

On January 26, 2009 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:	Michael V. Masciandaro, Bernard F. Pettit and David R. Shafer
Region II:	Julie A. Mullin
Region III:	Mark P. Dehnert, 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.:	Samantha Wanner

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

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mrs. Williams announced that the next Superintendent's/Parent's Advisory Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 28, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Cafeteria Annex. Mrs. Williams reported that the district will be holding Internet safety presentations for parents so that they may learn how to protect their children online. These sessions are being made possible through a grant from the Verizon Foundation with the first sessions being held on Wednesday, February 4<sup>th</sup> at Evans Elementary School and Thursday, February 5<sup>th</sup> at Upper Providence Elementary School. The presentations will begin at 7:00 p.m. Information on these presentations and future presentations can be found on the district website at [www.springford.net](http://www.springford.net).

#### **I. PRESENTATIONS**

Dr. Hurda stated that tonight we are honoring a group of individuals who have demonstrated an untiring commitment to the Spring-Ford Area School District. She thanked each Board Member for their dedication and presented each one with a certificate and a small token of appreciation.

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

Dr. Hurda presented the Keystone Achievement Awards to the Principals of the 10 buildings that have achieved Adequate Yearly Progress for two consecutive years, 2006-07 and 2007-08. Dr. Hurda stated that the Keystone Achievement Award is given to those Pennsylvania public schools who have demonstrated sustained academic

progress as measured in part by a school's performance on the Pennsylvania System of School Assessment.

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

- |                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| Brooke Elementary      | Upper Providence Elementary              |
| Limerick Elementary    | Spring-Ford 5/6 Grade Center             |
| Oaks Elementary        | Spring-Ford 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Center |
| Royersford Elementary  | Spring-Ford 9 <sup>th</sup> Grade Center |
| Spring City Elementary | Spring-Ford 10-12 Grade Center           |

The meeting adjourned at 7:42 in order to have cake in honor of Board Appreciation Month. The meeting reconvened at 7:50.

**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-C and Mrs. Mullin seconded it. The motion passed 8-0.

- A. The Board approved the November 24, 2008 Board Meeting minutes.
- B. The Board approved the December 1, 2008 Reorganization Meeting minutes.
- C. The Board approved the December 1, 2008 Board Meeting minutes.

**IV. BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Student Rep. Report                      Samantha Wanner**

Samantha reported on the winter sports teams and their current records. Samantha spoke about Marion Blumenthal Lazan, a Holocaust survivor, who spoke to the community. Samantha said in talking with some students many expressed their gratefulness for the opportunity to speak to Mrs. Lazan and found the presentation to be an emotional one. Samantha reported that the PSSA testing is coming up and the second marking period is getting under way.

<b>Personnel</b>	<b>Donna Williams</b>	<b>As needed</b>
No report.		

<b>Community Relations</b>	<b>Donna Williams</b>	<b>Quarterly as needed</b>
No report.		

<b>Curriculum/Technology</b>	<b>Bernard F. Pettit</b>	<b>Quarterly as needed</b>
No report, the Committee will meet on Tuesday, February 3, 2009.		

<b>Extracurricular</b>	<b>Robert Weber</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Tues. 2 p.m.</b>
Mr. Weber reported that the Extracurricular Committee met on January 13, 2009 and discussed the maintenance reports for the condition of fields being submitted to the Athletic Director and then to the Maintenance Department. The Committee also		

discussed the winter sports programs and bringing in a guest speaker to advise our student athletes on conditioning and training.

**Finance**

**John S. Grispon**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Thurs. 7 p.m.**

Mr. Grispon reported that the Finance Committee met on Thursday, January 15, 2009 and discussed tax collector's compensation remaining the same and the Section 125 Plan. The Finance Committee is recommending that the Board approve the 2007-2008 audit report as prepared by Maillie Falconiero, there were no findings in the audit. The Committee also discussed estimated budget revenue shortfalls, budget numbers were reviewed with regards to expenditures for new personnel, costs of present personnel, costs of benefits, costs for special education and costs for debts. The Committee is looking for approval to advertise the Proposed Preliminary Budget, which was approved last week. The next Finance Meeting will take place on February 12, 2009 where the Committee will work to try and reduce the budget even further.

**Policy**

**John S. Grispon**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Mon. 7 p.m.**

Mr. Grispon reported that the Policy Committee met on January 12, 2009 and discussed the use of facilities which will be on next month's Policy Committee agenda for further discussion regarding the question of whether the community can use Coach McNelly Stadium if there is any time left in the student athlete schedule to permit this. The Committee also discussed the energy management policy which is on the agenda for first reading, purchases subject to bid which will be on next month's agenda and the possibility of a food allergy policy which will be on next month's Policy Committee agenda for discussion.

**Property/Facilities**

**Robert A. Weber**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Weds. 7 p.m.**

No report

**WCTS**

**Grispon, Morgan, Williams 1<sup>st</sup> Mon. 7:30 p.m.**

Mr. Grispon reported that the WCTS Committee approved the bids for the renovation project at the Western Center which came in \$2.4 million under the estimated budget. Mr. Grispon stated that there is a tentative early bird agreement with the teacher's union for a five year contract. Mrs. Williams said the tentative date for the groundbreaking ceremony is February 5, 2009. Mr. Davis commented that general contractor has drawn a building permit and notice to proceed has been given to various contractors. Mrs. Williams said the ground breaking ceremony will take place at noon.

**V. PERSONNEL**

Dr. Hurda commented on Item B6 and the resignation of Dr. Leticia Rodriguez, she thanked Dr. Rodriguez for her service to the district. Dr. Hurda wished Dr. Rodriguez the best and stated that she has been a wonderful asset not only to the district but also to the Leadership Team.

Dr. Hurda introduced Mrs. Elizabeth Leiss, from the Boyertown School District, saying she is the recommended candidate for the position of Director of Human Resources.

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Items A-M and Mrs. Mullin seconded it. Mr. Weber asked if we knew the effective date for Mrs. Leiss and Dr. Hurda responded that she suspects it will be within the month. The motion passed 8-0.

- A. The Board approved the resolution terminating Employee #67118, effective December 1, 2008.

