
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4. Athletic Fund

<u>November</u>		
Check No. 302970 – 303031		\$ 22,260.21
<u>December</u>		
Check No. 303032 – 303138		\$ 36,389.22

D. The Board approved the following **independent contracts**:

1. **BrynMawr Rehabilitation Hospital – Malvern, PA.** Provide an assembly entitled “Cruisin Not Boozin” at the 10-12 Grade Center for all sophomores. The 10<sup>th</sup> grade assembly will be on Wednesday, February 9, 2011. There is no cost to the district as this assembly is being funded by a grant through the Phoenixville Community Health Foundation.

2. **Dr. Rick Dunlap – West Chester, PA.** Provide two (2) assemblies on drug abuse. An assembly for parents will be held on January 31, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium of the High School 10-12 Grade Center. A second assembly for students in grades 9-12 will be held on February 1, 2011. There is no cost to the district for these assemblies.
3. **Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy – Schwenksville, PA.** Provide four (4) assemblies entitled “Winter Secrets” for kindergarten students at Royersford Elementary School. Funding will be paid by the 2010-2011 Royersford Home and School Association and shall not exceed four hundred forty dollars (\$440.00)
4. **David and Bill Mettler (Quiet Riot) – Wyncote, PA.** Provide an assembly entitled, “Bullies, Targets and Bystanders” for students in grades K-4 at Evans Elementary School. Funding will be paid from the 2010-2011 Evans Elementary Assembly Account and shall not exceed six hundred seventy-five dollars (\$675.00).
5. **Musicopia – Philadelphia, PA.** Provide two (2) assemblies entitled “African Percussion and Dance” on February 15, 2011 at Upper Providence Elementary School for students in grades 1–4. There is no charge to the District for this performance as the program is funded by Teleflex and the Bard Foundation.
6. **Burton Merriam – The Hill School Center for the Arts – Pottstown, PA.** Provide two (2) performances of the play “The Brave Little Tailor” for students in grades 1–4 at Upper Providence Elementary School. Funding will be paid from the 2010-2011 Upper Providence Elementary Assembly Account and shall not exceed three hundred fifty dollars (\$350.00).
7. **Linda Fratantoni – Yello Dyno Childrens Safety Programs – West Chester, PA.** Provide six (6) Safety Program assemblies at Upper Providence Elementary School. Funding will be paid from the 2010-2011 Upper Providence Elementary Assembly Account and shall not exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00).
8. **Great Valley Nature Center – Devault, PA.** Provide two (2) assemblies entitled “Eggs-traordinary Spring and Colonial Times” for kindergarten students at Upper Providence Elementary School on March 25, 2011. Funding will be paid by the Upper Providence Home and School and shall not exceed four hundred sixty-six dollars (\$466.00).
9. **Patrick Dunning, Academic Entertainment – Snohomish, WA.** Provide an assembly entitled “The Signature Project” at Upper Providence Elementary School. Funding will be paid from the 2010-2011 Artist in Residence Program and shall not exceed one thousand five hundred ninety-five dollars (\$1,595.00).
10. **Edward Zartler, Ph.D. – Collegeville, PA.** Provide five (5) STARLAB sessions, (a portable planetarium) to the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade classes at Upper Providence Elementary School. There is no charge to the District.
11. **Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy – Schwenksville, PA.** Provide three (3) assemblies entitled “Winter Secrets” for kindergarten students at Limerick Elementary School. Funding will be paid by the Limerick Home and School League and shall not exceed three hundred thirty dollars (\$330.00).