**B. Resignations:**

1. **Charles Bainbridge**, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Center; Custodian, effective January 15, 2009.
2. **Michele Boehmer**, Upper Providence Elementary School; Instructional Assistant, effective with last work day January 16, 2009.
3. **Elizabeth Ferko**, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Center; Homework Club Advisor, effective January 5, 2008.
4. **Sarah E. Holwager**, 5/6<sup>th</sup> Grade Center; Learning Support Teacher, effective February 6, 2009.
5. **Dennis W. Robinson**, District; Maintenance Employee, effective April 17, 2009.

**New Resignation:**

6. **Dr. Leticia M. Rodríguez**, Director of Human Resources, effective February 25, 2009.

**C. Leaves of Absence:**

1. **Danielle C. Blackledge**, High School; Science Teacher, in accordance with the Professional Agreement, effective tentatively March 29, 2009 until the end of the 2008/2009 school year.
2. **Agnes Bolyn**, 5/6<sup>th</sup> Grade Center; Special Education Teacher, in accordance with the Board Policy, effective December 3, 2008.
3. **James F. Brobst**, Flex Building; Custodian, in accordance with Board Policy, effective tentatively January 5, 2009.
4. **Scott Burr**, Upper Providence Elementary School; Elementary Teacher, in accordance with Board Policy, effective December 11, 2008.
5. **Sue Choi**, Upper Providence Elementary School; Elementary Teacher, in accordance with Board Policy, effective tentatively March 26, 2009.
6. **Brigitte Diaz**, Oaks Elementary School; Elementary Teacher, in accordance with Board Policy effective December 22, 2008.
7. **Amanda Dolloff**, Limerick Elementary School; Elementary Teacher, in accordance with the Professional Agreement, effective tentatively February 20, 2009 until the end of the 2008/2009 school year.
8. **Kimberly Green**, 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Center; English Teacher, in accordance with Board Policy, effective December 11, 2008.

9. **Kristi Holstein**, High School; English Teacher, for an *extended* Leave of Absence in accordance with Professional Agreement, effective March 31, 2009 until the end of the 2008/2009 school year.
10. **Carol L. Mays**, Spring City Elementary School/District Office; Secretary, in accordance with Board Policy, effective January 5, 2009.
11. **Jaclyn Ritter**, High School; English Teacher, in accordance with the Professional Agreement, effective tentatively May 25, 2009 until the end of the 2008/2009 school year.

**New Leaves of Absence:**

12. **Michele Brant Miller**, High School; Biology Teacher, in accordance with Professional Agreement, effective tentatively March 29, 2009 until the end of the 2008/2009 school year as well as the entire 2009/2010 school year.
13. **James Holland**, Custodian, in accordance with Board Policy, effective January 20, 2009.
14. **Michele Konnick**, High School; English Teacher, in accordance with Board Policy, effective December 15, 2008.
15. **Lea O'Brien**, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Center; Instructional Assistant, in accordance with Board Policy, effective tentatively September 1, 2009, through the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> semester.
16. **Randy Schell**, Custodian, in accordance with Board Policy, effective January 20, 2009.
17. **Christine Wike**, Oaks Elementary School; Elementary Teacher, in accordance with Professional Agreement, effective tentatively April 2, 2009 until the end of the 2008/2009 school year.
18. **Megan E. Wiley**, 5/6<sup>th</sup> Grade Center; Elementary Teacher, in accordance with Board Policy, effective tentatively March 27, 2009.

**D. Long Term Substitutes:**

1. **Joanna D'Orazio**, 5/6<sup>th</sup> Grade Center; Special Education Teacher, to *continue* as a Long Term Substitute for the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester of the 2008/2009 school year, compensation will be set at \$40,500, BS, Step 2, with benefits.
2. **Tiffany A. Sallemi**, Oaks Elementary School; Learning Support Teacher, compensation will be set at \$41,500, MS, Step 1, effective retroactive to October 3, 2008 with benefits until end of the 2008/2009 school year.
3. **MaryAnne C. Stephens**, Royersford Elementary School; Elementary Teacher, compensation will be set at \$40,500, BS+18, Step 1, with benefits, effective December 15, 2008 until the end of the 2008/2009 school year.

**New Long Term Substitute:**

4. **Antoinette A. Pelletier**, High School; Special Education Teacher, compensation will be set at \$40,000, BS, Step 1, with benefits, effective retroactive to January 5, 2009.

**E. Support Staff Employees:**

1. **Pamela Carty**, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Center; 3.5 hour Part-time food service, compensation will be set at \$13.84 per hour without benefits as per the Food Service Plan, effective January 27, 2009.
2. **Trudy Durante**, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Center; 3 hour Part-time food service, compensation will be set at \$13.84 per hour without benefits as per the Food Service Plan, effective January 27, 2009.

**New Support Staff Employee:**

3. **Joan C. Callow**, Oaks Elementary School; Instructional Assistant, compensation will be set at \$14.16 per hour with benefits, effective January 27, 2009

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

1. **Margaret Castellano**, Musicale Choreographer, \$1,031
2. **David Nicol**, Men's & Women's Choir Co-Director, \$1,092
3. **Carolyn D. Vogt**, Majorette/Twirlers Instructor, \$2,067

**G. Extra-Curricular Contracts: 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Center**

1. **Suzanne Winkler**, Band Front Majorettes, \$1,373

**H. Extra-Curricular Contracts: 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Center**

1. **Elizabeth Ferko**, Homework Club Advisor, (1/4) \$255.75
2. **Jonathan Markowich**, Homework Club Advisor (1/4) \$255.75

**I. Playground Assistants: Supplemental Contracts**

1. **Julia Glaser**, \$10.60 per hour, effective 12/15/08
2. **Sherri Molishus**, \$10.60 per hour, effective 12/1/08
3. **Joanne Pizzico**, \$10.60 per hour, effective 12/5/08
4. **Kerry Powell**, \$10.60 per hour, effective 12/5/08

**J. Professional Staff Substitutes:**

- |   |                                   |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| 1. <b>Marissa Bono</b>                  | Elementary Education              |
| 2. <b>Traci Budzilowicz</b>             | Mathematics                       |
| 3. <b>Christine Campbell-Shettsline</b> | Elem./Secondary School Counselor  |
| 4. <b>Matthew Dierolf</b>               | English                           |
| 5. <b>Steven Fields</b>                 | English                           |
| 6. <b>Adrienne Schultz</b>              | Elementary                        |
| 7. <b>Brittany Wagner</b>               | Elem. Education/Special Education |

**New Professional Staff Substitutes:**

- |                             |                                     |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 8. <b>Diane McKeon</b>      | Elementary Education                |
| 9. <b>Crystal Marchese</b>  | Elementary Education                |
| 10. <b>Patricia Pino</b>    | Elementary Ed./Mid-Level English    |
| 11. <b>Heather Potemski</b> | Early Childhood & Special Education |
| 12. <b>Megan Ritchey</b>    | Elementary Education                |

**K. Support Staff Substitutes:**

- |                                |              |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| 1. <b>Robert Berkey</b>        | Custodian    |
| 2. <b>Brittany DiJosia</b>     | Support      |
| 3. <b>Christine Gryscavage</b> | Support      |
| 4. <b>Noel Hinterstein</b>     | School Nurse |
| 5. <b>David Pniewski</b>       | Custodian    |
| 6. <b>Lauren Polinski</b>      | Support      |
| 7. <b>W. Alan Rowland</b>      | Custodian    |
| 8. <b>Michael Tucker</b>       | Custodian    |
| 9. <b>Marita Weldele</b>       | Custodian    |
| 10. <b>Scarlett Yeager</b>     | Support      |

**New Support Staff Substitutes:**

- |                                   |                            |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 11. <b>Alex Cushman</b>           | Custodian                  |
| 12. <b>Brian Fields, Sr.</b>      | Custodian                  |
| 13. <b>Thomas Gallagher</b>       | Custodian                  |
| 14. <b>Antoinette S. Masturzo</b> | Playground/Lunchroom Asst. |
| 15. <b>Gloria Vollert</b>         | Support                    |

**L. Personnel Information Items**

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

- |                       |                                   |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. <b>Amanda Burr</b> | Special Education/Social Studies  |
| 2. <b>Alynn Purdy</b> | Elem. Education/Special Education |

**M. New Personnel**

- The Board approved **Elizabeth A. Leiss** for the position of Director of Human Resources. **Mrs. Leiss** received her MBA from LaSalle University, as well as a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Human Resources from Ursinus College. Compensation will be set at \$121,000, with benefits, effective date to be determined.

**VI. FINANCE**

Mr. Pettit asked that Items B3 and B4 be separated. Mrs. Mullin made a motion to approve Items A-B1 and B2, Mr. Grispon seconded it. The motion passed 7-1 with Mr. Weber voting no.

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

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

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

**DECEMBER**

El Associates	Professional Services (2 Inv.)	\$ 23,673.97
Limerick Township	Professional Services	\$ 9,028.30
U. Providence Twp.	Professional Services	\$ 1,377.50

**JANUARY**

Bursich Assoc., Inc.	Professional Services	\$ 725.00
Fox Rothschild LLC	Professional Services	\$ 297.53
UPS Store	Drawing Copies	\$ 15.75
*U.Providence Twp.	Professional Services	\$ 1,135.00
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 36,253.05</b>

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

1. **NEW DISTRICT OFFICE**

**DECEMBER**

DDL Enterprises, Inc.	Applic.#9- General Contractor	\$ 168,054.75
Myco Mechanical, Inc.	Applic.#9- HVAC Contractor	\$ 21,323.75
PECO	Electricity	\$ 157.06
TMI Commercial, Inc.	Applic.#6- Fire Suppression Ctr	\$ 4,440.00
U. Providence Twp.	Unused EDU's	\$ 2,870.00

**JANUARY**

Bureau Veritas, Inc.	Professional Services (2 Inv.)	\$ 1,776.50
Foreman Architects	Professional Services (2 Inv.)	\$ 8,131.79
Kirk Grater Plumbing	Applic. #3- Plumbing Contractor	\$ 22,500.00
Lenni Electric Corp.	Applic. #10- Electric Contractor	\$ 45,939.64
PECO	Electricity (2 Inv.)	\$ 682.40
*DDL Enterprises	Applic. #10- General Contractor	\$ 184,147.87
*Myco Mechanical	Applic. #10- HVAC Contractor	\$ 14,368.75
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 474,392.51</b>

2. **10<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE BY-PASS**

**DECEMBER**

Earth Design Group	Professional Services	\$ 290.00
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**JANUARY**

Traffic Plan & Design	Professional Services	\$ 6,856.03
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 7,146.03</b>

Mr. Shafer made a motion to approve Items B3 and B4, Mr. Dehnert seconded it.

Mr. Masciandaro asked if these items were to pay bills for services already contracted for, Dr. Hurda answered yes. Mr. Masciandaro commented that he is in favor of this but in his opinion we should hold up on Field #9 right now until we have an economic turnaround.



Mr. Pettit stated that he is in agreement with Mr. Masciandaro and we should put a hold on this. Mr. Pettit said he will be voting no on this to express his objection to the turfing of all of our fields in this day and age and in this economy.

Mr. Weber commented that the Property Committee as a whole will not be bringing any recommendation for HS #9 due to the economic conditions.

Mrs. Mullin asked what the district's contractual responsibility is with regards to the fields, Dr. Hurda answered that we will own the design for whatever engineer work has been done up to this part so if we ever decide to move forward in the future the design will be available to us but we are not obligated to anything beyond that at this point.

The motion passed 7-1 with Mr. Pettit voting no.

3. **HIGH SCHOOL FIELD #9**

**JANUARY**

Stephen Parks	Professional Services	\$ 27,923.93
UPS Store	Drawing Copies	\$ 7.20
	TOTAL	\$ 27,931.13

4. **ARTIFICIAL TURF – ATHLETIC FIELDS**

**DECEMBER**

Lechmanik, Inc.	Applic. #6- General Contractor	\$ 5,200.00
	TOTAL	\$ 5,200.00

Mrs. Mullin made a motion to approve Items C-R and Mr. Shafer seconded it. Mr. Dehnert asked for an explanation on Letter R. Mr. Anspach said this is so the district can get have a property appraised in order to protect the district's interest since the appraised value is being contested. Mr. Dehnert asked about the difference between Phase 1 and Phase 2 and Mr. Davis explained that Phase 1 is where a study is done and a value is given for a property whereas Phase 2 is a commitment to a full blown appraisal. The motion passed 8-0.