12. **Annette Eddowes – Schwenksville, PA.** Provide instructional services for extracurricular activities for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for a total of one hundred sixteen (116) hours. Funding will be paid from the 2010-2011 Special Education Budget and shall not exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00).
  13. **The Pathway School – Norristown, PA.** Provide educational services for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for one hundred eight (108) days at a rate of two hundred fifty-two dollars and twenty cents (\$252.20) per day. The contract shall be in force from 1/4/2011 to 6/15/2011 (or until the contract is covered under the PDE 40-10 process). Funding will be paid from the 2010-2011 Special Education Budget and shall not exceed twenty-seven thousand two hundred thirty-seven dollars and sixty cents (\$27,237.60).
- E. The Board approved the Independent Audit Report as submitted by Maillie, Falconiero & Company LLP for the fiscal year 2010/2011. The audit examined the financial statements, tested evidence supporting the amounts, examined internal controls, insured evidence of proper documentation, compliance with laws, regulations, and in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. The audit was without findings or material weaknesses. A display copy of this audit is available at the district office.
  - F. The Board approved payment of a portion of debt from the Capital Reserve Account in the amount of \$4,023,488 to replace back taxes due to on-going assessment appeals.
  - G. The Board approved a contract with Elmer A. Schultz Services, Inc. for the replacement of the Boiler in the Market Force Steamer at Brooke Elementary School. The total cost will be \$6,388.89; \$4,017.00 for the Boiler, \$835.89 for the Parts and \$1,536.00 for the Labor/Installation. Funding will be paid from the High School Construction Account.

## NEW FINANCE

- H. The following Treasurers' Reports were approved:

### General Fund

- Money Market – November/December 2010
- PSDLAF – November/December 2010
- PSDMAX – November/December 2010
- Checking Account – November/December 2010
- PLGIT Account – November/December 2010
- Investment Accounts & Investment Schedule - November/December 2010
- Payroll Account – November/December 2010
- Tax Account – November/December 2010

### Activity Accounts

- Elementary Activity – November/December 2010
- 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Activity – November/December 2010
- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Activity – November/December 2010
- High School Activity – November/December 2010
- Athletic Account – November/December 2010

### Bond Funds

- Note of 2007A – November/December 2010

Other Funds

- Capital Reserve Fund & Investment Schedule – November/December 2010
- Debt Service Fund – November/December 2010
- Reservation of Funds (Natatorium, Insurance, Retirement) – November/December 2010

Cafeteria Fund

- Cafeteria Money Market – November/December 2010
- Cafeteria Checking Account – November/December 2010
- Cafeteria PSDLAF Account – November/December 2010
- Investment Account – November/December 2010

- I. The Board approved the **Cafeteria Listing** of Bills:

**November**

Check No. 9870 - 9908 \$ 274,346.71

**December**

Check No. 9909 – 9945 \$ 300,000.60

- J. The Board approved the following **exonerations** from the per capita tax for the 2010-2011 school year:

Limerick Township	No. 38 - 40
Royersford Borough	No. 102 – 111

- K. The Board approved the following **additions/deletions** from the per capita tax for the 2010-2011 school year:

Limerick Township Deletions	No. 1 – 870
Royersford Borough Additions	No. 1 – 185
Royersford Borough Deletions	No. 1 – 181
Spring City Deletions	No. 1 – 157

- L. The Board approved the following **Use of Facilities Permits**:

Permits No. 3434 - 3450

**VII. NEW PROPERTY**

Ms. Gudolonis asked that Item B be separated and Mr. DiBello asked that Item C be separated. Mrs. Mullin made a motion to approve Item A and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

- A. The Board approved awarding the contract for Turf Maintenance Mowing and Trimming for 2011-2012 to **Fryer's Contracting LLC** in the amount of eight hundred eight dollars and thirty-two cents (\$808.32) per mowing. Funding will come from the 2011-2012 Maintenance Budget.

Mrs. Mullin made a motion to approve Item B and Mr. Pettit seconded it. Ms. Gudolonis asked about Item B saying the Board just got the bids on this and she has not had a chance to discuss them and she would really like to discuss this in committee before doing anything as a Board.

Mr. DiBello replied that the motion came through the Committee and he believes it was first discussed at either the October or November meeting. Mr. DiBello said after it was discussed the Board did give direction to go out for bid and it was always anticipated that the bids would come in at around \$180,000 or \$200,000. Mr. DiBello said he is not sure what may not have been covered but if there is something that was missed he would be more than happy to explain it.

Mr. Davis stated that the only question he would ask is how long the bids were open for as this is something that you must always consider as the normal requirements are that the bid specs be kept open for 30, 40 or 60 days. Mr. Davis stated that if the Board is not going to act tonight then you need to know when you must act by. Mr. Anspach informed Mr. Davis that this bid is off of the state list so the timeline requirements would not apply.

Mr. Pettit added that his memory is that the Committee did bring this out as a favorable recommendation and it was discussed at some point. Mr. Pettit said that both the pros and cons were discussed at some point after the committee report.

Ms. Gudolonis said her concern is with the long list of items and the first time she saw the list of items was when she received the Board Memo on Friday. Ms. Gudolonis stated that she is surprised that we need some of the things listed.

Dr. Hurda responded that the equipment is 11 years old and it has been cared for very, very well and the fact that we have gotten 11 years out of it is a tribute to the care that has been given. Dr. Hurda said the program is absolutely not going to be able to run if we do not replace the equipment. Dr. Hurda stated that she outlined this in the memo that she sent on Friday as this is really a curriculum area even though the purchase of the equipment falls under Property. Dr. Hurda reminded the Board that this is a program that serves several hundred students and does all of the other community events. Dr. Hurda said the necessity of this equipment cannot be underestimated and our direction in November was to get bids and bring them back and as it turns out the lowest price came in by using the state contract list. Dr. Hurda commented that the sooner we move forward on this the better because right now we are not even able to tape a full show without the cameras shutting down which means it could take several hours to get 45 minutes worth of programming filmed.

Mr. Ciresi stated that this will come from money remaining in the bond for the renovation of the high school so this is not coming from the operational budget.

Ms. Gudolonis said she does not understand why we do not have the cameras working as we have cameras working down here so can't these cameras be used in the studio. Mr. Ciresi responded that we cannot find parts for the cameras anymore and some of these cameras will go out at times too as the kids are taping and he is sure they have had issues with the cameras. Mr. Pettit pointed out that the students filming the Board meeting tonight were shaking their heads in agreement that they have had issues with the cameras. Mr. Ciresi added that when everything went HD then everything changed and that is the direction we need to move in because the studio has become obsolete. Mr. Ciresi stated that we had heard in one report that when Dr. Hurda was doing her show it took a couple of hours to film due to everything overheating, the decks went out and the monitors went out. Mr. Ciresi said he understands it is a lot of money but he also understands what the television station does for the district and the community overall and it is well worth the \$195,000 we would be spending. Mr. Ciresi stated that the television studio is a portal to the community to get the word out beyond the Board meeting. Mr. Ciresi said the television studio is a tribute to our



kids, the department and especially Steve Bonetz who has been trying to fix things as much as he can. Mr. Ciresi concluded by saying this has been in discussion for a very long time and it has now finally come to a bid.

Mr. DiBello commented that when you look at this from an educational standpoint we have the students on the cameras, we have a few shows that are strictly run by the students, and two students who do the commentary on the basketball games so there is a whole slew of things going on every day in the television studio so in spending the money you know that it will be utilized within ten minutes of plugging in the last plug.

Mr. Pettit stated that it is very good that Ms. Gudolonis is looking at the budget and looking at the dollars being spent but in this case the urgency is great, the benefits to the students are great and the benefits to the community are also great.

The motion passed 9-0.

- B. The Board approved the low bid from **Applied Video Technology**, using the PA State Contract List, for the replacement of Television Studio equipment in the High School 10-12 Grade Center as part of the ongoing High School Renovation Project. Funding will come from the High School Construction Account and shall not exceed \$194,997.00.

Mrs. Mullin made a motion to approve Item C and Mr. Pettit seconded it.

Mrs. Williams asked if Item C was going to cost the district anything and the response was no.

Mr. DiBello commented that when this was first brought to the Board two years ago there was one stipulation by the past Board and the current Board and that was that Mr. Cooper, Mr. Anspach and Mr. Davis needed to ensure that everything from the district standpoint was in place and all the correct paperwork had been submitted and he wants to just make sure that all of this had taken place. Mr. Davis replied that the only issue he had was that the lot was just about 10 acres and this would put us at slightly below 10 acres. Mr. Davis said he raised the issue to Dr. Donahue on whether that would cause us any trouble with the Commonwealth because if you are going out and buying property today for an elementary school you would have to have 10 acres plus additional acreage per 100 students so he wanted to make sure that the district would not be penalized in any way by the Commonwealth. Mr. Davis reported that Dr. Donahue contacted PDE and was assured it was simply a reimbursement issue and would not affect us going forward at all as the issue would only be if we were buying new ground. Mr. Davis said that was the only concern he had as the plans to him looked to be in order. Mr. DiBello asked if Mr. Anspach and Mr. Cooper were okay with everything and they both responded yes.