C. 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.

D. Checks:

1. **Weekly Checks prior to Work Session**

**December**

Check No. 127576 – 128129 \$1,807,443.51

**January**

Check No. 128130 – 128337 \$1,426,020.68

2. **Weekly Checks prior to Board Meeting**

Check No. 128509 – 128561 \$ 217,859.87

3. **Board Checks held for approval**

Check No. 128338 – 128507 \$ 223,225.68

- |    |  |              |
|----|--|--------------|
| 4. | <u>Scott Foresman Checks</u><br>Check No. 128508                     | \$ 158.02    |
| 5. | <u>Athletic Fund</u><br><u>December</u><br>Check No. 301020 – 301140 | \$ 32,636.16 |
- E. The Board approved **Resolution #2009-01** regarding the **Montgomery County Intermediate Unit Administrative Services Budget** for the fiscal year July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010.
- F. The Board approved **Resolution #2009-02** regarding the **Montgomery County Intermediate Unit Curriculum, Instruction and Professional Development Services Budget** for the fiscal year July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010.
- G. The Board approved **Resolution #2009-03** regarding the **Montgomery County Intermediate Unit Technology and Information Services Budget** for the fiscal year July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010.
- H. The Board approved **Resolution #2009-04** regarding the **Montgomery County Intermediate Unit Legislative Services and Grant Development Budget** for the fiscal year July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010.
- I. The Board approved the Independent Audit Report as submitted by Maillie, Falconiero & Company LLP for the fiscal year 2007/2008. Each Board Member has received their copy and a display copy is available at the district office. The audit examined the financial statements, tested evidence supporting the amounts, examined internal control, insured evidence of proper documentation, compliance with laws, regulations, and in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. This audit was without findings or material weaknesses.
- J. The Board approved the Western Center for Technical Studies 2009-2010 Budget in the amount of \$5,022,811. Spring-Ford's share of the cost is \$1,265,197 or a decrease of \$184,957 (12.75%) over last year's budget. The decrease is primarily a result of the change in WCTS's programming from a full time to a half time program beginning in the 2009-2010 school year.
- K. The Board approved the following **independent contracts**:
1. **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 2008-2009 school year. Funding will be paid from the 2008-2009 High School Extra-Curricular Fund and shall not exceed five thousand one hundred thirty-two dollars (\$5,132.00).
  2. **Susan Hoban and Associates – Glenside, PA.** Provide In-home Applied Behavior Analysis Therapy for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for thirty-two (32) hours at a rate of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) per hour. Services will also include up to four (4) hours of Applied Behavioral Analysis consultation services at a rate of eighty-five

dollars (\$85.00) per hour. Funding will be paid from the 2008-2009 Special Education Budget and shall not exceed one thousand one hundred forty dollars (\$1,140.00).

3. **Chuck Favata – Lansdale, PA.** Provide an Internet Safety presentation at the 5/6 Grade Center. Funding will be paid from the 2008-2009 Verizon Foundation Grant and shall not exceed five hundred dollars (\$500.00).
4. **Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy – Schwenksville, PA.** Provide two (2) presentations for the kindergarten classes at Spring City Elementary School entitled “Winter Secrets...Animals in Winter”. Funding will be paid by the 2008-2009 Spring City Elementary Home and School Association and shall not exceed two hundred twenty dollars (\$220.00).
5. **Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy – Schwenksville, PA.** Provide five (5) presentations for the kindergarten classes at Upper Providence Elementary School entitled “Winter Secrets...Animals in Winter”. Funding will be paid from the 2008-2009 Upper Providence Elementary Assembly Account and shall not exceed five hundred fifty dollars (\$550.00).
6. **Musicopia – Philadelphia, PA.** Provide two (2) assemblies entitled “A Voyage of Discovery with Lewis & Clark” at Upper Providence Elementary. There is no charge to the district for these assemblies as they are sponsored by the Teleflex Foundation and the Robert & Agnes Cook Bard Foundation.
7. **Coyle Brothers Quintet – Collegeville, PA.** Provide two (2) workshops to the middle school and high school students on Friday, March 6, 2009 along with an evening adjudication, as well as perform a ninety (90) minute jazz concert on Saturday evening, March 7, 2009 in conjunction with the Spring-Ford Middle School Jazz Festival. Funding will be paid by the 2008-2009 General Fund and shall not exceed six thousand five hundred dollars (\$6,500.00).
8. **The Franklin Institute Science Museum – Philadelphia, PA.** Provide one (1) presentation for 4<sup>th</sup> grade students entitled “Electricity” and one (1) presentation for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students entitled “Light and Color” at Upper Providence Elementary on February 11, 2009. Funding will be paid from the 2008-2009 Upper Providence Elementary Home and School Association and shall not exceed nine hundred ten dollars (\$910.00).
9. **The Hill School – Pottstown, PA.** Provide two (2) presentations of “Aladdin” at Upper Providence Elementary on March 4 and March 6, 2009. Funding will be paid from the 2008-2009 Upper Providence Elementary Home and School Association and shall not exceed two hundred seventy-five dollars (\$275.00).
10. **Azban Inc., - Greenfield Center, NY.** Provide one (1) presentation at Oaks Elementary and one (1) at Limerick Elementary on March 12, 2009 on Native American tales. Funding will be split between the 2008-2009 Limerick Elementary Home and School League (\$900.00) and the 2008-2009 Oaks Elementary Parent Teacher Association (\$900.00) for a total not to exceed one thousand eight hundred dollars (\$1,800.00).

11. **Kramer Entertainment – Grand Rapids, MI.** Provide one (1) Mobile Planetarium Dome Theater presentation at Oaks Elementary on February 6, 2009. Funding will be paid by the 2008-2009 Oaks Elementary Parent Teacher Association and shall not exceed one thousand five hundred twenty-five dollars (\$1,525.00).
12. **Benmor Enterprises/Mike Straka – Bushkill, PA.** Provide one (1) presentation on dinosaurs at Limerick Elementary School on April 17, 2009. Funding will be paid by the 2008-2009 Limerick Elementary School Assembly Budget and shall not exceed five hundred dollars (\$500.00).
13. **Chrysa Smith – Pt. Pleasant, PA.** Provide four (4) presentations on February 19, 2009 at Brooke Elementary in conjunction with “Author Day”. There is no charge to the district for these presentations.
14. **Mark Rothstein – Atlanta, GA.** Provide a workshop for grades K-4 at Evans Elementary School entitled “World of Rope Jumping” on March 27, 2009. Funding will be paid from the 2008-2009 Evans Elementary School Assembly Budget (\$300.00) and from the 2008-2009 Pottstown Area Health and Wellness Foundation Grant (\$900.00) for a total not to exceed one thousand two hundred dollars (\$1,200.00).