The motion passed 9-0.

- C. The Board gave approval to execute the sub-division plan for the lot line change at Spring City Elementary School. This lot line change includes a portion of land (.34 acres) owned by Spring-Ford Area School District to the Borough of Spring City. The new driveway entrance will be located off of Wall Street at the Spring City Elementary School.

**VIII. PSBA REPORT/MCIU REPORTS Tom DiBello**

Mr. DiBello reported that it has been an interesting month in Harrisburg with the new governor coming in. Mr. DiBello pointed out that halfway through the state fiscal year Pennsylvania has collected \$11.5 billion which was about \$191 million or 1.7% more revenue than they anticipated so they are chipping away at that \$5 billion deficit. Revenue collections for December were 8.4% more than anticipated so things are slightly looking better at the state level. Mr. DiBello commented that Governor Corbett was sworn in last week and one of the top items on his agenda from an education standpoint is that they are going to be reviewing or investigating school vouchers so there should be a lot of information coming in the next several weeks related to where they are going to go with this. Mr. DiBello said the one thing he knows at this point is that it is more focused towards school districts that are lower performing and also those in a more distressed area. Mr. DiBello reported that from a federal standpoint prior to the closing of the 111<sup>th</sup> session of Congress they voted to basically hold educational funding at the fiscal year of 2010-2011. Members of the 112<sup>th</sup> Congress have the option to pass another continuing resolution for the rest of this year but we will have to see where that goes over the next couple of months.

**IX. CONFERENCE/ WORKSHOP RECOMMENDATIONS**

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Items A-K and Mrs. Williams seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

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

**CODE: 580 Account: Conference/Training, registration, food, and accommodations:**

**DISTRICT OFFICE**

- A. **Bruce Cooper**, Director of Planning, Operations & Facilities, to attend “AISAFE Environmental – Recertification Course” in New Cumberland, PA on February 3, 2011. The total cost for this conference is \$195.00 from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.
- B. **Elizabeth Leiss**, Director of Human Resources, to attend “PA Association of School Personnel Administrators (PASPA) 2011 Conference” in Harrisburg, PA from February 23 – 25, 2011. There is no cost to the district for this conference as all fees are being paid by PASPA since Mrs. Leiss serves on their Board. No substitute is needed.

**HIGH SCHOOL**

- C. **Maren Trout**, College Career Coordinator, to attend “Western State College Counselor Visit” in Gunnison, Colorado from April 20 – 24, 2011. There is no cost for this visit as all fees are paid by the college. No substitute is needed.
- D. **Heather Steinmetz**, Guidance Counselor, to attend “The ABC’s of Children’s Grief” at the Center for Loss and Bereavement in Skippack, PA on March 24, 2011. There is no cost for this conference as all fees are being paid by the employee. No substitute is needed.

- E. **Yvonne O'Dea**, Choral Director, to attend "The Music Educators Eastern Division Conference" in Baltimore, Maryland from 3/31/11 through 4/2/11. Mrs. O'Dea will accompany students to this National Convention so that they may participate in the Honors Ensembles. The total cost for this conference is \$1075.00 - \$775.00 from the 580 account and \$300 from the substitute account.
- F. **Yvonne O'Dea**, Choral Director, to attend "The PA Music Educators Conference" in Hershey, PA on 4/14/11 and 4/15/11. Mrs. O'Dea will accompany those students who qualify for All-State Choral to the festival and conference. The total cost for this conference is \$935.00 - \$635.00 from the 580 account and \$300 from the substitute account.

#### **5<sup>TH</sup>/6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE CENTER**

- G. **Jen Smith**, Speech Clinician, to attend "Competent Learner Model" at the MCIU in Norristown, PA on February 2, 2011 and April 27, 2011. The only cost for this conference is a total of \$28.00 for mileage for both days. No substitute is needed.

#### **DISTRICT-WIDE**

- H. **Dr. Jeanmarie Mason**, Supervisor of Special Education, and **Ron Logan**, Special Education Teacher, to attend "Effective Transition Practices & Indicator 13 – Focus on Disabilities" at the MCIU in Norristown, PA on February 10, 2011. There is no cost for this conference other than \$150.00 for a substitute for Mr. Logan.
- I. **Dr. Jeanmarie Mason**, Supervisor of Special Education, and **Ron Logan**, Special Education Teacher, to attend "Assistive Technology & Secondary Transition" at the MCIU in Norristown, PA in the morning of March 24, 2011. There is no cost for this conference other than \$75.00 for a ½ day substitute for Mr. Logan.
- J. **Dr. Jeanmarie Mason**, Supervisor of Special Education, and **Ron Logan**, Special Education Teacher, to attend "What's New in Transition?" at the MCIU in Norristown, PA in the morning of April 5, 2011. There is no cost for this conference other than \$75.00 for a ½ day substitute for Mr. Logan.
- K. **Sandra Cerniglia** and **Tara Chester**, ESL Teachers, to attend "Effective Literacy & English Language Instruction for English Learners in the Elementary Grades" at PaTTAN in King of Prussia, PA on January 20, 2011. There is no cost for the conference other than \$300.00 for substitutes to be paid from Title III Funds.

#### **X. OTHER BUSINESS**

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

- A. The following policies were approved:

1. Policy #102 – PROGRAMS: Academic Standards
2. Policy #105.1 – PROGRAMS: Curriculum Review by Parents and Students
3. Policy #910 – COMMUNITY: Community Relations/Dissemination of Printed Materials

- B. The Board reaffirmed the Pennsylvania School Boards Association Standards for Effective School Governance and Code of Conduct for Members of Pennsylvania School Boards.
- C. The following policy is submitted as a first reading:
  - 1. Policy #103 – PROGRAMS: Nondiscrimination in Participation/Employment/Contract Practices

**XI. INFORMATION ITEM**

There were no questions or comments.

- A. Effective January 1, 2011, the IRS mileage rate will increase to .51cents per mile. Currently the rate is .50 cents per mile.

**XII. SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

There was no report.

**XIII. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD**

Kathleen Bryant, Upper Providence Township, questioned whether the Board considered the possibility of allowing local business and/or corporate sponsorship for the purchase of new broadcasting equipment. Ms. Bryant stated that she thinks that by allowing local businesses to sponsor and help offset the cost of the equipment it would benefit both you and them. Ms. Bryant stated that the district of course would have control over which businesses you would accept sponsorship from in order to make sure they are the right type of business. Mr. Ciresi commented that the Board does have a policy which would allow certain advertising and sponsorship and it has been discussed in the past through a committee. Mr. Ciresi stated that one of the things discussed was the idea of having commercials run on the television channel to help offset costs. Ms. Bryant suggested that the Board contact Temple University to set up a tour of the new television studio there as it was financed through sponsorship and donations. Ms. Bryant said that the district could set up a personal tour and get information on this through her son, a former Student Representative to the School Board. Mr. Ciresi thanked Ms. Bryant.

Mr. Dressler asked about the old administration building and what the status is for that piece of property. Mr. DiBello replied that it is on the Property Committee's agenda for discussion next week. Mr. Dressler reported that he has had some members of the public express and interest in using the property as a place for a public library. Mr. Dressler questioned whether the School Board would be interested in donating it to a project like that. Mrs. Williams asked Mr. Davis if this could be done and Mr. Davis replied if it is for a public library then it probably could be done under the school code. Mr. Pettit stated that he thought that would be a great idea. Mr. Dressler commented that if there are any members of the public who are interested in perhaps setting up a fund to make that happen please get in touch with the Board. Mr. Pettit stated that this would be very helpful to the community especially since Upper Providence does not have a public library.

Mrs. Mullin asked about the discussion a couple months back regarding the use of facilities during the school day and she wondered where it was left at and whether it was going back

to policy or was it done as she would like to see that discussion continued. Mr. Ciresi stated that we could put it on the Policy Committee agenda and Mrs. Williams said it is Policy 707 and we will get some sample policies if they exist in other districts. Mrs. Mullin questioned whether that was the policy that most closely addresses this issue as it seems to her like it should already be a violation of a policy and is it a matter of updating a policy or creating a new one. Mrs. Williams said that Policy 707 – Use of Facilities is the only policy so she believes and it would not be a new policy but imbedded within that policy. Mrs. Williams said she thinks that before we go in that direction we need to look at a number of issues so we will certainly get sample policies before the next meeting if we can but with the meeting being next week it might be a short timeline. Mrs. Mullin stated that her argument is that when you take kids out on a field, the track or a playground then that area becomes an extension of the building so why wouldn't the same rules apply as those that are in place inside the building such as having visitors have their ID swiped into the Raptorware System. Mrs. Mullin stated that she was shocked at the previous meeting when she heard that people can use the playground during school day when kids are at recess, Mrs. Williams stated that they cannot use the playground. Mrs. Mullin questioned then why it is any different for people using the track during school hours.