#### **NEW INDEPENDENT CONTRACTS**

15. **Dr. Ellis Edelman – Newtown Square, PA** and the parents of a special needs student to provide related vision services as per the IEP. Services will be provided for twenty-two (22) one hour sessions at a rate of eighty-seven dollars and fifty cents (\$87.50) per hour. Funding will be paid from the 2008-2009 Special Education Budget and shall not exceed one thousand nine hundred twenty-five dollars (\$1,925.00).
  16. **Deaf-Hearing Communication Centre – Swarthmore, PA.** Provide professional sign language interpreting for IEP meetings, parent conferences and other school related functions for the parents of a special needs student. Services will be provided for a maximum of twelve (12) hours at a rate of fifty-one dollars (\$51.00) per hour. The district will also reimburse the provider for mileage at the current IRS rate of .55 per mile for a maximum of two hundred (200) miles for a total not to exceed one hundred ten dollars (\$110.00). Funding will be paid from the 2008-2009 Special Education Budget and shall not exceed seven hundred twenty-two dollars (\$722.00).
- L. The Board approved a transfer of unspent funds in the amount of \$1,990.40 from the 2007-2008 Flexible Spending Account to the Insurance Stabilization -Self Funding Account. Participation in the Flexible Spending Plan saved district employees \$55,883.31 in taxes for their expenditures (\$159,883.97) in Medical and Dependent Care. The district also saved \$12,227.30 in Social Security Taxes by participating in this program.

**NEW FINANCE**

M. The following Treasurers' Reports were approved:  
General Fund

- Money Market – November 2008
- PSDLAF – November 2008
- PSDMAX – November 2008
- Checking Account – November 2008
- PLGIT Account – November 2008
- Investment Accounts & Investment Schedule – November 2008
- Payroll Account – November 2008
- Tax Account – November 2008

Activity Accounts

- Elementary Activity – November 2008
- 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Activity – November 2008
- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Activity – November 2008
- High School Activity – November 2008
- Athletic Account – November 2008

Bond Funds

- Note of 2003 – November 2008
- Note of 2004 – November 2008

Other Funds

- Capital Reserve Fund & Investment Schedule – November 2008
- Debt Service Fund – November 2008
- Reservation of Funds (Natatorium, Insurance, Retirement) – November 2008

Cafeteria Fund

- Cafeteria Money Market – November 2008
- Cafeteria Checking Account – November 2008
- Cafeteria PSDLAF Account – November 2008
- Investment Account – November 2008

N. The Board approved the **Cafeteria Listing** of Bills:  
**November**

Check No. 8486 – 8526 \$ 254,071.72

**December**

Check No. 8527 – 8566 \$ 280,118.81

O. The Board approved the following **deletions** from the per capita tax for the 2008-2009 school year:

Royersford Borough Deletions	No. 1 - 187
Spring City Borough Additions	No. 1 - 154
Upper Providence Township Deletions	No. 1 – 502

P. The Board approved the following **exonerations** from the per capita tax for the 2008-2009 school year:

Royersford Borough	89 - 99
Upper Providence Township	73 - 76

- Q. The Board approved the following **Use of Facilities Permits** for the 2008-2009 school year:

Permits No. 2497 – 2540

- R. The Board approved Mastroieni & Associates to provide real estate appraisal services for SEI Corporation in Upper Providence Township. The cost of Phase 1 is \$6,000 and Phase 2 cost is \$6,000 (\$12,000 total). It's been customary for the district/solicitor to evaluate Phase 1 recommendations and determine the merits of continuing with Phase 2. Phase 2 will be necessary if the district plans to proceed to the Montgomery County Court of Common Pleas. Court preparation, depositions or testimony will be based on an hourly fee schedule (Research \$75, Appraiser \$125, Senior Appraiser \$174, Principal -manager \$200, Court Preparation and Testimony \$250).

## VII. PROPERTY

Mrs. Mullin and Mr. Weber asked that Item C be separated. Mr. Pettit asked that Item B be separated. Mr. Dehnert made a motion to approve Item A and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 8-0.

- A. The Board approved obtaining bids for Trash Disposal and Recycling for the 2009-10 school year, with the option to extend for two additional years, if the School District is satisfied with the service.

Mr. Grispon made a motion to approve Item B and Mrs. Mullin seconded it. Mr. Pettit asked where we stand with the negotiations with the carrier as far as getting the chiller paid for by the insurance company. Mr. Anspach said he contacted the insurance company to let them know that we are not happy with the result and requested a copy of their report which is forthcoming. Mr. Pettit asked what the approximate cost is for the chiller replacement. Mr. Anspach replied he believes it is between \$200,000 - \$300,000. Mr. Cooper confirmed these amounts are correct. Mr. Anspach stated that once he has the report from the insurance company we can review it with our solicitor to see if there is something we can act on.

Mr. Masciandaro asked if this chiller was replaced in the Limerick Renovation, Mr. Cooper responded yes. Mr. Masciandaro asked how old this chiller is and Mr. Cooper said eight years old. Mr. Masciandaro questioned the life expectancy for chillers and Mr. Cooper stated the average warranty life on a compressor is five years.

Mr. Dehnert asked if we are insured for full value of the replacement cost, Mr. Anspach said yes if we win the claim. Mr. Anspach said they are certainly going to look at past history on this chiller to see what problems it may have had over the years.

Mr. Shafer asked if we have had our own expert look at this and prepare a report. Dr. Hurda said we need the official report from the insurance company and hope to seek a second opinion to see if they went in the wrong direction with our claim. Mr. Cooper said we have one report already from our engineer which stated that the problem resulted from an electrical surge. Dr. Hurda said she will keep the Board informed as we go through this process. Mr. Davis cautioned the Administration that there may be a time limit in the insurance contract to react; he asked that the paperwork be sent to his

office so that they can review it. Mr. Anspach indicated that he will send all paperwork to Mr. Davis for review.

The motion passed 8-0.

- B. The Board approved contracting with an engineer to size and prepare specifications for a replacement chiller that was damaged by an electrical surge at Limerick Elementary School. The district is in the process of working with the insurance company to obtain reimbursement for the replacement costs for this item. In-house personnel will do the majority of the work to install the new chiller. Funding will come from the 2008-2009 General Fund.