Dr. Hurda commented that there are signs on the elementary playgrounds indicating that those areas cannot be used when school is in session. Dr. Hurda said this discussion goes way back to the whole idea that the facilities such as the track should be open to the public. Dr. Hurda said there was discussion regarding this as well as the runner's gate which we are still talking about but the playground is a different issue. Mrs. Mullin stated that when she asked at the previous meeting she is almost sure that the answer she was given was that it is taxpayer property and if they want to use the playground during the school day they could. Dr. Hurda reiterated that there were signs posted that do not allow this.

Mr. Ciresi asked for clarification on the track and the difference between that and the playground. Dr. Hurda replied that she wants to make sure the information is correct and that is that there are signs that prohibit people from using the elementary school playgrounds during the school day and the issue with the track was the option of opening it to the community when we made the new track available. Dr. Hurda added that whether or not people can use it during the school day or not, that whole discussion centered around how we make the facility more available to those people who do not have children in school. Dr. Hurda stated that she is not sure we every really went down that road in terms of how we control it as there was talk about a key, should there be a lock, should people come sign in and fill out an application but she does not think that discussion went any further than that. Dr. Hurda reported that at the Property Committee meeting last month Mr. McDaniel and Mr. Cooper talked about the fact that they had investigated runner's gates and some of those gates use a swipe card and with those gates you can program a time that would make the area accessible to the public. Dr. Hurda stated that she does not recall us getting that detailed in the discussion and she believes the whole thing with the runner's gate is where we are at now.

Mrs. Mullin commented that the what she does not want to see get lost is that the use of facilities is for outside people using our facilities not during school hours such as when the rec league uses it but to her this is a school day safety issue. Mrs. Mullin said she does not think that anyone should be able to use the school properties when there could be kids out there. Mrs. Mullin stated that she does not think that the district can ask her kid or any other kid in the district that they have to go out on the track and not have control on who is out there. Mrs. Mullin said she does not know if this is a policy issue as it is bigger than that.

Mr. Ciresi asked Mr. Davis for clarification saying when you interpret the policy and talk about school facilities and property does the track, the fields and all school grounds come under that. Mr. Davis replied he would have to read the policy but assuming it reads the way it was articulated that it is all property then all school grounds would come under it because certainly the track is school property.

Mr. DiBello questioned the signs posted on the playground areas and what exactly that encapsulates. Mr. Cooper explained it was all the playground area and added that the kindergarten area is actually fenced in for added security. Mr. DiBello said he thinks that the playgrounds are off limits to the public during the school day but he believes Mrs. Mullin's point is that a lot of our gym classes are brought out to use fields around the schools so what we need to look at is does the policy include as an extension of the playgrounds the fields and anything else associated with the grounds during the school day.

Mr. Dressler asked as it stands right now is there any restriction on using the track and Mr. Ciresi replied no, not unless there is a track event. Mr. Dressler asked if it was open to the public 24/7 and Mr. Ciresi replied no, it is closed at dusk. Mr. Ciresi stated that the issue is that during the school day the public can still come in and use the track while the kids are on the field. Mr. DiBello commented that it is not just the track as this is just one aspect of it but there are all the fields as well.

Mr. Pettit asked if it could be brought back to the Policy Committee meeting next week for discussion so that it could be brought back to the next month's Board meeting. Mrs. Williams replied that they will try but it could take some time to get some sample policies so it may not come back in February but may come back in March. Mr. Pettit expressed his hopes that it could be expedited because he does have some concerns that if the public is utilizing fields or whatever while the kids are on there then it could become a safety issue unfortunately in the day and age in which we live. Mrs. Williams advised the Board that she will get back to them.

#### **XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

Mrs. Mullin made a motion to adjourn and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 9-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane M. Fern  
Board Secretary