Mr. Grispon made a motion to approve Item C and Mr. Weber seconded it. Mr. Weber urged the Board to approve this motion. Mr. Weber stated that the Property Committee will not be recommending that we do this project in the near future but the reason he is recommending moving forward with a mandate waiver is because if approved and then state law changes in the future where mandate waivers are not available then we will already have ours and it more than likely will not be taken away from us. Mr. Weber commented that his understanding is that a mandate waiver is good for a long time, perhaps as long as ten years or more. Mr. Weber further stated that if by chance there were someone who would make a grant or donation to us to fund a field house then it could be done without delay. Mr. Weber reported that preparing and filing a mandate waiver would not cost the taxpayers a dime so this is a plus-plus for the district.

Mr. Dehnert asked how many man hours it would take for our staff to build the field house and are we staffed to do this as it sounds like a big undertaking for the maintenance staff to do. Mr. Cooper responded that we would not be asking to do the entire project ourselves but for a mandate waiver to relieve us from certain parts of the bidding and we would do the smaller parts of the project. Mr. Cooper said we would more than likely be able to complete the project over the summer months.

Mr. Shafer said he appreciates the manner in which Mr. Weber presented this, he asked for an explanation on why this is being brought before the Board right now. Mr. Weber explained that one reason is that there is a possibility that the mandate waiver program could be deleted under state rule, the second reason is that there may be an alumnus out there who may want to make a donation to us so this project could be done without taxpayer dollars, and the third reason is having the mandate waiver could save us as much as ½ million dollars some-where in the future. Mr. Shafer said although he is one hundred percent behind having a field house he is concerned that this sets a tone and we should not even be considering this type of spending at this time. Mr. Shafer stated that he supports tightening the belt and a motion like this although it will not cost the taxpayer's money may say to them that we are not as concerned about finances as we should be. Mr. Weber said he disagrees with Mr. Shafer as potentially we could save the district ½ million dollars.

Mrs. Mullin commented that it is ½ million dollars that we should not even be spending to begin with, if an alumni wants to donate money then why don't we use it for computers, books or something educational. Mr. Weber stated that you cannot tell people what to donate. Mrs. Mullin said she understands this and she understands that it will not cost the taxpayers anything and she is all for nice facilities but we are selling this by saying that it is going to save the taxpayers 40% but it is 40% of money we should not be

spending to begin with. Mrs. Mullin said we just sat through a Finance Committee meeting where we discussed holding off on the high school addition and holding off on \$763,000 of books which are due this curriculum cycle. Mrs. Mullin stated that she feels it is a slap in the face to the taxpayer to even be discussing a field house at this point. Mr. Weber said this project may not even occur for ten years and he would not approve this project in this economic condition right now but it could potentially save the district ½ million dollars ten years down the road. Mr. Weber said bear in mind you have two chances to say no to this project in the future.

Mr. Pettit said he agrees with Mr. Shafer and Mrs. Mullin and this situation sets a tone when we are talking about possibly spending money on a field house when we are facing a tremendous economic downturn in the economy. Mr. Pettit said we have an opportunity right now to say no to this mandate waiver and if it comes up in the future then let the next Board consider it but this Board should not be in a position of saying to the taxpayers that we are even considering an outlay such as this. Mr. Pettit said when he heard about the possibility of putting a hold on the additions to the high school and a hold on the possible purchase of books he was flabbergasted. Mr. Pettit stated that the public should be aroused and upset at the idea that we would even consider building a field house in the near or distant future.

Mr. Grispon made a motion to table Item C and Mr. Dehnert seconded it. The motion to table passed 5-3 with Mr. Masciandaro, Mr. Pettit and Mrs. Mullin voting no.

- C. The Board tabled completing and filing a mandate waiver for the construction of a sports field house at Coach McNelly Stadium. The waiver would provide the district with relief from some of the bidding requirements and would also allow the district to complete the project in-house. The waiver could save the district up to 40% of the anticipated bid costs of the project which have been estimated at approximately \$1,400,000. There is no cost to the district for completing and filing a mandate waiver for this project nor is the school district under any obligation to design or bid the project without further Board approval.

Mrs. Mullin made a motion to approve Items D-E and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 8-0.

- D. The Board approved having a trash compactor - dumpster installed at the 5/6-7 Grade Center for a rental price of \$395 per month which includes all maintenance. An additional fee will be charged for every ton of trash is removed. A concrete pad and electricity will be required prior to the installation of the compactor and will be completed in-house at a material cost not-to-exceed \$4,000. The use of the trash compactor will pay for itself within one year and allow the district to reduce the number of dumpsters on district property. Funding will come from 2008-2009 General Fund.
- E. The Board approved having a small roof erected over the BARD library front center steps to help protect the area from inclement weather which in turn causes safety concerns. The costs for this roof shall not exceed \$4,500 with some work completed in-house. Funding will come from 2008-2009 General Fund.



**New Property**

Mrs. Mullin made a motion to approve Item F and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 7-1 with Mr. Weber voting no.

- F. Administration recommends approval of **Resolution 2009-05** for EI Associates to submit **PlanCon Part F** (Construction Documents) for the project known as "Additions and Alterations to Spring-Ford Area High School.

**VIII. PROGRAMMING AND CURRICULUM (NEW)**

Mr. Grispon made a motion to approve Item A and Mr. Weber seconded it. Dr. Hurda said these high school students qualified at the regional level and will be representing us at the state level so this is quite a compliment to those students listed here on the agenda. Mr. Dehnert asked if the costs involved were for the travel costs of the students and Dr. Hurda replied yes. The motion passed 8-0.

- A. The Board approved sending nine students; Kevin Cantwell, Drew Heringslake, Zach Lamar, Kevin Maher, Ryan Maher, Mimi Niggel, Kisha Oister, Luke Powell, James Smith, and their advisor, Mrs. Margaret Stackhouse, to compete at the Pennsylvania Future Business Leaders of America State Leadership Conference and Competition in Hershey, PA from March 30 through April 1, 2009. These students qualified to participate in the state FBLA competition as a result of their performance on event tests administered at the FBLA regional competition. The total cost for attending this state competition shall not exceed two thousand seven hundred eighteen dollars (\$2,718.00). Participation in this competition will be supported through the General Fund.

**IX. PSBA REPORT/MCIU REPORTS John S. Grispon**

Mr. Grispon reported that this week, the State Board of Education held its first meeting of the new year, selecting high school reform; health, wellness and safety; and teacher and administrator quality as its three priority issues for 2009. During the course of the two-day meeting, much of the discussion was focused on high school reform. The board heard presentations from the Department of Education staff on its rationale and agenda for its high school reform efforts, on linking reform efforts in K-12 and postsecondary education and issues related to remediation at the college level, and on the Standards Aligned System initiative to provide a common curriculum framework. Members of the State Board emphasized the need for more partnership between the department with the education community and the General Assembly to find common ground in the development of high school reform initiatives, including the area of assessments. Board Chairman Joseph Torsella also announced plans to conduct a round of statewide public hearings on the issue. In addition, Torsella announced plans for an invitational roundtable on issues related to student health, wellness and safety. The session, which is expected to be scheduled within the next two months, is likely to focus on reporting requirements, prevention programs and current state policies. In other action at the meeting, the State Board accepted a white paper on the findings of its recent research on college affordability in Pennsylvania. The paper also contained a series of 11 recommendations for state policymakers to consider that would help curb the cost of college for families. The board also adopted an amendment to the Chapter 14 regulations to incorporate reference to changes made to the federal regulations in December 2008. A complete report on the board meeting will appear in next week's issue of *School Leader News*. The next meeting of the State Board of Education will be March 18-19 at the William Allen High School in Allentown. Also this

week, Gov. Edward Rendell said that the administration now estimates the state's budget deficit to be around \$2.3 billion and growing. The governor forewarned that his budget plan for 2009-10 to be presented on Feb. 3 will include spending cuts and the elimination of some programs for the coming fiscal year, although he did not identify any specific programs. He also suggested that some state employees may face layoffs. Rendell also said that the federal government may be expected provide some financial relief and that the use of Rainy Day funds, use of legislative surpluses and freezes on certain state spending could help cover the economic shortfall. PSBA encourages school entities to demonstrate their continuing commitment to effective school board governance by annually reaffirming the PSBA Standards for Effective School Governance and Code of Conduct. As 2009 begins now is the time to reaffirm. Mr. Grispon said he would like to put this on the agenda for next month's meeting

**X. CONFERENCE/ WORKSHOP RECOMMENDATIONS**

Mr. Weber made a motion to approve Items A-S and Mrs. Mullin seconded it. The motion passed 8-0.

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

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

**DISTRICT OFFICE**

- A. **Bruce Cooper**, Director of Planning, Operations and Facilities, to attend *"Allsafe Environmental – Re-Certification Course"* in New Cumberland, PA on Wednesday, February 4, 2009. The total cost for this course is \$190.65 from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.
- B. **Debbie Smith**, Child Accounting Administrative Assistant, to attend *"Attendance/Child Accounting Conference"* in Hershey, PA from Wednesday, March 18 through Friday, March 20, 2009. The total cost for this conference is \$816.00 from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.
- C. **Gary Spohn**, Director of Technology, and **Judy Kuhns**, Technology Integration Specialist, to attend *"Pennsylvania Educational Technology Expo and Conference"* in Hershey, PA from Sunday, February 8 through Tuesday, February 10, 2009. The total cost for this conference is \$832.60 from the 580 account. No substitutes are needed.

**HIGH SCHOOL**

- D. **John Eckstine**, High School Band Director, to attend *"Music Educator's National Conference All-Eastern Convention"* in Providence, Rhode Island from Thursday, March 12 through Sunday, March 15, 2009. Mr. Eckstine will be accompanying students who have been selected as members for the MENC All Eastern Honors Band/Choir. The total cost for this conference is \$1,569.96 - \$1,269.96 from the 580 account and \$300.00 from the substitute account.

- E. **Margaret Stackhouse**, Business Education Teacher, to attend "*PBLA State Leadership Conference*" in Hershey, PA from Monday, March 30 through Wednesday, April 1, 2009. Mrs. Stackhouse will be accompanying the Future Business Leaders of America students who advance to the state level competition. The total cost of this conference is \$654.00 - \$354.00 from the 580 account and \$300.00 from the substitute account.
- F. **Cheri Krell-Morris**, Psychologist, to attend "*WAIS-IV: Introductory Workshop*" at the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit in Norristown, PA on Wednesday, February 18, 2009. The total cost of this workshop is \$100.00 from the Psychologist's Budget. No substitute is needed.
- G. **Yvonne O'Dea**, Choral Director, to attend "*PA Music Educator's Conference*" in Valley Forge, PA on Thursday, April 23, 2009. Mrs. O'Dea will be accompanying Spring-Ford students who qualify for All State Choral. The total cost of this conference is \$310.00 - \$160.00 from the 580 account and \$150.00 from the substitute account.

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

- H. **Dr. Dennis Booher**, Assistant Principal, to attend "*PILS Inspired Leadership Program (Course 2)*" at the MCIU, CCIU, PaTTAN, and Bucks County IU on March 3-4, April 15-16, May 19-20 and June 22-23, 2009. The total cost of this program is \$325.00 from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.
- I. **Margaret D. Wright**, Teacher, to attend "*Student Assistance Training (SAP)*" at PaTTAN in King of Prussia, PA on March 4, March 5 and March 10, 2009. The total cost of this training is \$800.00 - \$350.00 from the 580 account and \$450.00 from the substitute account.
- J. **Shannon Dallahan**, Guidance Counselor, to attend "*Overdone: Navigating Our Culture of Excess and Stress*" at Upper Merion Middle School in King of Prussia, PA on Wednesday morning, February 4, 2009. There is no cost for this conference and no substitute is needed.

#### BROOKE

- K. **Kerry Mihalcik**, Certified School Nurse, to attend "*Life Threatening Pediatric Emergencies*" in King of Prussia, PA on Wednesday, March 4, 2009. The total cost of this conference is \$345.00 - \$195.00 from the 580 account and \$150.00 from the substitute account.

#### OAKS

- L. **Lucinda Iezzi**, Teacher, to attend "*NASPE PIPEline Workshop*" at Boyertown Senior High School on Friday, March 6, 2009. The total cost of this workshop is \$200.00 - \$50.00 from the 580 account and \$150.00 for a substitute which will be paid from the 2008-2009 Pottstown Area Health and Wellness Foundation Grant.

**UPPER PROVIDENCE**

- M. **Debora Zelle**, Department Chairperson for Health Services, to attend “*PASNAP Annual Education Conference - School Health is the Heart of Education*” at the Penn State Conference Center in State College, PA from Friday, March 20, 2009 through Sunday, March 22, 2009. The total cost of this conference is \$718.00 - \$568.00 from the 580 account and \$150.00 from the substitute account.

**DISTRICT-WIDE**

- N. **Andrea Rees**, Gifted Support Teacher, to attend “*PAGE – Cultivating Creative Minds & Forward Thinkers*” in King of Prussia, PA on Thursday, April 16 and Friday, April 17, 2009. The total cost of this conference is \$552.00 - \$252.00 from the 580 account and \$300.00 from the substitute account.
- O. **Jeanette Hellauer** and **Gina Pastino**, Autistic Support Teachers, to attend “*Effective Reading Instruction for Learners with Autism*” in King of Prussia, PA on Wednesday, March 4, 2009. The total cost of this conference is \$322.73 - \$22.73 from the 580 account and \$300.00 from the substitute account.
- P. **Karen DeLange**, **Jessica Mecleary** and **Janette Pymer**, Teachers, to attend “*Early Literacy Skills Builder – Teacher Training for Implementation*” at the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit in Norristown, PA on Wednesday afternoon, January 28, 2009. The total cost of this conference is \$225.00 from the substitute account.
- Q. **Amanda Leslie** and **Jennifer Whytosek**, Teachers, to attend “*2009 Pennsylvania Alternative System of Assessment (PASA)*” in King of Prussia, PA on Wednesday, January 14, 2009. The total cost of this conference is \$333.70 - \$33.70 from the Special Education Budget and \$300.00 from the substitute account.
- R. **Francine Caputo**, **Nancy Quain** and **Elaine Sandilos**, Psychologists, to attend “*Psychologist’s Training on Reevaluation Reports and Specific Learning Disabilities Guidelines*” at the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit in Norristown, PA on February 3, 2009. There is no cost to the district for this training. No substitutes are needed.
- S. **Lucinda Iezzi**, Teacher, to attend “*NASPE PIPEline Workshop*” at Boyertown Senior High School on Friday, March 6, 2009. The total cost of this workshop is \$200.00 - \$50.00 from the 580 account and \$150.00 for a substitute which will be paid from the 2008-2009 Pottstown Area Health and Wellness Foundation Grant.

**XI. OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. Weber asked that Item D be separated. Mr. Pettit wanted to make it clear for the public that Items B1, B2 and C will not cost the school district anything as they are supported by the Booster Clubs.

- A. The following policy is submitted as a first reading:  
 1. Policy #817– OPERATIONS: Energy Conservation

Mr. Shafer made a motion to approve Items B-C and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 8-0.

- B. The following athletic trips for the purpose of participation in tournaments were Board approved. The matches/games played are part of the 2009-10 schedules that allows a maximum of 22 contests as per PIAA by-laws.
1. The High School Girls' Volleyball Team was approved to accept the invitation to participate in the KSA (Kaylee Scholarship Association) Volleyball Tournament, from Wednesday, September 2 through Sunday, September 6, 2009 in Orlando, Florida. The cost per student-athlete will be \$699.00 plus transportation. The girls' volleyball program and staff will conduct fund raising events to help defray the costs. There will be no cost to the school district. Student- athletes will miss one school day, September 3, 2009, and will be responsible for school work that is missed.
  2. The High School Indoor Track Team – Boys and Girls Distance Medley Relay Teams was given approval to participate in the Pepsi-Cola National Hall of Fame High School Classic at Armory Track & Field Center in New York City on Saturday, January 31, 2009. Funds for lodging (one night) and meals will be from the team's booster club fundraising account. Student-athletes will miss 10<sup>th</sup> period on Friday, January 30, 2009 and will be responsible for school work that is missed.
- C. The following change in location for a field trip was Board approved:
1. Yvonne O'Dea and Emily Murphy, Directors of the High School Music Groups to take the Spring-Ford High School Concert Vocal Ensemble, Vocal Jazz Ensemble, Women's and Men's Choirs, and String Orchestra participants on a **three day competition to "Fiesta-Val" Competition in New York City, NY** from Thursday, April 16 through Sunday, April 18, 2009. The music department will be traveling by chartered bus and staying in a hotel in New York City. The cost of the trip shall not exceed four hundred dollars (\$400.00) per person. The Spring-Ford Music Association will provide fund- raisers throughout the school year for the students to earn money towards the expenses of the trip. This trip replaces the one originally approved at the November 24, 2008 Board meeting.

**New Other Business:**

Mrs. Mullin made a motion to approve Item D and Mr. Weber seconded it. Mr. Weber questioned whether we were handling these jackets the same way as when the basketball team won back to back championships. Mr. McDaniel responded yes, it is being handled in the same manner and they are looking at saving the district some money. Dr. Hurda explained that the last time we did this the cost was around \$8,000 so this year we have worked very hard with different vendors to see about getting the best price. The motion passed 8-0.

- D. The Board approved purchasing jackets for the 2008 Spring-Ford High School Golden Ram Marching Band in recognition of their winning the 2008 Tournament of Bands Atlantic Coast Group IV State and Regional Championship. Funding will be paid from the 2008-2009 Student Activity Fund and shall not exceed five thousand eight hundred dollars (\$5,800.00).

**XII. INFORMATION ITEM**

- A. Effective January 1, 2009, the IRS mileage rate will decrease to 55.0 cents per mile. Currently the rate is 58.5 cents per mile.

**XIII. SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Davis reported that this past Friday, from the Limerick Township Solicitor, he received the land development agreement for the high school extension. Mr. Davis said this will not cost us any additional money because we will be posting the township escrow from the construction fund. Mr. Davis said he does not believe any further Board approval is needed but in order to be safe we can get the Board to ratify the signatures of Mrs. Williams, Mrs. Fern and Mr. Anspach on the Land Development Agreement. Mr. Davis offered the following wording for the motion, "Board approval is recommended to authorize Board Officers to execute the Land Development Agreement with Limerick Township and provide for the appropriate security for the project known as the High School Addition Project".

Mr. Grispon made a motion to approve Item A and Mrs. Mullin seconded it. The motion passed 8-0.

- A. The Board approved authorizing Board Officers to execute the Land Development Agreement with Limerick Township and provide for the appropriate security for the project known as the High School Addition Project.

**XIV. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD**

There were no questions or comments.

**XV. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Weber made a motion to adjourn and Mr. Grispon seconded it. The motion passed 8-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Fern  
Board Secretary